

The speaker discusses their contribution to the "Handbook of Historical Methods for Management," which culminates a historic turn in management studies over the past two decades. They emphasize the importance of articulating historical methods in management research to align with conventional social science standards. The speaker, along with co-authors, decided to focus on narrative as a legitimate historical method, highlighting its significance in telling stories that connect historical events in management. They reflect on their experiences revisiting past works and stress that effective historical writing should incorporate narrative, making it engaging rather than strictly analytical.

The speaker also explains their current research project on internal communication in organizations, particularly how historical narratives have shaped corporate culture. They address the need for organizations to confront their pasts and effectively communicate this history, especially in light of contemporary issues like corporate social responsibility. The speaker expresses optimism that their work will help legitimize storytelling in academic settings and facilitate more impactful historical research in management. They hope to contribute to a broader conversation about internal communication and the use of historical narratives to enhance organizational identity and action.