



Organizations in Time: History, Theory, Methods

By Marcelo Bucheli, R. Daniel Wadhwani

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Why does history matter to our understanding of management, organizations, and markets? What theoretical insights can it offer into organizational processes? How can scholars use historical sources and methods to address research questions in management and organization studies?

This book brings together leading organization scholars and business historians to examine the opportunities and challenges of incorporating historical research into the study of firms and markets. It examines the reasons for the growing interest in historically grounded research in management departments and business schools, and considers both the intellectual and practical questions the endeavour faces. The volume is divided into three parts. The first part, *History and Organization Theory*, considers the relationship between historical reasoning and key theoretical schools of organizational thought, including institutional theory, evolutionary theory, and critical theory. The second part, *Actors and Markets*, considers how historical perspective can provide researchers with insights into organizational change, entrepreneurial processes, industry emergence, and the co-evolution of states and markets. In the final section, *Sources and Methods*, the contributors explicate historical methodologies within the context of other approaches to studying organizations and provide concrete suggestions for researchers in the field. The introduction contextualizes these issues within the broader context of developments in the fields of business history and organization studies, and orients readers to the 'future of the past in management and organization studies.'

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Editorial Review

Review

"Organizations in Time is a book that organizational theorists and business historians have dreamed about for decades... For those doctoral students in management (and their advisers) who want to engage with historical analysis, there is no better source than this insightful volume on the theory, logic, and practice of institutional history. It is not only destined to be a classic but, even more important, a constant, dog-eared reference sitting on the shelf above many desks." --Christopher McKenna, Reader in Business History & Strategy Saïd Business School, University of Oxford

"This is a timely book. In a world that is growing ever more complex, we realize the shortcomings of the decontextualized tools associated with mainstream management knowledge and practice. As we stand in the midst of an economic and financial crisis with potentially major consequences, it is clear that we need other lenses to understand and navigate our stormy world. Bringing history back in is one of the most promising paths to follow. What we need, and what this volume provides, is an outline for the 'future of the past in management and organization studies.' It is bound to become a reference for years to come." --Marie-Laure Djelic, Professor, ESSEC Business School, Director, Center on Capitalism, Globalization, and Governance

"An outstanding exploration of the gap between institutional history and organizational and managerial studies of modern business. The contributors deftly probe the philosophical and methodological differences and develop an excellent case for bringing business history and behavioral analyses into mutually beneficial relationships. Should be required reading for scholars and students on both sides of this academic watershed." --Lou Galambos, Professor of Business and Economic History, Johns Hopkins University

"... provocative and needed state-of-the-art essays on how to combine past and present in the best business history scholarship." --Paul M. Hirsch, James Allen Professor of Strategy & Organization, Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University

About the Author

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Marcelo Bucheli is Associate Professor of Business and History at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He was a visiting scholar at the Ecole Polytechnique (Paris) in 2013 and held the Harvard-Newcomen fellowship in business history at Harvard Business School in 2004-2005. He earned his PhD in

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R. Daniel Wadhwani is Fletcher Jones Associate Professor of Entrepreneurship and Management at the University of the Pacific. He has held visiting positions at Copenhagen Business School (Denmark), the University of Toulouse (France), and Zhejiang University (China), and was the 2003 Harvard-Newcomen fellow in business history at Harvard Business School. He earned his PhD from University of Pennsylvania and his BA from Yale University, both in history. He has published in leading journals in both business history and management and his work has won the Henrietta Larson Award in business history and the Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice Best Conceptual Paper Award, among other recognitions.

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