Converge: A Summit for Academics, Practitioners, and Emerging Professionals

Thank you for participating in Converge 2026 ! We are thrilled to welcome you to Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan, U.S.A., to advance conversations and connections between scholars and practitioners. Below, find the program for Converge 2026, held in Kalamazoo, Michigan, on November 19 & 20.

Thursday, November 19, 2026 **Western Michigan University: Sangren Hall & the Student Center**	
Session	**Details**
Check-in, coffee, & welcome! 8:30 am	*Location: Sangren Hall*
Welcome and Keynote 9:00 am - 10:00 am	*Location: Sangren Hall, Room 1910* **Dr. Marcia Hagen** *(*President of Midwest Academy of Management; Professor at Metropolitan State University) **Dr. Doug Lepisto** (Associate Professor, Western Michigan University; Founder & Managing Partner, Sleeping Giant Capital) **Keynote Speaker: Dr. Jean Bartunek** *(*Robert A., and Evelyn J. Ferris Chair and Professor of Management and Organization at Boston College; past President of the Academy of Management and past Dean of the Fellows of the Academy of Management)
Break: 10:00 am - 10:15 am	
Panel: Nothing so Practical as a Good Theory 10:15 am - 11:15 am	*Location: Sangren Hall, Room 1910* **Moderated by: Dr. Jennifer Seyler** (PDW Chair of Management Consulting Division, AOM) **Dr. Pierre EL HADDAD** (Professor at INSEEC Grande École, France; Program Chair of Management Consulting Division, AOM) **Dr. Kenneth Chung** (Retired Executive Vice President, CHUBB; ISODC leader)

	Dr. Roberto Vassolo (President of the Iberoamerican Academy of Management, Professor at IAE Business School, Argentina)
Break: 11:15 am - 11:30 am	
Panel: Student & Early Career Perspectives 11:30 am - 12:15 pm	*Location: Sangren Hall, Room 1910* **Moderated by: Dr. Margaret Gorman** (Principal | Vice President Consulting Practice, A23 Advisors; Associate Faculty at University of Phoenix) **Saeed Fanoodi** (University of Mississippi) **Amanda Jeppesen** (Western Michigan University) **Ren Lovegood** (University of Massachusetts)
Morning Closing Remarks 12:15 pm - 12:20 pm	*Location: Sangren Hall, Room 1910* **Dr. Jessica Heybach** (Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Studies, College of Education and Human Development, Western Michigan University)
Lunch: 12:20 - 1:30 **Location: Student Center** ***Dine at the Student Dining Center and gather in the Fireplace Lounge (3rd floor) or use your lunch voucher at MI-PI, Fuego Verde, Starbucks, or Refresh on the 1st floor***	
Panel: Publishing for Impact 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	*Location: Student Center Ballroom* **Moderated by: Dr. David Szabla** (Professor, Western Michigan University) **Dr. Stacey Fitzsimmons** (Associate Editor at *Academy of Management Perspectives*; Associate Professor at University of Victoria, Canada) **Dr. Chang Hoon Oh** (Associate Editor at *Academy of Management Organizations and their Environments*; Professor at University of Kansas) **Dr. Anton Shufinsky** (Associate Editor at *Organization Development Review*; Sacred Heart University)
Break: 2:30 - 2:45	
Real Project, Mutual	*Location: Student Center Ballroom*

Learning: Supply Chain in the Real World 2:45 pm - 3:20 pm	**Moderated by: Dr. Anezka Viskova-Robertson** (Assistant Professor, Western Michigan University) **Dr. Marcel Zondag** (Professor, Western Michigan University) **Brad Roberts** (Director of Procurement – North America at MANN+HUMMEL USA, Inc.)
Roundtable Discussions: What's Worked? 3:20 - 3:45 pm	*Location: Student Center Ballroom* **Facilitated by: Dr. Eric Sanders** (Past President, Management Consulting Division, AOM; Associate Professor, Elmhurst University)
Community Bridges to Academia 3:45 - 4:20 pm	*Location: Student Center Ballroom* **Moderated by: Dr. Doug Bellah** (Senior Director Talent Management, E.W. Scripps Company; part-time faculty at Western Michigan University) **Lisa Garcia** (Associate Vice President for External Partnerships, WMU) **Clarence Lloyd** (Vice President & Chamber Director at Southwest Michigan First)
Roundtable Discussions: What's Next? 4:20 pm - 4:45 pm	*Location: Student Center Ballroom*
Closing Remarks 4:45 pm - 5 pm	*Location: Student Center Ballroom* **Dr. Vanessa Hills** (Assistant Professor, Western Michigan University) **Dr. Chris Cheatham** *(*Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs at Western Michigan University)
Networking Reception 5:00 pm - 6:15 pm	*Location: Student Center Ballroom* Redeem your drink ticket (found in your registration bag) at the hosted bar in the ballroom! Non-alcoholic options also available.

Friday, November 20, 2026 Western Michigan University: Sangren Hall	
Session	**Details**
Idea Development Workshop 9:00 am - 12:00 pm	*Note: This workshop requires pre-registration and email confirmation. Space is limited.* *Location: Sangren Hall 2110* Workshop led by: **Dr. Stacey Fitzsimmons** (Associate Editor at *Academy of Management Perspectives*; Associate Professor at University of Victoria, Canada) **Dr. Chang Hoon Oh** (Associate Editor at *Academy of Management Organizations and their Environments*; Professor at University of Kansas)
Optional: Lunch 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	