

Editorial

Welcome to the second issue of the *Engineering Project Organization Journal* (EPOJ). The launch of a new journal focuses on the all-important first issue as the first issue is the initial hurdle that any journal must successfully navigate. EPOJ successfully passed the test of the initial issue with a representative set of papers that reflect the broad interests of the journal. Although I am extremely pleased that the community made the launch of this journal possible, it is the continued fostering of quality issues that measures the ability of a research community to support a new endeavour such as EPOJ. From this perspective, I am excited to see how the EPOJ community is dedicated to supporting this journal through continued submissions and expanding readership. The ultimate beneficiary of this dedication is you, the reader, who ultimately will determine the success of this endeavour through your decisions to subscribe. The Editors of EPOJ recognize this and from this recognition we present this second issue as the beginning of a sustained effort to present the highest quality papers in engineering project organization research.

The five technical papers in this issue continue to reflect the research and geographic diversity of the engineering project organization community. The first of these papers by Dossick and Neff addresses the critical role that communications plays in the engineering design process. The paper highlights the critical role that inter-disciplinary research plays in the advancement of EPO concepts as it addresses the intersection of informal communications research and formal design process research. We hope that this spotlight on the necessity of inter-disciplinary perspectives will continue to motivate researchers to explore the intersections within our domain that represent the next generation of engineering research.

The second paper in this issue by Unsal and Taylor continues the emphasis on inter-disciplinary research by exploring the issues of management, networks, and engineering management in a combined focus on opportunistic behaviour. Similarly, Tsai and Chi investigate the intersection of organization management and disaster recovery in the third paper through an investigation of the Xiaolin Village disaster in Taiwan. This paper is representative of the need to explore organization operations and motivations as a foundation for understanding the actions of a given engineering team. The fourth paper in this issue by Ramalingam and Mahalingam continues a focus on cultural boundary spanners in international networks initially introduced in the first issue of EPOJ. In this article, the authors spotlight the critical need to create the conditions that enable boundary spanners to emerge and succeed in project networks.

The final paper in this issue by Gross and Garvin spotlights the critical role that infrastructure development plays in the EPO community by focusing on the structuring of PPP contracts to achieve public pricing objectives. The paper reinforces the breadth of this journal and the EPO community by creating a book-end to the Dossick and Neff paper. From social science to economic considerations, the success of project-based endeavours encompasses a range of concerns and research needs. The five papers included within these bookends highlight this diversity.

On behalf of the Editors and Editorial Board, we thank you for continuing to read the EPOJ and we look forward to continuing to present papers of equal interest and diversity. Please contact me or the Editorial Board with any comments regarding this issue.

Paul S. Chinowsky
Editor