



## MSR Newsletter Dec 2025 / Jan 2026

### A Message from our Leadership Team

***Dr. Ramya Venkateswaran, Associate Chair MSR Division***



I am honoured to be appointed to the position of MSR Associate Chair from August 2025. The role of the MSR Associate Chair is to support the MSR Chair (Tom Culham) for the 12-month period. I had an opportunity to work with Tom earlier in the Life-Boat for MSR Research Methods and I found it a very enjoyable experience; I am fortunate to be able to continue the association. I take over this role from Raysa Rocha, who did such a brilliant job earlier as MSR Associate Chair and has set the bar quite high.

I am a computer engineer by background, with an MBA and PhD in management, and I had the privilege to be educated in the leading institutions in India. My PhD thesis was on the role of culture in international business, and this exposed me to the strengths and limitations of the application of scientific paradigms to the social sciences. I started my research career with a heavily quantitative approach to studying culture [sic] and then dabbled in emancipatory critical and philosophical perspectives. My current research perspective is anchored in decolonial and pluralist perspectives, as it is the need of the hour for management research to tap into truly context sensitive and indigenous perspectives.

In using the term “indigenous”, I do not mean the study of marginalised communities, but the entire rest of the world except small parts of US and Europe where management theories may have originated. Indigenous to me means that which is genuinely true to the context and carries meaningful implications for the people in that context. I believe that in order to tap into indigenous wisdom, it is necessary to approach it with not just alternate methodologies but alternate philosophical paradigms. The study of spirituality by its very nature challenges all the paradigms that we have known so far and pushes the frontiers of research methodologies. The leadership in MSR nurtures radical open mindedness and pluralist perspectives, where inclusivity goes beyond mere tolerance of difference to genuine hospitality towards a multiplicity of perspectives. I believe therefore that MSR is a precious space that carries the immense potential for rejuvenating management research at large. In my role as MSR Associate Chair, my purpose is to contribute towards holding this space.

## Current Trends in MSR Research



### Exploring innovative approaches in management education and interdisciplinary research

**Dr. Ekaterina Ivanova**, Associate Professor, Department of Strategic and International Management, Graduate School of Business, HSE University, Russia.

AOM MSR Representative at Large for Communications and Outreach, [LinkedIn](#)

I am happy to share two of my most recent research projects that explore innovative approaches in management education and interdisciplinary conversations.

First, with my colleagues Isabel Rimanoczy and Divya Singhal I have edited ["The Power of Arts-Based Pedagogies: Transforming Mindsets to Shape Our Future,"](#) set for release by Routledge in its PRME series in March 2026. This practical toolkit presents innovative pedagogical approaches that integrate art into education for sustainability across various institutional settings. This research trend indicates a growing emphasis on experiential and transformative learning in management education. It reflects a shift towards more holistic approaches in MSR, recognizing the power of art to evoke not only cognitive, but emotional and behavioural responses that can lead to deeper understanding and personal growth. For MSR, this trend opens up new possibilities for developing mindful, empathetic leaders who can navigate complex ethical and spiritual dimensions in the workplace, potentially leading to more sustainable and humanistic management practices.

Looking ahead to 2027, with Nicholas Burton we are co-editing a special review issue of the Journal of Management, Spirituality and Religion on ["Broadening Management, Spirituality and Religion Research: Crosscutting Dialogue Across Disciplines."](#) This issue aims to advance our understanding of MSR through broad engagement across fields. We welcome submissions that offer novel theoretical, methodological, or integrative contributions, particularly those that challenge established assumptions and forge connections between management studies, spirituality, religion, and broader social sciences and humanities. This research trend indicates a growing recognition of the need for interdisciplinary approaches in MSR studies. This trend opens up new avenues for exploring the intersections of spirituality, religion, and management practices, potentially leading to more holistic and culturally nuanced understanding of leadership, ethics, and organizational behavior in diverse global contexts.

## Member Spotlight



**Dr. Raysa Rocha**, Lecturer in Organization Studies and HRM at University of Essex, UK  
Assistant Professor of Spirituality & Society at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands [Linkedin](#)

Dr. Rocha, an MSR member since 2021 as a PhD student, says the MSR community has brought her great friends and enduring support over the years. She served as Associate Chair (2024-2025) and Associate Program Chair (2022-2024) of the MSR Division, fostering the intellectual and relational vitality of the community. Raysa's dedication to the division has been recognized through two MSR Distinguished Service Awards (2023 & 2025), two MSR Service Awards (2023), and one Best Paper Award (2025).

She is interested in researching and educating on topics related to ethics, with a focus on DEI, social responsibility, practical wisdom, and spirituality in organizations. She is curious about how we can become better human beings and create the common good within and through organizations, enabling us to flourish together. Raysa's current British Academy-funded project examines neurodivergent workers' experiences, workplace fairness, and social connections for flourishing. Born and raised in

Brazil, Raysa left her tropical island for the foggy one three years ago to pursue her calling of nurturing wisdom and fostering human flourishing through teaching and research. She enjoys traveling, rowing, and trying new things as often as she can. Her students value her enthusiasm, detailed explanations, and the creative, supportive spaces she cultivates in the classroom.

## Recent Events @ MSR

- **January 29: Thought Leadership Webinar– Leading in the Age of AI: Integrating Human Wisdom with Technological Disruption**

With Joan Woodward (Woodbury University's School of Business), 4.00-5.00 p.m. PST, **Link:** <https://bit.ly/WUSB-webinar>

- **January 21 and December 17: MSR Monthly - Monthly virtual gathering**

Hosted by Danny Sandra, an opportunity to share updates, nurture research, foster collaboration, and strengthen the MSR Division Community.

- **December 15: MSR Research Webinar Series**

Mapping Spiritual Awakening: Diverse Journeys of Consciousness Expansion.

With Steve Taylor (Leeds Beckett University), co- hosted by Tianyuan Yu (Mount Saint Vincent University) and Gaëtan Mourmant (IÉSEG School of Management).

Link to recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0KQ2NDtM1PI>

## On the Horizon @ MSR

Do you have an MSR activity you want others to know about - please check out these handy instructions on how to [Add an Event to the MSR calendar](#) or [Create a Discussion post](#).

## Events

- **February 9: Zoom Meeting with the editors of the Special Issue of the Journal of Management Spirituality and Religion:**

“Broadening Management, Spirituality and Religion Research: Crosscutting Dialogue Across Disciplines”

**2.30-3.00 pm GMT, Link:** <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9957231775>

- **February 25 - Emerging Voices in MSR: Insights from Five Years of Fetzer Scholars, 9:30 - 11:00 am Eastern Time**

Organized by the MSR Research Committee, co-hosted by Konstantin Weicht (Tzu Chi University, Taiwan) & Naida Culshaw (GEM Alpine Business School, France)

**Registration Link:** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/emerging-voices-in-msr-tickets-1980684856725>

### About the webinar:

This research webinar brings together five years of insights from the MSR Fetzer Scholarship Program. Between 2019 and 2023, the program supported 96 emerging scholars from 28 countries in bringing their research and spiritual commitments to the Academy of Management. Organized by the MSR Research Committee, the session will unveil findings from our five-year Impact Study and invite the community into a shared reflection on the future of MSR. Through brief Paired Lightning Talks—featuring Fetzer Scholars in conversation with senior MSR mentors—we will reflect on how emerging voices have shaped the field, influenced the division's leadership, and helped cultivate a scholarly and spiritual home for MSR research. Whether you

are a past Fetzer Scholar, a long-time MSR member, or a newcomer curious about the community, you are warmly invited to join this lively, reflective gathering focused on connection, learning, and collective emergence.

## Calls for Submission

- **Special Issue of the Journal of Management Spirituality and Religion:** “Broadening Management, Spirituality and Religion Research: Crosscutting Dialogue Across Disciplines”

**Editors:** Ekaterina Ivanova (HSE University Graduate School of Business) and Nicholas Burton (Northumbria University). The editors will hold a Zoom Meeting on February 9 (see above).

**Submission deadline:** September 30, 2026

**Link:** [https://www.iamsr.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/JMSR-Call-Special\\_Issue\\_Reviews\\_Final.pdf](https://www.iamsr.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/JMSR-Call-Special_Issue_Reviews_Final.pdf)

- **Special Issue of the Journal of Positive Psychology:** “Religion, Spirituality, and Human Flourishing: A Social Scientific Approach”

**Editor:** Victor Counted (Regent University)

**Submission deadline:** October 30, 2026

**Link:** [https://think.taylorandfrancis.com/special\\_issues/religion-spirituality-and-human-flourishing-a-social-scientific-approach/](https://think.taylorandfrancis.com/special_issues/religion-spirituality-and-human-flourishing-a-social-scientific-approach/)

- **Call for conference:** “Inviting the S/spirit into Leadership” - International Conference on Theology and Leadership, University of Lucerne, Switzerland

**Conference Date:** June 17-19, 2026

**Submission deadline:** January 31, 2026

**Link:** [https://www.unilu.ch/fileadmin/fakultaeten/tf/professuren/pastoralth/dok/ICTL2026\\_Call\\_for\\_Papers\\_V3\\_FINAL\\_formatted.pdf](https://www.unilu.ch/fileadmin/fakultaeten/tf/professuren/pastoralth/dok/ICTL2026_Call_for_Papers_V3_FINAL_formatted.pdf)

## Recent Publications of our MSR Members

Sharing our research is yet another way to connect with one another. This section is an opportunity to share our MSR scholarly work. These works were submitted to the CommTech team recently. If you have a recent publication or conference paper please submit it using this form and we will include it in a future issue.

### Publications

- Florian Kragulj, Sophia Mayrhofer, Raysa G. Rocha, Marcia Juliana d'Angelo. From Ethical Goodness to Sustainable Excellence: The Impact of Learning Strategy and Practical Wisdom on Corporate Social Responsibility. *Manag. Rev.* 2025, 36(3), 46860. <https://doi.org/10.31083/MRev46860>
- Raysa Rocha, Paulo Pinheiro, Marcia Juliana d'Angelo, Florian Kragulj. Sublimating Aristotle's Phronesis: Developing a Scale of Organizational Practical Wisdom. *Manag. Rev.* 2025, 36(4), 49463. <https://doi.org/10.31083/MRev49463>

### Book Chapter

- Kragulj, F., Rocha, R. (2025). Responsible Knowledge Management: Integrating Ethics, Sustainability, and Purpose into the Management of Knowledge. In: Marques, J. (eds)

Encyclopedia of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Spirituality. Springer, Cham. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-32257-0\\_232-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-32257-0_232-1)

- Long, E.C. (2025). Faith-Infused Work. In: Dhiman, S. (eds) The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Leadership and Organizational Change. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-51650-4\\_105-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-51650-4_105-1)

## MSR Social Media

Don't miss out on staying connected with us on social media.

- YouTube: <https://msr.aom.org/youtube>
- Facebook: <https://msr.aom.org/facebook>
- LinkedIn: <https://msr.aom.org/linkedin>

## We look forward to hearing from all our MSR members

If you would like to contribute to a future newsletter, please add your contribution in [this form](#).