Annual SPES Conference 2018

The Will to Serve
Inspiring Models of Servant Leadership and Social Entrepreneurship

May 24-26, 2018
Leuven, Belgium

Co-organized by the European SPES Institute, the Institute of Leadership and Social Ethics (ILSE) and the Damien Center Leuven

Perspective
Inspiring social and economic leaders are able to transform a conflictual human settlement into a collaborative and caring human community. Can we induce from their ‘way of doing things’ a model of civic entrepreneurship and leadership that can inspire people in profit, non-profit and public organizations? To what extent is the will to serve compatible with the will to maximize profit or the will to gain economic, political or religious power? Do different spiritual traditions create different models and examples of servant leadership? This conference is part of the Damien project of the European SPES Institute, a research project that focuses on Spirituality in Action through servant leadership and social entrepreneurship. It also connects to the research into leadership at the Institute of Leadership and Social Ethics.

Program

Thursday, May 24 (Day Theme: Servant Leadership)

09.00 – 10.00   Registration & Coffee

10.00 – 10.15   Welcome and Spirit moment (Prof. em. Dr. Luk Bouckaert (SPES))
10.15 – 11.45 Plenary session I (chaired by Dr. Steven van den Heuvel (ILSE))

Prof. Dr. Patrick Nullens (president of the ETF and director of ILSE)
The Will to Serve as a Spiritual and Anthropological Foundation for Leadership

Prof. Dr. Laszlo Zsolnai (president of the European SPES Institute)
Serving Future Generations

11.45 – 12.15 Coffee break

12.15 – 13.00 Plenary session II (chaired by Dr. Steven van den Heuvel (ILSE))

Dr. Inge Nuyten (Rotterdam School of Management & Redpoint Company)
Servant Leadership: Current Theory and Practice

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch

14.00 – 16.00 Parallel sessions I

16.00 – 16.30 Coffee break

16.30 – 18.00 Plenary Session IV (chaired by Prof. Luk Bouckaert & Prof. Knut Ims (SPES))
‘Art, Spirituality and Economics’ with a musical intermezzo by Hilde Hostens (song) and Stan Driesen (piano)

20.00 Conference Dinner (Faculty Club Leuven)
In honor of Prof. Dr. Laszlo Zsolnai’s 60th birthday

Friday May 25 (Day Theme: Social Entrepreneurship)

09.00 – 09.15 Spirit moment (Prof. Eleanor O’Higgins, University of Dublin)

09.15 – 11.00 Plenary Session V (chaired by Alex Lloyd Davies, partner at Openwell)

Bart Weetjens, Apopo & Ashoka movement
Why and How to Become a Social Entrepreneur?

Dr. Sharda Nandram, Nyenrode Business University
An Integrative Paradigm for Social Entrepreneurship

11.00 – 11.30 Coffee

11.30 – 13.00 Parallel sessions II

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch

14.00 – 16.00 Parallel sessions III

16.00 – 16.30 Coffee

16.30 – 18.00 Plenary Session VI (chaired by Prof. Dr. Mike J Thompson, Gustavson School of Business and CEO of GoodBrand): Panel discussion with a contribution from

Prof Yehuda Kahane (Coller School of Management and the Porter School of Environmental Studies. Tel Aviv University)

Alex Lloyd Davies, social entrepreneur, partner at Openwell
18.00 – 19.00  General Assembly of SPES (all participants of the conference are invited)
19.00 –       Diner Buffet (at conference venue)

Saturday May 26 (Day Theme: The Impact of Good Examples)
Venue: Damien Center (Sint-Antoniusberg 5, Leuven)
9.00 – 09.15  Welcome at the Damien Center
9.15 – 10.45:  Plenary Session VII
               Dr. Richard J. Major (Groupe IGS, Paris)
               Business, Servant Leadership and Virtue Ethics: The Practice of Managerial Exemplarity
               Prof. Dr. Johan Verstraeten (KU Leuven)
               Father Damien as an Icon of Servant Leadership and Social Entrepreneurship
               Spirit moment at the crypt of Father Damien
10.45 – 11.15 Coffee
11.15 – 12.30 Plenary Session VIII
               Prof. Dr. Chris Doude van Troostwijk (Luxembourg School of Religion & Society and Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)
               The Philosophy of the Will to Serve: The Case of Albert Schweitzer
               Dr. Peirong Lin (ILSE)
               How Did the Conference Inspire us? Conclusions and Future Perspectives
12.30 – 14.00 Lunch
14.00         End of the Conference

Place and Date
The conference will be held at the Evangelische Theologische Faculteit, Sint-Jansbergsseesteenweg 97 3001 Leuven, Belgium on May 24 (Thursday) and 25 (Friday).
On May 26 (Saturday), the conference will be hosted at Damiaan Vandaag, Sint-Antoniusberg 5, 3000 Leuven, Belgium.

Participation Fee
225 Euros for regular participants; 200 Euros for paper presenters; 125 Euros for students; 90 Euros for one-day participants; 45 Euros for participants on Saturday morning.
Conference dinner: 65 Euros.

Accommodation
A limited number of rooms at the Conference venue of ETF are available at ETF 41,50 Euros per night (breakfast included). Note: this option is not available for day guests, but only for participants of the full conference.
**Registration**
Registration is via ILSE’s website www.etf-ilse.org or directly through this link **etf-ilse.org/conf2018**.
For more information, please contact the conference coordinator, Dr. Steven van den Heuvel, at steven.vandenheuvel@etf.edu.

**Paper Presentations**
The paper presenters will get 15 minutes to present a position statement from their paper. The remaining time is reserved for discussion.

**Co-organizing Institutions**
European SPES Institute ([www.europes.org](http://www.europes.org))
The Institute of Leadership and Social Ethics ([www.etf-ilse.org](http://www.etf-ilse.org))
Damiaan Vandaag ([www.damiaanvandaag.be](http://www.damiaanvandaag.be))

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