



# Strategic Leadership Newsletter

From the Strategic Leadership Doctoral Degree Program

\*Pre-Program Edition

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Welcome to the first issue of the ***Strategic Leadership Newsletter*** published by the *Strategic Leadership Doctoral Degree Program at Philadelphia University*. The purpose of this *Newsletter* is to exchange information and knowledge on behalf of the *Strategic Leadership* community, whose members include doctoral students, faculty, scholars, coaches, mentors, as well as academic, administrative, corporate, government and other stakeholders within and outside Philadelphia University.

***Strategic Leadership Newsletter*** will report information relevant to the degree program and its community including personal and professional events and accomplishments, new practices, research and opportunities, and suggestions. You are encouraged to forward the *Newsletter* to friends and colleagues to expand awareness and to brand yourself as a community member. You are also invited to recommend people or organizations to be added to the mailing list. Contact ***Strategic Leadership Newsletter*** by emailing [strategicleadership@philau.edu](mailto:strategicleadership@philau.edu) or the Editor by emailing [starrl@philau.edu](mailto:starrl@philau.edu).

## **\*Pre-Program Edition**

We are waiting for the final “new program” registration document from Middle States Commission on Higher Education which is due to be sent to the University on August 31, 2015. When received, the program will be formally approved and the admission process will begin.

Future issues will not require “pre-program” and will describe in more detail the many characteristics of our “Ideal Professional Doctorate.”

Sincerely,

Larry M. Starr  
Editor

## Academy of Management

This inaugural issue concerns the **Academy of Management** (AOM) an important community for our professional doctoral degree and which held its annual meeting in Vancouver, Canada. As presented on their website (<http://aom.org/about/>),

The Academy of Management is the preeminent professional association for management and organization scholars. Our worldwide members are professors and Ph.D. students in business schools at universities, academics in related social science and other fields, and practitioners who value knowledge creation and application. Founded in 1936, our global community today is nearly 20,000 strong, spanning 115 countries.

As a member, I attended the meetings and spent time with colleagues in several **Academy** divisions and communities described below.

## Academy Structure

The **Academy** has 25 Divisions and Interest Groups, 5 Committees, and 3 Affiliates:

<http://aom.org/annualmeeting/submission/special-instructions/?terms=PTC%20PDW>.

My professional connections are primarily in 3 Divisions described (alphabetically) below although I regularly review the scholarship and practices presented by several others. The Divisional websites provide resources relevant to their domain and a Newsletter about events and opportunities.

**Management Consulting (MC):** <http://bit.ly/1Ke6hR2>. I joined this Division because as noted in their Domain Statement, members focus on the “discipline of consulting, as well as the consulting industry. The Division encourages interdisciplinary and integrative approaches to management consulting which lead to the continuing development of the discipline.” Consulting among members is not necessarily an external occupation; **MC** members address development of internal consulting across a broad set of domains.

**Management Education and Development (MED):** <http://bit.ly/1JpB1tg>. This Division is important to me because as noted in their Domain Statement, members support “theory development and research in management education (academic) and leadership/management development (non-credit instruction) as well as the practice of management education and development...by improving effective teaching, learning, and participation and engagement strategies.” As Strategic Leadership has embedded into its curriculum the study and delivery of executive education, membership in this division is important.

**Organization Development and Change (ODC):** <http://bit.ly/1hBu7el>. I joined the **ODC** Division more than a decade ago because as director of the Organizational Dynamics programs at the

University of Pennsylvania, I had established an **ODC** concentration within the MS and MPhil degrees. As noted in the **ODC** Division Domain Statement, they are “devoted to empirical research, theory development, and practical application concerning all forms of organization change. The **ODC** content domain focuses on the processes and outcomes of organization change and development at the individual, group, organizational, and institutional levels using multiple methods and perspectives.”

## **ODC Professional Societies**

Separate but with overlapping interests with several of the Academy’s divisions and committees is the **Organization Development Network (ODN)** (<http://www.odnetwork.org/>), “an international, professional association whose members are committed to practicing organization development intentionally and rigorously as an applied behavioral science.” Regional communities associated with the national society operate across the United States including the **Philadelphia Region OD Network (PRODN)**: (<http://prodn.org/>).

One component of the national **OD Network** is the **OD Education Association (ODEA)** (<http://www.odnetwork.org/?page=ODEA>), a global community of approximately 40 universities with mostly Master and a few Doctoral programs that offer degrees or concentrations in **ODC**. An important benefit of being an **ODEA** member is that they share their program experiences and knowledge, and work collaboratively to grow and develop their programs.

At the Academy, I initiated the process to have PhilaU join **ODEA** as an Associated Institution. While the Strategic Leadership doctorate does not have an **ODC** or any other defined concentrations (you may create your own), doctoral coursework is informed by and includes **ODC** concepts and applications. Indeed, we are pleased to have as one of our faculty members, Dr. Matt Minahan, chair of the Board of Trustees of the **ODN**, and the founding leader of **ODEA**.



Matt is a scholar-practitioner who earned a professional doctorate in Executive Leadership and Organization Development from The George Washington University and has been teaching OD for 20 years. He also holds appointments on the adjunct faculties of the Carey Business School at the Johns Hopkins University and the Robert H. Smith School of Business at the University of Maryland: <http://bit.ly/1EOoWwB>.

## Academy Theme Committees and EDBAC

In addition to Divisions, the Academy has 5 Committees including the **Practice Theme Committee (PTC)**: <http://aom.org/annualmeeting/submission/call/ptc/pdw/>. I am connected to this community because, as described in their Call for Submissions to the annual conference, they are concerned with how to “leverage innovative thinking around governance and collaborative processes, build meaningful connections between scholars and practitioners across the Academy, and bridge the theory-practice divide.”

Similar to how **ODC** members align with **ODN**, many members of the Academy’s **PTC** are also members of or aligned with the **Executive DBA Council (EDBAC)**. Pronounced *Ed-Back*, this is also a global community of approximately 40 universities (<http://www.executivedba.org/>). Rather than focus on a single academic domain, however, Council members offer a range of executive, professional doctoral degrees including the Doctor of Management.



I spent time at the Academy connecting with and introducing myself to colleagues/members of **PTC** because Philadelphia University is the newest member of **EDBAC**: (<http://www.executivedba.org/members>). We joined, in part, because there are many resources available for students and faculty including on their website a simple comparison table of professional executive doctorates and traditional PhD studies: (<http://www.executivedba.org/degree/>).

	Executive Doctoral Degree	Traditional PhD
Candidate Profile	Senior executives who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold an MBA or relevant post-baccalaureate degree</li> <li>• Work full-time</li> <li>• Will use the knowledge acquired to address problems and issues in contemporary business</li> </ul>	Students with limited work experience who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May or may not hold a post-baccalaureate degree</li> <li>• Typically enroll as full-time students</li> <li>• Seek to position themselves for careers in academia</li> </ul>
Structure	Multiple residencies per semester	Full-time student
Curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interdisciplinary with a focus on general management and business issues</li> <li>• Apply quantitative or qualitative research methods to contemporary business problems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specialized studies, generally within a single, specific discipline</li> <li>• Heavy emphasis on research methodology and its application to develop new theories</li> </ul>
Objectives	To develop practitioner researchers	To develop academic researchers

We also joined because members of **EDBAC** exchange knowledge through **Engaged Management Review** (<http://emr.case.edu/>) an Executive Doctorate peer reviewed journal hosted by Case Western Reserve University. Strategic Leadership doctoral candidates and faculty interested in collaborative research, consulting or in publishing their work with colleagues across the globe will have access to this community journal. **EDBAC** also holds an annual conference. This year's meeting, the **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Engaged Management Scholarship Conference**, is held at University of Maryland University College from September 10-13, 2015: <http://www.umuc.edu/ems2015/index.html>. An agenda of speakers and topics will be available shortly.



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