The Critical and Historical Perspectives (CHP) Group was established in 2012 to provide a forum and focus for researchers across the School who take these perspectives, and to develop the national and international profile and network of such work.

Theme Group Leader: Professor Christopher Grey


The CHP continued to attract new members during the year and currently has about 40% of School of Management faculty affiliated with it. It is particularly encouraging that there are now group members who are leading initiatives within the group. The Research Committee’s survey showed the group to have the highest levels of attendance (47 respondents came to one or more event), membership (34 respondents considered themselves members) and relevance to interests (34 respondents considered it central [18] or relevant [16]) of all the theme groups. The survey also showed that 32 out of 41 who expressed an opinion rated the leadership of the group excellent, and 39 out 41 excellent or very good and again this was higher than for any other group.

Research Seminar Lunchees

Professor Paul du Gay (Copenhagen Business School and Royal Holloway): Organization (Theory) as a Way of Life.
Professor Mick Rowlinson (Queen Mary, University of London). *What is Organizational History? Towards a Creative Synthesis of History and Organisation Studies.*

Professor Bernd Carsten Stahl (De Montfort University). *Managing Ethics in the Human Brain Project: Achieving Impact through Critical Research.* (Organized by Yingqin Zheng)

Professor Joanne Duberley (Birmingham University). *Careers over the life course: Examining cumulative advantage and experiences of retirement.* (Postponed to next year).

**Annual One-day Workshop**

The group held a workshop at Senate House London on the theme of *Performativity, Engagement and Impact.* Organized by Elena Giavannoni there were presentations of papers by Dan Karreman and Paul du Gay, discussed by Chris Grey and Jeremy Morales; the presentation of a video (partly funded by the CHP Group) by Andreas Chatzidakis; and presentations of potential REF impact studies by Louise Ashley and Dennis Tourish, with comments from Jane Broadbent (the REF 2014 Business and Management Panel Co-chair).

**2nd Sub-Group on Space and Time in Management Research Workshop**

Led by Elena Giovannoni, the sub-group workshop featured external guest speakers Professor Paolo Quattrone (University of Edinburgh) and Dr Damian O'Doherty (University of Manchester) along with presentations by CHP group members (Elena Giovannoni, Christopher Napier, Alice Bryer, Brendan McSweeney, Derrick Chong, Yingqin Zheng and Yihan Liu).

**4th Annual Distinguished Speaker and Dinner**

This event is hosted by the group but open to everyone in the School, College, and external guests. The aim is to attract a leading international scholar working in the areas of the CHP theme and to foster interaction between this person, the group and senior external scholars with CHP interests. Previous speakers were Professor Mats Alvesson (Lund University, Sweden), Professor Silvia Gherardi (Trento University, Italy) and Professor Hugh Willmott (Cass Business School, City University and Cardiff University). This year’s speaker was:

Professor Christine Cooper (Strathclyde University) *A Critical Reflection on Neo-Liberal Rationalities.*

**Reports on last year’s Seedcorn Grant Awards**

Professor Pauline MacLaren and Dr Andreas Chatzidakis (both Marketing) received £2000 to study “New Logics and Practices of Solidarity-Based Consumption: The Case of a Consumer Collective in Crisis-Hit Athens”. They produced a video, seen here embedded in an article for *Open Democracy* website: [https://www.opendemocracy.net/can-europe-make-it/andreas-chatzidakis/anti-consumption-in-crisis](https://www.opendemocracy.net/can-europe-make-it/andreas-chatzidakis/anti-consumption-in-crisis)

Dr Alex Reppel and Dr Olga Kravets (both Marketing) received £1000 to study “On texts and experts: Story-reading & re-telling as ‘data play’”. They submitted a paper related to the theoretical part of this project to the 2016 *Macromarketing Conference* in Dublin and are preparing another paper for the 2016 *Pacific Asia Conference on Information Systems* in Taiwan.