



Teaching Conference for
Management Educators

**OBTC 2017 at Providence College
June 14th – 17th, 2017**

Submission Template

SUBMISSION GUIDANCE

** Remove all identifying properties from this document **

** All files must be saved in PDF format **

Please include ALL supplementary text at the end of this document

Only one document should be submitted

Submission Template for the 2017 OBTC Teaching Conference for Management Educators

1) Title, Abstract & Keywords

In your abstract, please include a brief session description (not to exceed 100 words), and three to four keywords. If your proposal is accepted, this description will be printed in the conference program.

This session will engage participants as writers and actors. Their assignment will be to contribute, as a member of a team, to a narrative in which the characters are living out organizational behavior and management theories (e.g. Theories X and Y, Barnard's Zone of Indifference, The Johari Window, etc.). The brief story created by the team will be acted out by the team, complete with front-stage (the performance seen by the audience) and back-stage (the thoughts of actors, unseen by the audience) components. Keywords: Dramaturgy, Narrative, Drama, Storytelling

2) Teaching Implications:

What is the contribution of your session to management pedagogy/andragogy? Specifically, please include your learning objectives, and describe what management and/or teaching topics are relevant to your session, and why. Also, include theoretical, disciplinary, or theoretical foundations that will help reviewers understand how your ideas fit within the broader field of management.

Theories of organizational behavior and management are particularly well suited to be written as stories or acted out as skits or plays, since they are about relationships among people in which each person has something to gain and something to lose; that is, in which people collaborating and/or competing while being evaluated individually and collectively.

Goffman's Wonderful Book: The Presentation of Self In Everyday Life and the works of Boje (Disney as Tamara-Land and Ronald McDonald's leadership role) are two of the inspirations for this session. Narrative and story-telling have been used for research

purposes, but they are also valuable tools for making the theories we teach more meaningful and long-lasting in the memories of our students.

I have used these methods in my classes and the works submitted by the students have, at times, been quite impressive and they seem to enjoy the process.

Learning objectives

To learn more about some of the theories we teach by writing fiction with them as themes

To learn more about some of the theories we teach by acting out stories in which they are themes

To learn from one another through the writing and acting process – about the theories and about how our students may more effectively, learn the theories

3) Session Description and Plan:

What will you actually do in this session? If appropriate, please include a timeline estimating the activities will you facilitate: how long will they take, and how will participants be involved? Please remember that reviewers will be evaluating how well the time request matches the activities you'd like to do, and the extent you can reasonably accomplish the session's goals. Reviewers will also be looking for how you are engaging the participants in the session.

Attendees will be divided into teams of at least three people.

Each team will write a short story based on the theory assigned to their team. (15 minutes or so, with all teams working at the same time)

The team will then act out the story, first performing scenes based on the narrative they have written and then speaking “the truth” regarding how they felt or what they were thinking as they were acting out the scene. (5 to 10 minutes per team)

Finally, each team will discuss any details of their narrative or performance that may need to be explained for the audience. (5 minutes or so, per team)

Once all the teams have performed, discussion of what took place, will occur. (time remaining after performances)

4) Application to Conference theme:

How does your session fit with the overall OBTC theme of *Navigating the Changing Currents*?

Stories and drama are dynamic in nature and thus lend themselves to discussions of all types of change, from personal, to interpersonal, to organizational, to societal.

5) Unique Contribution to OBTC:

Have you presented the work in this proposal before? If so, how will it be different? Is this proposal under current review somewhere else? If so, please explain. How will your proposal be different for the OBTC conference?

I have not presented this particular topic before, although about ten years ago I did a session on what I called: iconographic learning, in which participants mimed theories.