

Special Sponsored Track: Integral Ecology

Marking a decade of reflection since *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home* (2015), the Institute for Business Ethics and Sustainability (IBES) at Loyola Marymount University and the Laudato Si' Research Institute's Integral Ecology Research Network (IERN) at the University of Oxford are pleased to sponsor a dedicated Integral Ecology Track within the 31st Annual IAJBS World Forum and 2026 CJBE Annual Meeting.



This Special Track invites submissions that critically engage the concept, implementation, and scalability of integral ecology, particularly as it relates to sustainable business, ecological justice, and socio-economic transformation. As *Laudato Si'* reminds us, “everything is closely interrelated,” and today’s challenges require “a vision capable of taking into account every aspect of the global crisis” (*LS* §137), moving us “towards an integral ecology and the full development of humanity” (*LS* §62). Submissions may be based on theoretical work, applied projects, community-engaged initiatives, or pedagogical innovations. Teaching-focused and research-focused contributions are equally welcome.

Key Questions for Inquiry

Submissions may address, but are not limited to, questions including:

- How can the concept of integral ecology inform or be applied in operational business terms? Conversely, how can business theory and practice help concretize and scale integral ecology?
- How does the goal of integral ecology shape our normative theories, constructs, or evaluations? What does it suggest about how we ought to live, manage organizations, and relate to one another and the natural world?
- What tensions exist between dominant global economic structures and the principles of integral ecology? How might integral ecology critique or re-envision economic assumptions such as private property, profit, shareholder primacy, limited liability, or capital accumulation?
- How does integral ecology deepen or challenge contemporary understandings of sustainable development, especially regarding global North–South dynamics and the lives of those experiencing extreme poverty?
- How might integral ecology engage with, build upon, or challenge Indigenous knowledges and lifeways?
- How have business-education collaborations or partnerships with social-impact organizations demonstrated the principles of integral ecology?
- How have agroecological or comparable initiatives created systemic change for impact—and how has this shaped student learning?

- How can collaborations with organizations in the global South inform pedagogies of integral ecology?
- How have educational initiatives embodied the *Inspirational Paradigm* hungers for experiential learning and integrated knowledge?
- In what ways have spirituality, meaning, and purpose inspired student engagement toward transformative ecological and social impact?

Submission Guidance

When submitting through the conference portal, please indicate that your work is for the Integral Ecology Special Track. Please follow the general submission instructions provided on the conference webpage. Both Extended Abstracts and Full Papers will be considered for Best Paper Prizes.

Awards

Outstanding contributions will be recognized through two complementary sets of awards:

- Best Paper Prizes in integral ecology scholarship and teaching, awarded jointly by the sponsoring institutes for outstanding scholarly and pedagogical contributions presented in this Track; and
- **The Henri de Laulanié, S.J. Prize**, supported by philanthropic funding administered through the Downforce Trust, for practice-based agroecology projects with clear impact on the ground.

Both awards may be conferred on one or several recipients at the discretion of the awards committee. In assessing entries for the Henri de Laulanié, S.J. Prize, the awards committee will give particular weight to evidence of impact on the ground, alignment with agroecological principles, and the adaptability and scalability of outcomes over time. Student-led or student-co-authored projects are especially encouraged.

About the Sponsoring Institutes

Institute for Business Ethics and Sustainability (IBES), Loyola Marymount University

IBES advances ethical business practice and sustainability by fostering collaboration among students, faculty, alumni, and industry partners. Guided by the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) and the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), IBES supports scholarship, teaching, and engagement that promote responsible leadership across LMU's College of Business Administration.

Integral Ecology Research Network (IERN), Laudato Si' Research Institute (LSRI), University of Oxford

IERN is a global initiative of the Laudato Si' Research Institute housed at Campion Hall, a work of the Jesuits in Britain. LSRI advances interdisciplinary research inspired by *Laudato Si'*, drawing on the natural sciences, social sciences, humanities, and Ignatian traditions to develop an integral ecology paradigm capable of informing socio-ecological transformation.

For Integral Ecology Track inquiries, contact the Special Track Co-Chairs: Jeff Thies (LMU), Peter Rožič, SJ (University of Oxford), Trevor Zink (LMU) at Trevor.Zink@lmu.edu

For general IAJBS/CJBE conference inquiries, please contact the Conference Program Co-Chair: Dominic Chai, SJ (Loyola Marymount University) at Dominic.Chai@lmu.edu