

1st Meeting of the Research Network



Field-Configuring Events: Time, Space and Relations

Welcoming Remarks

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Session 1: Introduction (9.00-11.45)

- Why are we here?
- What are we doing?
- Where are we?
- What will we do today?

- Who are you and why are you interested in FCEs?

- Joint discussion of Lampel/Meyer 2008

- *Coffee break*

- Opening keynote: Anand Narasimhan

Why are we here?



„Scientific Networks“ are a program of the German Research Foundation (DFG) with the aims to

- “offer young researchers the opportunity to engage in scientific exchange and cooperation on topics of common interest” and
- “strengthen the ties to the international research community”.

- Various (partly joint) research projects on FCEs by members of the network and previous workshops, e.g. with Joe Lampel at FU
- Different disciplines interested in the same phenomenon
- Previous very positive experience with such a network > Gordon’s idea to apply for funding for a network on FCEs!

What are we doing? (1)

➤ Three main aims

- *Theoretical*: developing the conceptual foundation of FCEs and their impact on organizations and organizational fields through interdisciplinary exchange
 - Comparing different types of events in different field contexts
 - Comparing different processes and mechanisms of field configuration
 - Exploring new types of events
- *Methodological*: Exploring different (and new) ways of researching FCEs
 - Unexplored types of qualitative/quantitative longitudinal/cross-sectional data
 - Possibilities for ethnographic research
- *Personal*: sharing, discussing and developing our research on FCEs

What are we doing? (2)

➤ Three guiding themes and exemplary research questions

Time

- Which temporal dimensions are relevant for distinguishing different types of FCEs with different (short-term, long-term) outcomes or effects?
- How can the temporality (temporal limitation, singular or periodic occurrence, etc.) of FCEs be empirically examined and methodologically used?

Space

- How are FCEs spatially positioned and designed? Which spatial aspects influence the outcomes/effects of FCEs?
- How can the spatial boundedness of FCEs be used methodologically and, at the same time, how can their „unbounded“ effects be empirically examined?

Relations

- What are the relational effects of single FCEs and how do these outlive the events? How do different events interact in producing relational effects?
- How can social network analysis or similar research methods be applied to examine which relational effects of FCEs?

Where are we?

- Freie Universität Berlin founded in 1948 as a counterpoint to the Soviet-influenced Berliner Universität (since 1949 Humboldt-Universität) in the buildings of the former *Kaiser Wilhelm Society for the Advancement of Science (KWG)*
- Building at Boltzmannstr. 20 was built in 1936 and used as *the Kaiser-Wilhelm-Institute for Physics* between 1937-1943
 - Founded in 1917 with Albert Einstein as first Director, located in Einstein's private flat
 - Since 1930 supported by the Rockefeller foundation, Einstein emigrated in 1933
 - 1938 discovery of nuclear fission by Otto Hahn and Fritz Straßmann at the *Kaiser-Wilhelm-Institute for Chemistry* (around the corner)
 - 1939 after the war acquisition of the KWI for Physics by the *Waffenamt* (German Army Weapons Agency) with Otto Hahn and Werner Heisenberg (Universität Leipzig) as research directors
 - 1942 Werner Heisenberg called as Director of the KWI for Physics
 - 1942/43 building of a bunker laboratory for the German nuclear energy project, now the FUB library archive
 - 1944 the KWI for Physics moves to Hechingen (Baden Württemberg), the buildings at Boltzmannstr. go to the Berlin water supply company
 - Since 1949 used by FUB



What will we do today?

- Agenda – cf. handouts
- Practical information
- Main aim: understanding our respective perspectives on FCEs and developing a shared understanding of events and research avenues



Martin Klimas, Untitled

from the series „Sonic Sculptures“; here: Miles Davies, Pharaohs Dance

Who are you and why are you interested in FCEs?

Joint discussion of Lampel/Meyer (2008)

- Definition of FCEs
- Underlying theoretical framework
- Types of FCEs and outcomes
- FCEs as middle-range mechanisms
- Intentionality vs. unpredictability
- Different field contexts, temporal dynamics
- FCEs as products and drivers of field evolution
- Methodological advantages
- ...

Opening Keynote: Prof. Anand Narasimhan, Phd

- Shell Professor of Global Leadership at IMD Lausanne
- Associate fellow of the Novak Druce Centre for Professional Service Firms at Said Business School, Oxford University
- Past positions/visiting appointments: London Business School, Imperial College Business School (London, UK), Indian School of Business (Hyderabad, India), Vanderbilt Owen Graduate School of Management (Nashville, USA)
- PhD in Management from Vanderbilt University (Nashville, USA)
- MBA in Human Resource Management from XLRI (Jamshedpur, India)
- Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Birla Institute of Technology and Science (Pilani, India)
- Author of numerous publications on issues such as institutional change, organization design and social networks in journals such as Academy of Management Journal, Annual Review of Sociology, or Organization Science

Session 2: Different types of events (11.45-15.15)

- Joachim Thiel: The London Olympics
- Bastian Lange: Micro-events in creative industries
- *Lunch break*
- Second Keynote: Dominic Power

Second Keynote: Prof. Dominic Power, Phd

- Professor in Economic Geography at Uppsala Universitet
- Professor II at The Eastern Norwegian Research Institute, Lillehammer, Norway
- Board Member of the Swedish Arts Grants Committee and of the Swedish Government Council for Creative and Cultural Industries
- Past positions: University of Nottingham, UK and University of Durham, UK
- D.Phil. in Geography. School of Geography, University of Oxford
- M.Phil. in Politics, University of Oxford
- First Class Honours (Double First) BA Degree in Political Science and Sociology Trinity College Dublin, University of Dublin, Ireland
- Author of numerous publications on cultural industries, regional clusters, industrial transformation and innovation, and creative business practice in journals such as Economic Geography, Regional Studies, Human Geography, European Planning Studies, Economic Sociology, or Industry & Innovation

Session 3: Disciplinary perspectives (15.15-17.00)

- Guido Möllering: FCEs and institutional work/institutional theory
- *Coffee break*
- Katharina Hölzle: Events and innovation research

Session 4: Event outcomes and closing (17.00-18.30)

- Short comments by Uli Meyer, Simone Schiller-Merkens, Constanze Engelbrecht, Gordon Müller-Seitz
- Joint discussion
- Wrap up, next steps

What will we do next?

- Meeting in Hamburg
 - Confirm dates: October 24-25
 - Keynote speakers: Tor Hernes, Gernot Grabher, possibly André Spicer
 - ...
- Jesper Strandgaard tentatively confirmed for 4th meeting
- Ideas for developing the Wiki (<http://wikis.fu-berlin.de/display/fce>)
 - Uploading papers, CfP,...
 - ...
- Special issue at Industry & Innovation on „Field-Configuring Events as Arenas for Innovation and Learning”, submission deadline: October 1, 2013
- Members of the network: please fill in reimbursement forms and leave receipts



...and now off to dinner, thank you for
being here!

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