The 6th International Workshop
Phenomenology, Organisation and Technology

Organised by the Working Group for Phenomenology, Organisation and Technology (POT)

University of Oxford

Oxford, United Kingdom, 17-19 July 2008

Following the success of the previous International POT Workshops – held in UK (2002), Portugal (2003), Finland (2004), France (2005), and Netherlands (2006) – the POT Working Group calls for papers and participation for its next biannual event in 2008.

Call for Papers and Participation

As many researchers struggle to give an account of everyday phenomena in organisations, of our 'being-with-others' and of our immersion in information and communication technology, which resonate with our actual experience of life, they increasingly turn to phenomenology. Phenomenology provides us with a way to get back to the actuality of the 'everyday' life of organized/organizing human beings working in and through the mediation of organization. Phenomenology since Husserl introduced a fundamental critique of western rationality which is focused on building abstract models and deriving action from these abstractions: "a pure thinking' which remains exclusively within the realm of pure limit-shapes". With phenomenology Husserl introduces a method, or rather a way of thinking, that provides a renewed and sensible understanding of situations, events, things and human beings. This approach has been seminal to many authors such as Heidegger, Merleau-Ponty, Levinas, Derrida, Henry, and so forth. Through phenomenology we aim to disclose, not facts, but rather the ongoing meaning of working, speaking and/or informing, organising, planning, decision making, innovating, etc. as revealed in ongoing organisational life. It is with this challenge in mind that the workshop sees its task. The workshop will aim to develop and explore phenomenological analysis and accounts – either applying the phenomenological method of investigation, its techniques, or by grounding research in previous phenomenological findings – of phenomena such as (but not limited to):

- Media, mediating and mediation
- Collaboration and cooperation
- Communicating and working
- Virtualisation of everyday and organisational life
- Connecting and being connected
- Ethics and mediation
- Technology and human interaction
- 'Applying' or doing phenomenology
- Technology, learning and improvisation
- Innovation and innovating
- Knowledge, knowing and action
- Organisation and organising
- Organisational language and languaging
- Management and managing
- Leading, Leadership and the Group
- Phenomenology vs. other approaches

The workshop will be limited to 20 participants. We intend it to be informal and interactive, for immersion and learning. We welcome contributions from those who have a substantive interest in phenomenology or who are keen to develop such an interest. The overall aim of the workshop is to develop and foster the community of phenomenological researchers in the fields of Organisational Studies, Management Studies, Communication Studies, Media and New Media, Social Studies of Technology, Information Systems, Sociology, CSCW, HCI, etc. If you are interested to participate send an extended abstract (approx. 2500 words) or a full paper to any of the four co-chairs:

Lucas Introna
l.introna@lancaster.ac.uk
Lancaster University Management School, UK

Eric Faÿ,
fay@em-lyon.com
EM Lyon, France

Fernando Ilharco
ilharco@fch.ucp.pt
School of Human Sciences, Catholic University of Portugal

Annamaria Carusi
Annamaria.Carusi@comlab.ox.ac.uk
Oxford e-Research Centre, Oxford, UK

Closing date: ASAP but not later than 1 March 2008   **Notification of acceptance:** 28 April 2008

Final full papers due: 15 June 2008

Programme Committee (TBC)

Lucas Introna, Lancaster University, UK
Fernando Ilharco, Catholic University of Portugal
Eric Faÿ, EM Lyon, France
Annamaria Carusi, Oxford University, UK
Bogdan Costea, Lancaster University, UK
Ian Beeson, University of the West of England, UK
Walter Lammi, American University in Cairo, Egypt

François-Régis Puyou, Audencia School of Management, Nantes, France
Louise Whittaker, Univ. of Witwatersrand, South Africa
Michael Waltemathe, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany
Ken Uchiyama, Daito-Bunka University, Japan