Greetings from the MCQ Staff!

Well, that went fast! Summer is almost over and I wish you all the best for a great academic year. I’m happy to share our August newsletter with all of you. We have an interesting and substantive issue to share with you, including our first article in the new submission category—Research Method Article. We also have a forum that unpacks important issues related to (in) consistency in organizational communication. Finally, we share news, highlights from two articles from the current issue, a peek at the table of contents of that issue, and articles published online that will appear in later issues. In addition, we highlight two members of the MCQ Editorial Board – Vivian Sheer and John Lammers.

Patty Sias
Editor-In-Chief
I am pleased to announce the 2016 MCQ Article of the Year:

**Redefining Disaster Preparedness: Institutional Contradictions and Praxis in Volunteer Responder Organizing**

JOSHUA B. BARBOUR & JACQUELYN N. MANLY

This study investigated how volunteer disaster responders—volunteers and volunteer coordinators in multiple Citizen Emergency Response Teams and Medical Reserve Corps—negotiated contradictions among and within institutional logics relevant to disaster preparation to justify their efforts. Their accounts drew on institutional logics of preparation and the professional to do so, and provided evidence of reflexivity about, mobilization of, and reconstruction of these logics—generative praxis that may enable innovation in disaster policy and preparation.

In the words of one of our judges,

“This is one of the most thorough, insightful, and important studies that I have read in some time. It makes important contributions, both theoretically and pragmatically, offering new directions for both research and practice... In my view, this article represents the kinds of writing and insight that we all aspire to—addressing a substantive and timely issue in the world, extending past research in ways that evoke new possibilities, creating a well-conceived and effectively-executed study, and offering cogent and meticulous insights, grounded in deep, thick descriptions of the organizational members’ practices.”

Please take a look at the article here: [http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/](http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/)

Many thanks to the members of the selection committee for evaluating the finalists and choosing the winning article:

Dr. Jaesub Lee, Dr. Steve May, Dr. Stacy Tye-Williams, and Dr. Michelle Shumate!
Top MCQ Articles in 2016

In addition to identifying the 2016 Article of the Year, this year we also identified the Top 4 articles published in MCQ in 2016. I’m pleased to announce the other articles named in the Top 4:

Adapting Safety Rules in a High Reliability Context: How Wildland Firefighting Workgroups Ventriloquize Safety Rules to Understand Hazards by JODY L.S. JAHN
http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0893318915623638

How Organizations Communicate Expertise Without Experts: Practices and Performances of Knowledge-Intensive Firms by JEFFREY W. TREEM
http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0893318916635750

The Emergence and Evolution of Social Networking Sites as an Organizational Form by MATTHEW WEBER, JANET K. FULK, & PETER MONGE
http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0893318916629547

I thank the MCQ associate editors who helped identify the Top Four articles: Dr. Kevin Barge, Dr. Boris Brumans, Dr. Keri Stephens, Dr. Vernon Miller, and Dr. Erik Timmerman!

MCQ Publishes first Research Method Article

MCQ introduced a new submission category last year: Research Method Article and I am pleased the current issue has the first article published in this category. This article describes the utility of photo and video methods for organizational communication research. Using examples of how she has used these methods in her own studies, author Dr. Elizabeth Wilhoit explains the unique types of insights organizational communication scholars can gain with data obtained via photo and video methods. While the article highlights the use of these methods for organizational research, the article is helpful for any communication scholar seeking to ask and answer important questions about communication processes and practices. You can access the article here:


Research method articles published in MCQ are peer-reviewed and introduce innovative research methods to the organizational and management communication fields. Such manuscripts articulate details of the method and provide empirical evidence of the method’s efficacy for organizational and management communication research. Research method articles are shorter than regular articles, running approximately 4,000-5,000 words total.

If you have an innovative research method you’d like to introduce to the field, please submit your manuscript to MCQ at http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/mcq.
Featured Articles

The Institutionalization of CCO Scholarship

GENEVIEVE BOIVIN, BORIS H.J.M. BRUMMANS & JAMES BARKER

The authors analyzed books, book chapters, and journal articles that used theories from one or more communicative construction of organization (CCO) schools of thought; Montreal School, Flour Flows Model, and Luhmannian Systems Theory, to understand the extent to which this scholarship has gained legitimacy in the disciplines of organizational communication, management, and organization studies. Using a neo-institutional perspective, the authors show that CCO scholarship is indeed gaining legitimacy in said disciplines but with some caveats. The articles conclude with areas of future research that scholars of CCO must focus on to extend the influence of this scholarship.

A Model of Communicative and Hierarchical Foundations of High Reliability Organizing

JODY L.S. JAHN & ANNE E. BLACK

Using structural equation modeling on a random, stratified representative sample of 574 wildland firefighters, the authors test a preliminary theoretical model to show how organizational members at high reliability organizations (HRO) may communicate variably to navigate hierarchy and overcome barriers. Among other findings, their model reveals the important role of supervisors in engendering HRO behaviors among subordinates by using inclusive communication. The article also presents several practical implications resulting from this research. The authors conclude by acknowledging the limitations of their study and presenting future directions for this line of research.
The Current Issue

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Research Note:

Reconsidering Power in Multistakeholder Relationship Management
ADAM J. SAFFER, AIMEI YANG, & MAUREEN TAYLOR
Vivian C. Sheer is a Professor in the Department of Communication Studies at Hong Kong Baptist University. Her recent publications include a co-authored peer-reviewed article, ‘Mobile Instant messaging use and social capital: Direct and indirect associations with employee outcomes’ in Information and Management, and a single-authored, peer-reviewed piece, ‘Exchange lost’ in leader-member exchange theory and research: A critique and a reconceptualization’, published in Leadership. Her research interests include leadership communication theory building, workplace interpersonal interaction, applied measurement and instrumentation, and health attitude and behavioral change. Her reviewing interests are theory construction essays and empirical (quantitative and qualitative) studies.

Vivian Sheer
Hong Kong Baptist University

John Lammers is Professor and Director of the Health Communication Online Master’s of Science Program in the Department of Communication at the University of Illinois. His recent publications include a co-authored chapter on 'Institutional Theory' in the International Encyclopedia of Organizational Communication, and another co-authored chapter, 'Expertise in context: Interaction in the doctors’ room of an emergency department' published in Expertise in organizations. His research and reviewing interests include institutional theory applied to organizational communication, especially involving professions and health organizations.

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