



November 10, 2023

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that the International Association of Jesuit Business Schools reaffirms its support for the United Nations Global Compact and its ten principles in the areas of human rights, labor, the environment, and anti-corruption. This is our communication regarding engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its principles as suggested for an organization like ours. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders.

As an organization of higher education leaders dedicated to the promotion of ethical business leadership and the formation of future leaders of business around the world who are committed to sustainability, care for our planet, and concern for the marginalized in our world, we are proud to highlight the following two major activities that we have sponsored and/or been actively engaged in during the past year.

Our 28th Annual IAJBS World Forum was held and organized by our member institution, Loyola University, in Seville, Spain. The title of the conference, held from July 9-12, 2023, was **Jesuit Business Schools: Educating for Global Leadership**. Over one hundred participants from around the globe listened to invited speakers from industry and academia, and discussed paper presentations on the topics of leveraging the Jesuit global network, preparing students for a new work paradigm, and business curricula and environmental and social justice (See <https://www.ignited.global/conferences/28th-annual-iajbs-world-forum> for more details)

The conference also continued the discussion and development of an ongoing activity of IAJBS that involves faculty and administration from Jesuit higher education institutions around the world, the **Inspired Paradigm for Jesuit Business Education**. As per the webpage *An Inspirational Paradigm for Jesuit Business Education* (See <https://iaju.org/working-groups/newparadigm-jesuit-business-education>):

“Since the release of the Inspirational Paradigm in June 2020, Jesuit business educators from around the world have worked to change the way we educate future business leaders. For example, the subsequent World Forums of the International Association of Jesuit Business Schools (IAJBS) and annual meetings of Colleagues in Jesuit Business Education (CJBE) have focused on how to pursue the Inspirational Paradigm.

Similarly, the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU) Business School Deans Network encouraged the development of materials to assist Jesuit business schools worldwide to align themselves with the Inspirational Paradigm with two rounds of a challenge grant program.

Starting in March, 2023, a third round of funding was launched, with this one being a collaboration between AJCU, IAJBS, and CJBE, and it is anticipated that there will be several more rounds of funding in the next two or three years.

The resulting faculty work from the grants has been posted to the Ignited website (<https://www.ignited.global/inspirational-paradigm-jesuit-business-education-0>) for dissemination to Jesuit business educators globally.”

A brief description of the Inspirational Paradigm for Jesuit Business Education is as follows:

“Beginning in March 2019, 12 business education leaders met at the invitation of the International Association of Jesuit Universities (IAJU) to consider **how Jesuit business education might address the growing challenges to the reigning economic order**. The task force members were especially inspired by Pope Francis’s encyclical, “**Laudato Si**,” and by the United Nation’s **Sustainable Development Goals**. They listened to the voices of concerned students, to faculty who have taken a lead in reinventing business education and to a host of thought leaders interested in forging a new economic paradigm.

That IAJU Working Group prepared a white paper entitled, “An Inspirational Paradigm for Jesuit Business Education.” which was released in June 2020. It presents the case for a **re-examination of how we prepare the next generation of business leaders**. It asks us as academic leaders in Jesuit business education globally to inaugurate a conversation within our schools and among the faculty in our Jesuit network and beyond: how can we respond to the global challenges which we and our students will face, challenges that are more evident each day? How can we better prepare our students to lead in the creation of a more inclusive and just world?” (See <https://www.ignited.global/inspirational-paradigm-jesuit-business-education-0>)

For further information regarding the ongoing development of the **Inspired Paradigm for Jesuit Business Education**, please see <https://iaju.org/working-groups/newparadigm-jesuit-business-education>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank LaRocca". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Frank" being more prominent than the last name "LaRocca".

Frank LaRocca, SJ

Executive Director, International Association of Jesuit Business Schools