A Global Perspective on Global Networks

Professor Cynthia Stohl
Department of Communication
IGERT SEMINAR
January 30, 2015
Overview of my research

Discuss three overarching questions:

1. What does it mean to have a global perspective when doing network research?

2. What role do global networks play in research?

3. How can we maximize the global impact of research?


Human Rights, Nation States, and NGOs: Structural Holes and the Emergence of Global Regimes

Michael Stohl & Cynthia Stohl

This article adapts Burt’s 1992 network theory of structural holes to explore dynamic developments within global organizational networks, questioning the proposition that alternative forms of organizing are replacing the nation state as the central figure on the global stage. Our analysis of structural holes within the emerging global human rights regime moves beyond Burt’s “ideal” conception of “communication as information” and expands Burt’s notion of competitive environments, reconciling tensions associated with two opposing network theories, network closure and structural holes. Analyzing two interdependent historical cases—the founding of the United Nations in 1945 and the subsequent creation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948 and the Helsinki Final Act of 1975—we demonstrate the ways in which filling structural holes not only strengthens NGOs’ positions within the global network but simultaneously reinforces the robustness of the entire regime network and the nation state.

Keywords: Structural Holes; Human Rights; Globalization; NGOs
Communicating in a Collaborating Group: A Longitudinal Network Analysis

Kasey L. Walker & Cynthia Stohl

Responding to rapid economic and technological change, escalating interdependence and the intensified competition associated with globalization, organizations are entering into multiple collaborative relationships across sectors and nations. These collaborations are more complex than typical organizational structures. Incorporating the bona fide group perspective and utilizing a longitudinal approach to network analysis (SIENA), this research examines the emergent task communication and resource dependency networks of two interorganizational engineering collaborations. The results provide general support for the hypothesized collaborative dynamics that distinguish collaborations from more traditional organizational forms. We identify specific exogenous variables (i.e., properties of the individuals and groups external to the network) and endogenous variables (i.e., properties of the internal group) that influence the structural formation of collaboration networks.

Keywords: Interorganizational; Collaboration; Bona Fide Group; Social Network Analysis
Networks of Terror: Theoretical Assumptions and Pragmatic Consequences

Cynthia Stohl & Michael Stohl
Department of Communication, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106

Very little has been written in scholarly or popular venues on the conceptualization and utilization of the term network to describe terrorist organizing. In this paper, we identify critical disjunctures between the assumptions of contemporary communication network theory and the assumptions and appropriation of network concepts by the current U.S. Administration in discussions of terrorism networks. We argue that the theoretical and empirical foundations of contemporary network research provide a more complex and constructive platform from which policy makers may ask better questions and find better solutions.
Table 1 Contrasting Operational Assumptions Regarding Networks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assumptions of U.S. Administration</th>
<th>Assumptions of Network Theory</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Networks are information systems.</td>
<td>1. Networks are multifunctional communication systems (e.g., Barabasi, 2002; Johnson, 2004;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monge &amp; Contractor, 2003; Stohl, 1995; Watts, 1999).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Network links embody uniplex ahistoric relations.</td>
<td>2. Network links embody multiplex historically constructed relations operating at multiple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>levels (Buchanan, 2002; Burt, 1992; Castells, 1996; Fulk, 2001; Giddens, 1990).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Networks are hierarchically organized, top-down command</td>
<td>3. Networks are temporary, dynamic, emergent, adaptive, flexible structures (Contractor et</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and control structures.</td>
<td>al., 1998; Eisenberg &amp; Monge, 1987; Shumate, Fulk, &amp; Monge, 2005).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Network boundary specification is a political tool.</td>
<td>4. Network boundary specification is an analytic tool (McPhee &amp; Zaug, 2000; Monge &amp;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Contractor, 2003).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Networks are globalized and homophilous.</td>
<td>5. Networks may be local, glocal, or global and heterogeneous (Rogers &amp; Kincaid, 1981;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wasserman &amp; Faust, 1994).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Problematic Assumption 1: *Networks are information systems*

- When Khalid Shaikh Mohammed was arrested in Pakistan in May, 2003, Attorney General Ashcroft, described Mohammed as the "the brain of al Qaeda," his capture "a severe blow to al Qaeda that could destabilize their terrorist network worldwide."
Problematic Assumption II: Links embody uniplex ahistorical relations

Problematic assumption III: Networks are hierarchically organized, top down command and control structures

Problematic assumption IV: Network boundary specification is a political tool.

Problematic Assumption V: Terror Networks are globalized.
1. What does it mean to have a global perspective when doing network research?

2. What role do global networks play in research?

3. How can we maximize the global impact of research?
What does it mean to have a global perspective when doing network research?

Spatial
Cognitive/Cultural
Communicative
Pragmatic
What role do global networks play in research?

Personal
Professional: conferences, research teams, university centers
Research on importance of networks
Research on citation patterns
INSNA

INSNA is the professional association for researchers interested in social network analysis.

Sunbelt XXXV, Brighton UK

Updates coming soon!!!

1st European Conference on Social Networks

The 1st European Conference on Social Networks (EUSN, euasn@euasn.org) will be held at the Faculty of Arts, Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB) on July 1-4, 2014. [Click here for more information]

Connections

Archives

Current issue:
Volume 34, issues 1 & 2, 2014

Complete issue Download:
[Download Here]

Employment Networks in a High-Unemployment Rural Area

Dependency Centrality from Bipartite Social Networks

The Operating Room: It's a Small World (and Scale-Free Network) After All

Mobile Phone Assessment in Epocentric Networks: A Pilot Study on Gay Men and Their Peers

ONCN: The 2012 Malian Conflict Networks

The 'Barrio Mujeres' Outlawed
INSNA

Social Networks

Social Networks is the premier journal for the study of social networks. It is an inter-disciplinary and international quarterly that provides a common forum for representatives of anthropology, sociology, history, social psychology, political science, human geography, biology, economics, communications science and other disciplines who share an interest in the structure of social relations and associations. The journal publishes theoretical, methodological and substantive papers. It is edited by Pat Doreian and Tom Snijders and is published by Elsevier Science B.V. Social Networks new website.

CONNECTIONS

Description

Manuscripts selected for publication are done so based on a peer review process. The journal is edited and published by Editor, Dimitri Christopoulos (dimitrisco@gmail.com) and Managing Editor, Kathryn Corrigan, (Assistant Professor at US Military Academy). Editorial headquarters are located at UCS’s Institute of Preventive Research, 1000 Fremont Ave., Unit 18B, Building A, Room 5123, Altadena, CA 91001. Tel: (626) 457-6578, fax: (626) 457-6508. Email dimitrisco@gmail.com or corrigan@usc.edu for questions or change of address. Published articles are protected by both United States Copyright Law and International Treaty Provisions. All rights are reserved. (ISBN 0228-7766)

Journal of Social Structure

Welcome

The Journal of Social Structure (JoSS) is an electronic journal of the International Network for Social Network Analysis (INSNA). It is designed to facilitate timely dissemination of state-of-the-art results in the interdisciplinary research area of social structure. It publishes empirical theoretical and methodological articles.

JoSS publishes manuscripts that are focused on social structure and the patterning of social linkages among actors. These actors could be comprised of different types or levels of analysis, such as animals, humans, artificial agents, groups or organizations. INSNA was founded on the premise that the behavior and ties of social entities are affected by their position in the overall social structure. By examining the ecology and consequences of structural forms overall, of the location of entities within these structures, and of the formation and dynamics of ties that make up these structures, INSNA hopes to learn about the parts of behavior that are uniquely social.

Because it is a paperless journal, JoSS enables and encourages full use of electronic media in the analysis and presentation of research results. Authors are encouraged to use multiple formats to convey important relationships, concepts, theories, models and results. Such formats include but are not limited to the generation of images that use color, motion, three-dimensional representation, and user interactive features, all embedded within the article.
WORLD CANCER RESEARCH FUND GLOBAL NETWORK

OUR VISION
We help people make choices that reduce their chances of developing cancer

OUR HERITAGE
We were the first cancer charity
To create awareness of the relationship between diet and cancer risk
To focus funding on research into diet and cancer prevention
To consolidate and interpret global research to create a practical message on cancer prevention

OUR MISSION
Today the World Cancer Research Fund global network continues
Funding research on the relationship of nutrition, physical activity and weight management to cancer risk
Interpreting the accumulated scientific literature in the field
Educating people about choices they can make to reduce their chances of developing cancer

The World Cancer Research Fund global network consists of the following charitable organisations:
The American Institute for Cancer Research (AICR); World Cancer Research Fund (WCRF UK);
Wendell Kamber Ondrejov Fonds (WKF NL); World Cancer Research Fund Hong Kong (WCRF HK);
Fond Mondial de Recherche contre le Cancer (FMRCC FR) and the umbrella association, World Cancer Research Fund (WCRF).
FUNDING NETWORKS

• Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation: Knowledge Networks for Scaling Up Impact

• National Science Foundation: SCC-SBE: Research Coordination Network on Leveraging Computational Social Science for Understanding Virtual Organizations

• Virginia Polytechnic Institute and National Institute of General Medical Sciences Prime (Eubank): Synthetic Information Systems for Better Informing Public Health Policymakers

• Global Philanthropy Project: Understanding and Enabling Networks to Advance the Chicago Climate Action Plan (CCAP)

• The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation: Mapping, Understanding and Enabling the Digital Media Learning (DML) Knowledge Networks: An Exploratory Investigation

• National Science Foundation: NetSE: Large: Collaborative Research: Contagion in Large Socio-communication Networks

• National Science Foundation: EAGER: Collaborative Research: FLASH! Fueling Learning Alliance in Sustainability in Higher Education: Using social media and networks for science

• National Science Foundation: CDI-Type II: Collaborative Research: Groupscope: Instrumenting Research on Interaction Networks in Complex Social Contexts

• Rockefeller Foundation: Mapping cultural and network assets in three Chicago communities
How can we maximize the global impact of research?

Traditional Media
Social Media
Talking to power
Talking to local communities
Interventions