Over the past three decades, criticism abound that business school research suffers from lacking in both rigor and relevance. The former is referred to as the “credibility crisis” and is due to the prevalence of many questionable research practices (such as HARKing, P-hacking, data manipulation, sample trimming), causing the results of most published work to be untrustworthy and the majority of the studies not replicable. The latter is known as the “relevance crisis” and it refers to the large gap between research and practice. However, neither rigor nor relevance alone is sufficient for research to be useful in solving business problems and for addressing society’s challenges. The Responsible Research in Business and Management (RRBM) initiative points out the interdependent nature of rigor and relevance and formulates seven principles to facilitate the production of knowledge that is both credible and useful. In recent years, there is increasing interest on the topic of responsible leadership. Given its global interest and contemporary importance, responsible leadership is a promising area to apply the principles of responsible research. Using illustrative questions, I will show how the seven principles can guide in designing studies of responsible leadership to produce credible and reliable results and potentially useful knowledge. It is also an opportunity for the scientific community in business schools to demonstrate responsible leadership by transforming our research from a focus on only the interests of the researchers and their schools to a focus on the ultimate users of knowledge, including students, managers, and policy makers. Responsible research can help businesses and through their responsible leadership to be a positive force for a better world.
Short Bio

ANNE S. TSUI is currently Distinguished Adjunct Professor at the University of Notre Dame, Motorola Professor Emerita of International Management at the Arizona State University, and Distinguished Visiting Professor at Peking University and Fudan University, China. Previously, she was on the faculty of Duke University, University of California, Irvine, and the Founding Head of the Management Department at the Business School of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. She is the 67th President and Fellow of the Academy of Management, 14th Editor the Academy of Management Journal, Founding President of the International Association for Chinese Management Research and Founding Editor-in-Chief of Management and Organization Review. She is also a Fellow of the Academy of International Business. Her research interests include executive leadership, employment relationship, demographic diversity, income inequality, and international management especially in the Chinese context. She has a strong commitment to doctoral education and is a strong advocate of responsible social science in the business disciplines. She co-founded the Community for Responsible Research in Business and Management (www.rrbm.network), an inter-disciplinary, global, grassroots movement to advance both the credibility and the usefulness of research for both business and society. She is a recipient of the best paper awards from AMJ, ASQ, and JOM, the Center for Creative Leadership Applied Leadership Research Award, the University of Minnesota Outstanding Achievement Award, the AoM Distinguished Service Contribution Award, and the IACMR Lifetime Contribution Award. Dr. Tsui received her BA in Psychology from the University of Minnesota, Duluth, MA in Industrial Relations from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis-St. Paul, and PhD in Management from the University of California, Los Angeles. In May 2015, she received an Honorary Doctorate in Economics from the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland.