



10th Quest for Global Competitiveness Conference

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Charting a Definitive Course to Recovery: a Challenge to the Economic Order

Special Track: Business Initiatives with Social Purposes and Profitable Results

The Q10 Conference provides a meeting place for scholars and practitioners to engage in constructive dialogue on global competitiveness issues. Our mission is to promote the creation of a community of scholars interested in research relevant to global competitiveness, whose shared findings will result in mutually beneficial partnerships between academia and the business community.

Paper Submission Due Date: November 16, 2015

Special Q10 Conference Track: Business Initiatives with Social Purposes and Profitable Results

Credit Unions, other social enterprises, and family businesses have often managed to address the current global economic crisis without undermining their capital and their members' investment and have been able to support those who have suffered the negative effect of unemployment. Credit unions in the USA have implemented effective mechanisms that have prevented their client-members from losing money as far back as the days of the Great Depression. Are these lessons to be learned by traditional businesses? While many banks and large companies around the world have experienced the negative effects of the crisis, credit unions have remained stable and highly profitable. Many family businesses today came to life precisely as a result of the economic crisis and have been successful. Academia is paying close attention and studying these credit unions, social enterprises, and family businesses in search for answers that could enlighten the business community with solutions to the current crisis.

Empirical research suggests that, with some exceptions, credit unions in many sectors and regions are relatively more resilient to economic imbalances that their counterparts have suffered and continue to suffer. These studies also show that credit unions are important to improve the living and working conditions of women and men worldwide, and to contribute to the creation of essential infrastructure and to the offering of basic services. Credit unions often represent a winning combination. A non-for-profit entity with a social purpose tied to a business platform is also showing that these non-traditional forms of business can be resilient to the ravages of the economic downturn.

Should these non-traditional ways of doing business have a leading role in the strategic plan of governors and presidents of different countries? Do family business have a role to play in the new emerging economy/ Will countries have to reassess their governance models to formally place credit unions as a mainstay of the economic recovery that has eluded so many countries?

It is not an easy road to break away from the paradigms that have hitherto been the pillars on which government plans are built. Credit unions have not yet achieved the prominent place they should have in the economy of any country.

Academic scholars have an important obligation with the business community to help create new strategies that work. It is time to ponder the possibilities of placing credit unions, social enterprises, and family businesses at the forefront of the recovery of Puerto Rico and other countries facing similar crises!

The 10th Quest for Global Competitiveness Conference 2016 – Q10 – welcomes presentation proposals or working papers from researchers, business leaders, academics, industry specialists, and practitioners interested in advancing global competitiveness. The Q10 organizers expect contributions in the form of panels and presentations that may encompass any topical area relevant to business forms, social networks, IT, whether related to business, economics, science, humanities, education, or any other area. Panels may be theoretical or practice-oriented. We encourage submissions related to non-traditional business forms, and panel discussions by entrepreneurs, industry specialists, doctoral students, and academics who wish to share lessons learned, opportunities for SMEs and entrepreneurs, barriers faced, social issues addressed (including CSR and ethical issues), legal and regulatory matters, security issues, web advertising, and other relevant topics.

Corporate Showcases & Exhibitions: Companies that wish to present their most recent developments and applications, and showcase the company's products and services will have the chance to include their presentations as part of the program. Companies who are interested in displaying their latest offerings of hardware, software, tools, services and books, will be able to do so through an exhibit booth.

Regular Q10 Conference Tracks:

The Q10 Conference welcomes and encourages submissions of papers or panel proposals related to the regular Conference Tracks that are focused on global competitiveness issues as itemized below.

GENERAL-GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS BUSINESS TRACKS:

Accounting, Taxation	Risk Management
Management Information systems	Human Resource Management
Consumer Behavior	Information Technology Management
Corporate Finance	Marketing Management
Ethical Issues	Business Education
International business	Supply-Chain and Operations Management
Entrepreneurship	Arts and Sports in Business
Financial Markets	Open themes related to global competitiveness

Paper deadline submission is November 2, 2015. All submissions must be sent electronically using the [\[Paper Submission\]](#) link found on the Conference Website.

The Quest for Global Competitiveness Conference publishes Proceedings of the papers accepted and presented at the Conference (ISSN 2166-0247).

Program Chairs: Yvonne Huertas, Accounting Professor, Faculty of Business Administration, University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus; Chair of the Center for Research and Academic Initiatives (CICIA).

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Call For Volunteers: If you are interested in serving the **Q10 Conference** by reviewing manuscripts, or being a moderator for the Conference, please fill our [online Reviewer Registration Form](#) found on the Conference Website.