

Newsletter

Research Methods Community



Letter from the Chair

Dear Members of the Research Methods Community, welcome to our 2021 newsletter!

Despite the adversities of the COVID-19 pandemic, our community stayed connected through the 2020 Virtual Conference and beyond. We had more than 60 participants in the inaugural 2021 Doctoral and Junior Faculty Consortium organized by Mike Withers (Program Chair) with two Reps-at-Large, Joanne Campbell and Sarah Wolfolds. It was a smashing synchronous online event with great interest and enthusiastic participation. You will find the details of this event in the newsletter. In addition, we plan to make the panelist presentations available online as part of the extensive lineup of new virtual initiatives that we will be introducing.

On behalf of all the officers, I want to express our appreciation for your membership and contributions to the Research Methods Community (RMC). With your help, we will continue to advance research methods and their applications in our field. In 2021, our year-to-date membership increased by 18% to 1,938. I (and hopefully you will also) encourage all Ph.D. students to consider taking advantage of joining the RMC, which is a no-fee privilege with their SMS membership.

The RMC is now in its sixth year. We continue to grow both in membership and activities. In 2020, SMS Research Methods Paper Prize was awarded to Luca Berchicci (Erasmus University Rotterdam) and Andrew King (Boston University) for "Evidence on Social and Financial Performance: Mapping the Empirical Garden of Forking Paths." In addition, co-authors' work by Woo-Yong Park (University of Nevada), Jackson Nickerson (Washington University in St. Louis), and Lyda Bigelow (University of Utah) received honorable mention. Gwen Lee and Don Bergh co-chair this year's selection committee and present the award during the SMS 2021 Virtual Toronto Conference.

We also want to thank all our members who submitted proposals, reviewed proposals, and will serve as session leaders and panelists during the upcoming SMS conference. The RMC program content details are provided in this issue by Mike Withers (Program Chair) and Brent Goldfarb (Associate Program Chair). I want to thank Mike, Brent, and the dedicated Reps-at-Large for their effort in putting the program together for our community.



Asli Musaoglu Arikan
Kent State University

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SMS 2021 Virtual Toronto Conference

I would also like to recognize the officers whose leadership terms are ending. Tessa Recendes (Pennsylvania State University), Joanne Campbell (University of Cincinnati), and Markus Fitza (Frankfurt School of Finance & Management) are completing their terms as Reps-at-Large. We appreciate the work and time that you devoted to the Community. Likewise, my term on the Executive Board of the Community is also ending. I am grateful for the privilege and honor to serve the RMC for its continued development and growth during the last three years.

Looking ahead, the 2022 leadership team consists of Mike Withers (Community Chair), Brent Goldfarb (Program Chair), Radina R. Blagoeva, Sheryl Winston Smith, and Sarah Wolfolds (Reps-at-Large). Hence, we have an experienced and highly motivated team in place. In addition, in November, you will have the opportunity to elect a new Associate Program Chair and three new Reps-at-Large. Please reach out to us if you are interested in these leadership opportunities to serve the RMC.

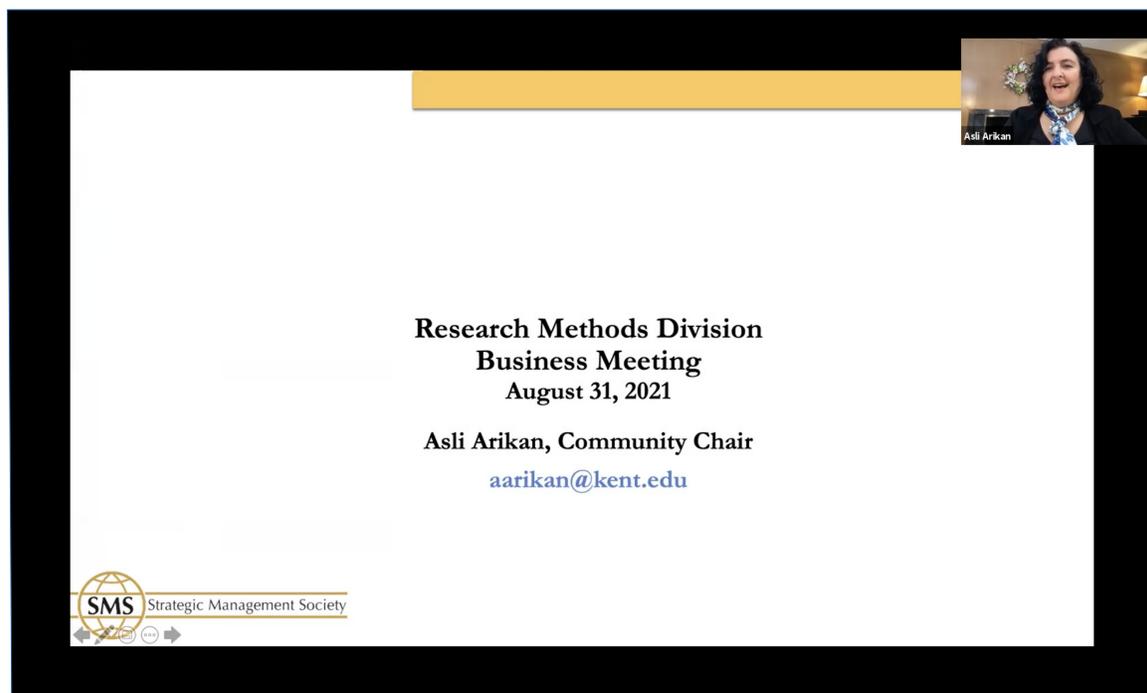
In this newsletter, you will find information about our program for the virtual conference, off-conference events, and the 2022 call for proposals.

In closing, I want to emphasize that the RMC belongs to all its members. We aim to create a vibrant, active, and connected virtual community as part of the planned SMS Membership Circle with the new set of initiatives. To this end, we would like to get your feedback with a member survey to help us serve your needs as best as we can. Please take time to fill out the survey promptly when you receive it in a separate email. We will share the findings online. I enthusiastically encourage you to contribute your ideas, feedback, and support to advance research methods in our field by participating in the RMC virtual community that will soon be launched as part of the SMS's virtual platform.

On behalf of the leadership team,

Asli Musaoglu Arikan

If you did not have the chance to join our business meeting, please use the opportunity to watch it online via [this link](#).



The image shows a screenshot of a virtual meeting slide. In the top right corner, there is a small video feed of Asli Arikan, a woman with dark hair, wearing a dark top and a patterned scarf. The main content of the slide is centered and reads: **Research Methods Division**, **Business Meeting**, **August 31, 2021**, **Asli Arikan, Community Chair**, and aarikan@kent.edu. In the bottom left corner, there is a logo for the Strategic Management Society (SMS) with the text "SMS Strategic Management Society" and a globe icon.

SMS 2021 Virtual Toronto Conference

Program Chair Highlights

Thanks to everyone who submitted their scholarly work, organized panels and professional development workshops, volunteered as reviewers, and will participate at the conference as presenters, panelists, and facilitators to make this year's virtual program a success! For the SMS 41st Annual Conference, the RMC received 18 submissions that received at least two reviews from 28 reviewers.

The RMC was allocated four program slots in the competitive program. In a joint session with the Strategic Leadership & Governance Interest Group, Panel Session 1918 brings together leading scholars who will discuss addressing endogeneity concerns using hands-on examples from the field of corporate governance and strategic leadership. Panel Session 1917 brings together an expert panel to discuss the empirical, theoretical, and practical challenges and opportunities that derive from the research context of COVID-19 for strategy research.

We also have two paper sessions with eight paper proposals that followed the conference theme of applying imagination and creativity within the context of research methods. Session 2051 includes four proposals that offer novel methodological approaches and techniques regarding a diverse group of topics including the measurement of media coverage, the application of artificial intelligence to entrepreneurship research, simulated data in network analysis, and topical modeling in management research. Session 2052 includes four papers the seek to advance our understanding of causal identification in the context of sample selection models, the differences-in-differences design, panel regression, and matched-samples meta-analysis.

In addition to the main program, Brent Goldfarb (The University of Maryland), the Associate Program Chair, has put together an interesting and engaging pre-conference program.

We look forward to this year's conference with its focus on imagination and inspiration and the opportunity for the RMC program to contribute with a variety of sessions on methodological approaches and advancements.



Mike Withers
Texas A&M University



SMS 2021 Virtual Toronto Conference

Pre-Conference Program

Methodological Frontiers: Leveraging New Methods and Data Sources

(September 18, 2021 from 10:00h - 13:00h EDT)

Panelists:

Denisa Mindruta (HEC)
Hong Luo (Harvard University)
Giada DiStefano (Bocconi University)
Dan Elfenbein (Washington University in St. Louis)
Evan Starr (University of Maryland)

Breakthroughs occur when the boundaries of current knowledge are pushed. In this workshop, we will focus on how new methods and data can push the frontier of strategy research to generate novel insights.

Part A: Panel Discussion

(open to all participants)

Panelists will share insights on publishing research using frontier methodologies. What challenges have they faced from editors and reviewers? How have they dealt with these challenges? What are the advantages in pushing frontier methodologies into “mainstream” strategy research? In the second portion, panelists will address the idea of what kinds of questions can be answered with frontier methods and what are the limitations.

- Publishing at the Frontiers— Authors and editors who have successfully published with frontier methodologies discuss their experience of getting their papers published
- Methodological Frontiers: Leveraging New Methods and Data Sources — what questions can we answer with frontier methods and what are the limitations? How do they see these approaches advancing going forward, i.e., how are the frontiers evolving?



Part B: Round Tables

(application required)

Participants will discuss their research and interests with panelists in roundtables. The roundtables will provide participants the opportunity to gain personalized feedback on their research ideas from faculty panelists. Participants will be asked to submit short abstracts of their ideas or questions prior to the workshop. Potential Round table topics include: Method specific table topics (i.e. machine learning, simulations, etc.), Research design with “frontier” methods, Publishing on the frontiers and navigating the R&R process Going on the market with frontier methods: the opportunities and pitfalls.

ORGANIZERS



Sheryl Winston Smith
BI Norwegian Business School



Tessa Recendes
Pennsylvania State University



Brent Goldfarb
University of Maryland

SMS 2021 Virtual Toronto Conference

Pre-Conference Program

Best Practices for Reliable Quantitative Research in Strategy

(September 18, 2021 from 14:15h - 17:15h EDT)

Panelists:

Rajshree Agrawal (University of Maryland)
Gary Dushnitsky (London Business School)
Alfonso Gambardella (Bocconi University)
Dan Levinthal (University of Pennsylvania)

Speakers:

Andrew King (Boston University)
Giada DiStefano (Bocconi University)
Brent Goldfarb (University of Maryland)
Sandeep Pillai (Bocconi University)
Hyunjin Kim (INSEAD)
Thomaz Teodorovicz (Harvard University)

It is common for researchers in strategy to iterate between theory and data to arrive at hypotheses, as researchers refine ideas, understanding of samples, and measurement. However, these results are often presented as tests of theories even though the iterative research distorts p-values and standard errors. This PDW explores why this is a problem and then explores solutions. We then consider how to restructure and publish papers in a way that more accurately maps to implemented research processes and removes pressure to make hypotheses “work”. Journal editors Rajshree Agrawal (Strategic Management Journal), Gary Dushnitsky (Strategic Entrepreneurship Journal), Alfonso Gambardella (Management Science), and Dan Levinthal (Strategy Science) will discuss editorial policies towards explicitly abductive work. The PDW will conclude with two “transition showcases” where authors report on rewriting their papers for a post-hypothesis world.

ORGANIZERS



Brent Goldfarb
University of Maryland



Sarah Wolfolds
Cornell University



Structure:

Part 1

- The problem: Why hypothetical-deduction is hard (Brent Goldfarb)
- Solution 1: Replication and Experiments (Giada DiStefano)
- Solution 2: Epistemic Mapping (Andrew King)
- Solution 3: Abduction & Inference to the Best Explanation (Sandeep Pillai)
- Implementation: Writing Veridically (Brent Goldfarb).

Part 2: Editors' Panel

Part 3: Restructured Paper Showcase

Two authors (Hyunjin Kim & Thomaz Teodorovicz) will discuss their journey reorganizing a paper from the traditional Hypothesis-Theory testing structure to a structure that more closely maps their true research process. Each segment will include Q&A.

SMS 2021 Virtual Toronto Conference

Pre-Conference Program

Session 1946 - Evidence and Practice: How do and when should academic publications influence practice?

(September 19, 2021 from 10:00h - 11:15h EDT)

Panelists:

Jon Eckhardt (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
Yael Hochberg (Rice University)

What is the role of academic research on decision making in practice. This panel asks how publications and academic work gets translated into practice at Amazon, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, and in entrepreneurial finance. Panelists will consider challenges in translating published results into decision-making in practice, and how published output is weighed against other sorts of evidence. Panelists will consider how we might best organize our work and activities to influence practice and our responsibilities as academics in doing so.

Conference Program

Session 1918 - Addressing Endogeneity in Strategic Leadership and Governance Research

(September 19, 2021 from 13:00h - 14:15h EDT)

Organizers:

Ilaria Orlandi (Erasmus University Rotterdam)
Radina R. Blagoeva (University of Georgia)

Panelists:

Trevis Certo (Arizona State University)
Scott Johnson (Iowa State University)
Aleksandra Kacperczyk (London Business School)
Mingxiang Li (Florida Atlantic University)



Endogeneity is one of the main threats to causal claims in strategic management research. Despite the growing number of methodological resources addressing endogeneity and scholars' growingly awareness of the problems associated with endogeneity, the way in which endogeneity is currently treated in management research can still greatly benefit from the most current recommended practices. The panelists in this session will illustrate how they have dealt with endogeneity and the remedies they used with some hands-on examples from the field of corporate governance and strategic leadership. The audience members will be able to ask questions about endogeneity and its remedies. This session aims to highlight some promising techniques to deal with it, and be a stepping stone to suggest the areas that might need further developments.

SMS 2021 Virtual Toronto Conference

Conference Program

Session 2051 - Novel methodological approaches and techniques

(September 19, 2021 from 14:30h - 15:45h EDT)

Sessions facilitator:

Joel Andrus (University of Missouri)

A New Approach to Measuring Media Coverage

Farhan Iqbal, University of Georgia; Michael Pfarrer, University of Georgia

Artificial Intelligence in Entrepreneurship Research: New Opportunities to Operationalize Passion and Deceit in Pitch Presentations

Andreas Schwab, Iowa State University; Jake Telkamp, Iowa State University; Jose Beltran, Iowa State University; Yanjinlkhamb Shuumarjav, Iowa State University

The Red or the Blue Pill? A Case for Simulated Data in Organizational Network Research

Ivan Belik, Norwegian School of Economics; Prasanta Bhattacharya, National University of Singapore; Eirik Sjøholm Knudsen, Norwegian School of Economics

Developing an Integrated Approach for Topic Modeling in Management Research

Raphael Derstappen, WHU - Otto Beisheim School of Management; Dries Faems, WHU Otto Beisheim School of Management

Session 1917 - Research design and the problem of inference from extreme events

(September 20, 2021 from 13:00h - 14:15h EDT)

Organizers:

Sandeep Pillai (Bocconi University)



Panelists:

Trevis Certo (Arizona State University)

David Kirsch (University of Maryland)

Randall Morck (University of Alberta)

J Myles Shaver (University of Minnesota)

Jason Snyder (University of Utah)

Another panel session about Covid-19? Yes, but this one will be different. Strategy scholars are expected to use Covid-19 in empirical analysis in a variety of ways. Some studies will use Covid-19 to help us explore topics we have already studied but in more depth (e.g., changing knowledge flows in organizations or the fate of regional agglomerations). Doing so will require new empirical designs that use Covid-19-derived variables as instruments or controls (e.g., flight enplanements between two cities or countries). However, the ubiquitous use of Covid-19-derived variables may present analytic challenges to scholars. The purpose of this panel is to have experts share their thoughts on the empirical, theoretical, and practical challenges and opportunities that the use of Covid-19-derived variables presents for Strategy scholars.

SMS 2021 Virtual Toronto Conference

Conference Program

Session 2052 - Advances in causal identification

(September 21, 2021 from 13:00h - 14:15h EDT)

Sessions facilitator:

Sarah Wolfolds (Cornell University)

Sample Selection Models with Unknown Exclusion Restrictions

Helmut Farbmacher, Max Planck Society

Towards Temporal Causal Inference: A Review of Differences-in-Differences Applications in Strategic Management

Jin-Su Kang, National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University; Yi-Chieh Chen, National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University; Nabangshu Sinha, National Chiao Tung University

Broken Effects? How to Reduce False Positives in Panel Regressions

Phebo Wibbens, INSEAD; Xina Li, INSEAD

Using Matched-Samples Meta-Analysis to Advance Theory: Guidelines and An Empirical Illustration

Wenjie Liu, Erasmus University Rotterdam; Pursey Heugens, Erasmus University Rotterdam

Thank You!

The Co-Chairs of the SMS Research Methods Paper Prize, Gwen Lee and Don Bergh, would like to thank the following scholars that reviewed papers nominated for this year's Prize. The winning papers will be announced during the Conference.



Tejaswi Ajit
Asli Arikan
Ilgaz Arikan
Luca Berchicci
Lyda Bigelow
Radina Blagoeva
Steven Boivie
Brian Boyd
Philip Bromiley
John Busenbark
Heejung Byun
Joanna Campbell
Albert Cannella Jr
Kevin Corley
Erwin Danneels

Urs Daellenbach
Markus Fitza
Brent Goldfarb
Vishal Gupta
Eugene Hahn
Suho Han
Michael Howard
Scott Johnson
Lisa Lambert
Sheen Levine
Aaron McKenny
Philipp Meyer-Doyle
Jose Molina-Azorin
Emily Cox Pahnke
Sheela Pandey

Sandeep Pillai
Timothy Quigley
Ram Ranganathan
Tessa Recendes
Andreas Schwab
Matthew Semadeni
Sheryl Winston Smith
Timo Sohl
Florenta Teodoridis
Marco Testoni
Margarethe Wiersema
Michael Withers
Robert Wiseman
Sarah Wolfolds

Off-conference Activities

Research Methods Community 2021 Doctoral Student and Junior Faculty Consortium

The RMC offered its inaugural Doctoral Student and Junior Faculty Consortium in the spring of 2021. The consortium provided students and junior faculty with a learning opportunity to focus on research design and empirical methodological approaches. 59 participants attended the virtual sessions held across three Fridays this past April. With support from Robin Chan at the SMS Office, the consortium was organized by Joanna Campbell and Mike Withers with earlier contributions from Jason Ridge during his tenure as a Rep-at-Large.

Panelists for the consortium included leading scholars in research methods from across the SMS community. The session topics included:

- 1) research agenda and empirical design,
- 2) best practices in empirical research with a focus on endogeneity, and
- 3) job market and empirical papers.

The expert panels included Andreas Schwab, Brent Goldfarb, Asli Arikan, Aaron Hill, Sarah Wolfolds, John Busenbark, Radina Blagoeva, DJ Schepker, and Bert Cannella. The sessions were facilitated by Markus Fitza, Tessa Recendes, and Sheryl Winston Smith, respectively.

Thanks to our panelists, facilitators, and participants who made the consortium such a great success!

Program for 2022 SMS London Conference

Greetings, RMC members!

This is a reminder that proposals are due for the SMS Annual Conference in London by February 21, 2022! Authors will be notified of the review committee decisions by mid-April. The conference itself takes place September 17-20, 2022. 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 (brentg@umd.edu)!



Brent Goldfarb
University of Maryland



Track R: Research Methods

Track Chair: Brent Goldfarb

There have been many calls for transparency in both qualitative and quantitative empirical methodologies in Strategic Management Research. The “Open World” theme fits into more general ideas about how we report our research results and how we assure reliability and reproducibility. While all papers that have important methods contributions relevant to strategy will be welcome, we particularly encourage papers or sessions that consider the pros and cons of transparency in strategy research, the impact of greater transparency in strategy research, and empirical and/or reporting innovations that facilitate greater transparency in methods and results.

SMS Research Methods Community Team

Chair



Asli M Arikan
Kent State University

Program Chair



Mike Withers
Texas A&M University

Associate Program Chair



Brent Goldfarb
University of Maryland

Reps-at-Large 2021



Joanna Campbell
University of Cincinnati



Tessa Recendes
Pennsylvania State University



Markus Fitza
*Frankfurt School of
Finance & Management*

Reps-at-Large 2022



Sarah Wolfolds
Cornell University



Sheryl Winston Smith
BI Norwegian Business School



Radina R Blagoeva
University of Georgia

Student Ambassadors



Shuo Yang
Kent State University



Kathryn Moore
University of Georgia

If you have any questions about the Research Methods Community contact our member engagement officers Tessa (tqr5309@psu.edu) or Sheryl (sheryl.w.smith@bi.no).