CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: 5TH ANNUAL OMT DISSERTATION PROPOSAL WORKSHOP

Panelists:
Howard Aldrich (UNC)
Steve Barley (Stanford)
Bob Hinings (Alberta)
Michael Tushman (Harvard)
Karl Weick (Michigan)
David Whetten (BYU)

Time and place:
9-12 a.m. Sunday, August 5, 2007, Philadelphia

What it is:
The Dissertation Proposal Workshop is a chance for students at the pre-proposal stage to draw on the wisdom and expertise of a group of OMT Distinguished Scholars to develop a defensible dissertation proposal. Classes and prelim exams usually have clear structures and guidelines, but we often get little sense of how to turn our vague good ideas into dissertation proposals that will intrigue potential committee members, pass a defense, and grow into a high-quality dissertation. This workshop aims to address this gap by improving the focus and framing of research questions, identifying and addressing methodological issues, and/or constructively critiquing conceptual foundations. As well as these important content issues, discussions may also address process issues like managing your dissertation committee, and completing the dissertation. The workshop consists of roundtable discussions between faculty panelists and 3-5 doctoral students working on dissertation proposals in the panlist's area of expertise. This year's panelists all have great track records of advising dissertations, and are estimated to have served on over 10,000 dissertation committees between them.

Who should attend:
The Dissertation Proposal Workshop is aimed at students who have completed prelims and
have selected a dissertation topic but have not yet defended their dissertation proposal. If you have a 50-page proposal with data, well-defined hypotheses, and a committee, you are probably too late. On the other hand, if you have not gotten past “I am interested in networks in organizations,” you are probably too early. Attendance is limited to 25-30 students.

How to apply:
Doctoral students interested in participating in the workshop should have a faculty member send a short nominating email to Jerry Davis (gfdavis@umich.edu). Nominees should also provide a 2-5 page abstract roughing out a research area, methodological approach, and potential contributions. These abstracts will form the basis of discussions during the workshop and will be shared with the group at the participant’s discussion table.

Jerry Davis
OMT Division Chair and Dissertation Proposal Workshop Convener