Newsletter

Research Community

SMS

Letter from the Chair

Dear Members of the Research Methods Community, welcome to our 2020 newsletter!

On behalf of all the officers, I want to express our appreciation for your membership and your contributions to the Research Methods Community. With your help we will continue to advance research methods and their applications in our field.

The Research Methods Community is now in its fifth year. We continue to grow both in membership and activities. Last year saw the introduction of the SMS Research Methods Paper Prize which was awarded to Ryan Raffaelli, Tiona Zuzul, Ranjay Gulati and Jan Rivkin. This year's selection committee is chaired by Gwen Lee and Don Bergh, who will present the award during the 2020 virtual conference.

Andreas Schwab
Iowa State University

We also want to thank all our members who have submitted proposals, served as reviewers, and will serve as session leaders and panellists during the upcoming conference. All of you are making essential contributions to our highly active community with 750+ members.

I would also like to recognize the officers whose leadership terms are ending. Ruifang Wang, Jason Ridge and Michael Howard are completing their terms as Representatives-at-Large. The work and time you devoted to the Community is much appreciated. My term on the Executive Board of the Community is also coming to a close. It has been a privilege and a joy to contribute to the development and growth of the Community during the last three years.

Looking ahead, the 2021 leadership team consists of Asli Arikan (Community Chair), Mike Withers (Program Chair), Markus Fitza, Joanna Campbell and Tessa Recendes (Reps-at-Large). Hence, we have an experienced and highly motivated team in place. In November, you will have the opportunity to elect a new Associate Program Chair and three new Reps-at-Large.

In this newsletter, you will find information about our program for the virtual conference, resources for your research, as well as upcoming events.

In closing, I want to emphasize that the Community belongs to all of its members. I encourage you to contribute your ideas, feedback and support for the advancement of research methods in our field.

On behalf of the leadership team,

Andreas Schwab

IN THIS ISSUE

- Letter from the Chair

- Pre-conference Program

- Program for 2020 Conference

- Call for Proposals for 2021

- Research Method Community Team

SMS 2020 Virtual Conference
Research Method Community

Program Chair Highlights

Greetings, RMC members! This year the RMC received 23 submissions (doubled from 2019) that received at least three reviews from 33 reviewers (tripled from 2019). Michael Withers (Texas A&M University), the Associate Program Chair for the 2020 SMS Virtual conference, put together a very informative and engaging pre-conference program. Many thanks to those who submitted their scholarly work, organized panels and professional development workshops, participated as presenters, panelists, and facilitators, and volunteered as reviewers to make this year's virtual program!

Asli Musaoglu Arikan
Kent State University

In this year's Virtual Conference the RMC has been allocated three program slots in the competitive program. The panel session 1766 brings together leading scholars who will discuss how scholarship in strategy may engage with history to extend the renewed attention on integrating history. Eight intriguing paper proposals are tackling cutting-edge methods in two paper sessions Session 1765 brings together four papers that address association and causation with different empirical approaches cross-study replication in qualitative research, the difference in difference estimator, Bayesian statistics, and rare events analysis. Session 1767 includes papers that exhibit advancement in measurement of constructs such as technological impact (patents and patent classes), organizational cultural (text-based topic modeling), and productivity (maintenance and financial conditions). Also, the RMC is jointly sponsoring four more sessions with other IGs.
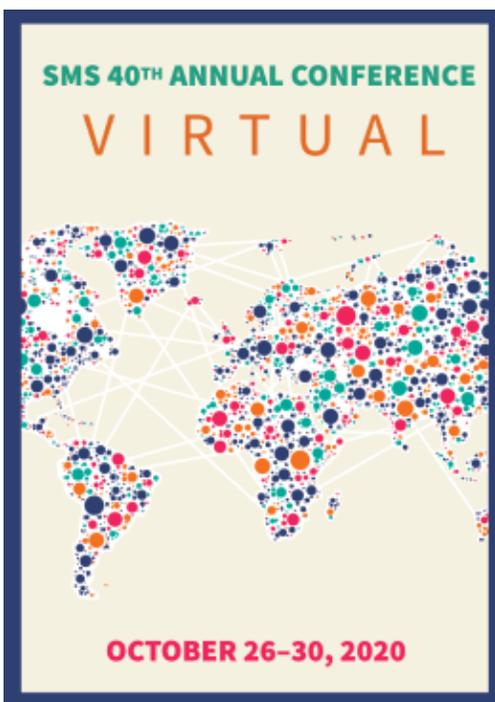
We look forward to a virtual, nonetheless very stimulating and productive conference.

Pre-Conference Program

Writing the Rules of the Game: How to Conceptualize and Publish Research Methods Scholarship in Strategic Management (Panel and Workshop, Monday Oct. 19. 11:00–12:30 UTC)

Organizers:
Tine Köhler (University of Melbourne), Jane K. Lê (WHU, Otto Beisheim School of Management),
Lisa Schurer Lambert (Oklahoma State University).

SMS 40TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
VIRTUAL
OCTOBER 26–30, 2020

Panel and Workshop:
Donald Bergh, University of Denver
Tine Köhler, University of Melbourne
Tomi Laamanen, University of St. Gallen
Jane K. Lê, Otto Beisheim School of Management
Lisa Schurer Lambert, Oklahoma State University
Rhonda Reger, University of North Texas

This workshop is for people who are interested in writing about research methods but do not know where to start. Each year, several conferences hold "how to write for…" workshops devoted to helping writers craft theory and empirical research papers. However, guidance for writing research methods-oriented manuscripts is often overlooked. Arguably, many methodologists have learned their craft by working with senior methodologists who have helped them gain the explicit and tacit knowledge necessary to create methods contributions. Residing in a geographical region dense with methodologists (e.g., North America) and possessing prior training (e.g., strong mathematical or reflexive skills) often facilitates this process. Further, the methods literature tends to be more micro- than macro-oriented, more receptive to quantitative than qualitative methods (depending on →

→ geographical region), and male-dominated (Aguinis, Ramani, & Villamor, 2018). Yet many academics may have the potential to contribute to the methods literature whose prior training in methods is limited and who may not have ready and sustained access to experienced mentorship. Attracting such scholarship may enhance scientific progress in strategy and management.

The purpose of this workshop is to help neophytes to methods research get started on writing methods papers and is open to all SMS attendees, to all types of research methods (i.e., quantitative and qualitative), and to all levels of analysis (i.e., micro, meso, and macro research). This workshop consists of a panel discussion by experienced methodologists. The panelists (Tine Köhler, Lisa Schurer Lambert, Jane K. Lê, Donald Bergh, Rhonda Reger, and Tomi Laamanen) have been selected for their deep knowledge of, and publishing in, research methods and represent a broad spectrum of perspectives, experiences, background, and focus. The panelists include current and former editors and associate editors of Organizational Research Methods and those with deep experience in teaching methods (e.g. through courses, conference workshops, and CARMA workshops). Several panelists have benefitted from mentorship themselves and are currently mentoring others. Collectively, the panelists possess a wide range of methodological expertise but can also speak to different ways of contributing to methods with a focus on strategic management research.

As part of the registration process, participants will be asked to provide a brief reflection on what kind of support they believe they need to write methods papers and perhaps become methodologists. These responses will be used to identify common issues and concerns that will be addressed by panelists. Possible topics may include active problem solving to address difficulties that arise in writing, but may also cover advice for publishing, career planning, and teaching methods.

This workshop is endorsed by Organizational Research Methods, the Consortium for the Advancement of Research Methods and Analysis (CARMA), and Sage Publications.

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Research Methods Paper Development Workshop
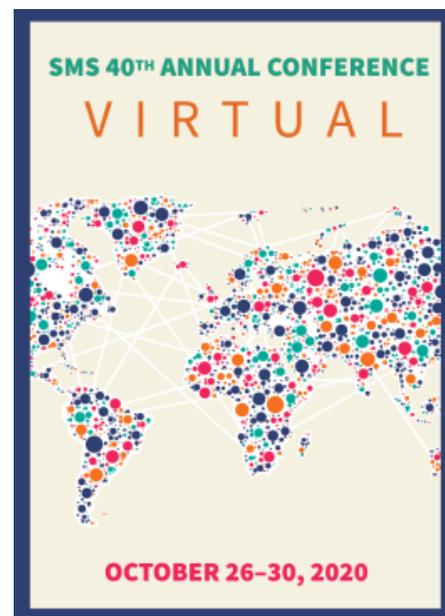(Panel and Workshop, Friday, Oct. 23. 15:00 – 17:00 UTC)

Organizers:
Michael Withers (Texas A&M University), Andreas Schwab (Iowa State University), Asli Musaoglu Arikan (Kent State University).

Panel and Workshop:
Donald Bergh (University of Denver)
John Busenbark (University of Notre Dame)
Brent Goldfarb (University of Maryland)
Jane K. Lê (Otto Beisheim School of Management)
Mikko Rönkkö (University of Jyväskylä)
Karen Schnatterly (Virginia Tech)
Matthew Semadeni (Arizona State University)
Jeremy Short (University of North Texas)

This PDW is tailored for Ph.D. Candidates and Junior Faculty. Although all members of the community are invited to participate, preference will be given to advanced Ph.D. candidates (those who have defended their dissertation proposals) and junior faculty (within three years of graduation). The purpose of this PDW is to provide scholars with developmental feedback specifically related to methodology issues and concerns. The PDW will provide participants the opportunity to discuss their current work and any research methods-related concerns in small groups, in a round table format. Participants in each group (consisting of the authors of 3 to 4 papers with a common theme or methodology) will exchange feedback during this portion of the program. Experienced scholars with expertise in research methods will facilitate each group discussion. Immediately following the paper development session, a panel of research methods scholars will discuss important aspects of the research process, including study design, data analysis, and common methodological challenges. A Q&A session will follow. →

What's in a Word? A Discussion of the Benefits and Drawbacks of Computer Aided Content Analysis
(Panel, IG&C Sunday, Wednesday, Oct. 21. 15:00 - 16:00 UTC)

Chair:
Jason Ridge (University of Arkansas)

Panel:
Daniel Gamache (University of Georgia)
Amy Ingram (Clemson University)
Jason Kiley (Oklahoma State University)
Oleg Petrenko (University of Arkansas)
Jeremy Short (University of North Texas)

This session seeks to encourage a discussion on practical issues related to measurement utilizing computer aided content analysis. Our panelists have published extensively utilizing content analysis and share a common interest in understanding how words provide important insight into executive personality and decision making. Their combined experiences have provided them with lessons regarding the benefits and drawbacks of content analysis as well as practical experience regarding building and defining construct dictionaries. Because of this, our panelists will share their different experiences and together reflect on the practical benefits and tradeoffs that come with measurement using content analysis. We conclude by identifying promising avenues for research utilizing content analysis and with a a discussion about how to bridge from content analysis to dynamic theory.
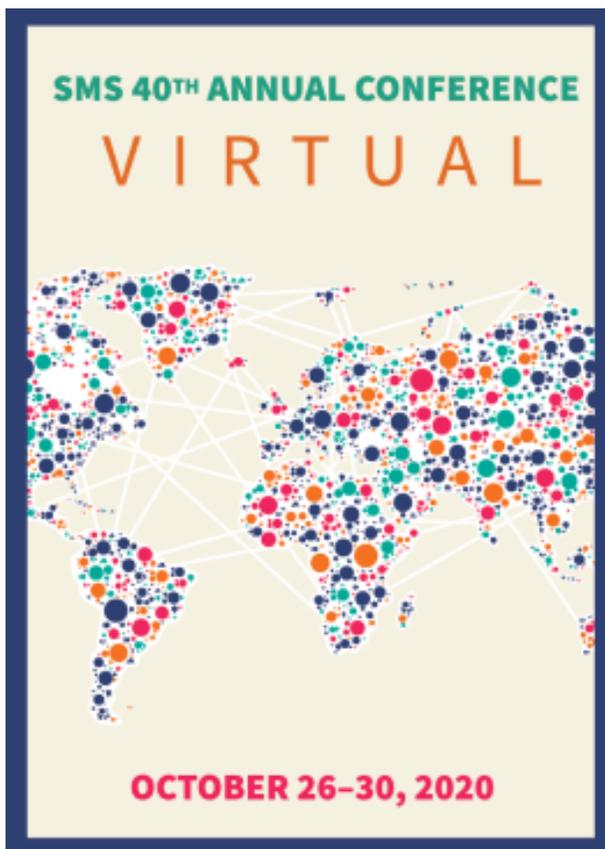
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Unlocking the Black Box: Using Multiple Methods and Data Sources to Examine New Questions in Strategic Decision Making (Panel, IG&C Sunday, Sunday, Oct. 25. 16:30 - 17:30 UTC) [jointly with Tracks O and P]

Chair:
Tessa Recendes (Penn State University)

Panel:
Federico Aime (Oklahoma State University)
Vibha Gaba (INSEAD)
Melissa Graebner (University of Illinois)
Rhonda Reger (University of North Texas)
Libby Weber (University of California, Irvine)
Maurizio Zollo (Imperial College London)

SMS 40TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
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A common critique of behavioral, governance, and strategic leadership research is the inability to get inside the "black box" of strategic decision making. Unlocking the "black box" is essential for improving the insights of our research and its impact. In this session, we will focus on how multiple methods and data sources can be paired together to open the "black box" and provide more impactful insights from our research. The use of multiple methods and data sources can power novel insights in behavioral, governance, and strategic leadership research. Rather than provide a how-to guide for these new approaches, the focus of this session will be a discussion on the new frontiers of strategic decisions making, pairing different approaches, and asking better questions.

Main Conference Program

Session 1766 - Re-integration of History in Strategy Research
Tuesday, Oct. 27. 12:00 - 13:00 (UTC)

Organizer:
Sandeep Pillai (Bocconi University)

Panelists:
Brent Goldfarb (University of Maryland)
Michael G. Jacobides (London Business School)
Mairi Maclean (University of Bath)
Paul Nightingale (University of Sussex)
Mary Tripsas (Boston College)

Recent special issues in leading management journals that focus on the use of historical methods are a testament to the renewed attention that history is receiving from the management research community. However, despite these promising developments, even though Strategy scholars admit that 'History Matters,' there remains significant ambiguity about how scholars can engage with history to produce knowledge that is generally recognized as contributing to the broader field of Strategic Management. What are the next steps? The purpose of this panel is to have leading scholars reflect on the consistent themes in the use of history, highlight novel uses of history in publications, discuss future opportunities that Strategy scholars using history may focus on, and share thoughts on the ongoing role of history in Strategy.

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Session 1765 - Empirics of Association and Causation
Wednesday, Oct. 28. 13:45 - 14:45 (UTC)

A True Causal Inference? Using the Difference-in-differences Estimator in Strategic Management Research
Chi Hon Li, Texas A&M University; Michael Withers, Texas A&M University; Trevis Certo, Arizona State University

How Rare is Rare? How Common is Common? Empirical Issues with Skewed Binary Outcome Distributions
Hyun-Soo Woo, University of Mississippi; John Berns, University of Mississippi; Pol Solanelles, University of Mississippi

Enhancing Strategy Research with Bayesian Methods: The Case of Panel Data
Trevis Certo, Arizona State University; Latifa Albader, Arizona State University; Kristen Raney, Arizona State University

The Potential of Cross-Study Replications in Qualitative Research
Tine Köhler, University of Melbourne; Maria Rumyantseva, University of Sydney; Catherine Welch, University of Sydney

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Session 1767- Measurement...Measurement...Measurement Friday, Oct. 30. 13:45 - 14:45 (UTC) [jointly with Track I]

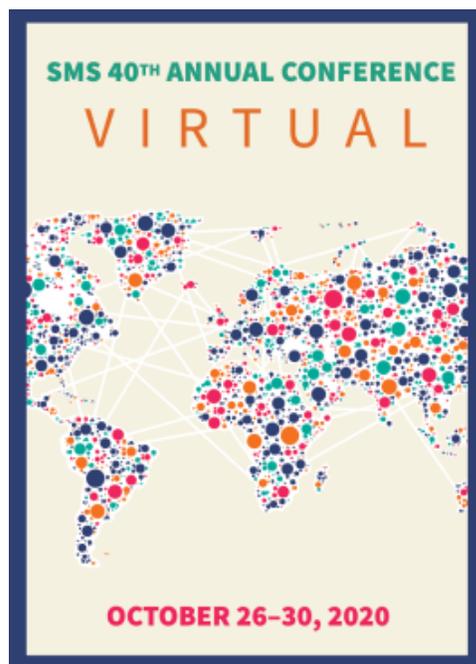Mapping Patent Usage in Management Research: The State of Prior Art
Jeffrey Savage, University of South Carolina; Donald Hatfield, Virginia Tech; Laura B. Cardinal, University of South Carolina; Mengge Li, University of Texas at El Paso; Scott Turner, University of South Carolina

Postwar Railroad Productivity Measurement: Refining the Statistical Analysis
Robert Reynolds, Brattle Group; Sarah Wolfolds, Cornell University
The Technological Impact of Patent Classes (TIPC) Index
Thomas Craig, DeSales University

Advancing Research on Organizational Culture: Interpreting Topic Models Using Prototypical Text
Arianna Marchetti, INSEAD

SMS 40TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
V I R T U A L
OCTOBER 26–30, 2020

Session 1700 - Humans and Machines that Search [jointly with Tracks P and R]
Thursday, Oct. 29. 13:45-14:45 (UTC)

Resource Shocks and Organizational Search: The Role of Managerial Experience
Petteri Leppänen, Imperial College London; J.P. Eggers, New York University

AI Tools in Strategic Search: Alleviating and Aggravating Local Search
Jane Seppälä, Aalto University; Timo Vuori, Aalto University

Humans vs. Machines: Human Cognition and Computational Modeling to Study Learning from Experience
Aleks Rebeka, Franklin & Marshall College; Luke Belge, Franklin & Marshall College

A Behavioral Perspective of Search in Nonprofit Organizations: How Programmatic Performance Drives Fundraising Efforts
Horacio Rousseau, Florida State University; Pascual Berrone, IESE Business School

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Session 1853 - Artificial Intelligence in Action [jointly with Tracks C and R]
Monday, Oct. 26. 12:00 - 13:00 (UTC)

The End of Heterogeneity? Artificial Intelligence, Human Capabilities, and Behavioral Convergence
Sebastian Krakowski, Stockholm School of Economics; Johannes Luger, Copenhagen Business School; Sebastian Raisch, University of Geneva

What AI Can Decide and Can't: An Explorative Case Study on Smart Hospitals in China
Joachim Timlon, University of Birmingham; Shlomo Tarba, University of Birmingham

The Disappearing Specialists? Role of Emotions and Digital Impression Management in Adoption of AI Technology
Derin Kent, Aalto University; Natalia Vuori, Aalto University; Leena Pitkäranta, Aalto University

Worker Expertise and Quality of Algorithm-assisted Decisions
Ryan Allen, Harvard University

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Session 1826 - Responding to Disruption: Qualitative Studies [jointly with Tracks B and R]
Wednesday, Oct. 28. 12:00 - 13:00 (UTC)

For Who Does the Fat Lady Sing? Disruption in Creative Industries and Becoming "World Class"
Alexander Alexiev, University of Amsterdam; Markus Paukku, University of Amsterdam

Boundary-Making in Platform Ecosystems: An Empirical Study of TripAdvisor
Cristina Alaimo, LUISS University; Annabelle Gawer, University of Surrey; Erika Valderrama, London School of Economics

The Evolution of Mindfulness: the Case of the Large Hadron Collider Breakdown at CERN
Bareerah Hafeez Hoorani, University of Lugano; Michael Gibbert, University of Lugano; Nelson Phillips, Imperial College London

When the Screens Turned Black: Management Cognition and Organizational Resilience in the Face of Cyberattack
Manuel Hepfer, University of Oxford

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Session 1750 - ESG, Measurement, and Performance [jointly with Tracks D, M and R]
Thursday, Oct. 29. 12:00 - 13:00 (UTC)

ESG Performance and Labor Productivity: Exploring Whether and When ESG Affects Firm Performance
Nathan Barrymore, University of Maryland; Rachelle Sampson, University of Maryland

Evidence on Social and Financial Performance: Mapping the Empirical Garden of Forking Paths
Luca Berchicci, Erasmus University Rotterdam; Andrew King, Boston University

Return on Carbon: Profits and Social Costs of Greenhouse Gas Emissions
Angelyn Fairchild, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Olga Hawn, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Enhancing Profits & Reducing Losses by Managing Material Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Factors
James McGlinch, The Wharton School; Witold Henisz, University of Pennsylvania

SMS Research Method Community

Program for 2021 Toronto Conference

Greetings, RMC members!

This is a reminder that proposals are due for the SMS Annual Conference in Toronto by February 24, 2021! Authors will be notified of the review committee decisions by mid-April. The conference itself takes place September 18-21, 2021. In order to help ensure that we can meet the deadline, please sign up to review for the RM Community. If you have reviewed for us before, you will receive an invitation email to agree to review. If you have not reviewed for us before, and would like to, please email me (mwithers@mays.tamu.edu)!

Mike Withers, RMC 2021 Program Chair

Mike Withers
Texas A&M University

Research Methods Track Call for Submissions for SMS 2021

Track R: Research Methods
Track Chair: Mike Withers, Texas A&M University

Strategy scholars often need to apply imagination and creativity in designing and implementing research studies to address complex phenomena such as competitive advantage and firm performance. This year's conference theme allows us to focus on imaginative methodological questions and approaches, as well as on the reassessment of existing approaches to examine research questions in the field of strategic management. We also have the opportunity to consider study design and methodological techniques to examine breakthrough strategies in a discordant world. In part, we seek research and symposia proposals which use imagination to move beyond existing empirical approaches to inspire new insights and perspectives on how organizations can adapt and respond to the various challenges they currently face. Such methodological advances may require leveraging methods from other fields, combining existing methods in new ways, or developing completely new methodological approaches. While we seek proposals pertaining to the conference's theme, we welcome all those that offer new perspectives on advancing research methods within the SMS.

SMS Research Method Community 2020/2021 Team

Chair

Andreas Schwab
Iowa State University

Program Chair

Asli M Arikan
Kent State University

Associate Program Chair

Mike Withers
Texas A&M University

2020 Representatives at Large

Michael Howard
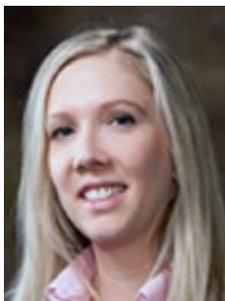Texas A&M University

Jason Ridge
University of Arkansas

Ruifang Wang
Maynooth University

2021 Representatives at Large

Joanna Campbell
University of Cincinnati

Markus Fitza
Frankfurt School of Finance & Management

Tessa Recendes
Pennsylvania State University

Contact Us

*If you have any questions about the Research Method Community
contact Michael (mhoward@mays.tamu.edu) or Tessa (tqr5309@psu.edu)
our member engagement officers.*