

Activity summary of CIAS research fellow in Budapest

Grant category: junior senior non-resident senior

Name: Daniel Arenas

Home institute (name, position, country): Professor, ESADE Business School, Universitat Ramon Llull, Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain

Academic Year / Semester: 2022-23

Duration: 6 months (The role of experts in deliberation within and among organizations)

Project title: The role of experts in deliberation within and among organizations

Project description*: I planned to examine the role of experts in deliberation in intra and interorganizational settings. The motivation behind the project was that, on the one hand, different actors show an increasing desire to participate in deliberations about what actions to take, both inside organizations (e.g. businesses, universities, social movement organizations) or in interorganizational settings (e.g. partnerships, cross-sector collaborations). In this sense, there is a renewed interest in democratic organizing. On the other hand, environmental and health crisis, such as the Covid19 pandemic, have made very visible the role of experts such as biologists, climatologists, epidemiologists, and doctors. This raises the question about how to combine democratic deliberation (publicly or inside an organization) and the authority obtained from knowledge. In fact, experts have been called “problematic participants” in deliberative settings. My goal was to write a theoretical piece about this topic, which is relatively unexplored in the areas of business ethics, stakeholder theory and of democratic organizing, using as a starting point Henrik Ibsen’s play “An Enemy of the People” and based on the contributions from deliberative democracy theorists as well as organizational scholars on this topic.

Achieved result(s)*:

During the period of the visiting fellowship, I read extensively on the topic within deliberative democratic theory as well as within organization scholars using actor-network theory (as can be seen in the reference list of the manuscript). Actor-network theory was a new field for me, and I discovered that it has made important contributions about the intersection between science and society. Notably, Michel Callon and his colleagues have discussed hybrid forums in which scientists and laypeople interact on issues such as nuclear waste, genetically modified food and orphan

diseases, among others. These insights have enriched my initial ideas on the subject and, for example, led me to cast some doubt on Habermas' strong dichotomy between the language of science and the language of the lifeworld. I have submitted this work as a conceptual essay to Academy of Management Review. For essays based on works of literature or philosophy, AMR advises to submit first a 5-page proposal (1 single space) to the editor. I did this first step in early May and received encouragement from the editor. At the end of June I sent the full manuscript, which is currently under the regular review process.

In addition, during this period, I have been working on another project in parallel with two co-authors from ESADE, about the use of Ostrom's ideas on the "commons" as an alternative form of organizing. We have reviewed the literature on this topic, which is starting to grow and attract some interest, and have written an article which classifies the ethical claims and challenges surrounding commons organizing. This work has been submitted to the Journal of Business Ethics, and is currently under review. The link with the other work is that we suggest that democratic participation is the main claim that underlines the different forms of commons organizing, whether it be the management of natural resources or online platforms.

Connected publications*

1.

Title: Experts and Democratic Deliberation: Insights from "An Enemy of the People"

Date of submission/acceptance/publication: 23-Jun-2023

Journal: Academy of Management Review

Journal category (if applicable): Q1 Q2 Q3

Status: accepted/published in progress planned

2.

Title: The ethics of commons organizing: a critical reading (with P. Guitart and D. Murillo)

Date of submission/acceptance/publication: 6-Jun-2023

Journal: Journal of Business Ethics

Journal category (if applicable): Q1 Q2 Q3

Status: accepted/published in progress planned

Professional collaborations, partnerships*

During this period, I was able to strengthen my relationship with Laszlo Zsolnai and form new relations with other members of the Business Ethics Center at Corvinus University, such as Andras Ocsai, Gabor Kovacs, and Tamas Veres. In the future, I hope these relationships can lead to academic collaborations on the concept of the "commons", and invitations to spend time in Barcelona to present their work. I presented my work on experts and deliberations at the Business Ethics Center seminar.

Also, during this period, I was able to visit the Centre for Corporate Reputation (CCR) at Said Business School, University of Oxford, where I established relationships with professors Alan Morrison, Matthew Amengual, Laura Spence and Juliane Reinecke. I presented my work on the commons in the CCR seminar.

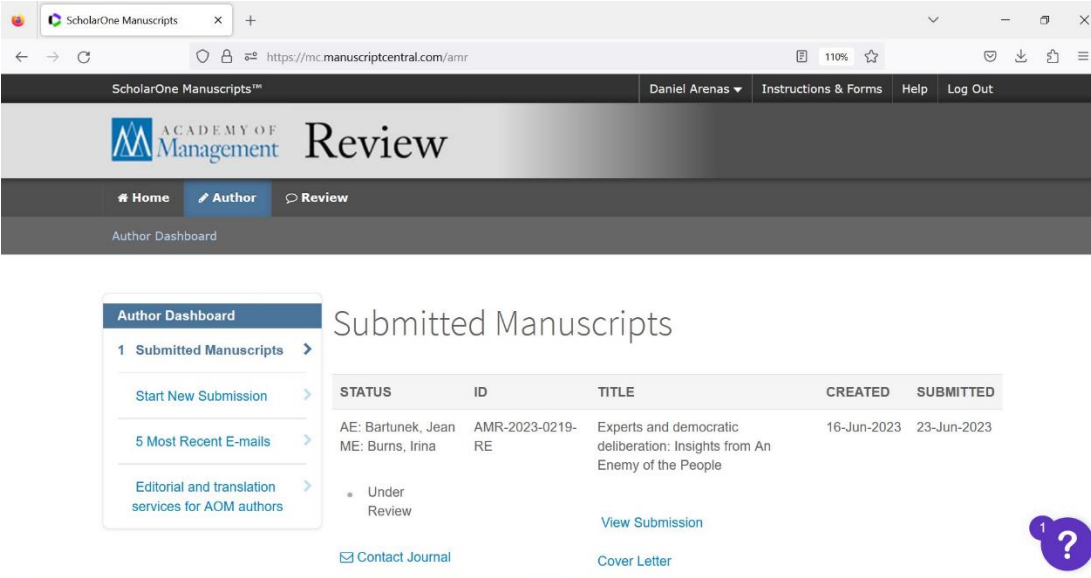
Additional activities* (public lectures, presentations, professional meetings, media connections etc.):

1. Presentation at Business Ethics Center, Corvinus University Budapest, Feb 21st, 2023
2. Presentation at Centre for Corporate Reputation, University of Oxford, May 31st, 2023
3. Participation in IABS (International Association of Business in Society) Conference, University of Bath, June 8-11.

Future plans, planned return (if any):

- I plan to return to Hungary later
- I plan to maintain my professional contacts via e-mail
- Any other comment:
 - Return to my home institution
 - Maintain contacts with Business Ethics Center at Corvinus
 - Wait for reviews to return (and possibly present the papers in other conferences)

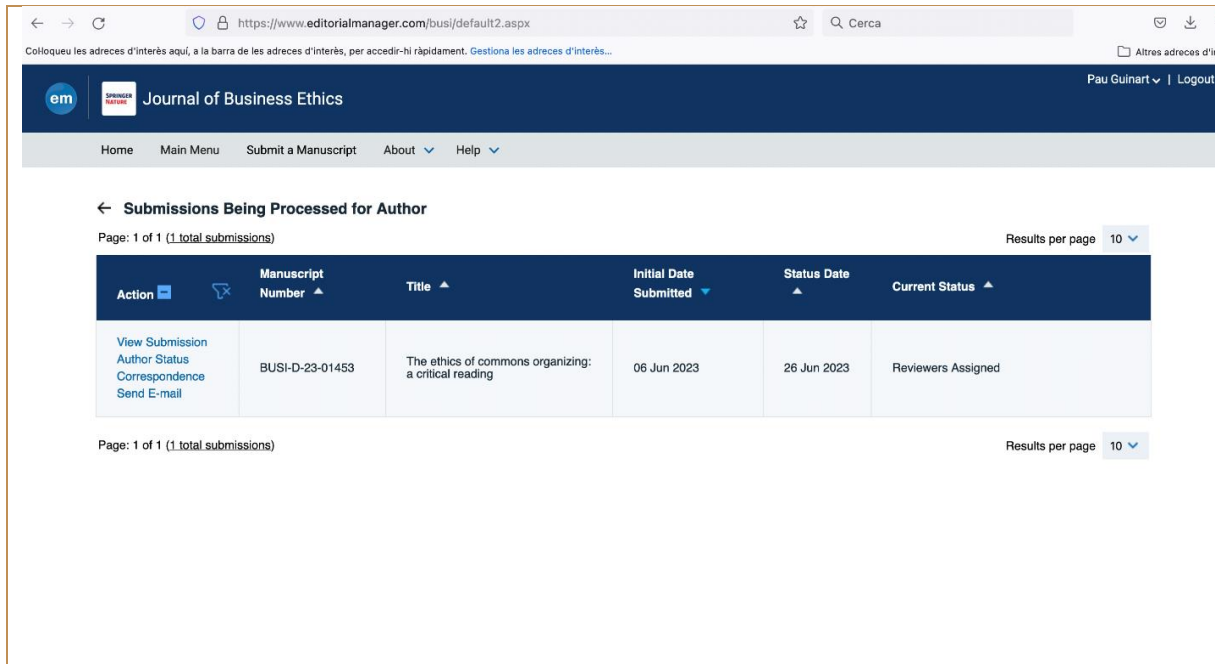
Appendix: Proof of submissions




The screenshot shows the ScholarOne Manuscripts Author Dashboard. The page title is "Submitted Manuscripts". On the left, there is a sidebar with "Author Dashboard" and "1 Submitted Manuscripts". The main content area displays a table with the following data:

STATUS	ID	TITLE	CREATED	SUBMITTED
AE: Bartunek, Jean ME: Burns, Irina • Under Review	AMR-2023-0219-RE	Experts and democratic deliberation: Insights from An Enemy of the People	16-Jun-2023	23-Jun-2023

Below the table, there are links for "View Submission", "Cover Letter", and "Contact Journal". A blue question mark icon is visible in the bottom right corner of the dashboard area.



Colloque les adresses d'intérêt aquí, a la barra de les adreces d'interès, per accedir-hi ràpidament. Gestiona les adreces d'interès... Altres adreces d'interès

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Home Main Menu Submit a Manuscript About Help

← Submissions Being Processed for Author

Page: 1 of 1 (1 total submissions) Results per page 10

Action	Manuscript Number	Title	Initial Date Submitted	Status Date	Current Status
View Submission Author Status Correspondence Send E-mail	BUSI-D-23-01453	The ethics of commons organizing: a critical reading	06 Jun 2023	26 Jun 2023	Reviewers Assigned

Page: 1 of 1 (1 total submissions) Results per page 10

*Please give us a properly detailed summary.

Date:

Signature: