

CET's Summer Reading List 2022

Our 5 top picks for the holidays



Less is More: How Degrowth Will Save the World, by Jason Hickel (2021)

This thought-provoking book challenges the way we have been brought up to think about economics, consumption and growth. The ideas it proposes run completely contrary to some of the basic assumptions we are taught, which is why it is so important to read.

Recommended by Lori DiVito, Willem van Winden, Rob Lubberink (CET Theme: Transforming Economic Ecosystems)



Owning Our Future: The Emerging Ownership Revolution, by Marjorie Kelly (2012)

As long as businesses are set up to focus exclusively on maximizing financial income for the few, our economy will be locked into endless growth and widening inequality. But now people are experimenting with new forms of ownership, which Marjorie Kelly calls generative: aimed at creating the conditions for life for many generations to come. These designs may hold the key to the deep transformation our civilization needs.

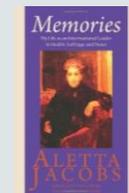
Recommended by Frank Jan de Graaf, Troy Nachtigall, Deborah Teppi, Dwyane Ansah (CET Theme: Transforming Ownership)



Regenerative Leadership: The DNA of life-affirming 21st century organizations, by Giles Hutchins and Laura Storm (2019)

The awareness of the need for widespread regeneration of our social and ecological systems is steadily growing and with it we are also beginning to witness that 'regeneration' can mean different things to different people. This book helps widen the discussion on what regenerative can mean and the mind shift that is necessary for leaders and business alike.

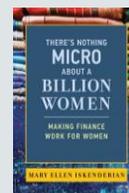
Recommended by Ingrid Wakkee, Sjoukje Goldman, Claudia Cuypers (CET Theme: Transforming Business Models)



Memories : My Life as an International Leader in Health, Suffrage, and Peace, by Alette Jacobs (1996)

The memoirs of Aletta Jacobs (first published in 1924) is a fascinating read, showing how persistent Aletta was in pursuing her goal: the right for women to vote. This cause seemed utterly impossible in The Netherlands when she started addressing it in 1879 and that took until 1919 (!) to be realized. The same goes for economic transformation, although we want the transformation to take place as soon as possible, we have to persist and not lose hope that change for the good is possible.

Recommended by Daniel Middelkoop, Floor Timmerman (CET Theme: Towards Good Work)



Hot off the press >> There's Nothing Micro about a Billion Women: Making Finance Work for Women by Mary Ellen Iskenderian (2022)

Microfinance has been hailed as an economic lifeline for women in developing countries—but, as Mary Ellen Iskenderian (CEO of Women's World Banking) shows in this book, it takes more than microloans to empower women and promote sustainable, inclusive economic growth.

Recommended by Ineke Bussemaker, Dean Faculty of Business and Economics (FBE)

The Centre for Economic Transformation (CET) is a platform where researchers, teachers and students team up with companies and organizations that want to accelerate towards sustainable, just and future-proof business practices. Not only to observe and analyze economic transformation, but take an active role in initiating and catalyzing change processes in order to: Transform business models and business education to become more purpose-driven, sustainable, regenerative and distributive by design.