

# The Oxford Handbook of Sociology and Organization Studies: Classical Foundations

Edited by Paul S. Adler

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THE OXFORD HANDBOOK OF

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SOCIOLOGY AND  
ORGANIZATION  
STUDIES

CLASSICAL FOUNDATIONS

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*Edited by*

PAUL S. ADLER

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## PREFACE

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The genesis of this volume lies in conversations with numerous colleagues over several years about our shared frustration with the growing divorce between organization studies and one of its key source disciplines, sociology. I took a proposal for an edited volume aimed at bridging that gap to David Musson at Oxford University Press: David's strong encouragement and wise counsel helped give it its current form. Over the course of 2006–7, I reached out to potential contributors, and the response was overwhelmingly positive.

Drafts chapters benefited from discussion at a conference held at Wharton in August 2007. Along with the chapter authors, the participating faculty were: Mie Augier (Stanford), Peter Bryant (Macquarie), Jordi Comas (Bucknell), Marlese Durr (Wright State), Isabel Fernandez-Mateo (London Business School), Michal Frenkel (Hebrew Univ.), Zeke Hasenfeld (UCLA), Roberta Iversen (Pennsylvania), Candace Jones (Boston College), Shamus Khan (Columbia), Brayden King (Brigham Young), Sheen Levine (Singapore Mgt. Univ.), Marshall Meyer (Pennsylvania), Ilya Okhmatovskiy (McGill), Sean Safford (Chicago), Samps Samila (Brock), Russell Schutt (Univ. Mass., Boston), Wesley Sine (Cornell), Klaus Weber (Northwestern), and Ray Zammuto (Melbourne). Graduate students too participated in this discussion: Ebony Bridwell-Mitchell (NYU), Ed Carberry (Cornell), Jay Chok (Univ. of Southern Calif.), Anne Fleischer (Michigan), Steve Hoffman (Northwestern), Maksim Kokushkin (Missouri), Andrew Parker (Stanford), Renee Rottner (UC Irvine), Laura Singleton (Boston College), Elizabeth Terrien (Chicago), Matt Vidal (UCLA ILRE), and Peggy Wallace (St Marys). We thank all these colleagues for their immensely helpful constructive criticism.

We also thank the National Science Foundation and in particular Jacqueline Meszaros for funding the conference under Grant No. 0706814. Generous financial support also came from my home department, the Management and Organization Department of the Marshall School at the University of Southern California. My department colleagues there, notably Tom Cummings, Mark Kennedy, and Peer Fiss, provided essential encouragement and guidance throughout. Jay Chok provided crucial research and administrative assistance. Our editor, Lynn Deanne Childress, was exceptionally helpful in structural revision and copyediting.

Paul S. Adler  
Los Angeles, August 2008



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in sociology and public policy issues, and in how attention to classical theories enhances our understanding of both.

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