ISLC 2026 Conference Programme (version 09.11.2026)

Sunday, 6th December				
12.00–12.30	**Registration [Room: Brindley]**			
12.30-13.00	**Working Lunch: Welcome by the Conference Chairs [Room: Brindley]**			
13.00-14.00	**Pre-conference workshops 1**			
	Room: Brindley	**Room: Angus**	**Room: Monks Barn**	
	Workshop 1A Rushton-Allan, A., & Alther, G.: Leadership lineages - Locating the legitimacy to act	Workshop 1B Gutekunst Almiron, H.: Ordinary alchemy - Knowing from the field in leadership practice	Workshop 1C Parsons, J.: How AI is shifting the vertical development context and demands for senior leaders and the implications for organisations in the executive education leadership development field	
14.30-15.30	**Pre-conference workshops 2**			
	Room: Brindley	**Room: Angus**	**Room: Monks Barn**	
	Workshop 2A Wayth, D.: Practising with(in) power, tensions, and competing interests - An inquiry of experience and relational habits amidst uncertainty and doubt	Workshop 2B McDonnell, D., & Russell, B.: Radicalising the obvious - Reimagining how we might make leadership collective in practice	Workshop 2C Baynton-Lees, D.: Regenerative or Extractive? Testing Co-Developed Leadership Tools and Auditing Our Own Research Practice	
16.00-18.00	**Ashridge Illuminated Light Trail**			

Monday, 7th December

8.30 –9.00	Arrival & Registration [Room: Main Hall]					
9.00 –9.15	Welcome: Martin Boehm, Executive Vice President and Global Dean of Undergraduate Programs at Hult International Business School & Hari Mann, Dean at Hult Ashridge [Room: Lady Marion Alford]					
9.15 –10.15	Keynote: Dr Eve Poole, OBE [Room: Lady Marion Alford]					
10.15 –10.45	Refreshment Break [Room: Wyatt]					
10.45–12.15	Parallel Sessions					
	Room: Lady Marion Alford	**Room: King Henry VIII (Room 40)**	**Room: Windsor**	**Room: Prince Edward (Room 39)**	**Room: Queen Victoria (Room 31)**	**Room: Princess Elizabeth (Room 42)**
	Paper session 1: AI, Technology & Changing Work	**Paper Session 2: Gender, Power, Equality & Resistance**	**Paper Session 3: Relationality, Collective Leadership, Followership & Alternative Forms of Organising**	**Paper Session 4: Leadership in Crisis, Change & Contested Institutions**	**Paper session 5: Indigenous, Decolonial, Sustainable & Place-Based Leadership**	**Networking room: continue your discussions**
	Chair: Piper Frangos	**Chair: Wenjin Dai**	**Chair: Antoinette Kemp**	**Chair: Sarah von Felten**	**Chair: Barbara Wang**	
	Jimenez Luque, A.: AI challenges and the future of education - Building an agenda for critical leadership scholars and practitioners	Hall, K.: Safer, not softer - Enabling dialogue on power through reflexive practice	Grønkjær, A.B.: From hero to relation - Convergence, divergence, and the future of sport leadership research	McKearney, A., & Dunston-Brady, R.: LGBTQ+ leaders in the UK - Identity, authenticity and leading 'openly' in precarious times	Oskal, A.: True masters of change: Indigenous Siida leadership as a form of nomadic navigation of complexity	
	Jönsson, J., Svensson, P., & Spoelstra, S.: Careless care - The violence of AI-delegated care	O'Sullivan, K.: Leading in academia while caring at home	Kemp, A.: Nature as the missing stakeholder - Extended anthropocentrism and the boundaries of post-heroic leadership (development)	Hearit, L.: Values driven leadership - A new leadership approach for times of uncertainty?	Ihuka, V.C., & McCunney, D.: Wisdom in words - Harnessing Nigerian proverbs to inform cross-cultural leadership for public good	
	Frangos, P.: Reimagining leadership in the digital age - An approach to human-centred competency development within AI-enabled organisations	Ferry, N.: Men as leaders - Naming men as gendered actors in leadership research	Persson, M., & Alvehus, J.: Accomplishing the (infra-)ordinary - Challenging ideas about direction and outcomes in leadership studies	von Felten, S.: Leading through uncertainty - Insights from international military leadership traditions	Warner, L.S., & Vande Corput, S.: Looking back to move forward – Indigenous reconciliation leadership	
	Meleti, E.: Human sustainability leadership and artificial intelligence in organisations	Dai, W.: Motherhood leadership - "Let's build the village to raise our children"	Houmark-Ørsøe, A.: Beyond caring for followers - Caring leadership as the work of negotiating plural responsibilities	Buzzanell, P.M., Eddington, S., Murray, S., & Pyatovskaya, E.: Leadership's shadow legacy - What the dark side of leadership communication teaches us about leading	Wang, B.X.: Relational leadership in times of turbulence through Confucian values	
12.30-13.15	Lunch [Room: Repton Dining Hall]					
13.15–14.45	Parallel Sessions					
	Room: Lady Marion Alford	**Room: King Henry VIII (Room 40)**	**Room: Windsor**	**Room: Prince Edward (Room 39)**	**Room: Queen Victoria (Room 31)**	**Room: Princess Elizabeth (Room 42)**
	Symposium: A new leadership mythology - Reframing heroes, villains and fools	**Paper session 6: Gender, Power, Equality & Resistance**	**Paper Session 7: Relationality, Collective Leadership, Followership & Alternative Forms of Organising**	**Paper Session 8: AI, Technology & Changing Work**	**Paper Session 9: Leadership Learning, Development, Identity & Wellbeing**	**Paper session 10: Indigenous, Decolonial, Sustainable & Place-Based Leadership**
	Chair: Brigid Carroll	**Chair: Lydia Martin**	**Chair: Janna Stout**	**Chair: Peter Kenttä**	**Chair: Frances Wu**	**Chair: Ghada Howaidy**
	Einola, K.: Narratives of leadership and national identity - A post-mythic perspective	Pyatovskaya, E.: Leading through crisis - Transformative feminist leadership and communicative resilience in a nonprofit organization during COVID-19	Gilling Borgmann, E.: Collective followership: An ethnographic study of followership in collectively led organisations	Kovas, Y., Selita, F., Lawrence, R., & Abecassis, M.: Mobilising interdisciplinary leadership for beneficial and ethical use of genomics businesses technologies	Watanabe, E.: More than socialising - Relational reconfiguration as transforming in executive education	Thet Nwe, M., Ahonen, P., & Case, P.: Leadership learning within sedimented pasts – A postcolonial inquiry into ideology, language, and becoming in Myanmar
	Alvehus, J.: The hero, the villain and the fool - Same person, different frames	Hayden, J., & Ferry, N.: Humour and resistance leadership - Lessons from late-communism & post-feminist struggles	Svensson, I., & von Knorring, M.: The hero rides off, and then what? Co creating collective leadership practices in healthcare	Kenttä, P.: The enduring blind spot in leadership studies - Can leadership studies finally overcome its societal myopia?	Wu, F., & Dickinson, S.: Field learning as leadership formation in the global polycrisis	Howaidy, G.: Rooted in place, oriented toward the future - Towards a model of non-western regenerative leadership in Egyptian family business
	Meier, F.: The sociomateriality of the heroic entrepreneur - The making and unmaking of the CEO of Theranos, Elisabeth Holmes	Martin, L.: Reimagining the boundaries of gendered leadership subjectivities with feminist speculative fiction	Stout, J.: Shared leadership and reprofessionalisation: An ethnographic study in older person care	Hardy, M.: Navigational leadership for complex time - Why the world changed and what that means for leadership	Argyle, P.: Action research, leadership and the Camino	Marochi, B., & Kamath, N.: Decolonising leadership knowledge - Challenging epistemic hierarchies in times of uncertainty and crisis
	Carroll, B.: Heroicisation - A processual approach	Taneko, R., Collinson, D., & Cheded, M.: Resisting patriarchy - Matriarchal culture in leadership and organisational discourses	Lowther, M.: Leadership under pressure - Coordinating distributed leadership			Kuipers, B., Lerusse, A., & Tiggelaar M.: Leading by example? Public, peer, and community leadership in citizens' climate action
14.45–15.15	Refreshment Break [Room: Wyatt]					

[Room: Old Library] 12.30-17.45

15.15–16.15	**Panel Session: Attention and Leadership (Host: Megan Reitz; Panellists: Leah Tomkins, Athol Williams & Carly Santer) [Room: Lady Marion Alford]**					**Book Publishers' Exhibition**
16.15–17.45	**Parallel Sessions**					
	Room: Lady Marion Alford	**Room: King Henry VIII (Room 40)**	**Room: Windsor**	**Room: Prince Edward (Room 39)**	**Room: Queen Victoria (Room 31)**	**Room: Princess Elizabeth (Room 42)**
	Meet the editors session	**Paper session 11: Gender, Power, Equality & Resistance**	**Paper Session 12: Relationality, Collective Leadership, Followership & Alternative Forms of Organising**	**Paper Session 13: AI, Technology & Changing Work**	**Paper Session 14: Leadership Learning, Development, Identity and Wellbeing**	
	Chair: Rea Prouska	**Chair: Sonja Raunio**	**Chair: David Becker**	**Chair: Marie-Colombe Afota**	**Chair: Christine Lithgow Smith**	
	Dr. Gareth Edwards - Editor-in-Chief *Leadership*	Empson, L.: Making space for status - Leadership as role-modelling vs resistance in an elite professional organisation	Becker, D.: The prior question, beyond the individual: Kinship, eligibility, and the limits of leadership theory	Gadelshina, G., & Owens, M.: Compassionate leadership in technologised interaction - Interactional agency and technologically occasioned pain in online organisational meetings	Sutton, J., & Chatterjee, A.: Beyond leadership competencies - Attachment theory can deepen leadership development	
	Dr. Dicle Kortantamer - Associate Editor Project Leadership & Society	Raunio, S.: Vulnerability in power - An autoethnography	Lassen, S., Ribers, B., Bolden, R., & von Bülow, C.: Navigating institutional tensions in contemporary academic leadership	Koistinen, J., Vuori, J., & Gamrasni, M.: Ideals of community in hybrid work	Lithgow Smith, C.: Before behaviour - How leaders become aware of what matters under pressure	**Networking room: continue your discussions**
	Prof. Marianna Fotaki - Former Senior Editor *Organization Studies*	Kislenko, S., & Rogers, K.: Power, identity, and survival: Founder's syndrome and gendered pathways to dark leadership among female entrepreneurs	Farzipour V., Bolden, R., & Jarvis, C.: From voice to influence - Systems leadership and the institutionalisation of patient voice	Kostamo, T., Launonen, R., & Alvehus, J.: Beyond the managerial gaze - Leadership, influence, and control in hybrid work	Stelmasiak, E., & Molek-Winiarska, D.: Evolving leadership through wellbeing - Evidence from the wellbeing leadership competency model	
	Guest Editors - Special Issue Call for Papers in *Leadership*		Persson, M.: How is leadership performed? Charismatic authority and sacralization in everyday interaction	Afota, M.-C.: Relational paradoxes in hybrid onboarding - A qualitative study of tensions shaping manager-newcomer relationship development	Mann, H.: The Ashridge legacy - Leadership development as human work	
19.00-19.30	**Drinks [Old Library]**					
19:30	**Conference Dinner (Guests Seated 19.30; Dinner 19.45) [Room: Lady Marion Alford & Old Library]**					

Tuesday, 8th December						
09.00-10.00	Keynote Prof. Marianna Fotaki [Room: Lady Marion Alford]					
10.00-10.05	Closing Remarks by the Conference Chairs [Room: Lady Marion Alford]					
10.05-10.15	Refreshment Break [Room: Wyatt]					
10.15-11.45	Parallel Sessions					
	Room: Lady Marion Alford	Room: King Henry VIII (Room 40)	Room: Windsor	Room: Prince Edward (Room 39)	Room: Queen Victoria (Room 31)	Room: Princess Elizabeth (Room 42)
	Symposium: Dark side leadership and human complexity of virtue and vice	Paper session 15: Gender, Power, Equality & Resistance	Paper Session 16: Relationality, Collective Leadership, Followership & Alternative Forms of Organising	Paper Session 17: Leadership in Crisis, Change & Contested Institutions	Paper Session 18: Leadership Learning, Development, Identity & Wellbeing	Networking room: continue your discussions
	Chair: Jen Jones	Chair: Veronika Kneip	Chair: Gareth Edwards	Chair: Rachel Wagner	Chair: Dicle Kortantamer	
	Jones, J.: Virtuous and vicious leadership in Augustine's confessions - The greater question of leader power	Ramalho, N., & Almeida, T.: Mary, Mary, we are elected!	Edwards, G.: Un (anti) relating leadership - Monologue and diatribe in populist leaders	Virtanen-Thewlis, B., Turunen, T., & Angouri, J.: Boards as temporal sensemakers - Material and narrative practices of governing through time	Kortantamer, D., Lubitsh, G., & Schofield, C.: Leadership loneliness - A socio-temporal process perspective	
	Murphy, J.: Leading in a time of collapse and catastrophe: Insights from Sarajevo under siege	Larrett, R.: Finding the gold in the ashes - Exploring alternative masculinities through reflective practices in response to pressing, systemic challenges in our communities and organisations	Spithoff, R., van der Woerd, O., Weenink, J.-W., van der Scheer, W.: Leadership interactions: Tracing processes of reconfiguration in a Dutch hospital	Dapena Gómez, M.: Between heritage and emergence - Evolving public leadership in local government	Oldham, G., & Bishop, K.: The senior-middle leadership dialectic and the work of flourishing in a polycrisis	
	Stephenson, P.: Towards a holistic heterogenous approach to the study of the dark side of leadership	Kneip, V.: From affirmation to transformation? Co-leadership and the gendered organisation of leadership	Vuohtoniemi, S.: Evolving leadership - Growth orientations of leaders in self-managing organisations	Laiho, M., Koistinen, J., & Lainio, A.: Making the world otherwise? Temporalities of utopianising in elite Interviews	Mahmud, Y., & Packham, D.: Leadership development through multiple professional identities	
		Eddington, S.M., Woods, H.S., & Priest, K.: Shaping the future hire - A collaborative autoethnography of a human-centred faculty search	Bodemar, A., & Kärreman, D.: When leadership becomes necessary - Organising through persistent tensions in Scandinavian sport	Harter, N., & Wagner, R.: Confronting civic anxiety - A Neo-Freudian prescription		
11.45-12.00	Refreshment Break [Room: Wyatt]					
12.00-13.30	Parallel Sessions					
	Room: Lady Marion Alford	Room: King Henry VIII (Room 40)	Room: Windsor	Room: Prince Edward (Room 39)	Room: Queen Victoria (Room 31)	Room: Princess Elizabeth (Room 42)
	Paper Session 19: Indigenous, Decolonial, Sustainable & Place-Based Leadership	Paper session 20: Gender, Power, Equality & Resistance	Paper session 21: Relationality, Collective Leadership, Followership & Alternative Forms of Organising	Paper session 22: Leadership in Crisis, Change & Contested Institutions	Paper Session 23: Leadership Learning, Development, Identity & Wellbeing	Networking room: continue your discussions
	Chair: Gretchen Alther	Chair: Xiangyu Zhu	Chair: Maike Kugler	Chair: Keith Grint	Chair: Pieter Conradie	
	Westlake, S.: Embodied sustainable leadership - A theory to save the world	Bayntun-Lees, D.: Feminist cooperative inquiry as regenerative methodology – How a spiralling research design embedded leadership development	Betts, T., Gibbs, L.E., & Buzzanell, P.M.: Worldbuilding - Narrative lessons in leading, resisting, and following in actual play	Murphy, J.: 'On the presence of absence' - Marwan Barghouti and Palestinian leadership in a void	De Togni, F.: Leading a concept that did not land - Persistence, identity and faculty partnership in a cohort-led capstone initiative	
	Alther, G.: Leading through place - Situated sensemaking and the practice of global leadership in a changing climate	Yazid, Z.: Becoming a leader - Exploring leadership identity formation among young women in higher education	Salovaara, P., & Vuori, J.: Power dynamics in decentralized organizations – A psychodynamic view	Grint, K.: Through a glass darkly - Contested pasts & conflicted futures	Conradie, P.: Producing agency through art	
	Ramirez Gonzalez, M.E.: Mutual nurturing and leadership practices in the Andes - Ontological responses to climate change in Fortaleza Sacsayhuaman (Perú)	Zhu, X.: The ideological glass ceiling - National ideology as an leadership context in Chinese official media	Kugler, M.: Repeating mistakes or learning from the past? A way forward in co-creation followership research	Joof, M.N., Kortantamer, D., Unterhitzenberger, C., & Collinge, W.: Investigating the role of leadership in shaping sustainability	Olivier, S., Holscher, F., & Slinkard, S.: Burnout journeys - A systemic inquiry into the misalignment of the three selves	
			Bolden, R., & de Jongh, D.: The changing nature of leadership studies - Insights from founders and directors of university-based leadership centres	Kortantamer, D., Delisle, J., & Alvehus, J.: Leading projects through time		
13.30	Lunch [Room: Repton Dining Hall]					