As the new division chair for Organization and Management Theory, I want to thank each and every one of you for your long-standing support and participation in the division. Thanks especially to all our officers and volunteers, current and past, who have kept the division so active these years. We are a large and very active community of scholars. OMT has 3453 members, which makes OMT the third largest division in the Academy of Management, behind OB and BPS. OMT set a record for submissions at the last Academy of Management, and had a great scholarly program. OMT is still "the place to be"!

We are now going into a year of division review, which is a welcome opportunity for us to look at our activities and think about how we can improve. You have already seen our call for the Division Survey, which is a part of the division review and a way for us to learn how you value the different activities we do. In addition, the executive committee has spent time already last year considering our mission and activities, and we will continue to do so this year.

The most important choice before us is how to weight our activities for the Academy of Management Meetings versus continuing activities. We take the divisional program at the AoM Meetings very seriously, and we know that our members do too. We take great pride in the quality and breadth of offerings at the AoM meetings, and in every part of the program: division-sponsored Professional Development Workshops like the consortia, member-submitted PDWs, the sessions in the main scholarly program, and of course our social activities!

We wonder whether we should also fill the ongoing needs of our members during the rest of the year. Given the strengths of our division as a place for top quality scholarship and as a diverse community of organizational scholars, we are mainly thinking about the possibility of creating meeting places for the scholarly conversations of our members, possibly as forums on the web, or even as mini conferences, either virtual or physical. These opportunities look exciting, but we have to recognize the tradeoffs. While we can still draw on the volunteer time of our members for a sufficiently interesting project, our budget is limited. With our long experience in cost savings at the AoM annual meetings (the hotel fees keep rising . . .), there are no efficiencies left to squeeze out, so anything we do outside the meetings needs to be taken from the meeting budget or find an outside sponsor. Thus it is important for us to know what the best tradeoff would be. We hope to hear from you on this topic, either through the division survey (which asks some questions on such activities), or directly. We also hope to hear from you if there are specific initiatives that you would like to propose and to serve as a volunteer for.
The 2009 Academy Meetings. OMT set new records for numbers of submissions and program sessions at the Annual Meetings of the Academy of Management in Chicago, with a total of 602 paper submissions and 65 symposia submissions. From all this scholarly effort, our OMT Program Chair (Czar?) Royston Greenwood somehow managed to identify the very best and put on a fantastic program. In addition to great content, his no-nonsense approach to session naming yielded informative gems like “Alliances”, “Mergers”, and “Reputation” – but also “Framing: From Bath Houses to Opera via Nanotechnology”. Our Program Chair Elect Matt Kraatz likewise made an excellent lineup of Professional Development Workshops. Sessions like “Economics and Sociology” and “Working on the Dark Side” were concluded without bloodshed and were even successful, and the high turnout of our PDWs bears testimony to his excellent taste.

Our divisional PDW are especially valuable to us, and as usual they were impressive. Diane Burton and Nelson Phillips put together a stellar cast of facilitators for our Doctoral Consortium, and Damon Phillips and Candace Jones likewise had a Junior Faculty Consortium packed with good advice. Willie Ocasio ran the OMT Dissertation Workshop, a popular session in which past winners of the OMT Distinguished Scholar Award offer their advice on dissertations. We are very grateful to these organizers and to the facilitators for volunteering their time. PDW Chair Matt Kraatz introduced the 2009 Distinguished Scholar, Christine Oliver, who gave a thoughtful and provocative talk on our role as scholars.

OMT Executive Officers. In addition to my role as Division Chair, in 2009-2010 OMT welcomes to their new roles Past Division Chair Willie Ocasio, Division Chair Elect Royston Greenwood, and Program Chair Matt Kraatz. OMT also welcomes its new officers, Christine Beckman, Program Chair Elect, and Martin Gargiulo and Bill McKeively, Representatives-at-Large. We are all looking forward to years of exciting and innovative OMT programs that these officers will provide. We thank our stellar out-going officers – Kim Elsbach, Past Division Chair, and Diane Burton and Candace Jones Third-Year Reps-at-Large – for their service to the division.

OMT Executive Volunteers. The division also relies on the services of volunteers to fill positions that call for more continuity than the elected positions allow. Division Treasurer William L. Dougan and Communications Officer Rodney Lacey keep the all-important flows of information and money under control, and we are all very grateful for their work.

The Committees. OMT's Research, Teaching, and Practice Committees were also busy this year. The Research Committee chaired by Joe Labianca selects winners of the Best Paper,
Best Dissertation, and Best Symposium awards from among the top submissions in each category for the program. The committee has a quick turnaround time and very strong submissions to choose from, so we are grateful for their willingness to drop everything for this task. The Teaching Committee, currently chaired by Anand Narasimhan, is doing two critical tasks for the future of OMT: gathering and disseminating teaching materials (see the repository on our website) and organizing an annual “Teach OMT” pre-conference workshop. Finally, the Practice Committee, currently chaired by Andrew Hoffman, seeks to connect the T in OMT to practice by putting together PDW's and symposiums that bring together business practitioners and researchers. The committees are the source of much of OMT's energy in bringing our research work to the world of practice, through teaching and connections with the real world. The committees are also an important source of our executive volunteers and officers, so clearly people who get in touch with OMT end up wanting to do more. If you want a taste of what the OMT division does, please consider joining these committees!