Editorial

How many accountants and auditors does the world need? Last week, Jim Quigley, the incoming chief executive of the “big four” auditing firm Deloitte Touche, said that we need more than we currently have. In particular, he expressed his concern about what he sees as a shortage of qualified auditing personnel. As the ongoing process of convergence between accounting standards will take time, we will probably have to live with different standards for some time to go. In a sense, this is good news for accountants and auditors who shall be in good demand, especially in emerging markets.

Meanwhile, companies in the U.S. should soon be able to scale back some of their expenses for the audit of their internal control systems. On May 24, the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board approved a new auditing standard which will make it easier and less expensive for public companies to comply with the auditing requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. The new standard, which is to be approved by the SEC, focuses the internal control audit on the most important matters. Also, it should be easier in the future to scale the audit process according to the size and complexity of the organization - a change that becomes relevant particularly in light of the approaching date for smaller companies to comply with SoX reporting requirements. Every change in the formal rules of accounting or auditing presents interesting avenues for research. It seems important to understand how companies react to such changes and whether their reaction, in turn, influences future standard-setting decisions.

A few weeks ago, the EAA Annual Congress celebrated its 30th anniversary. Many European and non-European accounting scholars came together in Lisbon to present and discuss current research in all fields of accounting. In his presidential letter, John Christensen reflects on the Annual Congress and on the value added that the EAA seeks to provide to its members. The newsletter also features a short retrospective of the event and of the accompanying doctoral seminar.

To fully realize the potential of the newsletter as a medium for information exchange and debate, let me remind you that all contributions from your side are very welcome.

Martin Messner
messner@hec.fr
Letter from the president, John Christensen

Dear Colleagues,

The 30th annual conference in Lisbon has just ended. The gala dinner was big and glamorous as it ought to be at a 30th birthday. The beautiful surroundings of the convent and the city of Lisbon put this in perspective. More importantly, the conference was a conference of records. More than 1600 delegates attended the conference and more than 600 papers were accepted for the parallel sessions. Add to that the 7 symposia. In sum we had the biggest conference ever. Over the 30 years the EAA has grown steadily and, more importantly, also the quality of European accounting research has improved over the years. The diversity of European accounting research has not disappeared in this process. The EAA community is thankful to the Organizing Committee and especially the chair Carlos Baptista da Costa.

The Scientific Committee for the conference was headed by Willem Buijink, as chair of the Standing Scientific Committee. The committee processed 1413 submissions and accepted 709 papers. Willem’s term as chair of the Standing Scientific Committee has now come to an end. Willem has provided lots of enthusiasm, hard work and negotiations with the conference chairs with the aim of improving our conferences. Thank you, Willem – in the name of all of us. The task of heading the Standing Scientific Committee has been taken over by Begoña Giner Inchausti. Consequently, I am sure that the improvements will continue.

One of the important phrases for modern organization is value added. I am often asked, what is the value added from EAA? This is a simple question and it has an equally simple answer. Lots!

The EAA provides an annual conference of the best accounting research Europe can offer. This year we had 7 symposia and more than 600 papers presented. The conference usually takes place in a lovely place in Europe in springtime. This provides a forum for presenting and getting feedback in the early stages of the research process. Also, it is a forum for meeting colleagues.

The EAA publishes two journals. The European Accounting Review published 4 issues last year, featuring 25 articles. Accounting in Europe published 1 issue that featured 11 articles. This line of activity both keeps our members up to date on developments in our field and provides outlets for research by our members. Both tasks are important to our profession and our respective careers.

Each year the EAA organizes a Doctoral Colloquium. This year the Doctoral Colloquium hosted 27 students. The colloquium provides a unique forum for exchange of ideas among the students. The students get feedback on their presentations and find friends in the accounting community. The Doctoral Colloquium is an investment in the future of EAA.

The EAA’s Committee on Financial Reporting provides feedback on proposals by IASB. Their input has regularly been reported in Accounting in Europe, keeping us all informed of the current developments.

The EAA has a representative in the Consultative Advisory Group (CAG) of IFAC’s International Accounting Education Standards Board (IAESB). This role has been filled by Richard Wilson and he has made an outstanding job in getting the views of the EAA community known.

Finally, the EAA is cooperating with the AAA on a project named the Global Accounting Digital Archive Network.

The EAA newsletter is sent to you four times a year. Martin Messner has done wonders in keeping us all informed.

In sum, I report that the EAA has lots to offer to all of us. The cost of this is modest: € 50. With this low cost, I recommend to you all to maintain your membership even in years when you do not attend our conference. Better yet, tell your colleagues about this great deal.

The next EAA conference will be held in Rotterdam. I hope that many of you are working hard to meet the submission deadline for papers for this conference.

John Christensen
President of EAA
The 30th Annual Congress of the EAA started, as usually, with an opening ceremony. Special tribute was made to all the countries and cities that have hosted the EAA so far. This was followed by the performance of the Chamber Music Choir of the Colégio Moderno who interpreted three pieces of music; the last one being Beethoven’s “Ode to Joy”, the anthem of the European Union. In fact, the 30th anniversary of the EAA was at the same time the 50th anniversary of the European Union, the Treaty of Rome having been signed in 1957. While the EAA clearly is a European conference, it has become at the same time an international one: many scholars from North America, Asia, Africa and Australia have found their way to Lisbon this year. When the so-called “tunas” started to play traditional Portuguese music, some of the participants might have been reminded of the Irish music heard at last year’s congress in Dublin. It seemed somewhat similar in style, while, of course, the backgrounds are very different.

In his introductory speech, the chairman of this year’s Annual Congress, Carlos Baptista da Costa, mentioned some “hard facts” about the conference: more than 1,600 delegates from over 50 countries had subscribed, making Lisbon the largest ever EAA congress. In total, 1,413 abstracts or full papers were submitted. About 870 papers were finally presented at the conference. Carlos Baptista da Costa also mentioned the importance of the congress for the future of accountancy in Portugal. This was also emphasized later on, in the speeches given by Castro Guerra, Secretary of State for Industry, and Conselheiro Guilherme d’Oliveira Martins, the President of the Portuguese Court of Audit.

The president of the EAA, John Christensen, addressed the delegates as well. He thanked the organizers for all their efforts they had put into making this congress become a great event.

The conference itself featured not only parallel sessions on all areas of accounting, but also several interesting symposia, such as the symposium on Fair Value Accounting or the one on Accounting on Entrepreneurship. As to the latter, there will be a special section in a future issue of EAR, the call for papers of which you can find on page 6 of this newsletter. There was also an editorials’ panel, where the editors of some of the major accounting journals presented their editorial policies and gave some insights as to review processes and acceptance rates of papers.

From 2008 on, the format of the EAA Annual Congress will slightly change: No longer will abstracts be accepted for submission. Only full paper submissions will be possible. Also, a new format of presentations with discussants shall be tried out for the first time. This should make it even more interesting to participate in the EAA Annual Congress. Next year’s congress will take place in Rotterdam, hosted by the Erasmus University. Deadline for submission of papers is 16 December 2007. A more detailed call for papers will feature in the next issue of the newsletter.

M.M.

Impressions from the
30th Annual Congress of the EAA
25-27 April 2007, Lisbon (Portugal)
From the 21-24 April 2007, I had the opportunity to take part in the 23rd EAA Doctoral Colloquium in Sintra in Portugal. Sintra is a beautiful historic town one hour away by train from Lisbon. We were 27 doctoral students from all over the world (Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Netherlands, Russia, Slovenia, Spain, U.K., USA, and Sweden) and 9 professors (John A. Christensen, David Cooper, Wayne Landsman, Christian Leuz, Peter B. Miller, Jan Mouritsen, Peter Pope, Michael Shields, and Alfred Wagenhofer).

Depending on the topics of our doctoral research we were assigned to three subgroups: a financial accounting stream, a management accounting stream, and a mixed stream.

Each doctoral student had to present a paper for 30 minutes which had to be submitted in advance and should be about 20 pages long. All presentations in my stream were really professional and very interesting. After each presentation there was time for discussion for 45 minutes. Each speaker met a very well prepared and interested but also critical audience. This led to a vivid discussion in which each student received helpful comments, suggestions, and also advice about the critical points of his/her research project. This discussion continued during coffee breaks and meal-times.

In addition, the breaks provided time to get to know the participants of the other streams and their research projects. It was really interesting to gain insights into other students’ research projects which covered very different areas of accounting and used various research methods.

Furthermore, we had a very interesting presentation of Peter B. Miller who talked about “Capital Budgeting, Science and the Economy”. As a special guest, T.J. Wong from The Chinese University of Hong Kong gave an impressive overview on his research on “Corporate Governance and Accountability”.

Besides this, we had some time to get to know Sintra and the Portuguese food which was served at our hotel.

At the last day it was announced that Yasmin Chahed from the London School of Economics and Political Science was chosen as the one of the doctoral students who is expected to profit the most to take part in a similar colloquium of the American Accounting Association which will take place before the AAA-Conference near Chicago.

Afterwards, we all went to Lisbon to take part in the EAA Conference. We met each other quite often on the conference and at social events. As it was my first time on an international conference it was a good experience to know personally some people taking part in the conference besides the people from my own university. I am definitely looking forward to see the participants of the colloquium on future seminars and conferences.

The colloquium provided an excellent environment not only to discuss research projects but also to get to know personally colleagues from all over the world. Finally, I want to thank especially Peter Pope and Jan Mouritsen as co-chairs, all professors, the EAA, and last but not least Marion Hebbelynck in the name of all participants for a well organized and very interesting colloquium.

Susanne Welker, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen
Publications of the EAA

European Accounting Review

Forthcoming Articles


Anderson, P. and Hellman, N.: Does Pro Forma Reporting Bias Analyst Forecasts?


Hitz, J-M: The Decision Usefulness of Fair Value Accounting – A Theoretical Perspective.

Huikku, J.: Explaining the Non-Adoption of Post-Completion Auditing.


Refereed papers

The impact of IAS/IFRS on Polish accounting regulations and their practical implementation in Poland
Alicja Jaruga, Justyna Fijalkowska and Malgorzata Jaruga-Baranowska

An analysis of the differences between IFRS and Polish accounting regulations: evidence from the financial statements of listed entities on the Warsaw Stock Exchange for the calendar years ending 2001, 2003 and 2004
Danuta Krzywda & Marek Schroeder

European Financial Reporting Research Group

Accounting in Europe

3rd Annual workshop
12-13 September 2007
ESSEC Business School, France

Call for papers

The European Financial Reporting Research Group (Eufin) organises an annual workshop to encourage papers that may be submitted to Accounting in Europe, the European Accounting Association’s journal dedicated to policy and practice issues in the field of European accounting and financial reporting. In 2007 the workshop will be held in conjunction with the International Accounting and Finance Special Interest Group of the British Accounting Association.

The 2007 workshop will be held on the Cergy Pontoise campus of the ESSEC Business School (to the North West of the Paris area) on 12 and 13 September. The workshop will include plenary sessions from Dr Katherine Schipper (Fuqua Business School, Duke University, and formerly a member of the Financial Accounting Standards Board), and Dr Mary Barth (IASB and Stanford University) as well as parallel scientific sessions. Recipients of the IAAER/KPMG research grants will be invited to present their preliminary findings at this workshop.

Conference chairpersons: Peter Walton (ESSEC Business School, France) Kristina Artsberg (Lund University, Sweden) and Axel Haller (University of Regensburg, Germany).

Full papers (in English) should be submitted to the conference organisers by 31 May 2007. The full conference programme will be announced by 15 June 2007.

ESSEC Business School is a French grande école which celebrates its centenary in 2007. Its main campus is at Cergy Pontoise (about 30 minutes from central Paris by rail), and it has satellite campuses at Paris-La Défense (the modern Paris business centre) and Singapore. Conference accommodation will be available at Cergy, but delegates might alternatively want to stay in central Paris and use the RER regional rail service (every 10 minutes at peak times) to come to the workshop.

Details of the conference will be posted to the website of the ESSEC-KPMG Financial Reporting Chair (www.essec-kpmg.net) as the situation evolves and the e-mail address for enquiries and submissions is eufin2007@essec.fr

Publications of the EAA

European Accounting Review

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Call for papers
“Accounting, Innovation and Entrepreneurship”
Special Section of EAR

Guest editors:
Antonio Davila (IESE-University of Navarra) &
Daniel Oyon (HEC Lausanne)

Background:
Innovation and entrepreneurship have become an important field of management research. Their relevance in research is a reflection of their importance in practice. Silicon Valley is not an outlier anymore. Valleys are emerging throughout the world. Governments have understood the importance of entrepreneurship to having dynamic economies and have created funds to support the creation of new companies. However, a large number of promising new ventures are failing at the growth stage; precisely when managerial accounting becomes an important element. Moreover, these new entrepreneurship and innovation clusters are based on networked communities, where information exchange is a key aspect of their functioning; given the information-based nature of accounting, researching its role in these communities is of relevance. Venture capital has also become a global industry with its own accounting challenges, for instance, how are returns measured when there is no liquidity and high levels of uncertainty?

Innovation has become the source of competitive advantage that various actors refer to in order to compete in the global arena. But medium and large companies don’t get the level of innovation that they are looking for. Incremental innovation crowds out radical innovation putting the long term survival of the company at stake. Often the use of certain performance measures such as financial tools are responsible for this bias. In other cases the incentives explain the lack of innovation. Yet in other companies is lack of systems and processes or a social system that does suppresses risk taking. All these issues are intimately related to accounting and control. But accounting has traditionally been perceived as hindering innovation and thus better to be ignored. Is it true? How does accounting help innovation efforts?

Topics:
This special section of the European Accounting Review is devoted to examining the role of accounting in innovation and entrepreneurship. We believe that the intersection of these fields is important for research as well as practice. While this new knowledge should be grounded in existing accounting knowledge, it needs to evolve to fit the unique characteristics of this new phenomenon. As such, we encourage approaches from all theoretical perspectives and research methodologies. The topic is very rich and will benefit from a diverse set of perspectives. Contributions will be valued based on their originality and research quality. Some of the broad topics that can be addressed include:

- The role of accounting in startup companies’ investment decisions
- The structuring of management control systems in incremental and radical innovation projects
- Performance measurement and rewards in innovation
- Liability of newness and the relevance of accounting
- Accounting and company growth
- Innovation clusters and the role of accounting in inter-firm innovation efforts
- Valuing innovation
- Accounting and the monitoring and decision-making processes in social innovation
- Accounting, governance and family owned firms
- Reporting and control in government-based organizations to support innovation and entrepreneurship

Submitted papers considered for this special section will be subject to a double blind review process. Authors are encouraged to contact the guest editors in advance should there be any matters on which they require clarification or guidance (ADavila@iese.edu; Daniel.Oyon@unil.ch).

Authors should strictly follow EAR submission guidelines which can be found at: http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/authors/rearauth.asp. Submissions in electronic format (MS Word) should be sent to the EAR editorial office in Madrid (Spain), via e-mail: ear@ie.edu. The subject of the message containing the electronic submission should include a reference to “Special Section on Accounting on Innovation and Entrepreneurship”. Additionally, one hard-copy of the paper should be sent to Professor Salvador Carmona, Editor. EAR. Calle Pinar, 15-1B. 28006 Madrid (Spain).

The deadline for submissions is November, 30 2007.
Call for papers
6th Workshop on Empirical Research in Financial Accounting
Madrid, 5-7 March 2008

The Department of Business Administration at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, and the Spanish Journal of Finance and Accounting, are jointly organizing the 6th Workshop on Empirical Research in Financial Accounting, and the 2nd Research Forum of the Spanish Journal of Finance and Accounting. The event will take place in Madrid, 5-7 March 2008.

The workshop aim is to discuss high quality papers in all topics related to financial accounting research. All papers are peer reviewed prior to acceptance for the workshop, and the reviewer discusses the paper after the presentation by the authors. At the same time, around 8 papers under review in the Spanish Journal of Finance and Accounting are presented. The presentation represents an additional review round.

This year, we will enjoy the attendance as main speakers of Peter F. Pope (Lancaster University), Philip Joos (Tilburg Univ.) and Ane Tamayo (London Business School) as well as the cooperation of the INTACCT, research programme on the use of International Financial Reporting Standards. Some of its members pertain also to the scientific committee of the workshop (Stuart McLeay, Willem Buijink, Günther Gebhart, Peter Pope, Hervé Stolowy, Leandro Cañibano, Araceli Mora, Juan M. García)

For more info, please visit the workshop’s website: http://www.uc3m.es/uc3m/dpto/EMP/VI%20Workshop/VIWorkshopen.htm

Upcoming EIASM Events

There are several upcoming EIASM events which promise to be interesting for accounting scholars:

- MAR 2007 - Cost and Performance in Services and Operations, 18-20 June 2007, Trento (Italy)
- Workshop on Accounting and Regulation, 20-22 September 2007, Siena (Italy)
- 4th Conference on Performance Measurement and Management Control, 26-28 September 2007, Nice (France)
- 3rd workshop on Visualising, Measuring, and Managing Intangibles and Intellectual Capital, 29-31 October 2007, Ferrara (Italy)
- EDEN Doctoral Seminar on Quantitative Empirical Research in Management Accounting, 10-14 December, 2007

Other Accounting Events


Job Market

Full Professorship in Financial Accounting, University of Neuchâtel (Switzerland):

The Faculty of Economics of the University of Neuchâtel seeks applications for a full professorship in Financial Accounting. The position is available starting in February 2008. Candidates should have an established record of quality research and teaching. Applications from individuals with several years of experience are strongly encouraged. We are especially interested in candidates experienced in teaching financial accounting as well as those with a teaching interest in specialized master’s programs.

Application Deadline: June 30, 2007
Call for papers

Bourdieu and Domination within and between Organizations
Special Issue of “Organization”

Guest editors:
Damon Golsorkhi, Ecole Supérieure de Commerce de Rouen, France
Bernard Leca, Nottingham University Business School, UK
Michael Lounsbury, University of Alberta School of Business, Canada
Carlos Ramirez, HEC, France

From his earliest work on the sociology of Algeria to his late academic and political publications, the sociology of Pierre Bourdieu can be labeled as a sociology of domination. His theoretical apparatus has served first and foremost the project of analyzing social hierarchies and to explain how they are produced and reproduced. Meanwhile, in the past thirty years Bourdieu’s theory and concepts have been gaining increasing currency in organization theory, if one judges by the rate of citations in major journals in the organization and management field. Cites to the French sociologist, in particular to his practice-based approach, are everywhere, from knowledge management to strategic management.

There is, however, a paradox in the intersections between Bourdieu’s work and the interests of organizational researchers deploying it. Throughout his life’s work, Bourdieu’s theories had no interest in serving organizations. His theoretical approach would consider organizations, at the very least, as a screen that obfuscates real relations of domination. With this paradox in mind, from our perspective, there is still much work missing in organization studies that encompasses all of Bourdieu’s theoretical concerns and that tackles essential issues behind Bourdieu’s intellectual endeavors. Among those, some of his works are remarkably explicit on issues of domination, including social judgement, the reproduction of inequalities, the maintenance of dominant elites or masculine domination. His intellectual engagement with neo-liberalism and globalization or his involvement in campaigns in support of undocumented immigrants and the unemployed are congruous with his enlightenment of domination mechanisms.

This special issue, therefore, intends to advance reflections on new insights that Bourdieu’s work may bring to organizational analysis by taking on board the French sociologist’s endeavors to uncover domination mechanisms and develop a critical sociology. We would therefore welcome conceptual and empirical papers that use Bourdieu’s focus on domination to examine issues of organizational life. Some possible themes to consider include, but are not restricted to:

- The naturalization of domination within and between organizations
  - Why do agents repeatedly act against their interests?
  - How does language become a means of domination?
  - How does the organizational Doxa contribute to the naturalization of domination?
- The production and reproduction of domination structures
  - How to account for the existence of dominant agents in a field?
  - What are the mechanisms behind struggles around differences of capital?
  - How does the organizational illusio contribute to the reproduction of domination?
  - Could dominated agents improve and get around dominant agents?
- The expression of symbolic violence
  - How is the symbolic capital constructed and transformed into symbolic violence?
  - What are the interplays between symbolic violence and symbolic capital in organizational fields regarding gender, race, sexual orientation, religion, and so on?
- The role of the macro-micro dynamic in the constitution of domination
  - How do agents’ positions in a field constitute a dominant/dominated position and determine their habits and practices?
  - How can dominated agents make their positions in a field?
  - How is the distribution of different forms of capital maintained in a field?

Also, the guest editors of this special issue would welcome contributions on the uses of Bourdieu’s theory of domination in the accounting (broadly defined) field.

Submission: Papers must be sent electronically by 3rd March 2008 to organization@wbs.ac.uk as Word attachments, indicating “Bourdieu And Domination Within And Between Organizations” in the subject line of the email. Manuscripts should be prepared according to the guidelines published in Organization and on the journal’s website: http://www.sagepub.co.uk/journalmanuscript.aspx?pid=105723&sc=1

Papers should be about 8000 words, and will be blind reviewed following the journal’s standard review process. For further information contact either: Damon Golsorkhi (damon.golsorkhi@groupe-esc-rouen.fr), Bernard Leca (Bernard.Leca@nottigham.ac.uk), Michael Lounsbury (michael.lounsbury@ualberta.ca), or Carlos Ramirez (ramirezc@hec.fr).
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