

## Letter from the Editors

**IN THIS ISSUE OF IJCAM** we are pleased to focus on the outstanding research of four graduates from Saint Mary's University's Master of Management in Co-operatives and Credit Unions (MMCCU). As a part of their curriculum, MMCCU students are required to complete a Final Research Report. This program is designed for professionals working in the co-operative economy such as managers, employees, and board members. It is a part-time, on-line program comprised of students, faculty, and researchers from around the globe and from a diversity of co-operative sector organizations. For more information see:

<https://www.smu.ca/coopdegrees/index.html>.

We start the edition with obituaries authored by Senior Associate Editor, Dr. Peter Davis, for two people, Samuel Natale and John Donaldson, both of whom have made significant contributions to the co-operative academic sector. This is followed by four research papers, beginning with a paper by Mary Ann Kingsley regarding Maryland's Food Co-op Ecosystem. The paper offers insight into the paths that Maryland food co-ops have taken in their startup journeys. The next paper

by Michael Murdoch examines whether the Mondragon Corporation's cooperative model, widely regarded as one of the most successful in the world, can be effectively replicated or adapted within the United States. The third paper is by Kirsten Sunesen who explores the connection between social capital and cooperatives. The final paper by Pauline Tessier presents a model for healthy democracy in Canadian Housing Cooperatives.

### Call for Papers

General Call for papers on co-operative accounting and management topics.

- Submissions accepted on a continual basis.

Papers related to management topics should be submitted to Peter Davis: [dissentingvoice1947@gmail.com](mailto:dissentingvoice1947@gmail.com) and those focusing on accounting and reporting should be submitted to Daphne Rixon: [daphne.rixon@smu.ca](mailto:daphne.rixon@smu.ca).

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