“The Elders, Earth’s First Transcendent Leadership Circle, with Organizational Implications for Global Renewal and Sustainability”

John Gardiner

Earth’s First Transcendent Leadership Circle
The project involves a comprehensive study of The Elders, Nelson Mandela’s powerful global initiative of 2007, which created the world’s first transcendent leadership circle, a collaborative team of twelve serving as a conscience to the world (See TheElders.org.). The initiative, conceived by Peter Gabriel and funded by Richard Branson, is now headquartered in London and focused on resolving issues of global sustainability including promoting dialogue/peace making, and alleviating human suffering particularly caused by extreme poverty, environmental degradation, injustice, and intolerance.

Organizational Implications for Global Renewal and Sustainability
The research project will increase visibility of Mandela’s powerful global initiative- creating the world’s first transcendent leadership circle and have SU students collaborate on research regarding the twelve founding members, the group’s recent reconciliation activities, and The Elders potential as an organizational transformational tool for global renewal and sustainability.

Fall Presentation in Barcelona, Spain at International Leadership Association
A presentation on early research about The Elders by the principal investigator has been accepted for a peer-reviewed session at the upcoming 17th global conference of the International Leadership Association in Barcelona, Spain this October 14-17, 2015.