

Welcome ...

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Earlier this month I attended a [book event](#) organised by our friends at the Harvard Business Review and I'm now pleased to share the key highlights of what was an extremely thought-provoking discussion on our relationship with artificial intelligence. Psychologist, author and entrepreneur, Tomas Chamorro-Premuzic presented key insights from his latest book, 'I, Human' where he discusses how AI is shaping us and how we should shape it. You can also find [here](#) a list of HBR upcoming book events.

We are also pleased to announce that our [next Showcase](#) will take on 11th May at 4:30pm and will be an opportunity to get under the skin of organisational culture – usually the element that people find hardest to change. We are delighted to welcome our speaker, Daniel Beunza, Professor of Social Studies of Finance at Bayes Business School. Professor Beunza's research explores the ways in which social relations and technology shape financial value. His recent book [Taking the Floor: Models, Morals and Management in a Wall Street Trading Room \(Princeton University Press\)](#) illustrates how an ethnographer's approach to understanding culture can lead to a more sustainable model of financial success. Further details and booking link can be found [here](#). Do join us for this virtual Showcases that will introduce you to new and stimulating ideas, help you make change happen and ultimately deliver excellence in consulting.

Our March main feature is '[Management Consultants: Con Men or Fall Guys?](#)', a review of the Big Con, a book by Professor Mariana Mazzucato and Rosie Collington. Jim Foster, a member of the CMCE leadership team, shares with us his thoughts on the content of the book and challenges the way in which the authors portray management consultants. In addition to Jim's review, you can also find out more about the book in this [podcast: The big consultancy con](#). Megan Gibson speaks to the economist and author Mariana Mazzucato, professor at the UCL Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose. You can also read another critical review of the book [here](#), and a more positive one [here](#).

In case you missed our last Showcase, 'Systems Thinking in Consulting – Why and How', our Director, Nick Bush, shares his [key takeaways](#) from the discussion. A research fellow at Cranfield with over 28 years' experience as a systems practitioner and a veteran of over 250 client projects, Patrick Hoverstadt, our speaker for the evening, was particularly well-qualified to shed light on this area. His latest book "[The Grammar of Systems](#)", which formed the basis of his presentation, outlines the patterns of thought for a systems approach and summarises 33 systems laws and principles that encapsulate the work done to develop the approach over the years. You can also catch up with the full recording of the event [here](#).

In addition, this month's [In-Brief section](#) features a series of articles focusing on a range of current topics that include generative AI, knowledge in quantum computing and the creation of competitive advantages.

The Centre for Management Consulting Excellence (CMCE) is, with support from City University, conducting a study of the value associated with different types of consulting project. This is a follow up to CMCE's 2021 report, "Consultant Value Add: Maximising Value from your Management Consultant". There is a link below to a survey questionnaire which asks respondents to provide information on one or more separate consulting projects.

[Consultant Value Survey Questionnaire](#)

CMCE is planning to publish a report containing the findings of the survey, and there is the opportunity for survey respondents to provide contact details in order to receive a copy of the report.

Please feel free to share the link to the survey questionnaire with colleagues.

Thank you for your input.

Finally, we are thrilled to announce that, as some of you might have already noticed, the [CMCE website](#) has undergone a back- and front-end revamp! The new structure will make it more straightforward for us to share relevant and timely insights as well as for you to access new content and specific sections more easily. Keep an eye on our [LinkedIn page](#) over the next couple of weeks to find out more about the content available and how to engage with it and the rest of our initiatives.

The Newsletter Editor

The Centre for Management Consulting Excellence was founded by



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of Management Consultants*