

25th Anniversary Conference *Management Accounting Research*

To celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Journal, the founding Editors of *Management Accounting Research* (MAR), Bob Scapens (Manchester Business School) and Michael Bromwich (LSE), organised a conference together with myself as the incoming Editor-in-Chief, at the London School of Economics and Political Science on Friday 17 April 2015. The conference was fittingly celebratory and characteristically vibrant and diverse due to the representation of a wide variety of interest areas, epistemological views, methodological approaches, career experiences, and geography as embodied by the 85 participants consisting of editorial board members, reviewers, authors and supporters of the Journal throughout its first quarter of a century, and counting.

The format of the conference consisted of plenary sessions and a panel discussion. Each of the plenary speakers reviewed developments in a specific area of research in management accounting, and assessed the particular contributions of MAR, followed by lively discussions with the audience. Characteristic of the nature and vision of MAR, the program was diverse, with presentations on Behavioral and Experimental Studies in Management Accounting (Joan Luft, Michigan State University); Organisational and Inter-Organisational Field and Survey Research in Management Accounting (Henri Dekker, Vrije University Amsterdam); Social and Critical Studies in Management Accounting (Trevor Hopper, University of Sussex); Organisationally-oriented Contingency Research in Management Accounting (David Otley, Lancaster University); Psychologically-oriented Contingency Research in Management Accounting (Matt Hall, London School of Economics and Political Science); and Constructionist and Managerialist Studies in Management Accounting (Teemu Malmi, Aalto School of Economics). All presentations and discussions reviewed accomplishments as well as challenges, and made critical evaluations of contributions and proffered opportunities for further research.

The panel discussion, which I chaired, offered a blank canvas for the three panelists to look ahead and assess the opportunities for research and the field. The panel members did not disappoint when using their canvas: Martin Messner (Universität Innsbruck) offered ideas to exploit “industry” in management accounting research; Alfred Wagenhofer (Universität Graz) gave several ideas to try and leverage “regulatory shocks” in our research; and Paolo Quattrone (University of Edinburgh) reflected on the “knowledge/ action” aspect of accounting illustrated by the advent of Big Data. I then tried to synthesise and guide and address many interesting, and sometimes provocative, questions from the floor. The room also wanted to hear my views on the future direction of MAR, to which I emphatically replied that MAR will continue to be committed to diversity across all relevant dimensions of topics, settings, methods, and disciplinary lenses that one can envisage to rigorously examine all manner of relevant management accounting issues broadly conceived.

It is our intention to publish all the speakers’ papers and the four panellists’ comments in a forthcoming issue of MAR.

The conference concluded with a dinner in the Senior Dining Room at LSE, where immense thanks were expressed to Bob and Michael for their good stewardship and contributions to the field with the Journal during its first 25 years.

The 25th Anniversary Conference was generously sponsored by CIMA, Elsevier, and the home Departments of the Founding Editors at LSE and MBS, for which many thanks.

Professor Wim A Van der Stede

Editor-in-Chief, *Management Accounting Research*
CIMA Professor of Accounting and Financial Management



Shanghai National Accounting Institute Keynote Address

On 29 November 2014, **Professor Wim A Van der Stede** gave a keynote at the Shanghai National Accounting Institute on the theme of Management Accounting: Global Experiences and Chinese Practices, particularly addressing management accountants’

roles and responsibilities in sustainable value creation. During his visit, Professor Wim A Van der Stede also gave further talks, such as at Xiamen University’s Management Accounting conference.