“There is not a crime, there is not a dodge, there is not a trick, there is not a swindle, there is not a vice which does not live by secrecy.” – Joseph Pulitzer

A little over eighty years ago, during his 1939 address to the American Sociological Association, Edwin H. Sutherland coined the term “white-collar criminal.” Ten years later, in 1949, he published the seminal *White Collar Crime*. The original version of his book, which included case studies and called out corporate offenders, was censored until 1983. Over the last seventy years, corporations have taken on the role of legal entities – they’ve become “people” who can commit economic crimes. Swindles perpetrated by colluding firms now compete with accounting fraud and asset misappropriation.

Fraud is inherently linked to economic activity: The Roman god of commerce, Mercury, was also the god of trickery and thieves. No single economic system or period in history has been devoid of a spectacular scam. Fast-forward to the 21st century – the Internet age – and threats have become ever more complex. Cybercrime is now rampant, and, thanks to sophisticated technology, tech-savvy fraudsters keep pushing the envelope.

Shrouded in secrecy, white-collar malfeasance, though usually nonviolent, tends to have more devastating impacts on corporations, families, and individuals than street crime. Often seemingly respectable citizens, white-collar criminals go to great lengths to conceal their activities, making detection and prosecution difficult. And as punishment seldom involves more than a slap on the wrist, it is no wonder that such crimes breed selfishness and cynicism worldwide, fraying the very fabric of the social contract.
With its 2021 special issue, the *IJCSM* (ISSN: 1911-2599) hopes to shed light on a universal problem: white-collar crime. This call for papers seeks compelling case studies accompanied by detailed teaching notes. Authors are invited to read the *IJCSM*’s definitions and guides before submitting: 

**Suggested topics include (but are not limited to) the following:**
- Asset misappropriation
- Consumer fraud
- Corruption
- Cybercrime
- Economic and financial crime
- Financial institution fraud
- Financial statement fraud
- Forensic audits
- Health care fraud
- Money laundering
- Whistleblowing

Extended abstracts (750–1,000 words) of proposed case studies must be submitted as Word documents by **Tuesday, April 14, 2020**. A link to Editorial Manager, our submission system, can be found on our website’s [Instructions for authors](#) page.

Extended abstracts should include:
- Case title
- Keywords
- A brief outline/narrative
- Key learnings

Authors will receive feedback on abstract submissions by **Tuesday, April 28, 2020**. Completed case studies and teaching notes must be submitted by **Tuesday, September 15, 2020**.

**Timeline:**
- Deadline for abstract submission: April 14, 2020
- Author feedback on initial submission: no later than April 28, 2020
- Deadline for submission of case and teaching notes: September 15, 2020
- Author notification of first round of reviews: November 2, 2020
- Special issue completed: June 2021

The following are examples of *IJCSM* cases that focus on the topic:
- Canadian Sponsorship Scandal: The Whistleblower’s Perspective
- The Dark Side of Light-Handed Regulation: Mercury Energy and the Death of Folole Muliaga
- France’s “Horsegate” Scandal: Marketing Communications Addressing the Aftermath of a Food Fraud/Product Recall
- Parmalat – Fraude à l’italienne (available in French only)
- Sun Hung Kai: A Governance Crisis in a Family Firm
- Valeant Pharmaceuticals International, Inc. (A and B)