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Social Innovation Conversations brings you social change ideas through audio lectures, speaker series, and conference recordings. Download free podcasts on social entrepreneurship, environmental sustainability, philanthropy, corporate social responsibility, responsible investing, and more.


Hau Lee - Boosting Profits Through Social Responsibility

<<http://sic.conversationsnetwork.org/shows/detail3628.html>>



Companies can indeed make money while operating in socially responsible and environmentally friendly ways. It just takes what supply chain expert Hau Lee calls the Triple-A approach--having agility, adaptability, and alignment. Closing the Stanford 2008 Responsible Supply Chains Conference, Lee describes how small to mid-sized companies in China, India, and Israel boosted profits while shrinking waste and pollution and providing a fair workplace for employees.

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Save <> 41 minutes, 19.2mb, recorded 2008-04-22  details... </shows/detail3628.html>


Randy Wang - Spreading Education Thru Community Participation

<<http://sic.conversationsnetwork.org/shows/detail4029.html>>



Imagine your confusion if you had to design a system to improve the quality of education in distant underprivileged schools. What if you stepped away from the problem and asked, "What is the simplest 'system' that could work in the real world?" In host Sheela Sethuraman's interview, Randy Wang describes his motivation to create Digital StudyHall, a collection of mundane technologies that have dramatically improved long distance education. His progress and goals are also discussed.

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Save <> 35 minutes, 16.3mb, recorded 2009-01-18  details... </shows/detail4029.html>

Panel Discussion - Strategies to End Hunger <<http://sic.conversationsnetwork.org/shows/detail3898.html>>



A food crisis is upon us. Prices of food commodities have risen dramatically. Shrinking supply, due to weather and the production of biofuels, combined with spiking petroleum prices, has lead to rising demand and instability in

countries the world over. Robert Hormats, Helene Gayle, and Jacqueline Novogratz discuss the roles that the financial sector, NGOs, and small farmers around the world play as well as what they can, and must do, to reverse this alarming situation.

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Save <> 73 minutes, 33.8mb, recorded 2008-07-05  details... </shows/detail3898.html>


Panel Discussion - Strategies for Improving Product Safety

<<http://sic.conversationsnetwork.org/shows/detail3627.html>>



Not a week goes by without a product safety incident splashed across the headlines. As companies face increasing layers of suppliers, the task of monitoring the many links in the chain becomes a formidable challenge. The situation is particularly troubling for social entrepreneurs, who are especially vulnerable. In this panel from the 2008 Responsible Supply Chains Conference, executives who have experienced product safety challenges share what they have done to address these challenges head on.

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Save <> 76 minutes, 35.2mb, recorded 2008-04-22  details... </shows/detail3627.html>

Craig Venter - New Ideas, New Fuels <<http://sic.conversationsnetwork.org/shows/detail3897.html>>



Craig Venter, a pioneer in genetic research, continues to advance the state of science in genomics and synthetic life. In this interview, he discusses some of his key discoveries, as well as a few goals for the future. In his current work on DNA programming and building synthetic organisms, he's using the building blocks of life to approach society's most pressing problems such as energy and food.

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Save <> 62 minutes, 28.6mb, recorded 2008-06-30  details... </shows/detail3897.html>

Replication and Scale - Challenges and Success Factors

<<http://sic.conversationsnetwork.org/shows/detail3674.html>>



How can an innovative social entrepreneur enable her exciting new idea to fulfill her dream of changing the world? This panel of truly successful innovators examines the challenges of replicating and scaling ideas into massive realities of social change. They share their varied experience in identifying the important considerations that can grow a successful neighborhood social program into a global social venture.

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Save <> 118 minutes, 54mb, recorded 2008-03-28  details... </shows/detail3674.html>

Dan Henkle - Gap's Progress on Corporate Social Responsibility <<http://sic.conversationsnetwork.org/shows/detail3626.html>>



The Gap monitors 2,000 garment factories in 50 countries and conducts about 4,000 inspections annually to make sure its suppliers are operating under ethical guidelines. Dan Henkle, the executive who oversees this inspection process, as well as the company's community investment and environmental affairs efforts, outlines The Gap's corporate responsibility programs in his talk at the 2008 Responsible Supply Chains Conference.

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Save <> 42 minutes, 19.5mb, recorded 2008-04-22  details... </shows/detail3626.html>

Panel Discussion - Women in Charge <<http://sic.conversationsnetwork.org/shows/detail3896.html>>



Four high-profile female political professionals discuss Hillary Clinton's candidacy for president in this panel discussion. They cover how her run for office affected the future of women in politics and the benefits and weaknesses of women in political leadership.

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Save <> 82 minutes, 37.8mb, recorded 2008-06-09  details... </shows/detail3896.html>

Panel Discussion - Fresh Approaches to Supply Chain Practices <<http://sic.conversationsnetwork.org/shows/detail3624.html>>



How does an organization not only promote green and sustainable products but also conduct business in a socially responsible way? At the Stanford 2008 Responsible Supply Chains Conference, leaders of three pioneering enterprises talk about how they integrate fair trade, sustainable design, green purchasing, and public/private partnerships into every aspect of their business. They offer advice for other organizations and share how they are working to promote social responsibility in their respective industries.

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Save <> 75 minutes, 34.6mb, recorded 2008-04-22  details... </shows/detail3624.html>

Fraser Nelson - Learn to Love Lobbying <<http://sic.conversationsnetwork.org/shows/detail3842.html>>



Fraser Nelson, a consultant to nonprofits, gives an entertaining lesson on the why and how of nonprofit lobbying. Most nonprofits do not lobby government for a variety of reasons, but Nelson explains that it is legal, effective, and powerful. In this Stanford Social Innovation Review sponsored talk, Nelson concludes with ways to get the most out of your lobbying efforts and five rules to follow.

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Save <> 64 minutes, 29.4mb, recorded 2008-09-24  details... </shows/detail3842.html>

Panel Discussion - Growth Finance for Social Entrepreneurs <<http://sic.conversationsnetwork.org/shows/detail3675.html>>



Financing the growth of operations to achieve major scale is undoubtedly the biggest challenge facing social entrepreneurs. This panel explores the current challenges and constraints in mobilizing capital flow to compelling social enterprises. Also discussed are a range of strategies and channels available to social entrepreneurs for financing growth plans, including emerging alternatives to create new asset classes (hybrid, for-profit, and for-benefit models).

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Deborah Rhode - Ethics in the Nonprofit Sector <<http://sic.conversationsnetwork.org/shows/detail3855.html>>



Businesses are not the only organizations rocked by financial scandals. Nonprofits such as the Red Cross, United Way, and many others have been hit as well. In this Stanford Social Innovation Review sponsored talk, Deborah Rhode discusses the need for an ethics upgrade in the nonprofit sector, which by its do-good nature is expected to take the moral high ground. She considers typical pitfalls that nonprofits are vulnerable to, and calls for clearer rules governing transparency and accountability.

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James A. Joseph - Leadership in the Second Half of Life <<http://sic.conversationsnetwork.org/shows/detail3942.html>>



Former U.S. Ambassador to South Africa, James Joseph believes we must support those over 50 launching new careers later in life so they may continue to make significant contributions to society. In this Encore Career Summit talk, sponsored by the Center for Social Innovation at Stanford, Joseph reflects on what it takes to be a great leader in the second half of life. Using Nelson Mandela as a prototype, he reflects on how skills such as the ability to work with one's enemies are critical elements of the mature leader.

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Marc Koska - Preserving the Right to Safe Injections

<<http://sic.conversationsnetwork.org/shows/detail3967.html>>



Marc Koska talks about his involvement with Star Syringe, the 2008 Tech Awards Health Award winner. Star Syringe designed and licensed the K1 auto-disable syringe, which prevents syringe reuse. In this interview with host Sheela Sethuraman, Koska explains how focusing on the needs of the syringe manufacturers, instead of the end users, was an important success factor. He discusses how single-use syringe adoption is progressing in India as well as the activities and aims of his charity SafePoint Trust.

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Save <> 31 minutes, 14.4mb, recorded 2009-01-01  details... </shows/detail3967.html>

Dan Burden - Building Livable, Walkable Communities

<<http://sic.conversationsnetwork.org/shows/detail3899.html>>



In his many walkability audits, Dan Burden has studied and defined what makes for a pedestrian-friendly community. Even more importantly, he knows why such places are so valuable for everyone - walkers and drivers alike. In this presentation concluding with questions and answers, he discusses why walkability is crucial to the sustainability of communities, and what they can do to encourage it.

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Douglas Holt - Marketing That Matters <<http://sic.conversationsnetwork.org/shows/detail3673.html>>



Trying to change the world? Are you looking for a marketing strategy to spread your ideas? Ever noticed how certain brands like Apple, Harley Davidson, or Coca-Cola are instantly recognizable by anyone you meet? No matter what your goals, Douglas Holt believes there is a systematic model to learn from the marketing success of these companies and that social entrepreneurs can leverage cultural branding within their organizations.

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