Let me begin this yearly update by thanking associate editors Mark Gavin, Chuck Lance, Karen Locke, and Bob Vandenberg and editorial assistant Barb Stephens for countless hours of conscientious and highly professional work on behalf of Organizational Research Methods (ORM) and the research methods field in general. Also, please join me in welcoming a new associate editor to the ORM editorial team: David J. Ketchen, Jr., Carl DeSantis Professor of Management at Florida State University. Dave has published extensively in the area of research methods in strategy and has served with distinction as an ORM editorial board member and associate editor and special issue coeditor for the Journal of Management and the Journal of Operations Research. Dave adds more macro/strategy expertise to the ORM senior editorial team and is a most welcome addition given my goal to reach out to more macro/strategy authors and readers.

As you know, the new editorial team started receiving new submissions in January 2005. Thanks to the dedicated work of past editor Larry Williams, ORM had already achieved great visibility, as evidenced by its placement in the top-10 list of most prestigious journals (Zickar & Highhouse, 2001). As additional evidence of impact, the 2003 and 2004 ISI Web of Knowledge Journal Citation Report placed ORM 25th out of 67 management journals. ORM was included as part of the Journal Citation Report in 2003 for the first time, and it is highly unusual for a new entry to be placed so high in the rankings. The speed at which ORM has positioned itself among the group of elite scholarly journals is an achievement that few publications can claim.

Let me briefly provide some information regarding ORM’s operation during 2005.

- Since January 1, 2005, the average turnaround time from manuscript submission to authors receiving a decision letter is approximately 45 days (yes, you read this correctly, turnaround time is about 6 weeks!). In addition to the decision letter, about 95% of the authors who submitted a paper to ORM received comments from three reviewers, whereas the rest of the authors received comments from two reviewers. As I am writing this editorial, I still do not have the final numbers, but I anticipate that during 2005, ORM will receive approximately 140 submissions, which represents an approximate 100% increase in the number of submissions compared to 2004 and the highest number of submissions since the journal’s inception in 1998. The acceptance rate for the year 2005 is likely to be between 10% and 20%, depending on the final number of submissions.

- ORM is currently processing manuscripts for the following special issues: (a) “Nonresponse to Organizational Surveys” (guest coeditors: Steven G. Rogelberg and Jeffrey M. Stanton), (b) “Multilevel Methods and Statistics” (guest coeditors: Robert E. Ployhart, David Chan, and Paul D. Bliese), and (c) “Mediational Inferences in Organizational Research” (guest coeditors: John Mathieu, Donald Bergh, and Rick DeShon). In addition, ORM has issued calls for proposals for two more special issues: “Determining Quality in Qualitative Research” (guest coeditors: Mark Easterby-Smith, Karen Golden-Biddle, and Karen Locke) and “Research Methods in Strategic Management” (guest coeditors: David Ketchen, Brian Boyd, and Donald Bergh). These special issues reflect the broad interests of ORM’s readership including qualitative and quantitative approaches as well as micro- and macro-level issues. Please visit ORM’s Web site (http://www.sagepub.com) to read the calls for papers and detailed information regarding each of these special
issues. Given the level of interest based on proposals and queries received, I anticipate each of these special issues will be very successful and lead to the publication of highly influential articles.

- We have revamped ORM’s Web site (http://orm.sagepub.com). If your library subscribes to ORM, you can download full-text articles (in PDF format) and conduct searches using various parameters (keywords, author, etc.). If your library does not subscribe to ORM, please forward the following link to your librarian showing various subscription options: http://www.sagepublications.com/2005subscriptioninfo.htm.
- You can receive ORM’s table of contents via e-mail about 1 month prior to the publication of each issue free of charge. For information on how to do this, please visit https://online.sagepub.com/cgi/register.
- We are keeping track of ORM’s most frequently read articles (online) and ORM’s most frequently cited articles (online, in journals published by Sage only). You can see both of these lists by visiting http://orm.sagepub.com/reports/mfr1.dtl and http://orm.sagepub.com/reports/mfc1.dtl, respectively.

In addition to the above, let me share information regarding the following changes and improvements for 2006.

- Starting with this issue, you will notice that ORM has a new look. First, to increase the visibility of each article published in ORM, the complete citation for each article appears at the top of the first page. As we move into an electronic world, we want to make sure that citation information is as visible as possible. Second, as the future of publishing is in many ways electronic, we want to increase ease of onscreen viewing. So, the new look includes a change of font to Times, which is easiest to view onscreen as well as easy to transfer to XML format online.
- Starting this year, ORM will give a “Reviewer of the Year Award” and “Best Article of the Year Award.” Awards will be given at a ceremony during the Academy of Management meetings starting in August 2006 (for the period from January to December 2005). If you are not a reviewer for ORM and would like to become one, please fill out the reviewer expertise form available at http://www.sagepub.com/orm_survey.

In sum, ORM is doing very well. Please feel free to disseminate the information included in this editorial to colleagues and doctoral students. Also, please encourage others to submit their work to ORM’s regular and special issues. Given our turnaround time of about 6 weeks, I hope prospective authors will find it very appealing to send their best methodological work to ORM.

As always, do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or ideas on how to improve ORM. I look forward to your continued support of ORM as authors, reviewers, and readers.

Reference


Herman Aguinis
Editor