27 July 2026, 12:00 - 17:00

Registration, MyHal (55 St George Street)

27 July 2026, 13:00 - 15:00

Curator's Tour of TD Bank Tower (information will be sent to participants)

27 July 2026, 14:00 - 16:00

Bata Shoe Museum Tour (information will be sent to participants)

27 July 2026, 15:00 - 16:00

Toronto Stock Exchange, Closing Bell (information will be sent to participants)

27 July 2026, 17:00 - 19:00

Opening Plenary: What Business Historians Should Study?, Room 1130, Bahen Centre

Chair:	Matthias Kipping (York University)
Discussant:	Geoffrey Jones (Harvard Business School), Takafumi Kurosawa (Kyoto University), Andrea Lluch (National Council of Scientific and Technical Research of Argentina/University of Los Andes), Stephen Mihm (University of Georgia), Andrea Schneider-Braunberger (Gesellschaft für Unternehmensgeschichte, Frankfurt/Main), Dan Wadhwani (USC Marshall)
Organizer:	Matthias Kipping (York University)

This roundtable aims to (a) showcase the variety of research currently carried out under the business history label and (b) encourage a debate about these existing directions as well as possible new avenues going forward. It starts by asking some of the main proponents of the different research programs to make their case in brief (5-minute) TED-style talks. This will be followed by a moderated discussion among the panelist, before engaging with the audience.

The Responsibility of Business (Geoffrey Jones)
Industries (Takafumi Kurosawa)
The Global (Andrea Lluch)
Capitalism (Stephen Mihm)
Entrepreneurs and Entrepreneurialism (Dan Wadhwani)
Firms (Andrea Schneider-Braunberger)

27 July 2026, 19:00 - 19:30

Chris Kobrak Appreciation Event, Room 1130, Bahen Centre

Discussant: Dimitry Anastakis, Teresa da Silva Lopes (University of York), Jeffrey Fear (University of Glasgow), Andrea Schneider-Braunberger (Gesellschaft für Unternehmensgeschichte, Frankfurt/Main)

27 July 2026, 19:30 - 22:30

Informal Reception at the Duke of York Pub (39 Prince Arthur Avenue)

28 July 2026, 08:00 - 17:00

Registration, MyHal (55 St George Street)

28 July 2026, 08:30 - 10:00

Round table A01, Room Myhal 330

Chair: Ai Hisano (University of Tokyo)
Discussant: Adoración Álvaro Moya (Cunef Universidad), Takafumi Kurosawa (Kyoto University), Beatriz Rodríguez Satizabal (Universidad del Pacífico), Espen Storli (Norwegian University of Science and Technology), Chinmay Tumbe (Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad)
Organizer: Espen Storli (Norwegian University of Science and Technology)

The field of business history is inherently multidisciplinary with a well-established structure of national and international conferences and with several well-respected academic journals. Yet, it is also a field that in its teaching is often without a natural home. Most business historians teach at institutions where their field is in a marginal position, and we mostly teach courses or modules to students who are not (business) historians. How does that affect the development of the field? What are the main challenges in teaching students who are not primarily interested in business history? How do we make our field attractive? What is the potential? In the roundtable, presenters from very different institutional and geographical settings share their experiences and invite the audience to discuss how to teach business history to non-business historians. Presenters: Adoración Álvaro Moya (CUNEF Madrid), Chinmay Tumbe (Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad), Beatriz Rodríguez Satizábal (Universidad del Pacífico, Peru), David Boughey (University of Exeter, UK), Espen Storli (NTNU Norway)

Session A02, Room Myhal 315

Chair: Roberta Maierhofer (University of Graz)

Tomasz Olejniczak (Kozminski University), Katarzyna Pąk (Kozminski University and Ericsson Poland), Zuzanna Staniszewska (Kozminski University)
The Invisible Maidens from the Swedish Tower: Historical case study of conversion Forms of Capital by Ericsson switchboard operators in Poland 1904-1939

Juliane Clegg (University of Stuttgart), Swenja Hiller (University of Stuttgart)
Building Bridges: Female Ownership, Inheritance, and Interim Leadership in Nineteenth-Century Business History

Session A03, Room Myhal 320

Chair: Christopher Kopper (Bielefeld University)

Simone Selva (University of Naples L'Orientale/ISMed CNR Naples)
international capital movements and transatlantic banking in the age of unregulated finance

Fabio Lavista (University of Pisa)
Is it industrial policy or a generalised bailout? The use of subsidised credit in Italy at the height of the 1970s crisis

Carlo Edoardo Altamura (University of Lausanne and University of Manchester), Fernanda Conforto de Oliveira (University of Lausanne)
Who Learned What? Revisiting IMF and World Bank Engagement in the 1982 Mexican Debt Crisis

Session A04, Room Myhal 360

Chair: Dan Wadhwani (USC Marshall)

Wong James KS (York University)
From Airwaves to Ritual: Commercial Radio Hong Kong's Entrepreneurial Reinvention of Radio through Music Events, 1989–present

Eric Godelier (Ecole polytechnique (France))
the Use of Culture in Business History: Entrepreneurship, management and Practices

Lenka Kratka (Institute of Contemporary History, Czech Academy of Sciences)
Technological Change as Part of Post-socialist Transformation (the Case of the Czech Republic)

Session A05, Room Myhal 380

Chair: Vicki Howard

Fu Cho (Prefecture University of Hiroshima)
Modularity or Integral: Formation and development of the Radio-Control Model industry in Japan, 1930s-2000s

Len Kuffert (University of Manitoba)
Weapons of the Weekend: Marketing Power Tools and Machinery to the 20th Century Hobbyist

Anne F. MacLennan (Associate Professor)
From Hobby to Business: The Early History and Development of the Radio Industry in Canada

Session A06, Room Myhal 440

Chair: Ann Carlos (University of Colorado Boulder)
Organizer: Ann Carlos (University of Colorado Boulder)

Michael Borsk (The University of Toronto, Mississauga)
Trading Knowledge: How the Fur Trade Shaped Settlement in the Great Lakes

Jamal Dillman-Hasso (The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor)
A Changing Polar Star: Indigenous Commercial Epistemologies and the Cities of London and Westminster, 1800-1830

Ross Wagner (Northern Illinois University)
"As if they were Natives:" Green Bay's Fur Trade Community under Jay's Treaty and the Factory System, 1795-1821

Session A07, Room Myhal 480

Chair: Dimitry Anastakis

Ryo Izawa (Keio University)
Enlarging loophole capitalism: International tax regime and the roles of Japanese multinational enterprises, government, and the professional service industry in the 20th and 21st centuries

Shunsuke Nakaoka (Kobe University)
Seeking applicable and suitable model through global search –commitment, connection and information collection of international tax policies by the interwar Japanese government and business organizati

Lexy Remy (Erasmus University Rotterdam)
The Holland-route: How financial and banking interests shaped international structures of tax avoidance, 1945-1965

28 July 2026, 10:30 - 12:30

Workshop B01, Room Myhal 330

Chair: Aki Kinjo (Gakushuin University)
Organizer: Patrice Baubeau (Paris Nanterre University)

Juha Tarkka (Bank of Finland)
Warehouse Finance in the Baltic Sea Region under Later Mercantilism

Aki Kinjo (Gakushuin University)
Leveraging from Europe: Warehouse Finance Propels Japan to Top Exporter of Raw Silk

Hideaki Sato (University of Osaka, Graduate School of Economics)
From Commodity Collateral to Bonded Warehousing – The Transformation of Warehouse Finance in Meiji Japan

Patrice Baubeau (Paris Nanterre University)
The Hazards of Materiality: The Bank of France and Movable Collateral, 1840s–1890s

Yuta Takeda (Sapporo University)
Globalization in Modern Times and Collateral of the Bank of France: Example of Le Havre Branch

Session B02, Room Myhal 315

Chair: John Wong (Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences)
Discussant: Chaisung Lim (College of Economics, Rikkyo University)
Organizer: Chia-hao Chen

Jung-Chen Chen (Department of History, National Chi Nan University)
Flows of Gold and Silver: Taiwan as a Financial Hub in the VOC's 17th-Century East Asian Maritime Sphere

Jun Matsuba (Department of East Asia Studies, Fukuoka University)
Steamship Management in Early Colonial Taiwan: Transformation of Taiwanese Maritime Enterprises

Chia-hao Chen (Graduate Institute of History, National Central University, Taiwan)
The Implementation and Application of the Modern Corporate System in Colonial Taiwan: A Study of Taiwanese Capital (1895–1923)

Sao-Yang Hong (National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University)
Continuity and Transformation of Business Activities from Shanghai to Taiwan: The Case of the Yulon Group

Session B03, Room Myhal 320

Chair: J.L. Anderson (Mount Royal University)
Discussant: J.L. Anderson (Mount Royal University)
Organizer: Shane Hamilton (University of York)

Valeria Giacomin (Bocconi University)
Financing Agribusiness: Mapping Plantation Investment in Southeast Asia, 1900s–1940s

Siddharth Sridhar
Smugglers, Speculators, and the Control of Rubber Finance in Asia

Nicole Adrian (University of Pennsylvania)
Funding US Agribusiness: The Fight for Cooperative Tax Equality and "Free Enterprise," 1945-1960

Shane Hamilton (University of York)
Financialization and Strategic Obfuscation in the Global Meat Complex

Session B04, Room Myhal 360

Chair: Andrea Lluch (National Council of Scientific and Technical Research of Argentina/University of Los Andes)
Discussant: Geoffrey Jones (Harvard Business School)
Organizer: Kondwani Happy Ngoma / Teresa da Silva Lopes

Pedro Almeida Leitão (University of Porto), Teresa da Silva Lopes (University of York)
Governance of Colonial Markets under Liberal and Authoritarian Rule: A Trademark-Based Analysis of Portugal, 1903–1945

Gijs Dreijer (Erasmus University Rotterdam)
Railways, Resources and Rivalries: Dutch Capital Investments in the Scramble for Southern Africa (1880-1920)

Kondwani Happy Ngoma (Stockholm School of Economics), Emmet Oliver (Trinity College Dublin (UCD))
Varieties of Decolonisation: A Typology of Corporate Strategy and State-Business Relations

Session B05, Room Myhal 380

Chair: Heather Nelson (Mount Royal University)

Zoe Savitsky (York University, Toronto)
Toward "Reasonable Limits": The Surprising Dialogic Origins of the Unique Canadian Regulation of Commercial Expression

Susanna Fellman (University of Gothenburg), Martin Shanahan (University of South Australia)
Tools for market control: Businesses, governments and international commodity agreements in the 20th century

Louice Bådholm (Uppsala University)
When the Retailer Crosses the Nautical Border: The Regulations of the Northern Baltic Sea Duty-Free Market, 1960–1993

Stefano Palermo (Purdue University)
Citizens of the Single Market: Defining EU Citizenship from the Second Oil Shock to Maastricht, 1979-1992

Session B06, Room Myhal 440

Chair: David Foord (University of New Brunswick)

Kjetil Landrog (The Norwegian association of archives)
How to get more funding to private archives?

Radosław Milczarski (Koźmiński University in Warsaw)
Significant and Compatible: Heritage Governance of the Polish Development Bank Headquarters

Mariusz Jastrząb (Civitas University, Warsaw)
When Socialist Rituals Meet Marketing: 25th Anniversary Celebrations of Warsaw's Passenger Car Factory (FSO) in 1976

Toshiki Fukumoto (Doshisha University), Hiromichi Hasebe (Nihon University), Hiroyuki Nakazono (Kansai University), Ayako Osawa (Graduate School of International Cultural Studies, Tohoku University)
Community and Publicness in Japanese Corporate Memory: A Comparative Study of Kyocera and Panasonic

Session B07, Room Myhal 480

Chair: Erik Thomson (University of Manitoba)

Milan Balaban (Tomas Bata University in Zlin), Chinmay Tumbe (Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad)
Political Risk, Consumer Culture and Innovation: The Bata Company in Africa, c. 1930-1990.

Philipp Meder (University of Stuttgart)
Institutions Between State and Enterprise: The German Institute for Economic Research and its Role in the Nazi Economy

Saara Matala (Chalmers University), Pal Thonstad Sandvik (Norwegian University of Science and Technology), Espen Storli (Norwegian University of Science and Technology)
Oil, oligopolies, and state responses: the development of the global oil market, 1860s-1939

Bo Yao Zhang (University of Toronto)
Cost Accounting and the End of Chinese Communism: Market Pricing, Taylorist Morality, and the Demise of the Socialist Industrial Workplace in China, 1990-2000

Session B08, Room Myhal 490

Chair: Walter Iber (University of Graz)
Organizer: Rika Fujioka (The University of Tokyo)

Andrea Schneider-Braunberger (Gesellschaft für Unternehmensgeschichte, Frankfurt/Main)
The „Letter-Folder Convention“ – Family Firms and the introduction of file plans in German bureaucracy

Rika Fujioka (The University of Tokyo), Makihiko Tsujihara (Prefectural University of Kumamoto)
Building Branded Compasses: How a Dual Family-Business Structure Shaped Uchida Yoko’s Sales Channels, 1940s–1970s

Takashi Hirano (Musashino University, Tokyo)
A Publisher’s Business Model without Advertising: Postwar Japanese Corporate Ethics and the Revival of Lifestyle Culture as Seen in "Kurashi no Techo" (1940s–1970s)

28 July 2026, 13:30 - 15:00

Round table C01, Room Myhal 330

Chair: Ken Lipartito (Florida International University)
Discussant: Ken Lipartito (Florida International University), Ana María Otero-Cleves (University of York), Daniel Robinson (University of Western Ontario), Benjamin C. Waterhouse (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill), Brandon K. Winford (University of Tennesee, Knoxville), Wendy Woloson (Rutgers University, Camden), Ben Wubs (Erasmus University Rotterdam), Alexia M. Yates (European University Institute)
Organizer: Ai Hisano (University of Tokyo), Roger Horowitz (Hagley Museum and Library)

This round table wants to assess the impact of the business and culture approach to business history. It's been thirty years since Lipartito published his essay, "Culture and the Practice of Business History" in the BHC journal, Business and Economic History (1995, Vol. 24, no. 2). Its publication coincided with a noticeable increase in research grant applications to the Hagley library to explore our growing holding of archival materials documenting cultural industries and consumer behavior. Lipartito's paper became the centerpiece of a workshop organized by Hagley's Center for the History of Business, Technology, and Society that brought two dozen business historians together to discuss the value of integrating cultural analysis into business history. Several other events followed, culminating in the "Future of Business History" conference at Hagley in 1997 whose papers appeared in Business and Economic History (Vol. 26, No. 1) as well.

Panelists are Ken Lipartito, Ana Maria Otero-Cleves, Daniel Robinson, Brandon K. Winford, Wendy Woloson, Ben Wubs, Alexia M. Yates.

This is a round-table in two sessions. Will be continued in Session D01.

Session C02, Room Myhal 315

Chair: Adoración Álvaro Moya (Cunef Universidad)
Organizer: Irina Yanyshev Nésterova

Valentina Fava (Università Ca'Foscari Venice), Tomasz Olejniczak (Kozminski University)
Fiat in the Land of Fields: Automotive Business Strategies amidst Deglobalization in the interwar Poland (1918-1939)

Valeria Zanier (University of Bologna "Alma Mater")
The Italian Bank for China (1920-1948): national project or business venture?

Irina Yanyshev Nésterova (University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria)
A Cross-Border Business History: The Soviet Far Eastern Bank in Interwar Republican China

Session C03, Room Myhal 320

Chair: Roman Köster (University of the Armed Forces Munich)

Niklas Jensen-Eriksen (University of Helsinki), Kati Toivanen (University of Helsinki)
Building on waste: Recycling of construction materials in 20th century Finland

Roman Köster (University of the Armed Forces Munich)
New Markets for used things. Paper and rag recycling in German cities during the second half of the 19th century

Chad Denton (Yonsei University)
Blood, Bones, and Business: André Vincent and the Rendering Industry in France, 1900-1944

Session C04, Room Myhal 360

Chair: Jeet Heer (The Nation)
Organizer: Donica Belisle (University of Regina)

Joe Borsato (Queen's University)
Markets and Manitou: Indigenous Political Economies in the Seventeenth-Century French and English Empires

Donica Belisle (University of Regina)
Business and Colonization at Home and Abroad: The Case of B.C. Sugar

Bryan Palmer (Trent University)
Colonialism, Capitalism, Canada: How a Historical Relationship Structures Understandings of the Past, Present, and Future

Session C05, Room Myhal 380

Chair: Marc Levinson

Shunsuke Yamashiroya (Meiji University Graduate School), Kenichi Miyata (Meiji University)
A Bridging Business for Ambidexterity: Using Legacy Assets in Kresge's Transition to Kmart, 1958–1980

Yuwei Huang (Taiwan University)
Sugar Export Policies and Merchant Adaptation in the Eighteenth-Century Qing Empire

Amélia Branco (ISEG, Universidade de Lisboa), Sofia Teives Henriques (University of Porto)
State Intervention and the Making of a Global Export Leader: The Portuguese Resin Industry, 1856–1970s

Session C06, Room Myhal 440

Chair: Susanna Fellman (University of Gothenburg)
Organizer: David Foord (University of New Brunswick)

David Foord (University of New Brunswick), Cameron Roberts (Carleton University), Daniel Rosenbloom (Carleton University)
From Telegraphs to Telephones: Tracing the Socio-technical Transition in Canadian Telecommunications from 1846-1980

Cameron Roberts (Carleton University), Daniel Rosenbloom (Carleton University)
Rigid Airships as a Failed Socio-Technical Transition

David Foord (University of New Brunswick)
The First Power Transition: Canadian Electrification, 1880–1970

Session C07, Room Myhal 480

Chair: Espen Storli (Norwegian University of Science and Technology)

Knut Sogner (BI Norwegian Business School)
Associative capitalism in the age of corporations: The fall of a powerful Norwegian industrial group 1910-39

Milan Balaban (Tomas Bata University in Zlin), Chinmay Tumbe (Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad)
Rapid Internationalization During Acute Deglobalization: Decentralization, International Business Diplomacy and the Unbearable Lightness of Being Bata in the 1930s

M. Stephen Salmon (Canadian Business History Association)
“The boat business went to pieces”: Surviving the Great Depression on the Canadian Great Lakes, 1919-1939

Jean-Philip Mathieu (McGill University)
"Our surest road to present prosperity and future happiness": Tariffs, Branch Plants, and Machinery in Early Twentieth Century Canada

28 July 2026, 13:30 - 15:30

Session C08, Room Myhal 490

Chair: Takafumi Kurosawa (Kyoto University)

Jonathan Krautter (Institute for Advanced Study, Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo)
A Business History of Industrial Policy

Shaun Yajima (University of Tokyo, Freiberg University of Mining and Technology), Ryosuke Yokoe (Hitotsubashi University)
The UK Brewing Industry and the Political Use of Historical Scholarship, 1979–94

Michaela Tasotti (University of Graz)
"From Archives to Action: Oral History as a Bridge between Theory and Practice in Business History Education”

28 July 2026, 15:30 - 17:30

Round table D01, Room Myhal 330

Chair: Roger Horowitz (Hagley Museum and Library)
Discussant: Ken Lipartito (Florida International University), Ana María Otero-Cleves (University of York), Daniel Robinson (University of Western Ontario), Benjamin C. Waterhouse (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill), Brandon K. Winford (University of Tennesee, Knoxville), Wendy Woloson (Rutgers University, Camden), Ben Wubs (Erasmus University Rotterdam), Alexia M. Yates (European University Institute)
Organizer: Ai Hisano (University of Tokyo), Roger Horowitz (Hagley Museum and Library)

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This is Part II of the round table.

Session D02, Room Myhal 315

Chair: Roman Köster (University of the Armed Forces Munich)

Benjamin Dippel
Converting Industrial Land to Tourism: Redevelopment in Victoria, British Columbia's Downtown, 1960s to 1990s.

Ilaria Suffia (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore Milan)
CSR and Urban Development: PIRELLI and Milan during the 20ht century

Simon Neumaier (European University Institute)
Private Business for Public Workers. Organized Labor and Municipal Stakeholdership in Interwar Vienna.

Joseph Marin (Ransom Everglades Upper-School)
Beyond Paternalism: Reinterpreting Company Towns Through A.I., Culture Analysis, and Business History

Session D03, Room Myhal 320

Chair: Marcelo Bucheli (University of Illinois)
Organizer: Tomàs Fernández-de-Sevilla (University of Barcelona)

Guillermo Antuña (Tecnocampus-Universitat Pompeu Fabra)
From Deindustrialization to De-risking: The Limits of Industrial Policy in the European Steel Sector

Tomàs Fernández-de-Sevilla (University of Barcelona), Julio Martínez-Galarraga (University of Barcelona)
The Evolution of the Salary Structure of FC Barcelona's First Team, 1926–1990: An Interpretation within the Mediterranean Capitalism approach

Marc Prat (Universitat de Barcelona)
Managing Industrial Decline: Policy Responses in the Spanish Motorcycle Industry, 1975–1985

Session D04, Room Myhal 360

Chair: Ellan Spero (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

Chinmay Tumbe (Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad)
Big Business and the Development of Organizational Capabilities in the Pharmaceutical Industry of India, 1970-2025

Seongmin Jeon (Gachon University), Seongmi Kim (Prefectural University of Hiroshima)
Scope Without Integration: The Evolution of NAVER, Korea's Leading Search Platform

Sanghoon Cho (Hitotsubashi University), Hiroshi Endo (Shujitsu University), Minoru Shimamoto (Hitotsubashi University)
Japanese IT Companies' Challenge to American Tech Giants: SoftBank and Rakuten's Economies of Scope

Julien Breuzon (Kyoto University)
Space Policy and Space Industry from the Perspective of Industrial Maturity

Session D05, Room Myhal 380

Chair: Fernanda Conforto de Oliveira (University of Lausanne)

Yuta Takeda (Sapporo University)
Bailout loans in local areas by the Bank of France during the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century

Brian Gettler (University of Toronto)
Investing in Dispossession (and Bridges): Financing Settler Infrastructure with Indigenous Lands in Mid-Nineteenth-Century Canada

Yasser Alvi (University of Cambridge)
Creditor Institutions and the Governance of Infrastructure: Egypt, 1875–1882

Session D06, Room Myhal 440

Chair: Michael Osman (UCLA)
Discussant: Aaron Cayer (Cal Poly Pomona)
Organizer: Zengxin Wen (Tongji University)

Jiaqi Wang (Yale University)
Governing by Quality: Japanese Management in Reform-Era China

Zengxin Wen (Tongji University)
Building a Joint Venture: Shanghai Centre, John Portman, and the Architecture of Transitional Economy, 1979–1990

Ran Ai (University of Toronto)
Urbanizing the Margins: The Making of Informal-Formal Garment Industry Zones in Post-1978 Guangzhou

Cheng Chen (University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign)
Technocrats, Diplomats, Builders, or Entrepreneurs? A Genealogy and Typology of Chinese SOE Contractors' Business Models in Africa

Session D07, Room Myhal 480

Chair: Grietjie Verhoef (University of Johannesburg)
Organizer: Denise Sutton (The City University of New York-City Tech)

Denise Sutton (The City University of New York-City Tech)
Peri/Menopause 2.0: Beauty, Aging, and the Commercialization of Midlife

Roberta Maierhofer (University of Graz)
Reimagining Beauty and Wellness: Cultural Shifts and Corporate Strategies Across Generations

Noor Bathi Badarudin, Shakila Yacob (Jeffrey Cheah Institute on Southeast Asian Studies, Sunway University)
Beauty from Tradition: How Malaysia and Indonesia Redefine Global Beauty Through Indigenous Knowledge

Valerie Lawson (University of the Arts London)
Complexion, Claims, and the Politics of Testing Dark Skin in Global Beauty

Session D08, Room Myhal 490

Chair: Neil Rollings (University of Glasgow)

Ying Ding (University of the West of Scotland), Peiran Su (Audencia Business School)
The Financial Foundations and Strategic Decline of A. F. Craig & Co., 1895–1973

Carolina von Ritter (HHL Leipzig Graduate School of Management)
Stability and Adaptation in Benedictine Monasteries: Rethinking Organizational Resilience

Matthias Kipping (York University), Keshav Krishnamurty (Acadia University)
Does Governance matter in dealing with global shocks in a "New" Industry? The case of the Indian IT consulting industry.

28 July 2026, 19:00 - 22:00

Cocktail Reception (Hart House, see program map)

29 July 2026, 08:00 - 17:00

Registration, MyHal (55 St George Street)

29 July 2026, 08:30 - 10:00

Workshop E01, Room Myhal 330

Organizer: Valeria Giacomin (Bocconi University), Chinmay Tumbe (Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad)

This workshop supports the forthcoming Business History special issue "Business and Cities in the Global Economy." It brings together contributors and interested scholars to discuss how cities functioned as active agents in the making of global capitalism. Cities have long mediated flows of capital, goods, labor, and information, yet they have often remained peripheral in business history. This workshop seeks to reposition them as institutional and infrastructural environments where business practices were organized, contested, and transformed. Participants will explore how cities acted as command centers of trade, finance, and manufacturing; how real estate and infrastructure investment shaped urban development; how informal, migrant, and diasporic networks sustained "globalization from below"; and how crises and environmental pressures tested urban resilience and sustainability.

Yasser Alvi - Infrastructure Finance and the Remaking of Cairo: Business Institutions, Creditor Coordination, and Urban Transformation in the British Empire, 1875–1882

Irina Yányshev-Nésterova - Smoking cities of the Late Russian Empire: the rise of the big tobacco business

Giovanni Favero - Almost a City in the Long Term: A Non-Metropolitan Node in the Global Economy (Bassano del Grappa, Italy)

Session E02, Room Myhal 315

Chair: Deborah J Neill (York University, Toronto, Canada)
Organizer: Anka Steffen (University of Vienna)

Anka Steffen (University of Vienna)
East of the Oder: Colonial Connections and Industrial Development in Germany's Eastern Provinces around 1900

Tristan Oestermann (Otto-Friedrich University Bamberg, Germany)
Colonial Business of a Postcolonial Nation: West German Pharmaceutical Companies in Belgian Congo, 1945-1960

Paul Sprute (University of Ghent; Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space)
Port Constructions as a Lens into the Continuities and Endings of German Post-colonial Business in West Africa, 1950s-1970s

Session E03, Room Myhal 320

Chair: Tomasz Olejniczak (Kozminski University)

Daniel Raff (The Wharton School and NBER)
What is 'historical explanation' and why should business historians care?

Walter Iber (University of Graz), Thomas Krautzer (University of Graz)
Business history as a strategic asset – the "Graz approach"

Keshav Krishnamurty (Acadia University), Terrance Weatherbee (Acadia University)
Missing in Action: The Absence of the Second World War

Session E04, Room Myhal 360

Chair: Paula de la Cruz-Fernández (University of Florida)
Organizer: Paula de la Cruz Fernandez (University of Florida)

Gabriela Recio Cavazos (Business History Group)
Oral History as Tool to Reconstruct OXXO's Expansion In Latin America

Adoración Álvaro Moya (Cunef Universidad), Andrea Lluch (National Council of Scientific and Technical Research of Argentina/University of Los Andes), Erica Salvaj (Universidad de San Andrés)
How do multinational corporations (MNCs) explore and exploit power and influence strategies in emerging markets? ITT in Argentina, Chile and Spain: mode of entry, expansion and exit

Session E05, Room Myhal 380

Chair: Teresa da Silva Lopes (University of York)
Organizer: Omar Mazzotti (University of Parma)

Luciano Maffi (University of Parma), Stefano Magagnoli (University of Parma), Omar Mazzotti (University of Parma)
Symbols of authority. Fascist imagery and commercial language in Italy (1922–1943)

José Antonio Miranda (Universidad de Alicante), Alba Roldan (University of Alicante)
Brands competing in the global market. The branding strategy of major Spanish fashion companies, 1990-2015

Andrea Maria Locatelli (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan), Ilaria Suffia (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore Milan)
The origins of Made in Italy in the Italian food industry: examples and developments in the period between the two world wars

Session E06, Room Myhal 440

Chair: John Wong (Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences)

Hartmut Berghoff (Goettingen University)
Growth and Crises. The Aviation Industry since the 1990s. A Case Study on Lufthansa

I-Chieh, Michelle Yang (Kyoto University), Yen Nie Yong (Kyoto University)
Body Work in Organizational identity: A Case Study of the Singapore Airlines' Service Branding

Aurora Iannello (Collegio Carlo Alberto, Turin)
Public Procurement and Technological Performance in the Italian Aircraft Industry, 1917–1940

Session E07, Room Myhal 480

Chair: M. Stephen Salmon (Canadian Business History Association)

Claudia Passarella (University of Padova)
Beyond national borders: trade marks and business strategies in the first half of the Twentieth century

Shigehiro Nishimura (Kobe University)
Technology market, corporate R&D, and economic growth in Japan before WWII: An analysis of patent transactions

David Andersson (Uppsala University, Uppsala Center for Business History), Matti La Mela (Uppsala University), Fredrik Tell (Uppsala University, Department of Business Studies & Uppsala Center for Business History)
The real cost of patents: Evidence from patent agencies' books of accounts at the turn of the 19th century

Session E08, Room Myhal 490

Chair: Neil Forbes (Coventry University)

Milan Balaban (Tomas Bata University in Zlin), Jan Herman (Tomas Bata University in Zlin), Dalibor Savic (University of Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina)
Borovo between Global and Local Business Histories: From Bata Internationalism, through Yugoslav Socialism, to Post-Socialist Brand Nostalgia

Eugene Choi (Doshisha Business School, Doshisha University, Kyoto)
Practice before Theory: Kyocera International Incorporated and The Emergence of Proto-Transnational Enterprise in the United States, 1969-1979

Gillian McGillivray (York University, Toronto)
Wartime Corruption or Support for the Résistance? Managing a French Enterprise in WWII Brazil

29 July 2026, 10:30 - 12:30

Workshop F01, Room Myhal 330

Organizer: Valeria Giacomin (Bocconi University), Chinmay Tumbe (Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad)

This workshop supports the forthcoming Business History special issue "Business and Cities in the Global Economy." It brings together contributors and interested scholars to discuss how cities functioned as active agents in the making of global capitalism. Cities have long mediated flows of capital, goods, labor, and information, yet they have often remained peripheral in business history. This workshop seeks to reposition them as institutional and infrastructural environments where business practices were organized, contested, and transformed. Participants will explore how cities acted as command centers of trade, finance, and manufacturing; how real estate and infrastructure investment shaped urban development; how informal, migrant, and diasporic networks sustained "globalization from below"; and how crises and environmental pressures tested urban resilience and sustainability.

Tom Leamouth - From Treaty Port to Labor-Intensive Export Cluster: Trade Networks and the Growth of Industrial Kobe, 1880–1937

Rolv Petter Amdam - A global city responding to the decline by mobilizing a culinarian identity.

Youn Sun Won - Internationalisation of Urban Development Industry in South Korea (1950s-2020s): From Spillover to Strategy.

Session F02, Room Myhal 315

Chair: Christian Robles-Baez (Stanford University)
Organizer: Luiz Fernando Saraiva (Fluminense Federal University)

Carlos Gabriel Guimarães (Universidade Federal Fluminense)
The Imperial Steam Navigation and Railway Company of Petrópolis: a slave-owning enterprise in the Empire of Brazil, 1852-1860

Clemente Gentil Penna (Fundação de Amparo a Pesquisa do Estado de Santa Catarina (FAPESC))
The slave trade and the circulation of capital in Rio de Janeiro in the first half of the 19th century

Matheus Sinder (Universidade Federal Fluminense)
Slave-based Manufacturing in 19th-Century Rio de Janeiro

Carlito Lopes de Oliveira Junior (Universidade Federal Fluminense)
Industrial Technology, Enslaved Labor and Regional Markets: the Brickworks of Bulhões & Faria in the Recôncavo of Rio de Janeiro (1860–1880)

Rita de Cássia Almico (Universidade Federal Flumiennse), Luiz Fernando Saraiva (Fluminense Federal University)
Slavery in the origins of electricity in Brazil

Session F03, Room Myhal 320

Chair: Aki Kinjo (Gakushuin University)

Dennis Duennwald (New York University)
The Financing of Environmental Protection in the Global North, 1970s-1990s

Ian Jones (University of Sheffield), Simon Mollan (University of York), Ayumu Sugawara (Tohoku University)
Barclays international expansion in Japan in the 1980s

Zeerim Cheung (University of Jyväskylä and the University of Sydney), Poso Eetu (University of Jyväskylä), Roosa Oinasmaa (University of Jyväskylä)
Institutional Custodianship During a Transition from Analog to Digital Trading at the Helsinki Stock Exchange from 1981 to 1998

Session F04, Room Myhal 360

Chair: Ann Carlos (University of Colorado Boulder)

Jamieson G. Myles (University of Geneva)
Internationalising the French Franc: Trade Finance, Banking Networks, and the Paris Acceptance Market, 1928-1936

Ransome Epie Bawack (Audencia Business School), Emilie Bonhoure Bawack (Audencia Business School)
Who got corporate profits? Evidence from statutory profit-sharing rules in 20th-century France

Steven Bright (University of Edinburgh)
Banking the Church: The intersection of finance and faith in funding the Presbyterian Church in Victorian Canada

Session F05, Room Myhal 380

Chair: Beatriz Rodríguez Satizabal (Universidad del Pacífico)

Arvand Mirsafian (University of Cambridge & Umeå University)
Between Productivity and Stability: International Business Organisations and the Politics of 'Rationalisation' at the 1927 World Economic Conference

David Tamayo (University of Michigan)
Transnational Business Networks Amid State Reformism: The Paradoxical Rise of Lions Clubs International in Postrevolutionary Mexico, 1930-1945

Grigorios Antoniou (University of Cyprus), Neil Rollings (University of Glasgow)
The International Industrial Conferences, San Francisco 1957-97: Non-market internationalisation of firms and American soft power

Aleksandra Komornicka (Maastricht University)
The Market Next Door: European Business Associations and Socialist Regimes (1960s–1990s)

Session F06, Room Myhal 440

Chair: Takafumi Kurosawa (Kyoto University)

Khushi Shah (Member of ICOMOS, and Association for Preservation Technology)
Evolution of the Global Tourism Industry: From European Mass Tourism to India's Modern Rise

D. Eleanor Westney (Schulich School of Business, York University)
The Higher Education Industry: Diffusion and Challenges of Universities

Kevin James (University of Guelph)
The Development of Tourism since the Nineteenth Century: Dynamics of Persistence and Change

Matthias Kipping (York University)
The Rise of Management Consulting: Emergence, Expansion, Explosion

Session F07, Room Myhal 480

Chair: Ryan Manucha (Canadian Business History Association)
Organizer: Petra Dolata (University of Calgary)

Mack Penner (University of Calgary)
Forecasting Fossil Futures: Imperial Oil and the Political Economy of Uncertainty in Alberta

Rosanna Cyr (Concordia University)
Rhetoric and Risk: Imperial Oil and the Language of Pollution Management

Kim Geraldi (University of Calgary)
From Boardrooms to Biographies: Linking Corporate and Private Archives

Petra Dolata (University of Calgary)
Corporate Approaches to Energy Security: Imperial Oil and the 1970s Energy Crises in Canada

Session F08, Room Myhal 490

Chair: Ken Lipartito (Florida International University)

Jørgen Burchardt (Middelfart Museum)
Beyond the Boardroom: Re-centering Technology and Workers in Business History

Shaun Yajima (University of Tokyo, Freiberg University of Mining and Technology), Ryosuke Yokoe (Hitotsubashi University)
How History and Memory Shaped Cartel Politics: The Case of the German Coal Industry after the Long Depression, 1890–1914

Arunika Mishra (Indian Institute of Management, Kolkata)
Impact of ESG disclosures on Business History Narratives: From Shareholders primacy to Stakeholder Relationships

Margherita De Luca (Ca' Fiscari University of Venice), Giovanni Favero (Venice School of Management, Ca' Foscari University of Venice), Camilla Ferri (Copenhagen Business School), Fabrizio Panozzo (Venice School of Management, Ca' Foscari University of Venice)
Deconstructing rhetorics of craft through irony: insights from two case studies of art-based research

29 July 2026, 13:30 - 15:00

Round table G01, Room Myhal 330

Chair: Bram Bouwens (Utrecht University)
Discussant: Grace Ballor (Bocconi University), Marcelo Bucheli (University of Illinois), Andrea Lluch (National Council of Scientific and Technical Research of Argentina/University of Los Andes)
Organizer: Bram Bouwens (Utrecht University), Takafumi Kurosawa (Kyoto University)

This roundtable seeks to open an inclusive conversation on the future of business history and the global engagement of scholars working across diverse regions, methodological traditions, and institutional settings. Business history has evolved from a primarily Western-centric field to a dynamic, interdisciplinary domain that examines enterprises, industries, markets, and institutions in a variety of historical and cultural contexts. Yet, as global economic, social and environmental contexts undergo rapid transformation, the discipline might explore new challenges and opportunities.

Session G02, Room Myhal 315

Chair: Hartmut Berghoff (Goettingen University)

Bin Wu (Nagoya University of Economics)
How Did Modern Silkworm-egg Companies Emerge in Japan? A Case Study of "Fujimoto Sangyo" in Shiojiri Village, Nagano Prefecture

Ying Ding (University of the West of Scotland), Peiran Su (Audencia Business School)
The Paradox of Control and Autonomy: Dodwell & Co. Ltd.'s Dual Strategy for Longevity, 1899–1972

Judit Klement (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest)
Family capitalism in Budapest’s flour milling industry before World War I

Session G03, Room Myhal 320

Chair: Paula de la Cruz-Fernández (University of Florida)

Emilie Takayama (NYU Shanghai)
Placing Women in Japanese Business History: The Case of Asō Ito

Stefania Licini (University of Bergamo), Marcella Lorenzini (University of Milan)
Still Engendering Business History: insights into the relationship between women’s money and the industrialisation process (Milan, 19th century)

Francisco Javier Fernandez-Roca (Universidad Pablo de Olavide, Seville), Jesus D. Lopez-Manjon (Universidad Pablo de Olavide, Seville)
Women in the Andalusian economy during the first third of the nineteenth century: Feminization and Concentration of women across occupations

Session G04, Room Myhal 360

Chair: Stephen Mihm (University of Georgia)

Andrew David Allan Smith (University of Birmingham), Nicholas Wong (Northumbria University, Newcastle on Tyne)
Confronting the Issue of Modern Slavery in International Supply Chains in the UK, 1897 to 1997

Christopher Frank (University of Manitoba)
The Labour Committee for Europe, Organized Labour, and British Entry into the EEC, 1970-1973

Yun Wu (Nagoya University of Foreign Studies)
Overlooked Success: The Entrenchment of Japanese Soft Technology and Identity Transformation in China's Economic Reform, 1980s

Session G05, Room Myhal 480

Chair: Sarah Elvins (University of Manitoba)
Organizer: Lola Wilhelm (University of Zurich)

Lola Wilhelm (University of Zurich)
Empire and the Business of Antibiotics in Late Colonial French West Africa

Yvan Prkachin (IBME – UZH)
"Making ventilation intelligent since 1983": Hamilton Medical, Intensive Care and the Medical Devices Industry during the Microprocessor Revolution

Paul Turberg (Institute of Humanities in Medicine (IHM), Lausanne University Hospital (CHUV) and University of Lausanne)
Pharmaceutical Multinationals and the United Nations: Business, Drug Policies and Global Health Governance, 1960s–2000s

Session G06, Room Myhal 440

Chair: Misbahu Saidu (Federal University of Kashere-Nigeria)

Kazunori Sunagawa (Chuo University)
Temporalizing Entrepreneurship in Agriculture: Reconnecting Nature, Culture, and Market in Business History

Clarence Hatton-Proulx (Université de Montréal)
Deindustrialization, Brownfield Remediation, and the Emergence of the Environmental Industry

Heather Nelson (Mount Royal University)
Using Meteorology to Mitigate Damage: The Alberta Hail Project and the Canadian Property Insurance Industry, 1957 – 1985

Session G07, Room Myhal 380

Chair: Andrew Ross (Library and Archives Canada)
Organizer: Matthew Evenden (University of British Columbia)

Matthew Evenden (University of British Columbia)
Ballast grounds and urban morphology: recycling waste and making land in the late Age of Sail

Steve Penfold (University of Toronto)
'The Salvage of Wealth from Waste': Sawdust as Domestic Fuel in Interwar Vancouver

David Stradling (Department of History, University of Cincinnati)
From Spoils to Dredge Material: Making Dredging Sustainable in the World's Deepest Ports Abstract

Session G08, Room Myhal 490

Chair: Teresa da Silva Lopes (University of York)
Organizer: Pierre-Yves Donzé (Osaka University)

Rika Fujioka (The University of Tokyo), Emanuela Scarpellini (University of Milan)
Sustainable fashion as a marketing strategy

Alice Janssens (Erasmus University Rotterdam and University of Southampton)
Made in Germany: International Fashion Networks and German Ready-to-Wear in the Early Twentieth Century

Pierre-Yves Donzé (Osaka University), Ben Wubs (Erasmus University Rotterdam)
Fast fashion, synthetic fibers, and (un)sustainability: a comparative narrative of H&M and Fast Retailing

29 July 2026, 15:30 - 17:00

Workshop H01, Room Myhal 330

Discussant: Sanghamitra Chatterjee (Past Perfect, India), Paula de la Cruz-Fernández (University of Florida), Beatriz Rodríguez Satizabal (Universidad del Pacífico), Chinmay Tumbe (Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad), Soni Wadhwa (SRM University, Andhra Pradesh), John Wong (Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences)

Organizer: Sanghamitra Chatterjee (Past Perfect, India), Paula de la Cruz Fernandez (University of Florida)

The history of small business remains underrepresented in the historiography of modern capitalism, long overshadowed by corporations, state enterprises, and industrial conglomerates. More than three decades ago, Mansel G. Blackford (1991) called for small firms to be taken seriously - not as marginal units, but as crucial sites of managerial diversity, localized innovation, and adaptive business models. Similarly, work by Andrea Colli (2003) highlights the significance, influence, and enduring presence of family business, and the work of Susan Spellman (2016), Marc Levinson (2019), and Ben Waterhouse (2024) emphasizes the widespread presence and significance of small businesses while also underscoring a persistent challenge: small firms generate sparse, fragmented, and non-traditional archives, leaving their histories methodologically difficult to trace and structurally underdocumented.

Featuring perspectives from India, Pakistan, Hong Kong, the United States, and Peru, presenters examine emerging methods, archives, and collaborative models for documenting small business pasts. Across the cases in this panel, small business history emerges from unconventional sources such as advertisements embedded in Sindhi refugee print culture, trade publications, oral histories and generational memory, city directories and other municipal records, and local knowledge rather than formal corporate archives. Collectively, the panel contributes to a broader international effort to expand small business archiving infrastructure, from oral history initiatives and community collections to metadata frameworks, digital preservation strategies, and cross-regional research networks.

Session H02, Room Myhal 315

Chair: Walter Iber (University of Graz)
Organizer: Mark Sholdice (Western University)

David Blocker (Huron University College)
Canadian Business and the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline, 1974-1977

Indranil Chakraborty (Concordia University & Fanshawe College)
Workers' Narratives in the Digital Age: Facebook as a Business History Source for Understanding Sears' Bankruptcy

Mark Sholdice (Western University)
Ontario's Public-Private Partnerships in the Oil and Gas Industry, 1975-1993

Session H03, Room Myhal 320

Chair: Mark Metzler (University of Washington)
Discussant: Mark Metzler (University of Washington)
Organizer: Naofumi Nakamura (University of Tokyo)

Naofumi Nakamura (University of Tokyo), Alexandre Roy (INALCO (Paris) – Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales)
Introduction to the session

Naofumi Nakamura (University of Tokyo)
An American Sales Engineer in Early 20th Century Japan: S.M. Vauclain Jr. and the International Marketing of Baldwin Locomotive Works

Tom Learmouth (London School of Economics and Political Science)
British Trading Companies and Tacit Knowledge Seeding: Diversifying Japanese Industrialisation, 1906–1918

Alexandre Roy (INALCO (Paris) – Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales)
French Merchant Enterprises in East Asia (1900–1940): Commercial Challenges faced by Tonkin Coal and the "Haven" of the Japanese Market

Session H04, Room Myhal 360

Chair: Valentina Fava (Università Ca'Foscari Venice)

Kristin Plys (University of Toronto)
The Indian Coffee House Workers Movement, 1936-1977: From colonial firm to workers cooperative

Dexnell Peters (University of the West Indies, Mona Campus)
The Business Sector and the Transition of Labour Systems in the Nineteenth Century British Caribbean

Bart van Holsteijn (Gothenburg University)
Tracing the Provisions of Slavery: the structure of corporate trade in supplies for the Dutch Guianas

Session H06, Room Myhal 480

Chair: Eugene Choi (Doshisha Business School, Doshisha University, Kyoto)
Organizer: Paul Hong (University of Toledo)

Paul Hong (University of Toledo)
From Globalization Optimism to Geopolitical Fragmentation: How U.S. Global Firms Rewired Strategy and Competitiveness, 1990–2025

Seungchul Kim Kim (Hanyang University)
From Projects to Powerhouses: How Korean Firms Built Global Competitiveness through Project Capabilities, 1960s–2020s

Young Won Park (Saitama University), Takashi Shimizu (University of Tokyo)
From Catch-Up to Co-Creation: The Long-Term Evolution of Japanese Firms' Engagement with the United States

Session H07, Room Myhal 490

Chair: Araceli Almaraz (COLEF)

Pratibha Kamble (Sathaye College Autonomous Mumbai)
Dalit Entrepreneurship in Dharavi, Mumbai: Historical Trajectories, Contemporary Dynamics, and Future Prospects"

Alvaro Moreno (Universidad de la Sabana)
The Entrepreneur as an Agent of Change in The Economy: The Case of James M. Eder in Early Colombia

Kristin Hall (Laurentian University)
A Manly Crusade: John Bayne Maclean and the Legitimization of Canadian Trade Paper Avertising, 1887-1900

Session H08, Room Myhal 440

Chair: David Sicilia (University of Maryland Emeritus)

Ying Ding (University of the West of Scotland), Peiran Su (Audencia Business School)
Historical Institutional Analysis of the UK's Export Credits Guarantee Department, 1919–1979

Valerio Cerretano (University of Florence)
The Bank of England and the rescue of Armstrong, 1921-1936

Jason Russell (Empire State University)
"Close to too big to fail: the development and role of Canada's modern public pension systems"

29 July 2026, 17:30 - 19:00

Keynote Tom Zeiler (University of Boulder), Room 1050, Earth Sciences Centre, 5 Bancroft Avenue

Abstract: Today we worry that rules-based order - a set of noble ideas based on international law and human rights and resting on a foundation of economic interdependence - is being destroyed by Donald Trump, the latest in a line of American sheriffs stretching back to the 1930s. This lecture covers some key American leaders who built the rules-based world economy, though not as free trade purists but as realists who weighed economics with security. They did not retreat into transactions based on greed and vanity but backed up their words with a vigorous internationalism. I will actually dwell a bit on President Richard Nixon, who appeared to be an early version of Trump in 1971. But his nationalistic moves were temporary, and made to reform the liberal, rules-based system – not to replace it with a kleptocratic regime that feigns a defense of American national security. In sum, the history of U.S. foreign relations links the world economy to security, interests, and values, revealing that Trump is actually a black hat among sheriffs who has turned away from internationalist realism.

BIOGRAPHY: Tom Zeiler is Professor of History at the University of Colorado Boulder. Former director of the Program in International Affairs and chair of the Department of History, he specializes in U.S. foreign relations history through international trade and globalization, as well as writes on World War II and baseball history. His most recent books are Beyond the Nixon Shocks (Bloomsbury Press, 2026) and Capitalist Peace: A History of American Free Trade Internationalism (Oxford University Press, 2022). Tom was President of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR) and editor of Diplomatic History, the journal of record in the field of U.S. foreign relations, and he also served on the Historical Advisory Committee on Documentation in the Department of State in Washington, D.C. for ten years. Tom has held Fulbright Scholar awards to Buenos Aires, Tokyo, and Paris. He can be reached at Thomas.zeiler@colorado.edu.

30 July 2026, 08:00 - 12:00

Registration, MyHal (55 St George Street)

30 July 2026, 09:00 - 10:30

Workshop I01, Room Myhal 330

Chair: Sabine Pitteloud (UniDistance Suisse)
Discussant: Grace Ballor (Bocconi University), Marcelo Bucheli (University of Illinois), Paula de la Cruz-Fernández (University of Florida), Valeria Giacomin (Bocconi University), Geoffrey Jones (Harvard Business School), Andrea Lluch (National Council of Scientific and Technical Research of Argentina/University of Los Andes), Rory Miller (University of Liverpool Management School), Chinmay Tumbe (Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad)
Organizer: Sabine Pitteloud (UniDistance Suisse)

This roundtable, through a series of thematic presentations, explores how business history research can deepen our understanding of how multinational enterprises have co-constructed our modern world. The speakers examine the role of multinationals in driving major contemporary dynamics, including climate change and environmental degradation, taxation and inequality, economic dependency, imperialism, market integration, lobbying, corruption, and gender bias. The roundtable further examines how these companies have collaborated or clashed with a wide range of stakeholders, including home and host governments, international organizations, customers, workers and labor unions, NGOs, and other segments of the business community. It is intended that presentations will be short so that the time for audience participation is maximized. General introduction by Sabine Pitteloud and Geoffrey Jones and moderation.

Session I02, Room Myhal 315

Chair: Thomas Krautzer (University of Graz)

Elsbeth Heaman (McGill University)
Jacob Viner as an Accountant

Insoo Baek (Osaka University of Economics, Business Administration Faculty)
The Boundless Advantage: A Dynamic Analysis of Lotte Founder Shin Kyuk-ho's Transnational Entrepreneurial Journey

Fernando Chaddad (President, Cepheid Research, Inc., Toronto), David Sicilia (University of Maryland Emeritus)
Disciplinary Blinders: Perils of Macroeconomic Expertise as Applied on Wall Street from Irving Fisher to Paul Samuelson

Session I03, Room Myhal 320

Chair: Timo Särkkä (University of Jyväskylä)

Mark Kuhlberg (Laurentian University, Sudbury, Ontario)
"I do not know anything about this matter:" The West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company, Canadian Pulpwood, and Navigating the Procurement of Raw Materials in a Foreign Land

Michael Stamm (Department of History, Michigan State University)
Canadian Trees, American Anxieties: Foreign Trade and the Quest for Raw Materials in North American Newsprint Manufacturing

Sarah Gould (Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario), Fiona Symington (University of St. Andrews)
"We can weep or we can fight to the best of our ability:" How a Canadian David Overcame an American Goliath to Create Tembec Forest Industries, 1972-1973

Session I04, Room Myhal 360

Chair: Andrea Schneider-Braunberger (Gesellschaft für Unternehmensgeschichte, Frankfurt/Main)
Organizer: Christopher Kopper (Bielefeld University)

Christopher Kopper (Bielefeld University)
An insurance multinational in transition. Munich Re during the 1990s

Sharon Murphy (Providence College)
The merger of Munich Re and American Re: Causes and challenges

Stephanie Tilly (Gesellschaft für Unternehmensgeschichte, Frankfurt/Main)
The evolution of the ERGO group as the primary insurance subsidiary of Munich Re

Session I05, Room Myhal 380

Chair: Alice Janssens (Erasmus University Rotterdam and University of Southampton)

Jose Antonio Miranda (University of Alicante), Alba Roldan (University of Alicante)
The competitive strategies of large fast fashion companies, 1990–2023. Does following them make them more resilient?

Bianca da Luz (University of Vienna)
Patterns of Expansion: Dress Patterns and the Transnational Business of Fashion Publishing in Interwar Europe

Barrie Blatchford (University of Northern British Columbia)
Frank Ashbrook and the Division of Fur Resources: State-Managed Capitalism in America and Its Environmental Impacts, 1924-1954

Session I06, Room Myhal 440

Chair: Knut Sogner (BI Norwegian Business School)

Zhi Ken Ong (Universiti Malaya)
Chinese Business during the Japanese Occupation in Colonial Malaya, 1941-1945

Felix Cowan (University of Toronto)
Competition in the Early Twentieth-Century Russian Newspaper Business

Paula Vedoveli (Fundação Getulio Vargas)
A Narrative of Conviction: The Rise of Indicators of Economic Growth in Authoritarian Brazil, 1960s–1970s

Session I07, Room Myhal 480

Chair: Rika Fujioka (The University of Tokyo)

Marc Levinson
Corporate History or Corporate Myth: UPS and the Legend of James E. Casey

Roxanne Houman (Columbia University)
Building Global Governance from Below: NGOs, Consumers, and the Regulatory Transformation of European Supply Chains, 1968–2024

Yanying Lin (Hirosaki University)
Rethinking the Voluntary Chain Development in Postwar Japan

Session I08, Room Myhal 490

Chair: Maki Umemura (Cardiff University)

Grietjie Verhoef (University of Johannesburg)
The Business of Health. Professionals as entrepreneurs in Africa's health sector.

Andrew Simpson (Duquesne University)
Public Goods and Private Markets: The Case of the Nursing Home Industry in the United States

Ryan Hamilton (University of Toronto)
Colin Brown and the rise of free market politics in Canada

30 July 2026, 11:00 - 13:00

Session J01, Room Myhal 330

Chair: Mark Sholdice (Western University)

Kazuo Doi (Kyushu Sangyo University), Matthias Kipping (York University), Takeshi Ohtowa (Kanto Gakuin University/Hiroshima City University), Hideyuki Takenouchi (Sophia University), Reiko Takenouchi (Seijyo University)
Rhetoric and Reality of Craft Production: The Case of a Brush Manufacturer in Hiroshima Prefecture

Karol Banach (University of Warsaw/ Kozminski University)
Social Carriers of Technology: Training of the Polish Passenger Car Factory (FSO) Engineers in the Soviet Union, 1951–1956

Romain David (Harvard University)
From "Plan-Export" to NEDECO: Dutch "Intellect" Abroad and the Refashioning of Colonial Expertise (1947-1953)

Aleksei Kraikovskii (University of Padova)
A Visual Trap: How Knowledge Production Shaped Corporatization on the "Globalized Periphery" of 18th-century Europe.

Session J02, Room Myhal 315

Chair: Jooyoung Kwak (Yonsei University)
Organizer: Jooyoung Kwak (Yonsei University)

Seong-jin Choi Choi (Hanyang University), Asli Colpan (Kyoto University), Jooyoung Kwak (Yonsei University), Jeoung Yul Lee (EM Lyon), Annie Wei (University of Leeds)
Political Transition and Organizational Reputation: The Internationalization of Korean Chaebols in Historical Perspective

Soonkyoo Choe (Yonsei University), Dougpyo Hong (Yonsei University), Daesung Kim (Yonsei University)
The Rise of LG Energy Solution in the Global Electric Vehicle Battery Industry

MyeongCheol Choi (Gachon University), Paul Hong (University of Toledo)
Infrastructure Before Influence: Preliminary Historical Reflections on Korea's Food Industry and Hidden State Capacity, 1960-2025

Taewoo Roh (Hanyang University)
Saving Lives and Preserving Culture: Stateholder-Centric Corporate Entrepreneurship at Kyobo Life Insurance

Session J03, Room Myhal 320

Chair: Shane Hamilton (University of York)

Ryosuke Takeuchi (Yokohama National University)
Subsidiary Initiative, Subsidiary Growth, and Market Creation: The Evolutionary Process of Heinz Japan, 1960s–2010s

Roger Horowitz (Hagley Museum and Library)
Gangsters, Anti-trust law, and the Kosher Poultry Business in New York, 1900-1940

Richard Hawkins (University of Wolverhampton)
Maypole: The Rise and Fall of a Transnational Dairy Company

Stefano Magagnoli (University of Parma), Ilaria Suffia (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore Milan)
The dining sector: from a marginal industry to a hub for connection and integration between businesses

Session J04, Room Myhal 360

Chair: Bram Bouwens (Utrecht University)

Sourav Sinha (University of Manchester)
Indian Aluminiumville: A Business History of Indian Aluminium Company Limited's Formative Years, 1950-60

Sarah Elvins (University of Manitoba), Katherine Parkin (Monmouth University)
The New 'Made in Japan': Car Manufacturers and Shifting Perceptions of Japanese Production in the 1960s and 1970s

Peter Nunes (McGill University)
"Dwarfs and Giants": East German Metallurgical Enterprises in Transnational Perspective, 1950-1980

Pasi Nevalainen (University of Jyväskylä)
The Dynamics of Deindustrialization in Finland: Changing Roles of Firms and the Public Sector in Factory Closures Since the 1960s

Session J05, Room Myhal 380

Chair: Sally Chan (Leeds University Business School)
Organizer: Neil Rollings (University of Glasgow)

William Mazzaferro (University of Turin)
Industrial Lobbying and Oil Price Controls in Italy During the First Oil Shock (1973-1975)

Grace Ballor (Bocconi University)
Business Thinking and Climate Risk Management

Andrea Lluch (National Council of Scientific and Technical Research of Argentina/University of Los Andes), Neil Rollings (University of Glasgow)
Exploring Business Influence and Business Power: The British Chamber of Commerce in the Argentine Republic in the Aftermath of the 1982 Falklands/Malvinas War

Session J06, Room Myhal 440

Chair: John Wong (Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences)
Organizer: Yuju Lin (National Taipei University)

Yuju Lin (National Taipei University)
Shifts in trade patterns under colonialism: The Construction and Disruption of Commercial Networks between Tainan Firms and the Nagasaki Taiyi Firm (1901–1911)

Hung Bin Hsu (National Chung Kung University)
When Old Drugs Encountered New Regime: Trade of Han Medicine Drugs in the Beginning of Japanese Colonial Rule

James Gerien-Chen (University of Florida)
Taiwan-Registered Junks and the Changing Geographies of Maritime Trade and Public Finance in Early 20th Century Fujian

Rong-sheng Lin (Institute of Taiwan History, Academia Sinica)
From Periphery to Hub: The Taiyi Firm's Trading Network and the Reconfiguration of Penghu's Maritime Economy under Japanese Rule, 1907-1920s

30 July 2026, 14:00 - 16:00

Session K01, Room Myhal 330

Chair: Rixu Lan (Central University of Finance and Economics)

Qiang Jian (Central University of Finance and Economics), Xingye Jin (Central University of Finance and Economics), Rixu Lan (Central University of Finance and Economics), Li Nan (Fudan University)
Modernization Exploration of Regional Banks in Modern China: A Case Study of the Tung Lai Bank

Chaoqun Gao (Institute of Economics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences), Chenghu Liu (College of Economics and Management, Shanxi University), Jingyi Zhang (University of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences)
A Study on the Modes of Technology Introduction through Machinery Procurement in the Late Qing Dynasty: The Case of Qingxi Ironworks

Lingyu Kong (Adelaide University), Fu Lin (Central University of Finance and Economic), Haowen Ma (Central University of Finance and Economics)
The Guardians Guarded: Preventing Employee Fraud in Chinese Modern Banks (1912-1949)

Session K02, Room Myhal 315

Chair: Grietjie Verhoef (University of Johannesburg)

Bradley Hansen (University of Mary Washington)
The Pervasiveness of the Law: Quantifying Small Debt Collection in Fredericksburg, Virginia in the 1820s

Maria Padovan (University of Rome Tor Vergata & Université Paris Cité)
A Missed Integration? Euratom, France, Italy and Industrial Nuclear Ambitions (1957-73)

Michael Kunz (University of Toronto)
IBM, Antitrust, and the US Intelligence Community

Denise McNeff (Liberty University)
Federal Regulations and Opportunity for the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba Railway

Session K03, Room Myhal 320

Chair: Steve Penfold (University of Toronto)

Sandeep Bhardwaj (Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore)
Playing for Keeps: India-Japan Trade War in Interwar Asia

J. Andrew Ross (Library and Archives Canada)
Hockey, Fraud, and the First World War: The Business History of the 228th Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, 1916-1918

Ujjwala Sharma (University of Toronto)
Buy at the Sound of Canons and Sell at the Sound of Trumpets: Share Cornering and Speculative War Profits on the Stock Exchange in British India, 1914-1926

Session K04, Room Myhal 360

Chair: Pierre-Yves Donzé (Osaka University)

Maki Umemura (Cardiff University)
Regulatory categorisation across territorial levels: "regenerative medicine" in Japan and Britain

Anja-Maria Bassimir (University Mainz)
The Atkinson-Atwater Connection: Convergence of Business-, Science- and State-Interest in Redefining Food in Progressive Era USA

Tatsuya Minami (Kyoto University)
From Asylums to National Healthcare: Institutional Change and Public Organization in British Psychiatric Hospitals after the Second World War

Session K05, Room Myhal 380

Chair: Grace Ballor (Bocconi University)

Akira Tanaka (Kyoto University)
How and Why Japan's Horizontal Keiretsu Have Become Organizational Zombies

Kyuhyun Baick (Kyoto University School of Economics)
Diversification Strategy of Korean Chaebol: Historical Trends of Major Eight Chaebol in 1945-2024

Kyohisa Uchiumi (Kochi University of Technology)
The Historical Dynamics of Strategic Transformation Following Core Business Decline: A Comparative Study of Fujifilm and Konica

Chihiro Yamanaka (Nagoya Institute of Technology)
Organizational Flexibility and Institutional Survival under Extreme Conditions: The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, 1930s–1960s

Session K07, Room Myhal 480

Chair: Mengxing Yu (Kyoto University)

Amélia Branco (ISEG, Universidade de Lisboa), Aboim Pires Leonardo (ISEG Lisbon School of Economics and Management), Pedro Neves (ISEG Lisbon School of Economics and Management)
Who controls the forest? Strategies for wood procurement in the Portuguese pulp Industry (1950s-1980s)

Iva Lučić (Stockholm University)
Global Perspectives on the Business-Nature Nexus in Socialist Regimes: The Case of the Forestry Enterprise ŠIPAD in Socialist Yugoslavia in the 1960s

Michael Roche (Massey University Palmerston North)
Sawmiller & Afforestation Company shareholding in New Zealand circa 1900-1940

Jawad Daheur (Centre for Centre for Russian, Caucasian, Eastern European and Central Asian Studies)
From Family to Financial Capital: German Trade and The Transformation of the Central European Timber Industry (1870–1914)

Session K08, Room Myhal 490

Chair: Eric Godelier (Ecole polytechnique (France))

Rolv Petter Amdam (BI Norwegian Business School), Andrea Lluch (National Council of Scientific and Technical Research of Argentina/University of Los Andes)
Introducing Expert Knowledge in Management Education and Training: The ILO Model in the Global South (1960s-1970s)

Kevin Daniel Tennent (University of York)
Ambitions for Legacy: Business Elites and the University of York

Tae-Uk Ahn (KAIST), Seongmin Jeon (Gachon University)
Was KAIST Korea's Stanford? : Institutional Transplantation and the Forging of a High-Tech Entrepreneurial Class, 1970–2000

Keshav Krishnamurty (Acadia University)
In(d)subordination: Business History and Indian Soft Power during the Cold War

30 July 2026, 16:30 - 18:00

Round table L01, Room Myhal 330

Discussant: Pierre-Yves Donzé (Osaka University), Ryo Izawa (Keio University), Sabine Pitteloud (UniDistance Suisse), Lexy Remy (Erasmus University Rotterdam), YounSun Won (Erasmus University Rotterdam)
Organizer: Neil Forbes (Coventry University), Jan-Otmar Hesse (Bayreuth University), Ben Wubs (Erasmus University Rotterdam)

In the context of considering the challenges around equity, transparency and sustainability that face the contemporary world, resolving questions related to taxation, such as who or what should be taxed and at what level, must surely be of key importance. This book intends to explore the historical background to one of the major taxation puzzles challenging society today: tax-rates for corporations have increased massively, especially after the world wars, and yet the share of revenue in state budgets from company profits has declined. It is widely assumed that companies engage in tax management strategies in order to avoid or even evade business taxes; paradoxically, an alternative explanation is that states, seeking to be internationally competitive in a 'race to the bottom', have increased incentives for corporations to avoid business taxes. The tension between what the nation state tries to raise in taxation and the level of tax actually paid by multinational enterprise is not a new phenomenon that has emerged in recent decades, rather it has helped to shape the history of business and economies since the late 19th century.

Session L02, Room Myhal 315

Chair: Mona Zhang (Canadian Business History Association)

Jeffrey Fear (University of Glasgow)
"Anything You Tackle is Bound to Go Wrong:" Becoming The Kohner Agency

Daniel Robinson (University of Western Ontario)
"Market Research Imitates Satire: Philip Morris, Cold Turkey, and Surveillance of the Greenfield Quit Smoking Experiment"

Le Tian (Sun Yat-sen University)
Translation of Senses: The Rise and Fall of British Tea Taster (18-19th Century)

Session L03, Room Myhal 320

Chair: John Wong (Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences)
Organizer: Weipin Tsai (University of London)

Weipin Tsai (University of London)
Cotton as commodity in Northern Taiwan during the Early Japanese Colonial Period: Case Study of Taiyi Firm Networks

Liyung Lee (National Central University, Taiwan)
The Rice Trade Network of Ruitai firm in Northern Taiwan during the Japanese Colonial Period

Kuo-Yu Chiang (Institute of Taiwan History, Academia Sinica)
Non-human Factors in the Construction of Commercial Network: The Seafood Trade between the Jinyuanyi Firm in Tainan and the Taiyi Firm in Nagasaki, 1908–1922

Session L04, Room Myhal 360

Chair: Roger Horowitz (Hagley Museum and Library)

Marcel Martel (York University)
Changing drinking habits: introducing cognac to Americans and Canadians

Christian Robles-Baez (Stanford University)
Bitterness and Power: The Transformation of Brazilian Coffee into a U.S. Staple

Workshop L05, Room Myhal 380

Fireside Q&A Session with the Hon. Bob Rae, former Canadian ambassador to the United Nations

Session L06, Room Myhal 440

Chair: Michael Stamm (Department of History, Michigan State University)

Kuhanen Jan (University of Oulu), Harju Kaisa (University of Oulu), Hokkanen Markku (University of Oulu), Timo Särkkä (University of Jyväskylä)
FAO, international development cooperation and Finnish forest diplomacy networks, 1945–1994

Simon Mollan (University of York), Timo Särkkä (University of Jyväskylä)
What the failed development of papyrus-based industry in colonial Sudan can tell us about Institutional support and entrepreneurialism in imperial-era international business

Mengxing Yu (Kyoto University)
(tentative) Leapfrogging Growth: Forest Expansion and Forest-Paper Integration in Contemporary China

Session L07, Room Myhal 480

Chair: Sharon Murphy (Providence College)

YangYang Liu (London School of Economics and Political Sceince (LSE□)
The Holy Creditors: Usury Lending by Buddhist Temples in Early Medieval China

Ziyue (Zoey) Shen (London School of Economics and Political Science)
Beyond the "Silver Sink": Markets and the Monetization of Silver in Ming-Qing China

Israel Cedillo-Lazcano (Universidad de las Américas Puebla)
Don José Yves Limantour and the Mexican Stablenotes

Session L08, Room Myhal 490

Chair: Joanne Archibald (Canadian Business History Association)
Organizer: Erik Thomson (University of Manitoba)

Tolly Bradford (Concordia University of Edmonton)
Corporate Image Making of the Hudson's Bay Company in London, 1830s-40s

Erik Thomson (University of Manitoba)
The Hudson's Bay Company, Steamships and the Tonnage Question, 1915-1923

George Colpitts (University of Calgary)
The Hudson's Bay Company and Corporate Nationalism at the Leipzig International Fur Fair, 1931

30 July 2026, 20:00 - 22:00

Streetcar Tour & Farewell (information will be sent to participants)

31 July 2026, 00:00 - 00:00

<s>Manufacturing Plant Tour</s> (CANCELLED)

31 July 2026, 14:00 - 16:00

Bata Shoe Museum Tour (information will be sent to participants)

31 July 2026, 16:00 - 18:00

Toronto Railway Museum Tour Toronto Railway Museum Tour (information will be sent to participants)

31 July 2026, 19:00 - 22:00

Baseball-Game (information will be sent to participants)