Making the Debate Over Corporate-Stakeholder Responsibility a Two-Way Conversation

Andrew C. Wicks Professor of Business Administration, University of Virginia

The subject of corporate responsibility to stakeholder has received considerable attention in both the academic literature and the popular press. In my talk I will I revisit the notion of stakeholder responsibility as a way to highlight the role that stakeholders have in creating an ethical business context. I will argue for expanding the prevailing focus on corporate responsibility to stakeholders, and giving more serious attention to the importance of stakeholder responsibility to firms, and to other stakeholders who are part of the collective enterprise. In the talk I will elaborate why stakeholder responsibility matters, and suggest how making stakeholder responsibility a central focus of academics and practitioners can redefine the interaction between firms and stakeholders and ultimately enhance business excellence. The talk will not only go over some of the core ideas of stakeholder responsibility, but outline a number of conceptual and empirical studies that I am either doing or hope to tackle as part of this research agenda.