The Investment Ecosystem

Anthropology and Investment Organizations

Series Index

The Anthropologists and the Pension Funds This posting begins a series about how the cultural analysis of investment entities can reveal how decisions are made and why. (Asset Owner, 4/27/23.)

Wall Street Culture and the Shareholder Value Mantra The corporate finance and M&A functions of investment banks sit at the nexus of market and corporate activity. The dominant culture within them has permeated the investment ecosystem. (Learning Curve, 5/7/23.)

Models, Morals, and Management in a Trading Room An anthropological view can offer deep insight into why an organization does what it does, providing perspectives that can be missed by others. (Asset Manager, 5/17/23.)

Taking A Worm's-Eye View This fourth in a series of postings takes a broader look at some of the precepts of anthropology as they apply to the craft of due diligence. (Due Diligence, 5/26/23.)

Cognitive Dissonance and Stasis in Active Management Interviews with those involved in active management yield insights into that "community of practice," which is at a crossroads. (Asset Manager, 6/1/23.)

Social Forces and Sell-Side Analysts Analysts operate within a web of relationships. To assess their estimates or recommendations, you need to understand the social environment in which they are produced.

The Homophily of Hedge Fund Culture The investment industry has often been referred to as “pale, male, and stale.” The latest posting in a series on social research into investment organizations dives into questions of sameness and difference.

Ethnography and Investment Analysis To wrap up a long series of postings, here are some closing thoughts about the power of cultural evaluations and their importance in understanding the upheavals ahead.