

**BAM2020 Conference 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> September, University of Manchester (Alliance Manchester Business School), Manchester, United Kingdom**

**Track:** Management and Business History

**Track Chairs:** James Fowler, University of Essex [James.Fowler@essex.ac.uk](mailto:James.Fowler@essex.ac.uk)

Roy Edwards, University of Southampton [r.a.edwards@soton.ac.uk](mailto:r.a.edwards@soton.ac.uk)

**Track description:** This track encourages the growing number of management and business historians who work in business schools and social science departments to engage in constructive debate with a wide range of management scholars. The 2020 conference theme, 'Innovating for a Sustainable Future', is a superb opportunity to explore the value of historical study for current management. In this track we specialize in chronologically or longitudinally motivated research. Histories of organizations, industries and institutions give us the opportunity to understand how managers have innovated in the past. Longitudinal studies reveal how sustainable, or not, those innovations were and detailed archival records cast light on why that was.

We welcome papers, symposia or workshop proposals either using new and innovative methodologies or applying archival methodology to a new disciplinary context. We are also interested in context specific papers using more traditional historical methodology but which take innovative approaches to relate their findings to wider social science concerns. In addition, we appreciate papers dealing with the legacy of uncertainty in the past in business and management more generally, and how it has influenced the diversity of experience in present day businesses, regions and communities. This year, while the main conference theme ought to feature prominently in all submissions, we encourage cross-disciplinary papers and workshop submissions that link different Tracks.

As a group we are inherently multi-disciplinary and believe in the application of theory to historical analysis, and there is no single epistemology for approaching this. We aim to encourage theoretically orientated social science history with a clear relationship to present day debates in the management discipline. Contributions might focus on but are not limited to: the economic or social history of business, historical case studies for theory building, theoretical contributions on the relevance of history to management studies, the uses of history, history as a method for management studies. Please note that while we are open-minded work not featuring a historical dimension, broadly defined, will not be accepted.

This editorial is a useful point of reference:

Tennent, K.D., 2018. Guest editorial. *Journal of Management History*, 24(2), pp.122-127.

These articles offer commentary on the 'dual integrity' of business history methods as a combination of social science and historical craft:

Decker, S., Usidken, B., Egnwall, L. & Rowlinson, M. 2018. Special issue introduction: Historical research on institutional change. *Business History*, 60(5). pp613-627.

Maclean, M., Harvey, C. and Clegg, S.R., 2016. Conceptualizing historical organization studies. *Academy of Management Review*, 41(4), pp.609-632.

Rowlinson, M., Hassard, J. & Decker, S. 2014. Research Strategies for Organisational History: A Dialogue between Historical Theory and Organisation Theory. *Academy of Management Review*, 39(3), pp250–274

Some theoretical and empirical examples of the genre of work that we seek to welcome include:

Turner, D., & Tennent, K. 2019. Progressive Strategies of Municipal Trading: The policies of the London County Council Tramways c. 1891-1914 *Business History*, 1-25.

Gillett, A. & Tennent, K. 2018. Shadow hybridity and the institutional logic of professional sport: Perpetuating a sporting business in times of rapid social and economic change. *Journal of Management History*, 24(2), pp.228-259.

Gillett, A. & Tennent, K. 2017. Dynamic Sublimes, Changing Plans, and the Legacy of a Megaproject: The case of the 1966 Soccer World Cup. *Project Management Journal*. 48(6), pp. 93- 116.

Hamilton, S. 2016. Revisiting the History of Agribusiness, *Business History Review* 90, pp541-545.

Mollan, S. & Tennent, K. 2015. International taxation and corporate strategy: evidence from British overseas business, circa 1900–1965. *Business History*, 57(7), pp.1054-1081.

Edwards, R., & Gandy, A. 2014. Navigating the M-form: product scope review and the development of the General Electric computer department. *Business History*, 56(8), pp1361-1379.