

they go onto explore them more fully including that they are based on a set of principles and that there are different types of co-operatives, introducing worker, producer, consumer and even multi-stakeholder co-operatives.

As a introductory book on business in society, this is really good effort which ends up asking the reader to rethink ownership and the market versus the commons. This could not be more important as our economy descends deeper and deeper into a rentier model. The book is robust in its arguments and the collective authors put up a powerful case of the key interrelationship between business and society. Whilst the book is a terrific team effort there is little repetition and the style of the writing feels like a single author. It helps that they are all from York (except Alberto Salazar who is in the Law department at Carleton University in Ottawa). Furthermore, it is an intelligent book, drawing on key ideas from institutional economics as well as the work of Karl Polanyi a great economist whose work has been fortunately rediscovered of late (see, for example Dale, 2016).

This is not a book that you will pick up and read from cover to cover and the authors know that. Stylistically each chapter is a self contained, comprehensive essay on a key topic, with key terms and concepts highlighted defined and explained with further recommended reading and a comprehensive bibliography. This layout is a great boon to teachers. Anyone looking for a comprehensive guide to contemporary business and society or running a course in this area and wants a textbook that fully grasps the contemporary issues without being self consciously hip should look no further.

The Reviewer

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References

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