

Call for Phenomenon Based Research

Currently most journals ask that pieces have a theory basis. The Editors of *LRP: Long Range Planning* believe that this criterion is too narrow. Articles that document really important phenomena that are hard to observe should be published as well.

In addition to traditional styled pieces, LRP: Long Range Planning is committed to publishing material that documents in a careful manner important phenomena that are relevant to academic theorising and management practices.

A phenomenon is a regularity that is unexpected and unexplainable against the background of received knowledge including existing theory. The study of phenomena is related to the development of the experimental and observational methods in all their guises including laboratory experiments, field observations, statistical analysis that underpin much, if not all, of scientific development including those of the social sciences (see for instance Ian Hacking: *Representing and Intervening*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1983). In social science (as in science) there is a continual appearance of new phenomena that require explanation. The study of phenomena is therefore of great scientific importance.

For the purposes of LRP: Long Range Planning, examples might include:

- *Significant actions and behaviours by senior executives and boards of directors that are rarely documented but have important consequences*
- *Novel business processes (such as methods of generating and sharing knowledge) that are transforming organisations and their networks*
- *New organizational forms or business models that have the potential to transform markets and/or industries*
- *New approaches to corporate governance that change the relation between stakeholders and management*

Contributions are required to document clearly and precisely the new phenomenon, explain why it is novel, and discuss its implications. It is not necessary to have a strong theory element to such papers. Contributions will be judged on originality and quality.

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