

## **Newsletter May 2024**

## Welcome ...

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We open this month's Newsletter with a <u>summary of the key insights</u> from our latest Showcase, 'People-Centric Change' that explored how to effectively communicate to engage people with change, in a way that looks at it as an opportunity instead of as a threat. Nick Bush, CMCE former Director, shares with us the highlights of this thought-provoking discussion, including the four key questions to ask both internal and external stakeholders, in order to keep them engaged throughout the change process. In addition, Nick reflects on a few of the practical implications related to adopting a more people-centric approach to change.

Al in Management Consulting: Thursday 6 June, from 10.00 am

Our next online event is 'AI In Management Consulting', organised jointly with the British Academy of Management (BAM) Management Consulting Network. Comprising three online discussions, each featuring a presentation followed by a question-and-answer session, this event will focus on how AI presents both a major opportunity and a major threat for management consulting.

Our speakers include Professor Joe O'Mahoney, known for his ground-breaking research of real practical value to consulting firms; Dr Konstantinos Zachos, who will demonstrate AI tools for consultants being developed at the National Centre for Creativity enabled by AI (CebAI); and a joint presentation by Professor David V L Smith and Adam Riley, who will discuss the critical skills that management consultants will need to flourish in an AI-intensive environment.

<u>Join us</u> on 6<sup>th</sup> June to find out more about the application of AI in management consulting and its implications for the profession.

CMCE Next Gen 2.0: Risky Business Workshop Four: How Does Motivation Affect Your Choices? 13 June 2024, 4.00 pm, Online

Later in the month on 13th June we will hold the fourth in our series of 'Next Gen 2.0: Risky Business: Why Do We Fear The Unknown?'. When we think about the future of technology – from AI to robotics to genetics – how can we possibly interpret these possibilities effectively? For some of us, our first thought might lean towards science fiction's skull-faced Terminators or over-clever theme-park raptors, while others might simply feel overwhelmed by the scale of change underway. Some, too, will be inspired and excited by the seemingly endless possibilities that technology promises. Whatever the case, our emotional response to new technology shapes how we engage with it, as individuals and as communities, and recognising those hopes and fears is key to understanding ourselves within the world's possible futures. Register now to join this workshop and deepen your understanding on this extremely current topic.

In the meantime, if you want to catch up with previous workshops, you can read a <u>summary of the key insights from Workshop 2</u> written by our Newsletter Editor, Valentina Lorenzon. The session focused on the exploration of the multiple, often conflicting, and highly complex motivations that might play a key role in how we make decisions, in both personal and professional settings. You can also find the recordings of both Workshop 1 and 2 <u>here</u>.

This month's <u>In-Brief section</u> includes a series of articles focusing on a range of current topics such as the changing environment for consulting, leaders' viewpoint on technology implementation and leadership effectiveness.

Earlier this month our Newsletter Editor had the opportunity to attend a book discussion organised by our colleagues at Harvard Business Reviews and shares with us the key takeaways from the event. The session focused on 'Higher Ground. How business can do the right thing in a turbulent world', a book by Alison Taylor, a clinical professor at NYU Stern School of Business and executive director at Ethical Systems, a research collaboration focused on building more ethical organisational cultures.

In addition, if you want to learn more about the visionary, human-centred and purposeful leadership we need in this tech-enabled age to create the right conditions for AI adoption to succeed and reveal business value for all stakeholders involved, you might be interesting in the upcoming <a href="HBR Webinar: The AI-Savvy Leader">HBR Webinar: The AI-Savvy Leader</a>. On June 26, David De Cremer will discuss his new book, 'The AI-Savvy Leader' that champions leaders who recognize AI as a powerful tool to augment – but not replace – human intelligence, and integrate it in their change management to unlock innovation and creativity in the workforce.

Finally, recent research conducted by CMCE identified building trust as one of the top three factors impacting the provision of value by management consultants. With this in mind, you may be interested in an event on 4 June organised by our colleagues at the Chartered Management Institute entitled "Has trust ever been more important to consultancy success?". Please use this <u>link</u> to find out more about the event and reserve your place.

The Newsletter Editor

The Centre for Management Consulting Excellence was founded by

