

A 2nd Great Year!

The 1996 *Organization Science* Winter Conference

Over forty participants met in Snowmass, Colorado for this year's conference. As stated in the vision put forth by Michael Lawless (1996 Conference Chair and 1997 Conference Convenor), the Winter Conference is, "a forum for social, economic, and organization research as they affect the practice of management, sponsored by [INFORMS](#) and *Organization Science*." First arranged in 1995 by Linda Argote, Dick Daft, and Arie Lewin, the conference has evolved into an annual event (first week in January) with an emphasis on participation by all attendees. Key features of the conference include the broad, informal exchange between a diverse group of participants and the opportunity for recreational activities (the 1996 daily schedule called for meeting from early morning until 10:00 am, adjourning for skiing, reflection, and other activities until mid-afternoon, then meeting again through dinner). This year's participants included academics from four countries, two Arthur D. Little (a sponsor) consultants, four ADL clients (representing Microsoft, Groupwrx, Bell South, and AT&T), Hewlett-Packard and IBM internal consultants, and keynote speaker Stephen Barley.