

Philosophy of Coaching

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Editor's Introduction

We are pleased to present the next issue of *Philosophy of Coaching*. Like our previous issue, we have been able to assemble a small selection of very interesting papers and believe they will both challenge your thinking and inform your coaching practice in new ways.

We would like to start our editorial note by announcing that this will be our last issue as Co-Editors of *The Philosophy of Coaching: An International Journal*. After two years in the role we feel the time has come to pass on the editorial baton to others.

In this regard, we are delighted to inform you that the incoming co-editorial team will be Dr Ana Paula Nacif and Dr Andrea Giraldez-Hayes, who are both affiliated with the University of East London. We see this as an exciting development as Ana and Paula will bring a wealth of academic and applied experience to the editorship of the journal, with special interests in coaching psychology, creativity in coaching, positive education, and coaching supervision. Naturally, we will be working closely with Ana and Andrea over the coming months to hand over the reins and make their transition into the role as smooth as possible. .

For this issue, three papers are included therein.

In the first paper, Judie Gannon reflects on the potential of coaching to influence social change and introduces readers to theories of social movements for better understanding this potential. In particular, Gannon uses these theories to assess how coaching and mentoring are currently getting deployed in response to numerous societal, economic and political threats, thereby permitting a reflection on how much coaching and mentoring has matured and is realizing its potential to deliver social change.

In the second paper, Melissa Dennison, Paul Stokes and Paul Sullivan use the concept of chronotopes to examine literary dynamics in coaching. As chronotopes refer to the various ways that an individual's thoughts, feelings and actions reside within and are shaped by their context within a particular time and space, they sit close to the heart of coaching. In this paper, three chronotopes are outlined (i.e., travel, pragmatic, romantic) and explored for the implications that they can have for coaching vocabularies.

In the final paper, Paul Lawrence offers a counterpoint to recent theorizing and commentary provided regarding systemic coaching and systemic team coaching. Whilst acknowledging the benefits of taking a systemic approach to coaching, Lawrence also points out that such approaches possess certain limitations that need consideration. The first is the belief that teams are real entities, whilst the second is that team coaching is a real discipline. He concludes by arguing for the importance of a meta-systemic perspective when coaches are approaching their work with teams and groups.

Happy reading and stay safe!

Gordon Spence, PhD & Paul Lawrence, PhD

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