

MORALS AND BANKING
UCSIA international conference
1-3 December 2010
Antwerp, Belgium

CALL FOR PAPERS

CONCEPT

UCSIA and the University of Antwerp are pleased to announce the organisation of a two-day multidisciplinary conference on Morals and Banking. This international conference explores the question how modern banking practices can be reconciled with moral values. Without a doubt, banking, insurance and the financial intermediacy play a key role in any modern economy. Well-functioning capital market are essential to investment and capital accumulation driving economic growth and prosperity. However, these complex markets are driven by mixed morals. Profit seeking and self-interest is the major incentive for lending, risk taking and innovation.

The conference programme will be clustered around three main themes: integrity and trust in the banking sector, socially responsible banking (SRI, religiously inspired banking, microfinances, and cooperative banking) and financial crises in the small and in the large.

SCOPE

The UCSIA conference welcomes researchers, students and other experts to share scholarly ideas, practices and ideas on ethical practices of modern mainstream banking and its alternatives. Such a conference may open up a new horizon for academics, students and policy makers to think about the morals and banking. Presentations can summarize empirical research outcomes, but also conceptual, methodological and policy related contributions are welcomed for submission. Contribution can be submitted about the following issues:

- Integrity and trust in the banking sector
 - How to assure integrity in banking: via regulation, hard law, soft law, codes of conduct, HR policies?
 - What about mutual funds and hedge funds: transparency, churning, speculation or investment?
- Financial crises in the small and in the large
 - Frauds, e.g. Enron, WorldCom, Berings, Socgen, Madoff
 - National crises, e.g. Argentina, Russia, Romania, Greece...
 - International crises, e.g. Asia, subprime crisis...
- Religious responsible banking:
 - Is like Islamic banking really different ?
 - What about the issue of the Quran prohibition of riba?
 - Are the historic discussions in Catholicism (for instance with Lessius) relevant to the debates today?
 - How does the compatibility with economic growth and aspects of equity such as home ownership relate to religious responsible banking?

- Social responsible investment (SRI):
 - What are the underlying principles of socially responsible investment or ethical investment?
 - What is its performance?
 - Does it reach its goals?
- What are the underlying (organizational) principles and of micro finance or cooperative banking? What are its effects on development?

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION

An extended abstract (min. 500 words – max. 1000 words) has to be submitted by **June 1st 2010** using [the online form](#) at <http://www.ucsia.org> (notice of acceptance: June 30th 2010).

Papers may include both empirical research as well as but also theoretical reflections.

The reviewing process will evaluate these extended abstracts. Authors of an accepted contribution have to hand in their full paper (maximum 8000 words) by November 1st 2010 to prepare the conference proceedings and to be eligible for publication.

Submissions are subject to a blind refereeing process.

There is no conference fee for paper presenters and workshop chairs. The conference language is English. Accommodation is provided by UCSIA for participants with an accepted paper or workshop.

STEERING GROUP:

- Kris Boschmans, junior researcher, VKW Metena
- Loic De Cannière, managing director, Incofin
- Marc Deloof, professor of Finance, University of Antwerp and the UCL
- Helma De Smedt, professor of Economic History, University of Antwerp
- Sara Mels, project coordinator, UCSIA
- Walter Nonneman, managing director, UCSIA and professor of Economics, University of Antwerp
- Chris Timmerman, director of academic affairs, UCSIA
- Geert Vanhaverbeke, head of administration, UCSIA
- Luc Van Liedekerke, professor of Business Ethics, University of Antwerp and K.U.Leuven

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Date: 1-3 December 2010

Location: University Antwerp

Enrolment fee: 35 € (one day) or 60 € (two days)

E-mail: sara.mels@ua.ac.be (Project coordinator)

Website: http://www.ucsia.org/main.aspx?c=*UCSIA2&n=85997

or www.ucsia.org click projects, academic workshops

<p>Please submit your proposal to sara.mels@ua.ac.be before 1st of June 2010.</p>
