



CALL FOR PAPERS

Small Group Research

Special Guest-Edited Issue on Meeting Science

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The editorial team of *Small Group Research* invites authors to submit papers for a Special Issue on **The Science of Group Meetings**.

Meetings remain one of the most pervasive features of organizational life, serving as a critical venue for communication, collaboration, decision-making, and sensemaking in groups and teams. Yet, despite their ubiquity, meetings continue to spark debate over their effectiveness, efficiency, and impact on individuals, teams, and organizations. Moreover, the nature of group and team meetings in organizations is subject to ongoing change, with respect to meeting formats, purposes, and functions. The aim of this Special Issue is to move forward and examine new perspectives on meetings in contemporary organizational life.

We are interested in interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary submissions that advance the meeting science literature, with a focus on empirical insights into group and team meetings. Both field studies and laboratory research methodology can contribute such insights. However, no studies based on individual-level, self-report, cross-sectional data unless substantiated by additional data will be considered. Possible topics in this area could be:

- Advances in meeting design and structuration in face-to-face, virtual, or hybrid group meetings
- Effective meeting leadership and facilitation in various meeting formats
- Psychological safety, inclusion, and equity in meetings
- Meeting participation and engagement (including “pretend participation” or the act of appearing to participate in a meeting without actually contributing meaningfully to the group's goals)
- Pre-meeting and post-meeting tasks
- Decision-making and problem-solving in meetings
- Linking within-meeting dynamics to relevant meeting experiences at the individual and/or team level (e.g., satisfaction, effectiveness, well-being, creativity)
- Technology and meetings (e.g., AI applications in hybrid and virtual formats)
- Meeting overload, fatigue, and recovery
- Emotional dynamics and surface/deep acting in meetings
- Diversity, identity, and power in meeting interactions
- Training and interventions for effective meetings
- Measurement and assessment of meeting quality and effectiveness

For inquiries concerning the suitability of specific studies or ideas for the special issue, please contact the guest editors, Joseph A. Allen (joseph.a.allen@utah.edu) and Nale Lehmann-Willenbrock (nale.lehmann-willenbrock@uni-hamburg.de). See Allen & Lehmann-Willenbrock (2023) for an overview of meeting science and Allen & Reed (2022) for a more practical guide if you are new to the domain.

Full papers should be submitted by **October 1, 2026** via the *Small Group Research* online submission portal at <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/sgr>. Be sure to select “Meeting Science Special Issue” in the Manuscript Type pull-down box. Also, indicate that your submission is for the Meeting Science special issue in your cover letter. In the cover letter, you must include the names and email addresses of 3 to 5 potential reviewers.

Papers should not be over 30 pages. Please see <https://journals.sagepub.com/author-instructions/SGR> for submission guidelines.

References

- Allen, J. A., & Lehmann-Willenbrock, N. (2023). The key features of workplace meetings: Conceptualizing the why, how, and what of meetings at work. *Organizational Psychology Review*, 13(4), 355-378.
- Allen, J. A., & Reed, K. M. (2022). *Running effective meetings for dummies*. John Wiley & Sons.