

Editorial

TO IMAGINE ... is one of the most powerful forces in human endeavour and one that is in the essence of SF.

Ten or more years ago many people started to imagine; there were thoughts and dreams at various SOLWorld conferences, glimmers of possibilities and ideas from which grew a network of conversations that led to the emergence of *InterAction*.

This edition celebrates the community's 10th publication and five years of *InterAction*.

It seems extraordinary to have been a small part of taking the brilliance of Steve's and Insoo's therapeutic approach and translating it into an entirely new field of organisational work. Creating a journal stamps the success of that worldwide endeavour. We should not underestimate the transition that has happened here. The ideas of one field have been moved into another not through a few researchers tucked away in a university laboratory but by many people seeing the potential and acting on it. It is the practical accessibility of the approach, its philosophical understanding of people as experts in their own lives and the vision of those many people that has allowed this transition to take place and given it power.

InterAction has provided a voice for that creative work. The goal was to have a journal that continues to give SF in organisations academic credibility. However many of the contributing population are not academics but consultants in organisational environments. To create this journal they have made the time to write academic pieces, researching, developing and refining them. When we have had the opportunity to work with them on these pieces it has been a learning experience, similar to attending a conference in which you hear people's thoughts first hand and have an opportunity to expand your own thinking.

Witnessing the variety of applications that has been found for SF in the organisational world has been akin to being a kid in a candy shop. It is fantastic to have the journal as a repository for this collection of applications, accessible on-line as well as in print. This includes using SF for classical business training in influencing skills, business unit culture change, team development in Japanese banks, enhancing SF coaching with the use of photography, and a quintessential business application in this edition that looks at the interface between SF and LEAN. Who'd have imagined....

It is the contributors who have been responsible for the evolution of *InterAction*. They have presented us with debates around the limits of the journal and the degree to which it should only publish articles that sit within interactional and post-structural approaches. They have also evolved the content such as the Research Review from short abstracts to insights for the SF practitioner, or reviews that research a particular theme of interest. Whether introductions to classic papers or book reviews, contributions are made with a whole heart.

So to all 72 people who have contributed in print from around the world an enormous thank you.

Coert Visser	Gwenda Schlundt Bodien	Peter Szabó
Paolo Terni	Lina Skantze	Lorraine Kennedy
Yasuteru Aoki	Ben Furman	Svea van der Hoorn
Alasdair Macdonald	Sabine Indiger	Julie Gregory
Gale Miller	Adie Shariff	Alison Abington
Margaret Eaton	Alan Kay	Haesun Moon
Chris Iveson	Rayya Ghul	Dominik Godat
Paul Jackson	Sofie Geisler	Nick Greer
John Brooker	Stanus Cloete	Harry Korman
David Weber	Michael Durrant	Antionette Ogelthorpe
Fredrike Bannink	Yuzuru Yoshida	Steve Smith
David Shaked	Mike Brent	Steve Blades
Barry Winbolt	Dave Hawkes	Christine Kuch
Susanne Burgstaller	Annette Gray	Colin Coombs

Nora Bateson	Peggy Holman	Graham Buchanan
Rani Meerabi Pooran	Marika Tammeaid	Harvey Ratner
Rom Harré	Monika Houck	Gil Greene
Peter Sundman	Björn Johansson	Kati Hankovsky
Felix Hirschburger	Daniel Meier	Stephanie von Bidder
Jenny Clarke	Peter Röhrig	Janine Waldman
Leah Davcheva	Jeff Matthews	Renilde Vervoort
Kenneth Gergen	Shakya Kumara	Stefanie Widmann
Kat Barclay	Tricia Lustig	Kirsten Dierolf
Mark McKergow	Anton Stellamans	Carey Glass

To the Board of SFCT and the Editorial Advisory Board thank you for your ongoing support and particularly for initially having taken the plunge. And finally a heartfelt thank you to Jenny Clarke, for her generosity, graciousness and modesty in doing so much behind the scenes to help with proofing and get the print copies mailed out.

We look forward to the 11th edition that will incorporate papers from the recent SFCT research conference in partnership with the University of Hertfordshire.

Tributes for the 10th Edition:

My film, *An Ecology of Mind*, opens with a quote that says “The major problems in the world are a result of the difference between the way nature works and the way people think.” (G. Bateson) – So how does nature work? Well, first of all it does not sit around analysing problems, looking for pathologies, dwelling on obstacles – instead, it carries on however it can, operating on its capacity to be operational. A root does not stop at a rock in its path and think, “Forget it, this is pointless, I am unworthy, the rock is to blame, it’s impossible ...” No, It simply figures out another way. That’s why this journal is important, it keeps us thinking like roots.

Nora Bateson

Congratulations to the Editorial Team for ten years of success in publishing *InterAction*. The journal has opened new opportunities for discussing, debating and assessing SF thought and practice. It has become an important context for constructing the future of the SF world.

Gale Miller

I think *InterAction* is a remarkably accessible journal which means that I read at least some of every edition before it is absorbed into the impressive but rarely touched Journal bookcase. Its accessibility is no accident; each edition is designed with a number of clear offers: something old (a classic paper), something new (a description of an 'on the ground' project) and something blue (as in bluestocking) – an academic paper. Something for every mood. And it doesn't come too often.

Chris Iveson

I particularly like the seriousness and the consistency of the journal.

Harry Korman

InterAction presents itself as a highly professional production. I look forward to reading it every time. The range of papers is good; the Classic Paper is intriguing, especially for those new to SFBT. A look at recent research highlights the many possible uses. The papers about specific projects always produce some new idea that one may use. For those in the SF world, *InterAction* is a valuable addition to their knowledge base. For those outside the SF world, it illustrates the sheer variety of applications for this way of working and thinking.

Alasdair Macdonald

Is it 5 years already? *InterAction*, like SF itself, still feels new and full of hope and expectation; and yet, it's embedded as a trusted resource I look to on a regular basis. The combination of case-studies, peer reviewed papers and 'classic SF papers' offers a rich diet of 'how to ...', 'why to ...' and 'do you remember to ...?'

Particular key contributions for me were Paolo Terni's paper on 'SF Interviewing Protocols as Evolutionary Algorithms', Stanus Cloete's paper on 'Team Tease', Dave Hawkes' paper on SF and Martin Heidegger, Mark McKergow's interview with Nora Bateson, and Kathleen Barclay's paper on using SF coaching with Doctoral students; not to mention papers on Victor Frankl, Workplaces where you wanna go, Positive Psychology, or any one of (what I'm realising all over again) is a very long list of outstanding material on SF thinking and practice.

I also appreciate that *InterAction* is available online, as I usually end up giving my hard-copy to someone, and don't always get it back. Thanks to the editorial team for bringing together such a focused and motivating journal, and for giving a voice to SF practice in organisations. I'm already looking forward to the next edition.

Steve Smith

This much-needed journal saw the light five years ago and, I hope, continues to inspire us for many more.

Ben Furman