We are pleased to announce the Third Annual Organization Science Winter Conference. This conference is unique in format and in spirit. Sponsored by Organization Science and initiated by Linda Argote, Arie Lewin, and Dick Daft, the conference is designed specifically for the exchange of cutting-edge ideas in a dynamic setting. The conference is scheduled to be held annually around the weekend immediately following the new year. The 1997 edition of this annual meeting is scheduled for January 2-5 in Park City, Utah. Watch for announcement of the specific location.

The conference format features pivotal scholars in interactive discussions, roundtable interest/discussion groups, rare chances for in-depth exchange with senior managers, and various opportunities for off-line dialogue. Steve Barley was the 1996 keynote speaker and a scholar of similar stature will join us for the 1997 conference. The keynote presentation is a forum for new, sometimes controversial ideas. It is followed by informal discussion with other attendees in a fireside chat.

The Organization Science Winter Conference is not intended as a forum for mature papers ready for journal submission, or for traditional presentations. In fact, most sessions are limited to two or three 10 minute presentations, with the remaining time devoted to dialogue on the issues. Presentations should start conversations, rather than end them. It is intended that the conference become known for engaging leading theoretical ideas, as well as a way for academic research to be informed by practicing managers. By meeting in the morning and again in the afternoon and evening, the midday is free for skiing and other winter sports, sightseeing, and relaxing or working. The conference is very casual and very family friendly.

Each year the conference has implemented new program initiatives to further its
goal of provoking critical discussion. In the 1996 meetings, a vibrant **blitz** session provided conference participants opportunity to design an impromptu session motivated by the past days’ discussions -- even more opportunities for emergent sessions are planned for 1997. Senior managers from major U.S. and international businesses have been a hallmark of this conference and for 1997 we are specifically looking for more joint presentations by manager/academic **teams**. Please consider such teams, panel sessions, or workshops as possible formats. The Winter Conference program, abstracts of presentations and panels, and the ability to enter into on-line discussions will be available through the [Winter Conference Home Page](materials from 1996 are available now).

We seek a cadre of new participants each year to insure variety and intellectual stimulation, while maintaining the intimate character of the conference. If you are interested in learning more, nominating a participant, proposing a topic or format, or joining in the conference, please contact:

[Terri L. Griffith, Program Chair](1997 Organization Science Winter Conference)

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**Conference Steering Committee:**

Arie Y. Lewin, Editor-in Chief, *Organization Science*

Richard L. Daft, Associate Editor-in-Chief, *Organization Science*

[Michael W. Lawless](Convener of the Organization Science Winter Conference), Convenor of the *Organization Science* Winter Conference

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**Conference Program Committee:**

Deborah Dougherty

Paul Olk

Jill Teplensky

Ray Zammuto

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