The Global Jesuit Case Series (GJCS) was formally launched in 2015 with the singular goal of establishing a series of real-world business cases, written by executives, educators and entrepreneurs whose work would place people and planet on equal footing with profit and emphasize maximizing values as well as value. Its founders envisioned leveraging the intellectual capacity, moral authority and rich history of the world’s nearly 200 Jesuit institutions of higher education in order to create these cases and shape the next generation of leaders. This joint journal published in collaboration with the Society for Case Research demonstrates that in the nearly three years since its inception, the GJCS is well on its way to achieving that aim. The GJCS has a dedicated staff, built a website, and created pilot cases – all designed to develop compassionate leaders who embrace diversity and globalization.
In 2016, the GJCS and the Society for Case Research (SCR) announced the establishment of a new strategic collaboration committed to strengthening business education. Established in 1978, SCR facilitates the exchange of ideas leading to the improvement of case research, writing and teaching. The organization publishes three scholarly journals – the Business Case Journal, the Journal of Case Studies and the Journal of Critical Incidents – each of which features original cases designed to be used in the classroom.

In the summer of 2017, Rockhurst University in Kansas City, MO, hosted the inaugural joint workshop. Thirteen members of the faculty of Jesuit institutions participated in the boot camp or submitted their case for roundtable discussion. The event served as an important step in the efforts to encourage individuals from Jesuit institutions around the world to develop case studies that will become part of the GJCS either through the special edition of the Journal of Case Studies, or through the publishing mechanism of the GJCS itself.

In addition to the joint publication, the best GJCS case has been chosen for publication in the Business Case Journal in addition to the co-branded special edition of the Journal of Case Studies. This year we congratulate Amy LaCombe and Ethan Sullivan from Boston College for their case “Pulling the Bottles: An Act of Moral Courage in a World of Short-Term Pressure”

“Too often in today’s society, we lose sight of the fact that business exists for the benefit of society, not the other way around. These cases are a direct response to that disturbing trend.” Said Jim Joseph, co-founder of the GJCS and dean of the Madden School of Business at Le Moyne College. “I am proud of the work we have done to develop business cases that broaden the conversation, emphasizing humanity while, at the same time, fostering innovation and profitability.”

As we look to the future, we encourage faculty who are interested in moral leadership to consider this joint publication for their work and remind them that in addition to the guidelines set forth by SCR, the GJCS offers the following guiding principles:

1. In a broad sense a case within the GJCS collection might:

   - Emphasize the impact of managerial decision and actions, not only from an organizational and shareholder’s perspective, but include equally the perspectives of employees, families, communities, and the broader society.

   and/or

   - Illustrate how a more inclusive stakeholder approach might emphasize the sustainability of our people, our planet and company profits as necessitating each other—reinforcing in this way the link between healthy, prospering businesses and healthy, prospering communities.

2. Cases within the collection approach decision-making within organizations through a variety
of lenses. This approach allows students to examine how the decisions that are made in business impact families, communities, and the environment. Beyond its benefit for students and educators, the creation of these cases, centered on issues such as moral leadership, ethics and sustainability, also serves as a conduit for business and social innovation. They emphasize humanity while also fostering creativity and profitability. To that end, they help shape individuals for whom discernment, compassion and adaptability are central to their work as leaders.

3. Authors interested in exploring a more mission-based case might choose to focus their efforts on developing some of the following elements:
4. The case should be written in ways that facilitate substantive conversation about topics and decisions that matter. In general this means that there are problems (or opportunities) that must be defined, and decisions that must be made, which have viable (often mutually exclusive) options that are worthy of principled discussion and communal discernment.

An author may wish to consider how the case addresses Chris Lowney’s 4 Pillars of Heroic Leadership:

5. Cases within the collection should be innovative, memorable, and meaningful: Case characters, situations, and learning objectives should not be predictable derivatives of other cases; and the cases should be written in such a way that the characters, situations and the key learning lessons are memorable for most readers.

6. Finally, cases should seek to include the Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm: Because both the habit of proactive reflection and the habit of thoughtful action are central to the Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm, as well as a to a Jesuit prescription for a life lived-well, a representative case in the GJCS series should provide a platform for class discussion of the options for both reflection and action.

While not a prescription, the aforementioned guidelines should be used to help develop the case in a way that stretches the class discussion beyond shareholder value to include conversations about the role of business in society and the role that individuals can play as they make decisions towards the creation of a more just society.

The Global Jesuit Case Series and the Society for Case Research are dedicated to the furtherance of case writing as scholarship and as a pedagogical tool. This includes not only the addition of
values-based themes in traditional cases, but the pursuance of new forms of cases that could include video or other multimedia tools. Oftentimes a case is developed because there is no case that is currently in circulation that addresses the theories or themes that a professor needs for the classroom. Case Studies are uniquely adept at bridging the gap between theory and practice and we welcome the opportunity to nurture cases all the way from idea to publication.

Finally, this past year has been a whirlwind of excitement and growth for the Global Jesuit Case Series. We are especially thankful to the Deans of Jesuit business schools whom have supported us these past few years, the scholars that participated in our inaugural workshop at Rockhurst and especially to Mike Stellern and Craig Davis for nurturing this new partnership.

In addition, we are grateful to Leigh Cellucci and Cara Peters who have offered thoughtful feedback and expertise through this first edition of our joint journal.

We look forward to the joint SCR/GJCS joint summer workshop and to continuing to develop the unique relationship between the two entities and among all of the participants.

For more information on the Global Jesuit Case Series, please visit. Ignited.Globa

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