

DRM *Management & Organisation*

est heureux d'accueillir

Lucy TAKSA

MACQUERIE University, Sydney

Vendredi 21 Septembre

10h-12h – P 518

'Sharpening the vision of the present? Reflections on approaches to History and Historical Perspective in the Study of Management and Organisations'

Professor Lucy Taksa, PhD, Associate Dean (Research) and Co-Director Centre For Workforce Futures, Faculty of Business and Economics, Macquarie University

In this seminar, Professor Taksa will consider the repeated call made by a range of management and organisation scholars for what Booth and Rowlinson (2006) refer to as 'a more historical approach' to the study of management and organisation. She will introduce the complexities surrounding definitions of history and the differences between historical research and historical perspective and between historical research methods and research methods in the social sciences by reviewing the arguments of such scholars as Burrell (1997) Lawrence (1984), Kieser (1994) Clark and Rowlinson (2004), Üsdiken and Kieser (2004), and Zald (1993, 2002).

The presentation will explore what makes history of vital interest and indispensable to management and organisational studies and indeed to humanity. In this regard, Professor Taksa draws on Hobsbawm's argument that the point of history 'is not simply to discover the past but to *explain* it, and in doing so to provide a link with the present (Hobsbawm, 1997: 214). As Barbara S. Lawrence noted in the *Academy of Management Review*: 'the object of historical perspective is to sharpen one's vision of the present, not the past'. (1984: 307).

To illustrate her comments about approaches to history, perspective and historical research methods she will provide examples from her own studies. She will conclude by highlighting the significance of archives and the problems facing archival preservation in the digital age.

