

EURAM
2010



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Back to the Future

Tor Vergata University, Rome, ITALY

SIG: RESEARCH METHODS AND RESEARCH PRACTICE

TRACK 12: Research Methods and Research Practice

Track chair:

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Track co-chairs:

Professor Catherine Cassell, Professor of Occupational Psychology at Manchester Business School where she is also Head of the People, Management and Organisations Division.

Dr Rainer Harms is an Assistant Professor at NIKOS, University of Twente, Netherlands.

Dr Robert Breitenecker is an Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Management at Klagenfurt University, Austria.

Abstract

"The current juncture of financial crisis, corporate scandals, environmental concerns and lack of public confidence provides a series of challenges for management researchers, not least the necessity for reflection about the methodological tools we have available to produce high quality research. To generate and test the theories to enable management researchers to address the current problems we require appropriate research methods and the opportunities to critique the strengths and limitations of those methods and our own epistemological stances. Similarly, we need to be aware of the environment in which management research is produced, and how interactions with our respondents impact upon our capacity to generate useful and authentic research outputs.

This track seeks to explore how methods of data collection and analysis; underlying epistemological and ontological assumptions of research approaches; and the relationships involved in the research process impact upon research output in the management field. The track is particularly interested in papers that consider the following:

- Recent advances in qualitative or quantitative techniques;
- Potential future methodological developments in management research;
- How new applications of existing qualitative/ quantitative/ mixed

research methods of data collection and analysis can help to generate high quality research findings relevant to the current time;

- Critical ways of reflecting on the philosophical assumptions that underpin management research to facilitate proper understanding of research findings;
- The conduct of research relationships to show proper sensitivity to ethical practice;
- Appropriate funding mechanisms and regimes to promote the needs of all potential users of the research and all parts of the broader community;
- Research methodology training to address current issues and challenges."