

# Philosophy of Coaching

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Philosophy of Coaching: An International Journal

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## Editor's Introduction

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Welcome to the third issue of *Philosophy of Coaching*, the journal that brings a theoretically-grounded, historically-informed approach to the study of coaching and coach education.

For this issue, we partnered with the Graduate School Alliance for Education in Coaching (GSAEC), an organization dedicated to strengthening the discipline and practice of coaching through quality graduate-level education and research. Four of the five papers included in this issue were presented in some form or other at the GSAEC conference, held in Toronto, Ontario, in June 2017. We are pleased to be bringing these papers to a wider audience and are grateful to Pauline Fatien Diochon and Linda Page of GSAEC for facilitating this partnership opportunity.

In line with the mission of GSAEC, the theme for this issue was Coach Education and Training, with the Call for Papers highlighting the following questions:

1. What do we mean by coach education? What do we mean by coach training? How are they different? How are they the same? How are they related?
2. What philosophies, paradigms, and approaches underlie coach education and training?
3. What are the current challenges and opportunities in coach education and training?
4. How has coach education and training evolved over the past 15 years? What factors or conditions have led to its evolution?
5. What gaps in education or in training need to be addressed to serve the future of coaching (as a field) over the next 10 years?
6. What is the future of coach education and training over the next 10 years? What factors or conditions contribute to its evolution?

The five articles and four book reviews in this issue address these questions, and more, in different ways.

Michelle Albaugh, Kimberly Scott and Amy Conn's article, 'An evaluation of digital portfolios in coach education: Developing reflective coach practitioners,' identifies many of the advantages, as well as some of the challenges, of incorporating a reflective practice component in a graduate coaching program.

Tatiana Bachkirova, Peter Jackson, Judie Gannon, Ioanna Iordanou, and Adrian Myers, in their article, 'Re-conceptualising coach education from the perspectives of pragmatism and constructivism,' similarly focus on the need for more reflective practice in coach education, highlighting some of the challenges in aligning coach education with the core values and principles of coaching practice.

Laura Hauser's article, 'The science behind powerful questioning: A systemic framework for coach educators and practitioners,' presents a conceptual tool for thinking about, teaching and practicing the core coaching competency of powerful questioning.

Ken Otter, in his article 'Leadership Coaching 2.0: Improving the marriage between leadership and coaching,' draws on his own experience as both a leadership educator and a leadership coach to make the argument that leadership coaching needs to be more informed by leadership theory, asking how this might best be achieved.

Natalie Cunningham, in her article 'Coaching: Meaning-making process or goal-resolution process?' seeks to resolve the apparent tension in the coaching literature between two different outcome orientations, meaning-making and goal realization, showing that, in practice, these outcomes are not as distinct as they appear, with one preceding the other.

The four book reviews – two for *The SAGE Handbook of Coaching* (Bachkirova et al., 2017), which we believed, given its length (750 pages) and depth (6 parts, 40 articles), deserved special treatment, and one each for *Collaborating with the Enemy* (Kahane, 2017), and *The Leadership Gap* (Daskal, 2017) – offer a partial snapshot of the current state of coaching theory and practice.

If you like what you read in these pages, we invite you to get involved in one or more of the following ways:

- Tell your colleagues about the journal. They can subscribe for free by visiting [philosophyofcoaching.org/subscribe](http://philosophyofcoaching.org/subscribe)
- Offer your services as a peer reviewer for future issues of the journal
- Contribute an article to the next issue of the journal. The Call for Papers is on our website at [philosophyofcoaching.org](http://philosophyofcoaching.org)
- Suggest possible themes for future issues

You can always get in touch with me directly at [julian@philosophyofcoaching.org](mailto:julian@philosophyofcoaching.org).

We hope you enjoy this issue of the journal, and that the articles in this and future issues support you in becoming the best coach, coach educator and/or coach researcher you can be.

Julian Humphreys  
Editor-in-Chief  
*Philosophy of Coaching: An International Journal*

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