Greetings from the MCQ Staff!

Here is our Second Quarter 2010 Newsletter. We have a number of exciting and provocative new papers to showcase for you as well as providing you with an update on our current news.

James R. Barker
Dalhousie University
Editor in Chief, Management Communication Quarterly

MCQ News

MCQ’s Article of the Year Award

Each year MCQ and Sage Publications present our Article of the Year Award as selected from the papers we published in our most recent volume. We are very proud of our MCQ articles and the impact they have on Organizational Communication scholarship. We very much appreciate the opportunity Sage gives us to recognize our best papers.

The MCQ Article of the Year Award for Volume 22 goes to Rebecca Meisenbach of the University of Missouri for her paper, “Working with tensions: Materiality, discourse and (dis)empowerment in occupational identity negotiation among higher education fund-raisers”, which appeared in issue number two of volume 22 (pages 258-287).

Rebecca’s article explores how individuals’ occupational identity management communication continuously interacts with power-laden societal discourses and material realities. She shows how fund raisers are constantly shifting and layering how they frame their occupational selves and how they used multiple framings in ways that could give them and others a positive sense of self in a particular moment in relation to a particular set of discourses. She really enjoyed seeing how identity management can (and indeed may need to) involve maintaining rather than eliminating tensions among various ways of framing their work. In essence she argues that the movement among the frames is ultimately more empowering than the consistent articulation of any one frame.

A second key point from her paper is the clear intersection she describes between the material and the discursive elements of fund raiser work. Fund raisers almost
always encountered financial framings of their occupational self. This discourse was constantly called on and recalled by fund raisers and those around them. They could not talk their way away from it.

For management practice, her findings indicate how employees and professional organizations can better manage their occupational identities. For example, if new fund raisers are introduced to all six of the framings offered in this article along with some of the related material and societal issues, they might be better able to manage those issues as they encounter them. The ultimate outcome might be higher retention rates of much needed fund raisers and a more positive sense of self for those individuals.

Rebecca’s winning paper comes from data collected for her dissertation, and she noted to us that work on this article seemed, at times, like she was writing a dissertation all over again. But, she also noted that the paper became far more nuanced and developed than her dissertation discussion, a point that the selectors clearly recognized. Rebecca added that publishing papers from her dissertation is the toughest writing process she has experienced so far, but she is very pleased with the final result and honored to have her work recognized by MCQ. Rebecca’s award winning paper is available on our web site at http://mcq.sagepub.com/content/vol22/issue2/.

MCQ especially wants to thank our nominating and selection committee headed by Shiv Ganesh and including Patrice Buzzanell and Tim Kuhn. We very much appreciate their hard work and the time they gave to help recognize the excellence of our journal and our scholarship.

MCQ Editorial Office Moves to Dalhousie University

MCQ has now shifted its editorial offices to Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia, Canada where Jim Barker, MCQ Editor-in-Chief, is now Professor of Organizational Behaviour in the University’s School of Business Administration. All emails messages, manuscript submissions, and surface mail are now routed to our Dalhousie offices, and Sage has updated our website. Please note our new email address: mcq@dal.ca.

Management Communication features prominently in both the undergraduate and graduate degree programs at the School of Business. The School is proud to support MCQ’s growing internationalization and is providing support for the journal’s administrative and editorial functions.

MCQ’s external communication functions remain at Waikato University, and Linda Twiname continues in her role there as Assistant Editor. Myles McInnes, also at Waikato, continues as our Newsletter Designer.

MCQ Website Upgrade

Sage Publications has notified us that they plan to upgrade MCQ’s website by the end of the year. The upgrades will include enhanced functionality and access capability. We will provide more details on the enhancements in a future newsletter.

**Featured in Our May 2010 Issue**

**Volume 24, Number 2 (May 2010)**

**Special Issue**

Communication and the Social Construction of Leadership
This provocative and timely special issue begins with a comprehensive ‘sailing guide’ produced by Gail Fairhurst and David Grant designed both to guide scholars about to embark on leadership research that takes a social constructionist perspective and to provide renewed sense of direction to more ‘seasoned hands’. Organizational communication and leadership studies scholars will be further guided by the four empirical studies featured in the Special Issue. These papers cover topics as diverse as framing strategies used by leaders to address leadership failures, implementing dispersed leadership practices in rigid hierarchical organizations, highlighting the role of leadership development in identity construction and examining the media’s treatment of the ‘foreignness’ of a CEO. The Special Issue closes with two essays that pose the vexed ‘so what?’ question. The exchange of letters between Dennis Tourish and Kevin Barge provides a candid personal assessment of the limitations and frustrations they have faced with social constructionist leadership research. Spurred on by this exchange, the closing essay by Keith Grint and Brad Jackson advocates creating a ‘doctrine’ to guide future communication and leadership scholars to conduct research that is consciously and effectively ‘socially constructive’.

Brad Jackson, one of the Special Issue’s co-editors notes: ‘We commend MCQ for commissioning this special issue and providing a much needed bridge between the fields of communication studies and leadership. While laypersons will readily recognize that leadership and communication are integrally related, they would be quiet surprised by how little cross-fertilisation there is between these two scholarly fields. We believe the Special Issue models the benefits that can be generated when communication and leadership scholars work together.’

Please explore these exciting papers on our website at http://mcq.sagepub.com/current.dtl.

Current Issue

Management Communication Quarterly

Special Issue

‘Communication and the Social Construction of Leadership’

Articles

GAIL FAIRHURST & DAVID GRANT

Identity Construction in Leadership Development
BRIGID CARROLL & LESTER LEVY

When Leaders Fail: A Typology of Failures and Framing Strategies
HELENE LUI

Dispersed Leadership: Exploring the Embedded Nature of Power Using a Communicative Framework
RAY GORDON
Bringing the U.S. ‘Tall Poppies Down Under’: A Discourse Analytic Study of Australian Telco CEO and Us ‘Import’, Sol Trujillo
JOHN SHIELDS

An Exchange of Letters: ‘What Can A Specifically Social Constructionist Perspective Bring To Bear On What Must Be One Of The Most Studied Subjects in Human History?’
J. KEVIN BARGE & DENNIS TOURISH

Guest Editorial Conclusion: Towards ‘Socially Constructive’ Social Constructions of Leadership
KEITH GRINT & & BRAD JACKSON

**Coming in Our Next Issue**

Volume 24, Number 3 (August 2010)
**Special Forum on Health and Organizational Communication**

Our forthcoming MCQ Forum titled “Organizing Healing and Health Care Resources” features organizational and managerial communicational scholars whose work engages pressing opportunities and dilemmas related to health care resources. Globally, rising medical care costs, food insecurity, environmental risks, and a host of other problems are challenging the sustainability of our medical and public health institutions. Forum essays articulate ways that scholarship can provide a platform for addressing communicative challenges in health-based organizing.

The forum’s writers illustrate how organizational communication scholars can draw on a variety of theoretical sensibilities in the service of addressing pressing health care needs and inequities in settings that range from traditional clinical contexts including hospitals to mobile clinics, churches, activist organizations, and legislative arenas. The forum develops ways of thinking about health care organizing as discursive fields constructed and maintained symbolically and as situated within material, political, and cultural environments. Read together, these essays encourage scholars and practitioners to problematize the discursive organization of medical care, knowledge, and power across moments of historical specificity in an effort to illuminate (and challenge) the seemingly stable organizational habits, rituals, and ideological preoccupations that shape clinical interactions, health outcomes, and quality of work-life.

**Contents and Contributors:**

Forum Introduction: Organizing Healing and Health Care Resources
LYNN M. HARTER AND HEATHER ZOLLER

On the Institutional Moorings of Talk in Health Care Organizations
JOSHUA B. BARBOUR

Health-Related Organizational Communication: A General Platform for Interdisciplinary Research
KEVIN REAL

Narrating “New Normals” in Health Care Contexts
LYNN M. HARTER, SPENCER PATTERSON, AND ANNE GERBENSKY-KERBER

The Imperative of Ethical Communication Standards in an Era of Commercialized Medicine
ALEXANDER LYON AND JULIEN C. MIRIVEL

What are Health Organizations? Public Health and Organizational Communication
HEATHER ZOLLER
Wellbeing as Discourse: Potentials and Problems for Studies of Organizing and Health Inequalities
SHIV GANESH and KIRSTIE McALLUM

Papers in Press

Look for these papers to appear soon in the “OnLine First” tab of the MCQ website.

Critiquing Community Engagement
SARAH E. DEMPSEY

Corporate Proactivity as Discursive Fiction: Managing Environmental Health Activism and Regulation
HEATHER ZOLLER AND MEAGAN TENER

Accounting for Victimization: Male Professors’ Ideological Positioning in Stories of Sexual Harassment
JENNIFER SCARDUZIO AND PATRICIA GEIST-MARTIN

Organizational Assimilation: A Multidimensional Reconceptualization and Measure
BERNADETTE M. GAILLIARD, KAREN K. MYERS, & DAVID R. SEIBOLD

The Dialectics of the Exit Interview: A Fresh Look at Conversations about Organizational Disengagement
MICHAEL E. GORDON

Vocational Anticipatory Socialization (VAS): A Communicative Model of Adolescents’ Interests in STEM
KAREN K. MYERS, JODY L. S. JAHN, BERNADETTE M. GAILLIARD, & KIMBERLY STOLTZFUS

Rabid Fans, Death Threats, and Dysfunctional Stakeholders: The Influence of Organizational and Industry Contexts on Whistle-Blowing Cases
BRIAN K. RICHARDSON & JOSEPH MCGLYNN

Upward Influence in Contemporary Chinese Organizations: Explicating the Effects of Influence Goal Type and Multiple Goal Importance on Message Reasoning and Politeness
XIAOWEI SHI & STEVEN R. WILSON

Meet Our Editorial Board

Myria Watkins Allen is Professor of Communication at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Her reviewing interests include workplace communication between diverse groups (e.g., gender, ethnicity, and nationality), information technology workers, and quantitative methods.

Patrice M. Buzzanell is Professor and the 2008-2010 W. Charles and Ann Redding Faculty Fellow in the Department of Communication at Purdue University. Her reviewing interests are varied but center around career issues, leadership, work-life issues, gender, culture, and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math).
Phillip G. Clampitt is the Hendrickson Professor of Business at the University of Wisconsin – Green Bay. His reviewing interests are communication satisfaction, uncertainty management, knowledge management, social media, and leadership.

Tomasz A. Fediuk is an Assistant Professor in the School of Communication at Illinois State University. His reviewing interests include strategic communication in the contexts of crisis and risk communication, organization-stakeholder relationships, public relations, and quantitative/experimental studies.

Cindy Gallois is a Professor of Psychology and Communication at The University of Queensland. Her reviewing focuses on organizational and intercultural/intergroup language and communication, particularly in health contexts.

Jaesub Lee is Associate Professor at the Valenti School of Communication, University of Houston. His reviewing interests are leadership, socialization, human relationships, and intercultural encounters.

Vivian C Sheer is Associate Professor of Communication Studies, Hong Kong Baptist University. Her reviewing interests are organizational leadership, mediated supervisor-subordinate communication, and empirical research methods.

Scott Sonenshein is an Assistant Professor of Management at the Jones Graduate School of Business, Rice University. His reviewing interests are discursive approaches to change, especially from sensemaking and narrative perspectives.

Krishnamurthy Sriramesh is Professor of Public Relations at the School of Business of Massey University in Wellington, New Zealand. His reviewing interests cover topics such as globalization and public relations, culture’s impact on public relations, cross-cultural public relations and communication campaigns.

Keri K. Stephens is Assistant Professor of Organizational Communication at the University of Texas at Austin. Her reviewing includes organizational communication technology use, particularly the use of multiple technologies and how the changing organizational technology use landscape influences organizations.
MCQ Notes
MCQ will receive its first impact factor rating in June, 2010.
MCQ’s current time from submission to first decision is 64 days.

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