Call for Papers – Stream 25

New forms of (work) organization: The Transformation of Work in an Amoral and Lawless World

The publication of David Harvey’s The Enigma of Capitalism in 2010 yet again reminds us of one of the great paradoxes at the heart of late Modernity: Capitalism can only survive into the future so long as it destroys the very things that ensured its success in the past. According to Harvey the experience of the most recent Global Financial Crisis (GFC) also confirms that, in transforming itself, capitalism pays scant regard to prevailing moral and legal institutions. In light of this, we are misguided to hope that capitalism [and management] can ever be ethical and regulated.

An obvious manifestation of these features of capitalism in CMS is our abiding interest in the transformation of work practices. These cover a wide range of now familiar arrangements (e.g. flextime, teleworking, virtual teams, community of practices, etc.); many of which have led to the emergence of new forms of organization that are focused on the creation and management of knowledge (e.g., learning organizations, communities of practice, network organizations, etc.). These transformations are well-understood in terms of their technological, organizational, and spatial implications but we wish to broaden this CMS research tradition to include ethical and cultural considerations. The aftermath of the GFC thus provides us with an opportunity to pause and consider the inherent instability of the broader moral and cultural context in which such transformations occur. This stream seeks to test Harvey’s pessimistic view by posing the general question: Can capitalism ever be ethical and regulated and, if so, what do we dare to hope for in terms of the moral status of the reorganization of work?

Regarding these issues, we especially invite submissions that address (but are not limited to) the following topic areas:
1. The **ethical and cultural implications** of changing work practices.

2. The implications of new forms of (work) organization for **managerial and personal relationships**.

3. Matters of control and power (as they are broadly defined in the CMS tradition), with special reference to the ethical and cultural impact of work reorganization.

In general, we invite participants to consider how the moral basis of inter-personal conduct in the workplace and beyond is disrupted by the destabilizing effects of late capitalism. We wish to build on but also go beyond established notions in CMS such as resistance, collusion, subordination, and domination by mobilizing original theories and/or methodologies that extend or critique neo-institutional, regulative, radical and postmodern perspectives.

> **Format of abstracts, deadlines and submission details.**

The **deadline** for submission of abstracts is **November, 15, 2010**. They should be sent as an email attachment to Laurent Taskin (laurent.taskin@fucam.ac.be) and should also conform to the guidelines below:

- Abstracts must be single-spaced, prepared using at least an 11-point Arial font, with a left margin at least 1 inch for binding and be formatted for A4 paper (21cm * 29.7 cm);

- The title of the proposal, the title of the stream and authors details (including affiliation and contact details, with lead author clearly indicated) must appear clearly on the top of the page, before the body text which should be of no more than 500 words.

We are required to indicate to conference organizers our preferred papers by December 15th 2010 and will communicate our decisions on acceptance before this deadline. Full papers will be required by May 1st 2011. **Authors will be invited to take part to a special issue of The International of Work Innovation, to be published by the end of 2011.**
> Convenors

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