



Critical Management Studies Division

Academy of Management

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FROM YOUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Gabie Durepos, *Mount Saint Vincent University, Canada, Newsletter Editor*

Dear CMS Colleagues,

The CMS Newsletter is both for and about our community members. It is our space to celebrate book launches, announce Annual Meeting news, competitions and also remember those from our community whom we have lost. In the December 2014 issue of the CMS newsletter, we bid farewell to two members of our community, Heather Höpfl who passed away on September 3 2014 and Jan Schapper who died on 24 September 2014. Sadly, on January 1 2015, we lost another member of our CMS community, Ralph Stablein who died at the age of 61. Some of us will remember Ralph

as a friend, colleague, mentor and a co-author. The March 2015 issue of the CMS Newsletter is dedicated to the memory of Ralph Stablein, marked with a special piece prepared by Craig Pritchard and Raza Mir.

The March 2015 issue of the CMS newsletter also features division news, including a note from our Division Chair, Raza Mir and a column featuring a 2015 call for Nominations and Division Elections. On this note, I would add that the job of Newsletter Editor is open. I would be happy to discuss this very rewarding post with those interested. Other division news featured in the pages

that follow include a call for input on the Doctoral and Early Career Consortium at the Annual Meeting, the call for the 2015 CMS Best Dissertation Award Competition, and the Dark Side Case Competition.

News from outside the CMS division of AOM but within our CMS community is also included in this issue. Stephanie Ruel offers a piece on the 5th International Doctoral Consortium at Saint Mary's University in Halifax, Maria-Laura Toraldo authors an article on the 2015 AIDEA Capri Summer School, while Jo Brewis comments on the 9th International Conference in

Critical Management Studies to be hosted by Leicester University.

On a final note, I would like to draw your attention to the new *Comings & Goings* column, edited by Nadia deGama. The standing *Comings & Goings* column is dedicated to communicating news about our members' changes, in jobs, university affiliations, retirements and new appointments. To include your *Comings & Goings* news in the June 2015 issue, please email Nadia deGama directly: ndegama@yorku.ca.

As always, please email me with items for inclusion in the CMS Newsletter, I can be reached at gabrielle.durepos@msvu.ca.

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The Critical Management Studies Division is a forum within the Academy for the expression of views critical of unethical management practices and the exploitative social order. Our premise is that structural features of contemporary society, such as the profit imperative, patriarchy, racial inequality, and ecological irresponsibility often turn organizations into instruments of domination and exploitation. Driven by a shared desire to change this situation, we aim in our research, teaching, and practice to develop critical interpretations of management and society and to generate radical alternatives. Our critique seeks to connect the practical shortcomings in management and individual managers to the demands of a socially divisive and ecologically destructive system within which managers work.

REMEMBERING RALPH STABLEIN: CRITTER, COMRADE AND FRIEND

Craig Prichard, *Massey University, New Zealand*

Raza Mir, *William Patterson University, USA, CMS Division Chair*

Ralph Stablein died in the early hours of January 1, 2015, at 61 years of age, after a protracted battle with cancer. Many of us will remember him as one of the early leaders of the CMS Division right from the time it was an interest group at AOM. It is safe to say that Ralph was among those who helped birth the institutional space that we now call the CMS Division. Some will remember him as a mentor and others as a friend who will be sorely missed.

While Ralph's personal touch always defined him most of all, we would like to take this space to remember him also as a thinker and a theorist. At the core of Ralph's academic contribution was the problem of knowledge, and particularly the social, political and economic conditions and effects of management knowledge in our field. His work involved an exploration and critique of the form that such knowledge takes (Stablein and Nord, 1985). For example he was concerned with what counts as evidence in research communities, with knowledge as a phenomenological experience, and particularly with the production of academic knowledge as a community project (e.g. Frost and Stablein 1992). In this regard Ralph was fascinated by the processes of the formation of research communities and the institutions that supported, organized and attempted to manage them – the university particularly but also the State. In this regard he was also concerned with the emancipatory potential of knowledge (Stablein and Nord, 1985). This came to fore recently in his work with Joy Panoho, his co-author and partner in life, on local and indigenous forms of governance knowledge (e.g. Stablein and Panoho, 2011).

But such a summary hardly does justice to Ralph's contribution. It is missing, if you like, the spirit of Ralph's influence. While it

is possible to find passages in Ralph's writing that ring with the lucidity that his colleagues and mentees came to expect, for the most part his academic contribution was *performed* in intense engagement with others. It emerged through rich dialogue in seminars, symposium, debate and discussion with colleagues and students. In this sense the spirit of Ralph's contribution is found in his insistence that academic knowledge is a community project 'done' through the labour of live discussion.

Perhaps, in this sense, Ralph Stablein was an academic out of time. In the current academic milieu one is not expected to speak one's work but to deliver it in the appropriate commoditized form (Alakavuklar, Dickson and Stablein, 2014). Ralph's great strength, and there are few that were his peer on this, was to offer in a few short minutes a theoretically nuanced and wide-ranging contribution to debate on some knowledge problem in management and organization studies in a way that would allow his interlocutors to add more than they might have thought they could have done. While this facility might have been in part a consequence of coming to the study of management and organizations at a time when, he himself admitted, it was possible to literally read the management and organization studies literature from end to end, it was also due to Ralph's intense curiosity with the character and impact of knowledge, and his highly tuned sense for identifying the political ambitions of knowledge projects. Such sensitivity was informed by Ralph's reading of Thomas Kuhn's famous work on the practice of scientific communities and the disciplinary matrices that organize and govern their production of knowledge.

It is this spirit that we seek to honour the memory of our colleague, friend and mentor Ralph Stablein.

References:

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- Frost, P. J. & Stablein, R. E. (Eds.). (1992). *Doing exemplary research*. London. Sage.
- Alakavuklar, O. Dickson A. and Stablein, R. (2014). The Alienation of Scholarship in Modern Business Schools: Contributions from Marx and Lacan' *Academy of Management Proceedings*.

From your CMS Division Chair

Raza Mir, *William Patterson University, USA, CMS Division Chair*

We are reaching that exciting stage of the calendar when we start putting our Vancouver program together. We have received several submissions for the PDWs, papers and symposia, and over the next two months, our executive board will put together a slate of offerings from the division for the AOM meetings. Stay tuned for further details.

The rest of this message goes out to all of you who have been supporters of the CMS Division. The purpose of the message is three-fold:

First, I would like to thank you for having been a supporter and champion of the CMS Division in years past. We have grown as a division over the

past few years, with a membership base that is 700+ and growing, and have carved out a space for ourselves as a champion of the marginal, the oppressed and the exploited subjectivities within the realm of work and labor. Our membership profile is international, and includes over 100 doctoral students, who mention that their experiences of being mentored within the division space are unique. For that too, we have active members like you to thank. I hope that if you come to the AOM meetings in Vancouver, you will join us at our social events, so that we can acknowledge our appreciation.

The second reason for writing to you is to ask for advice. I would wel-

come any inputs from you to make our division more responsive to its membership, and its mandate. I especially ask for your inputs on how to communicate better. The division is developing our website, and this newsletter that goes out to our membership is especially useful as well. I would be grateful for any inputs on how we can do better, and if we need to do something additional to keep our membership informed and involved.

The final request for you is to help us with our membership drive. We wish to grow our division by about 10% this year. It is a tough task, particularly because we want to do this without diluting our mandate; on

the contrary, we hope to sharpen the focus of the division as a champion of underprivileged and under-represented members of organizations and the organizational space. We remain convinced that there are a lot of critical researchers out there who are not yet members of our division, and wish to reach out to them. To that end, we request you to be our ambassadors, to encourage the critical-minded among your colleagues and students to consider joining our division. We know that you are already doing that in a way, we just request you to intensify this over the short term so that we can meet our ambitious target.

Many thanks, and hope to see you in Vancouver or elsewhere soon!

Call for Nominations and Division Elections 2015

Gavin Jack, *Monash University, Australia, CMS Division Past Chair*

By the time you read this message, you should have received an email from AOM HQ asking you to nominate members for the upcoming Division elections. The nominations website has been open since January 21st and closed on February 28th. The Nominating Committee (comprising the Past Chair, Division Chair, and Division-chairs Elect) will then develop a final slate of candidates for the election, with the election website opening on April 15th and closing May 15th.

This year, the Division is looking to fill four important roles on the Executive Committee. The first is the role of Program Chair-elect. Although this is a 1-year role with a particular responsibility for the organization and co-ordination of the Division's Professional Development Workshop (PDW) program, as well as the Doctoral & New Faculty Consortium, the successful candidate is making a longer 5-year commitment to serve the Division. Once the 1-year Program Chair-elect

role is completed, the person elected succeeds the incumbent Program Chair, and then occupies in turn the 1-year roles of Division Chair-elect, Division Chair and Past Chair.

The Division is also looking to elect three new Representatives-at-Large (each with a 3-year term). In general, Division Representatives-at-Large provide advice to the Executive Committee and are assigned operational duties for the following CMS Division competitions/activities: Dark Side Case Competition;

Doctoral Dissertation Competition; Doctoral & New Faculty Consortium.

More specifically, the Division is looking for one of the Representative-at-Large positions to be dedicated to work on membership and cross-divisional initiatives, and two to work on communications, including the important role of Division Newsletter editor.

To those members who have indicated they wish to be considered for nomination and election, we would like to say thank you.

Doctoral and Early Career Consortium:

Call for Collective Input

Banu Özkazanç-Pan, *University of Massachusetts, USA, PDW Co-Chair*
Paul Donnelly, *Dublin Institute of Technology, Ireland, PDW Co-Chair*

We are in the early planning stages for the Division's 2015 Doctoral and Early Career Consortium, which will be held on the morning of Friday, August 7th. In the spirit of collaborative work, we want to enlist your help both in developing the consortium and in making it the best experience possible for participants.

As part of our planning, we would like to hear from the many strands within our community – doctoral, early career, mid-career, and senior career scholars – to help us develop a highly interactive consortium that meets the developmental needs of our student and early career members.

If you are a doctoral student or early career scholar interested in participating in the consortium,

please get in touch with us to let us know of your interest. In addition, please let us know three things that would be of interest to you as part of your development and that you would like to see take place during the consortium. Also, for the early career scholars, please let us know three things that, looking back, you would have found helpful in the consortium when you were a doctoral student.

For our mid-career and senior scholar members, we are interested to hear from you in terms of what three things, based on your own career experience, you think would be good to include in the consortium for our student participants, on the one hand, and for our early career participants, on the other.

We also wish to hear from our mid-career and senior scholar

members, planning to attend AOM 2015, who would be willing to act as facilitators of consortium discussions and/or volunteer as mentors to participants. The more members available to act as facilitators and/or mentors, the better we can meet the developmental needs of attendees and the better we can match mentors/mentees according to their interests.

In canvassing the input of potential participants and experienced members, we hope our collective efforts will deliver a consortium that will make for a richer and more rewarding experience for all involved.

By way of some further information at this early stage, pre-registration will be required for the consortium, with places available

for up to 25 doctoral students and 25 early career scholars. More details on the pre-registration process will be communicated in May/June, at which time we will also have an overview of the consortium agenda.

In the meantime, do contact us to express your interest in attending (doctoral and early career scholars), to let us know what three things would be good to include on the consortium agenda (doctoral, early career, mid-career and senior career scholars), and to volunteer as consortium facilitators and/or participant mentors (mid-career and senior career scholars). You can reach us by email at: banu.ozkazanc-pan@umb.edu and paul.donnelly@dit.ie. We look forward to hearing from you.

Call to DOCTORAL STUDENTS

Please share (ozkazanc-pan@umb.edu and paul.donnelly@dit.ie) three things that would of interest to you as part of your development and that you would like to see take place during the consortium.

Call to EARLY CAREER SCHOLARS

Please share (ozkazanc-pan@umb.edu and paul.donnelly@dit.ie) three things that, looking back, you would have found helpful in the consortium when you were a doctoral student.

Call to MID-CAREER & SENIOR SCHOLARS

Please share (ozkazanc-pan@umb.edu and paul.donnelly@dit.ie) three things, based on your own career experience, you think would be good to include in the consortium for our student participants, on the one hand, and for our early career participants, on the other.

2015 CMS Dissertation/Doctoral Thesis Award

Emma Bell, *Keele University, UK, Division Co-Chair Elect*
Scott Taylor, *University of Birmingham, UK, Division Co-Chair Elect*

The Critical Management Studies (CMS) Division of the Academy of Management is inviting submissions for the Best Critical Doctoral Dissertation/Thesis Award. This award is sponsored by the journal Organization.

Submitters must have completed a critical Ph.D. dissertation/thesis in the period 31st March 2014 – 1st April 2015 and successfully completed the formal examination process required to pass, including a viva voce and revisions if applicable.

What is 'critical'?

The Critical Management Studies Division serves as a forum within the Academy for the expression of views critical of established management practices and the established social order. Our premise is that structural features of contemporary society, such as the profit imperative, patriarchy, racial inequality, and ecological irresponsibility often turn organizations into instruments of domination and exploitation. Driven by a shared desire to change this situation, we aim in

our research, teaching, and practice to develop critical interpretations of management and society and to generate radical alternatives.

Sample topics include but are not limited to: critical theories of the nature of managerial authority, resistance to managerial authority, identity, affectivity, rationality, and subjectivity; critiques of managerialist theories of management and organization; critical assessments of emerging alternative forms of organization; critiques of political economy; critical perspectives on business

strategy, postcolonial critiques of organizations and management; globalization, entrepreneurship, technological innovation, e-working, management consulting practices; critical analyses of discourses of management and management development; critical perspectives on class, gender, and race; the profit-imperative and the natural environment; critical epistemologies & methodologies.

For more information about the Division and CMS see <http://division.aom.org/cms/> and <http://www.criticalmanagement.org/>

Submission Process

Submissions must comprise three documents:

- 1) A title page and abstract with complete author identification and contact information.
- 2) An abridged version of the dissertation **without author identification** that will be sent to reviewers. This should include title, abstract, and a summary of each chapter of the dissertation/thesis [max. 30 pages, double-spaced, 12 point font, including any charts, tables and references].
- 3) A one page signed supporting letter from the dissertation chair or lead supervisor, to certify the completion date of the project and recommend its submission for this award.

Submissions must be received by April 1st, 2015 sent as pdf email attachments to Emma Bell e.bell@keele.ac.uk and Scott Taylor s.taylor@bham.ac.uk. Submissions will be reviewed by two members of the CMS Division with expertise in the area of the dissertation/thesis. Submitters will be informed of the outcome by May 31st. The award will be presented at the CMS Division business meeting at the Academy of Management Annual Meeting, 7-11th August 2015, Vancouver Canada. The winner receives a prize sponsored by Organization and a two year subscription to the journal provided by SAGE. Previous winners of the competition are listed here:

<http://division.aom.org/cms/competitions/Thesis.html>

The Dark Side Case Competition

Fernanda Sauerbronn, *Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro*

Students in Management Programs at different Business Schools around the globe are conditioned to work with mainstream teaching cases. They rarely have their expectations challenged by facing alternative formats and critical perspectives that are far from the traditional case method of Harvard Business School.

To challenge this scenario, the CMS Division organises the Dark Side Case Competition that brings together a community of case writers and teachers who have developed the case method to accommodate a critical, reflexive practice of business education. The main objective is to stimulate and assist the process of making students reflect on business and management logics that are often taken for granted. Unlike mainstream cases, critical cases constitute a fundamental challenge and radical

alternative to mainstream corporate and management conceptual frames, mental models, values, paradigms, practices, processes and systems.

Now in its 14th year, the Dark Side Case Competition remains committed to encourage and acknowledge the development of cases that provoke reflection and debate on the dark side of contemporary organizations. Since its creation in 2001, the competition has featured cases focused on: labor relations; environmentally harmful practices; issues of gender, race and class; effects of organizational systems of capitalist paradigm; paradox of technology; among others.

Submissions are invited from faculty, students, those working in industry, activists, or anyone else who has experience or research in writing up Dark Side cases. We are looking for teaching cases – not research papers based on case

studies or otherwise. Our goal is to encourage the development of first-rate classroom materials that generate discussion around dark side issues.

Entries to the competition are reviewed by an international panel of reviewers. Based on the reviews, the competition organizers select 3 - 5 finalists. Authors of the chosen cases present them at a paper session in the CMS Division's main scholarly program. From the finalists, one entry is selected for the Best Case Award. The author(s) of the winning case receive a plaque and 500\$ USD, which is presented at the CMS Business Meeting.

The award selection criteria includes, among others:

- the use of a critical perspective which provides an alternative to mainstream management analyses;
- the importance, from a critical perspective, of the issues raised;

- the quality of the underlying research: we encourage solid background research consistent with the nature and purpose of the case;
- the quality of the presentation (including clarity of the writing; organization, appropriate use of exhibits, tables appendices etc);
- the originality of the pedagogical supports (videos for example);
- the utility and entirety of the teaching notes (synopsis, teaching plan, questions and related theories for instance).

A list of competition winners can be found at: <http://group.aonline.org/cms/competitions/darkside.html>. We invite you to visit the website, know the cases already published in two editions of Greenleaf Publishing and evaluate the possibility of submitting your case to the next edition of Dark Side Case Competition.

EUROPEAN GROUP FOR ORGANIZATIONAL STUDIES: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

Prior to the upcoming 2015 EGOS main Colloquium in Athens, Greece, there are seven pre-Colloquium Development Workshops (PDWs) that will take place on Wednesday, July 1, 2015.

A few points to note:

(1) Submission period (via the EGOS website): February 15 to March 31, 2015.

(2) For general information on these PDWs, please go to:

http://egosnet.org/2015_athens/egos_precolloquium_workshops/precolloquium_development_workshops_pdws

(3) To upload your application/submission, please:

(a) Log in to "MyEGOS" by using your EGOS number [or email address] + your password.

(b) 31st EGOS Colloquium, Pre-Colloquium DWs, Athens 2015: Click on "Upload Document". You will then be taken to another window in which you can enter the information about your application/paper and upload your file.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Angelika Zierer, Head of EGOS Executive Secretariat (angelika@secretariat.egosnet.eu)

The 5th International Doctoral Consortium

Stephanie Ruel, *DBA Student, Athabasca University, Chair of the IDC5 Student Organizing Committee*

The fifth International Doctoral Consortium on Management and Organizational studies will take place in Halifax, Canada from June 10th-12th 2015. Our website has all the details you could possibly need about registration, cost, schedule, etc!

This event has grown considerably and is now co-sponsored by twelve universities or university departments: Athabasca University, DBA (Alberta, Canada); BIMTECH, PhD Business (Uttar Pradesh, India); EPABE FGV School of Administration, (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil); Jyväskylä University School of Business and Economics (Jyväskylä, Finland); Queen Mary, University of London (UK); Radboud University of Nijmegen Business School (the Netherlands); Sobey Business School, Saint Mary's University (Nova Scotia, Canada); UFRGS – The Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (Porto Alegre, Brazil); University of Eastern Finland (Finland); University of the Free State (South Africa); UMass, Boston (USA); and York University, School of HRM (Ontario, Canada).

Last year our consortium welcomed students and faculty

members from 17 schools, 9 countries and 5 continents. A full and robust agenda was offered that allowed students to engage with a wide range of topics within management, human resources and organization studies with a keynote from President elect of the Academy of Management, Dr. Paul S. Adler from the University of Southern California, Marshall School of Business. Past attendees have stated that:

IDC 2014 was a once in a lifetime, mind-expanding experience!... Being able to discourse with doctoral scholars and faculty from other countries at varying stages of the doctoral experience is worth it alone, but when you add the excellent venue of Halifax, NS, and the gracious hospitality of Dr. Mills and Saint Mary's University, it is an event not to be missed!

- Connie Graham, *University of the Free State: Business School*

Participating at the IDC 2014 was a great experience. I was able to present my first tentative ideas about my research topic focused on the discursive and material organization of sexuality in the context of the sex toy industry in a very stimulating and, at the same time, friendly environment. The combination of knowledge and intimacy shown in the format of the IDC gave me an opportunity to meet other Senior and Junior scholars with whom to share ideas and to build transnational networks in a meaningful, challenging and (why not!) fun way.

- Vick Virtù, *Radboud University Nijmegen (NL)*

As a first year student, the IDC 2014 conference in Halifax provided me an excellent opportunity to present my work in a warm and collegial environment that provided me with excellent feedback and insight to improve my working papers and dissertation topic. The event format made it possible for me to network with professors and fellow students who I am excited to see again and with whom I hope to collaborate in my future career.

- Christopher Whynacht, *UMass*

This year we are delighted to welcome as our keynote speakers noted scholars Dr. Pushkala Prasad, Skidmore University, and Dr. Anshuman

Prasad, University of New Haven. They have independently and together written extensively in such areas as workplace diversity, postcolonialism, employee resistance in the workplace, and strategic management under conditions of globalization and postcoloniality. Faculty members that will be supporting workshops and chair student sessions include Gabie Durepos (MSVU), Chris Hartt (Dalhousie U), Virpi Malin and Elina Riivari (Jyväskylä U.), Kelley Thompson (York U.), Amy Thurlow (MSVU), Albert Mills and Jean Helms Mills (SMU), and Arun Sahay (BIMTECH).

During the three-day consortium, students will be exposed to a wide variety of faculty workshops and are given the opportunity to present, discuss and debate topics and methods key to the study of management issues. Through a variety of presentation sessions and informal conversations, all doctoral students will have a chance to discuss various research ideas and receive feedback.

PhD studentship at Queen's University Belfast

Fully-funded PhD studentship at Queen's University Belfast, starting September 2015. Suitable for a non-EU student interested in organisational behaviour. The topic is on whistleblowing/theories of recognition. Details here:

<http://www.qub.ac.uk/schools/QueensUniversityManagementSchool/Education/DoctoralProgrammes/Studentship/>

For more information, please contact Kate Kenny at k.kenny@qub.ac.uk

The 2015 Italian Academy of Economia Aziendale (AIDEA) Capri Summer School

Maria-Laura Toraldo, 2014 Summer School Tutor, Post-doctoral Researcher, Grenoble Ecole de Management

The third AIDEA Capri Summer School will take place on the Island of Capri, Italy on 14 – 18 September 2015.

Hosted at Villa Orlandi, a seventeenth century villa of the University Federico II of Naples, the Villa provides a beautiful setting for doctoral students and early career researchers interested in qualitative methods in management studies to engage in discussion and reflection.

As a post-doctoral researcher working from the CMS perspective and with eclectic interests on qualitative

created a stimulating discussion space for me. Engaging in reflexive and creative dialogues was facilitated by the enchanting panoramic location of the Villa.

The School is a rare occasion of learning in an international environment, immersed in one of the most beautiful settings. The dialogue and exchanges are made particularly productive by the diverse backgrounds and countries of participants, coming from Sweden, France, Japan, UK, Austria, Porto Rico, Portugal, Slovenia and Italy.

Through a combination of plenary lectures, roundtable group and seminar discussions participants working in the areas of accounting, management, finance, and organization studies develop a critical understanding of qualitative research methods principles and practices and enhance their skills in undertaking qualitative research. The Summer School encourages reflection on key epistemological issues and controversies relevant to the practice of qualitative study and fosters critical thinking about the implications of management research. Over five days, participants are introduced to different research methods, including discourse analysis, visual analysis and ethnography.

Organised by faculty from the University Federico II of Naples, the School is supported by AIDEA and by a network of European Universities, including faculty from Cardiff Business School; Keele University; HEC, Paris; University of Innsbruck;



methodologies, I benefited from the fruitful conversations occurred during the Summer School. I participated at the Summer School in 2013 and no doubt, each day of the School

Grenoble Ecole de Management; ESSEC Business School, Paris; Stockholm University.

Chaired by Hugh Willmott, the faculty includes: Emma Bell, Marie-Laure Djelic, Roberto di Pietra, Staffan Furusten, Gazi Islam, Afshin Mehrouya, Mike Wallace, and Richard Weiskopf.

A distinctive feature of the Summer School is certainly its programme. The programme offers the unique opportunity to interact, share, and collaborate with a highly experienced faculty. Learning is facilitated by the informal occasions of interactions with the faculty. Feedback on research projects from committed and experienced faculty, who lead the discussion throughout the School, are given to participants. A critical sensibility toward the critical application of diverse methodologies of research is acquired through dialogues and

confrontation, which encompass a more traditional teaching approach. Much appreciated are the social events and activities organized to discover the island. These occasions foster informal discussions on research projects and offer possibilities to develop connections with professors coming from some of the most prestigious management schools across Europe.

The space to engage critically, interactively, reflexively on research methods is what makes the AIDEA Capri Summer School an event I would love to attend again!

Applications are now open and participants can apply via the Summer School website:

<http://www.capri summerschool.it/>

Is There An Alternative? Management After Critique

The 9th International Conference in Critical Management Studies

Jo Brewis, *Leicester University, UK, Member of the CMS9 Conference Organizing Team*

As many of you will know, the 9th CMS conference will be hosted at the University of Leicester, in the UK's East Midlands, from 8th-10th July 2015. The website can be accessed here, but in what follows we summarize what you can expect from the conference.

Our theme not only encourages critique of the pervasiveness of neoliberal market managerialism as the natural panacea for all global ills, but also explicit discussion of alternatives to that pervasiveness. We are delighted to confirm three notable plenary speakers on this basis: environmental and anti-globalization author and activist Vandana Shiva, employee ownership expert David Erdal and psychologist, writer, producer and social commentator Oliver James.

There will also be 28 separate sub-streams, all of which likewise speak to 'management after critique'. We have been bowled over by the imagination and downright polemicism of our intrepid band of stream convenors and we genuinely feel, to coin a very hackneyed phrase, that there is something here for every CMS scholar whether they are hoping to present at the conference or not. Mindful of the presumptuousness of speaking for others, we've bundled the streams together below with respect to their thematic similarity.

So, with apologies to our convenors, five sub-streams adopt far reaching perspectives in their search for alternatives. Stream 3 focuses on "catastrophic conditions

as the products of human action and thus subject to change" while stream 6 on democracy, subversion and dissensus concentrates on the realization of different realities. Stream 22, on escape, constructs trajectories out of contemporary capitalism and stream 23 attends to "the many [historical] alternatives ... to the apparent ubiquity of neoliberalism and managerialism". Stream 28 on political economy repositions management and organization studies within its wider socio-economic capitalist context. In all five cases, though not just here, delegates are asked to understand managerialism as embedded within larger and more significant circuits.

Another five sub-streams demarcate a specific aspect of management within which heterodoxy warrants further pursuit. Stream 4, on finance and its alternatives, stream 7, on alternative food and drink markets, stream 11, on health and social management, stream 21, on management education and stream 26, on ecological accountancy and accounting each consider how their particular objects have been presented so as to delimit alternatives. These streams will also be shaking a specific area of management out of its dogmatic slumber.

A further five take their bearings from specific forms of organizing: stream 9, on the degradation of the employment relationship; stream 17, on fourth wave feminism; stream 19, on civil society, voluntary and

not-for-profit organizations; stream 24, on cooperative and community-owned organizations; and stream 25 on employee share ownership in Central and Eastern Europe. Here, organisation is understood as a phenomenon underpinned by profoundly theoretical and demonstrably practical dimensions.

The search for alternatives regularly evokes spatial imagery, and so we have four sub-streams focusing on space and place – stream 5 on culture and regional governance; stream 8 on international development; stream 16 on migration, borders and mobility; and stream 18 on place marketing and branding. Four sub-streams will, in addition, scrutinize the constitution, activities and effects of powerful groups: stream 10 on global elites; stream 12, on the professions; stream 20 on entrepreneurs; and stream 28 on managers.

Two sub-streams are organized around the ethics of scholarly interaction: stream 2, a pre-conference PhD workshop on writing about alternatives and stream 14, a women-only stream organized by VIDA, following its principles of critical friendship. Another two engage with the arts: stream 13, on the organization of artistic production, and stream 15, on cultural animation, making broadly empirical enquiries in the first instance and broadly methodological and pedagogical enquiries in the second. In addition, we have an open stream for papers which speak to alternatives but

find no suitable home amongst the other 27.

The deadline for abstract submission has passed, but please do read up on each stream to see what the organizers have to say and to get a better sense for the variety of discussions to come in July.

More practically, Leicester is easy to access by air (via East Midlands and Birmingham airports especially), train, bus and road. Our conference fees include registration and all meals and refreshments, including the gala dinner; and a range of accommodation will be on offer. You can check out this link to find out more about the city and its cultural and leisure attractions, including a long dead King of England, and my personal recommendations include the Criterion pub and the Musician venue. Please also email us at cms2015@le.ac.uk if you require any further information.

Finally, a quick plug for our partners in crime, the Standing Conference on Organizational Symbolism. SCOS2015 runs just after CMS2015 (11th - 14th July) at Nottingham Trent University, a short trip from Leicester. The theme is 'Home', and we hope that many critical management studies researchers will make a fortnight of it in the sunny East Midlands this July.

An earlier version of this piece was published in December 2014 in our Management is too Important Not to Debate Blog.

Cass Business School Book Launch:

Fighting Corporate Abuse: Beyond Predatory Capitalism and the Corporate Reform Manifesto

Simon Parker, *Research Fellow at Cass Business School, UK*

Thursday 4th December 2014, Cass Business School: As part of the Critical Corporation Project ([link](#)), Cass Business School and ETHOS: the centre for responsible enterprise ([link](#)) were delighted to host the book launch of 'Fighting Corporate Abuse: Beyond Predatory Capitalism' ([link](#)) and the launch of the 'Corporate Reform Manifesto' ([link](#)). Authored by the corporate reform collective, the launch saw members of the collective outline

the various abuses of corporate capitalism as well as providing potential reforms and viable alternatives.

Tax evasion, managerial self-interest, corporate governance, bad bankers, and deplorable accountancy and auditing practices were the main focus of the discussion with Professors Hugh Willmott, Martin Parker, Glenn Morgan and Tom Hadden representing part of the collective. As is evident in the book, the members of the collective were

not content with the usual tirade of critique that regularly lands at the shiny revolving doors of corporations. Rather, a collection of proposals along with small and locally based alternatives to the corporation are explored. Such an engagement includes the proposal of controls on and reforms to multinationals, taxation and the banking system. Furthermore, new systems of governance, accounting and auditing are proposed to curtail the enabling structures of the corporation and

the supposed mutually reinforcing bedfellows of accountancy and elite corporate boardrooms. As was noted by the size of the panel at the event this collaboration is not one that sought to dig deeply into only one facet of the issue at hand. Instead, a shotgun blast of change is demanded and the pathways to this change shown.

The book, published only in paperback, is available through the usual channels although I am sure the collective would want you to aim for the less "popular" choice.

COMINGS & GOINGS

Welcome to our first edition of "Comings & Goings" – a column dedicated to capturing movements and updates about our members. This edition focuses primarily on members who have recently moved institutions and taken on new positions:

Hugh Willmott has recently taken on an 80:20 split appointment between Cass Business School (City University, London), where he is a Professor of Management and Cardiff Business School (Cardiff University) where he is a Research Professor of Organisation Studies. Hugh is also currently serving as an Associate Editor of *Academy of Management Review*.



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COMINGS & GOINGS

Three faculty members featured have all moved to Macquarie University:



Associate Professor, **Ed Wray-Bliss** joined the Department of Marketing and Management in the Faculty of Business and Economics at Macquarie University in July of 2014. Prior to this, he had worked as a management academic for the previous 16 years at universities in both Australia and the UK. Edward is an Organization Studies and Critical Management scholar who teaches and researches on the ethics and politics of work, management, organization and leadership. His research ranges from a close empirical analysis of the ethics of particular workplace and managerial practices, to conceptual critiques of the ways that management and organization are conventionally formulated, and to more philosophical examinations of the ethical and political foundations of organizing.

Carl Rhodes also moved back to Sydney, Australia in the summer of 2014 to take up the position of Professor of Management and Organization Studies at Macquarie University in Sydney. While having found his time at Leicester University's School of Management enjoyable, valuable and rewarding the lure of the south beckoned. At Macquarie University's Department of Marketing and Management Carl joins scholars who research trade unionism and industrial relations, feminist organization studies, misbehaviour and resistance at work, employee engagement and empowerment, difference and diversity in organizations, wisdom and management, and organizational ethics.



Alison Pullen also moved to Macquarie University in July 2014 to take on the position of Professor of Management and Organization in their Faculty of Business and Economics. Alison moved to Macquarie due to their strategic plans to develop Organization Studies in the Department of Marketing and Management, and because they valued critical management education and emphasised social justice and diversity at all levels of the institution. Alison feels that for some years she has had to justify her work on gender and feminism; however her move means that she no longer has to invest energy in justifying herself and her work within a university context that values social responsibility. Alison is looking forward to continuing to write on corporeal ethics and politics in organizations; affect and embodiment at work; and gendered resistance and feminist philosophy. While she will miss her colleagues from the People,

Organization and Work Research Group at her previous institution she is sure they will visit her in Sydney – after all Sydney is a wonderful city to live and work!

Please join me in wishing our members the best of luck in their new institutions!

We'd love to hear from you and publish your news. If you have recently retired, changed jobs or university affiliations please let me know at ndegama@yorku.ca so I can be sure to capture your recent update in our next CMS newsletter.