

Strategic Management and Organisational Dynamics: The challenge of complexity to ways of thinking about organisations (6th **Edition**)

By Ralph.D. Stacey



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Renowned for its unconventional thinking, Strategic Management and Organisational Dynamics continues to be a refreshing alternative for students and lecturers of strategic management specifically looking for 'something different'. Stacey challenges the conceptual orthodoxy of planned strategy, focusing instead on the influence of more complex and unstable forces in the development of strategy.

This book explores and challenges ways of thinking about strategy and organisational dynamics and raises questions about systemic and responsive processes, utilising insights from the complexity sciences. The purpose of this book is to assist people to make sense of their own experience of life in organisations, to explore their own thinking and to pay attention to and so what they do.

Ideal for advanced undergraduate and postgraduate study, this critically detailed account deals with up-to-the minute issues, raising the challenge of complexity within practice and theory. As such it remains unique amongst strategic management text books.



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• Sales Rank: #1464510 in Books

Brand: Prentice HallPublished on: 2011-06-25

• Ingredients: Example Ingredients

• Original language: English

• Number of items: 1

• Dimensions: 9.50" h x 1.20" w x 7.40" l, .0 pounds

• Binding: Paperback

• 560 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

'Explores a radically different approach to strategic management. Argues against the rational models in favour of narrative, conversation and learning from one's own experiences the central means by which we gain understanding and knowledge of strategy in organizations. Fascinating and thought provoking. Essential reading for anyone concerned with keeping up with the latest thinking in strategy.' Dr Bruce Lloyd, Review Editor for LRP

From the Back Cover

'Stacey's defining strength is his critical approach which challenges students to make sense of contested knowledge. His passionate interest in the subject is reflected in the dynamic and exciting development of the text and communicated through a remarkably clear writing style.'

Steve Hills, Sheffield Hallam University

'Strategic Management and Organisational Dynamics is a landmark academic text. As well as continuing to offer a well-argued critique of conventional management wisdom, it provides a unique and authoritative treatise on what is a truly distinctive application of the complexity sciences to organizational leadership and change.'

Chris Rodgers, organizational consultant and author of Informal Coalitions

Strategic Management and Organisational Dynamics remains unique amongst strategic management textbooks by taking a refreshingly alternative look at the subject. Stacey challenges the conceptual orthodoxy of planned strategy, focusing instead on the influence of more complex and unstable forces in the development of strategy.

Ideal for advanced undergraduate and postgraduate study, this critically detailed account deals with current issues, raising the challenge of complexity within practice and theory.

New to this edition:

- A new introduction outlining the book's unique approach and remit.
- A brand new chapter on dominant discourse and what evidence there is for its prescriptions.
- A brand new chapter which blends second order systems thinking and communities of practice with new material on social constructionist approaches and labour process theory.
- A focus on what strategic management might mean from the perspective of complex responsive processes.

Ralph Stacey is Professor of Management at the Business School, University of Hertfordshire. He is a supervisor on the innovative Doctor of Management programme at the University of Hertfordshire and author of a number of books and papers on complexity and organisation.

About the Author

Ralph Stacey is Professor of Management at the Business School, University of Hertfordshire. He is the Director of the Complexity and Management Centre at the University of Hertfordshire and author of a number of books and papers on complexity and organisations: The Chaos Frontier (1991); Managing the Unknowable (1992); Complexity and Creativity in Organizations (1996); Complexity and Management: fad or radical challenge to systems thinking? (with Griffin & Shaw, 2000); Complex Responsive Processes in Organizations: learning and knowledge creation (2001): He consults to management groups in organisations and is also a member of the Institute of Group Analysis.

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