



ESRC Seminar Series: Developing Ethical Leaders - The Contribution of Philosophy and Spirituality

Seminar 7: Buddhist Ethics and Sustainable Leadership Practices

Foresight Centre

University of Liverpool **June 22nd 2016**

<http://www.ethicalleadership.org.uk>

Registration: 9-10am [*Optional Meditation session 9.25-9.55am*]

Start: 10am

Close: 4.30pm

Convened by: Dr Clare Rigg, University of Liverpool Management School and Professor Peter Case, Bristol Business School, University of the West of England

Buddhism is an ancient oriental philosophy and religion which has begun to enjoy increasing currency and influence in the contemporary western world. It offers an alternative ethical basis for action and organizational relationships as well as for leadership identity and practice; one rooted in selflessness, compassion, non-harming and responsibility toward others. Many take this approach to be refreshing in an era dominated by western materialism and possessive individualism.

The focus of this seminar will be an exploration of the intersection between Buddhism's influence on leadership theory, critical debate in business ethics and responsible organizational practice and what Buddhist principles and practices such as mindfulness offer to self-insight and self-care in leadership practice.

Speakers combine business owners, individuals consulting with companies and academics supporting leadership development.

Venue:

[Foresight Centre](#),

Liverpool University, 1 Brownlow Street, Liverpool L69 3GL,
0151 794 8060

BOOKING: there is no charge but places are limited and likely to be oversubscribed.

Please book your place as soon as possible by clicking [here](#).

Any queries please email Clare Rigg: clare.rigg@liverpool.ac.uk



Programme

9.00am	Registration Opens	
9.25-9.55am	Peter Case	Optional Meditation session
10.00am	Clare Rigg & Peter Case	Welcome
10.15am	Sally Jeanreneaud University of Exeter Business School <i>"Do Sustainability Challenges Make Better Buddhist Leaders? Exploring the contributions and limitations of instrumentalist approaches"</i>	The title of this session is deliberately playful, and is intended to help surface the often hidden instrumentalism inherent in contemporary spiritual leadership narratives. It will explore Buddhist ethics and sustainable leadership in the context of current sustainability challenges, and acknowledges both pragmatic and more philosophical perspectives.
11.30	Nikolay Sabev Econt Group Transport, Bulgaria <i>"Business world and Buddhist teachings: Some words from experience"</i>	Nikolay Sabev is both a teacher of Buddhism and General Manager and Owner of Econt Group Transport companies, Bulgaria, a long established international business employing 2500 people with a €50 million p.a. turnover. He will speak about his attempts to live Buddhist teachings within his business practice.
12.45	lunch	
1.30	Tim Malnick Ashridge Business School & Different Space http://different.space.co.uk/ <i>"Leadership as surrender, leadership as devotion"</i>	This session will connect some basic Buddhist ideas with some of the more critical ideas of leadership in today's complex and uncertain times.
2.45	Claus Springborg CoCreation http://cocreation.dk <i>"Sustainable ways of embodying leadership qualities"</i>	As a manager, you are often asked to embody certain leadership qualities, e.g. to be courageous, assertive, perseverant, patient, etc. Even though aspiring to embody such qualities can be exciting, it can also be exhausting in the long run. Thus, trying to embody these qualities can contribute to burn out and are not sustainable for the individual. This session will look at what Buddhist ideas of emptiness and suchness can teach us about embodying leadership qualities effortlessly.
4.00-4.30pm	Conclusions and Close	