

Charismatic Leadership Studies- Past, Present and Future: Theorizing the Potential of Charismatic Rhetoric Research in Doctor of Education Programs

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Abstract

This theoretical review examines selected literature concerning charismatic leadership theory. It starts with an introduction of Max Weber's (1947) ground breaking application of the term "charisma" in the field of Social Sciences. Subsequently, it presents a research table, chronologically organized reflecting significant articles that highlight traits and historical developments of the charismatic leadership theory. Next, beginning with Weber's (1947) seminal article, this literature review discusses how the construct of charismatic leadership has advanced over the years. The examination largely concludes with a discussion of the current state of charismatic leadership, and a call for future studies to address charismatic rhetoric research in Doctor of education programs.

Keywords: charismatic leadership, rhetoric, Weber, leadership, charisma, education



1. Charismatic Leadership

Weber's (1947) ground breaking application of the term "charisma" in the field of Social Sciences opened the doors for a scholarly discussion that seems to still be a work in progress in the 21st century scholarly literature. Weber defined the term "charisma" as, "a certain quality of an individual personality by virtue of which he is considered extraordinary and treated as endowed with supernatural, superhuman or at least specifically exceptional powers or qualities" (p. 358). Weber emphasized that such qualities were, "not accessible to the ordinary person, but are regarded as of divine origin or as exemplary and on the basis of them the individual concerned is treated as a leader" (p. 359).

Despite the fact that Conger and Kanungo (1994) argued that not enough empirical research was available to support Weber's theory, the same authors, years later, acknowledged Weber's notion of transcendence and exceptionality stating that a, "leader's charisma could be transformed into routines and other institutional vehicles that in essence, 'lived on beyond the leader" (Conger & Kanungo, 1998, p. 27).

In spite of Weber's (1947) significant contributions to the field of leadership, some scholars, such as Conger and Kanungo (1987), raised thoughtful concerns about Weber's (1947) charismatic theory, and offered constructive critiques and advancements. Other scholars, such as Beyer (1999), suggested that a departure from Weber's original construct could, "blur the distinctiveness of the charismatic form of leadership by ignoring or downplaying integral aspects of charisma, especially the precipitating crisis, the radical vision, and subsequent systemic change" (p. 307). Overall the literature pointed out that Weber's (1947) seminal work certainly pioneered and contributed to a series of studies and scholarly discussions in the field of leadership, as it is highlighted chronologically on research table 1.

Article/ Book Title	Date/ Journal	Author(s) / Discipline	Synopsis	Contributions
The theory of social and economic organization	1947 / <i>Free Press</i>	Weber, M. Sociologist and Political Economist	 Defines the characteristics of "Charisma," the "routinization" of charisma and evaluates "the different types of authority "rational"; "traditional" and " charismatic" 	 Seminal article Religious term "charisma" applied to social science (Weber, 1947, p. 298). Transforms charisma through "routinization" (Weber, 1947, p. 329).

Table 1.	Chronology	of Leadershir	o Theoretical Frameworks	
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			 (Weber, 1947, p. 328) Defines Charisma (Weber 1947, p. 358–359). "What is alone important is how the individual is actually regarded by those subject to charismatic authority, but his 'followers' or 'disciples' "(Weber, 1947, p. 359). 	 Charisma is only awakened or tested, NOT learned or taught (Weber, 1947,p. 367). Charismatic authority will disappear if a leader fails to benefit followers (Weber, 1947, p. 360). Charisma "may involve a subjective or internal reorientation born out of suffering, conflicts, or enthusiasm" (Weber, 1947, p. 363).
1) Toward a behavioral theory of charismatic leadership in organizational settings	1987 / The Academy of Management Review	Conger, J. A., & DBA. Harvard Business School; Senior Research Scientist, University of Southern California Kanungo, R. N. Ph.D. McGill University, current member of Faculty of Management at McGill	 Theoretical paper argued Charismatic Leadership has been ignored by organizational theorists (Conger & Kanungo, 1987, p. 637). Proposed "A Behavioral Framework for Studying Charisma" 	 Pointed out that Weber (1947) "ascribed a revolutionary and counter normative quality to charismatic authority" but lacked "specificity" (p. 638). The authors concurred with Weber (1947) that



2) A laboratory	1989/ Organizational	Howell, J. P., &	(Conger & Kanungo, 1987, p. 639).	 charismatic authority is "unstable and transitory" (p. 644). Advanced studies by the "idea that charisma is an attritional phenomenon" (p. 639). The model advanced Weber's (1947) concept of Charisma, and sought to "demystify" the term (p. 645).
study of charismatic leadership	Behavior and Human Decision Processes	Ph.D. University of California, Irvine; Professor Emeritus Department of Management New Mexico State University Peter J Frost Ph.D. University Minnesota Former Chair and Professor University of British Columbia	 The authors examined three leadership styles, and two levels of group productivity norms on individual's adjustment to and performance on an ambiguous task (Howell & Frost, 1989, p.244) University of British Columbia completed "a task under the direction of either a 	 theory of Charismatic Leadership and noted that individuals "can be trained to exhibit charismatic behavior" Howell & Frost, 1989, p. 645). Proposed several questions for further advancement of charismatic leadership related



3)The motivational	1993 /Organization Science	Shamir, B., Ph.D. Social Psychology	 charismatic, structuring, or considerate leader" (Howell & Frost, p. 243). <i>Theoretical paper</i> Addressed how 	to "personality traits" and "situational determinants of charismatic leadership" (Howell & Frost, p. 266). • Advanced theory
effects of charismatic leadership:a self-concept based theory.		InD. social Estimation from London School of Economics and Political Science, Dean at Hebrew University of Jerusalem House, R. J., & Ph.D. Management Ohio State University Former professor Wharton School, Department of Management, University of Pennsylvania Arthur, M. B. Ph.D., MBA, Cranfield School of Management, England. Professor School of Management, Suffolk University	Addressed how charismatic and transformational leadership effects followers (Shamir & House, 1993, p. 577). • Argued that "charismatic leadership theory do not explain the process of "effects on followers" (Shamir House & Arthur, 1993, p. 577). • Presented a motivational theory to view the effects of charismatic leaders (Shamir & House, 1993, p.578) • Suggested that organizational conditions can moderate the charismatic leadership process ((Shamir House	by "a theoretical extension of current theories of charismatic and transformational leadership" (Shamir & House & Arthur, 1993, p. 590). • Called for further research and empirical tests of the " theoretical extension" ((Shamir House & Arthur, p. 591).



				& Arthur,p. 591).	
4) Charismatic leadership in organizations: perceived behavioral attributes and their measurement.	1994/ Journal Organizational Behavior	of	Conger, J. A., & DBA. Harvard Business School, Senior Research Southern California, Kanungo, R. N. Ph.D. McGill University, Professor of Management at McGill University	 <i>Empirical study</i> <i>Empirical study</i> Addresses the "development of questionnaire measure of perceived behavioral dimensions of charismatic leadership proposed by previous model (Conger, Kanungo 1987, 1988)" (p. 439). Collected data from "488 managers belonging to four organizations located in the U.S.A. and Canada" ((Shamir, House & Arthur, p. 439). Stated 49 different behaviors of managers were charismatic (Shamir, House & Arthur, p. 443). The study seeks "to operationalize the charismatic leadership role of managers in organizations (p. 	Argued that not enough empirical research has been done concerning Weber's (1947) theory (p. 440). Onger-Kanungo (1994), examined Scale of Charismatic Cadership" (C-K Scale) (p. 443). Suggested: the "need for further studies to vigorously establish criterion validity" and "to explore empirically the links between the individual behavioral dimensions and specific follower outcomes" (p. 450).



			443).	
5) An evaluation of conceptual weaknesses in transformational and charismatic leadership theories	1999 / The Leadership Quarterly	Yukl, G. Ph.D. Industrial-Organizational Psychology University of California at Berkeley Professor of Management and Psychology State University of NY, Albany	 <i>Theoretical paper</i> Suggests, "most of the theories have conceptual weaknesses" which limits the successful explanation of leadership phenomenon (Yukl, 1999, p. 285). Discusses how earlier theories present weakness (Yukl, 1999). Discusses issue of compatibility between transformational and charismatic leadership (Yukl, 1999). 	 The author discusses how Weber's (1947) theory advanced (p. 297). Argues that "the potential for using charismatic leadership to improve organizations seems limited, and it may be warranted only in special situations" (Yukl, 1999, p. 301). Advances the theory of Charismatic Leadership by stating that "little research on underlying influence processes" has been conducted (Yukl, 1999, p. 495).
6) Taming and promoting charisma.	1999 / The Leadership Quarterly	Beyer, J. M. Ph.D. Cornell; Former Professor of management at The University of Texas at Austin, distinguished scholar.	• <i>Theoretical paper</i> Suggests that a "sociological" evaluation of the literature on charisma uncovers "how theories and ways of	 States, "neo-charismatic and transformational leadership paradigms have tamed the original conception of charisma



			 operationalizing charisma depart from Weber's original conception" p. (Beyer, 1999, p. 307). Contends that perhaps Charisma "is more common and less extraordinary" (Beyer, 1999, p. 316). The author defines "charisma as a social process and emergent social structure that encompasses more than the leadership process" (Beyer, 1999, p. 326). 	 advanced by Weber (1947) and, in the process, diluted its richness and distinctiveness" (Beyer, 1999, p. 308). Argues the issue with theorizing charisma as the property of a person, a relationship, or a situation (Yukl,1999, p. 313). Advances the theory through a sociological approach and explanation Weber's (1947) definition of charisma (p. 313). Proposes, "changing the way we study leadership"(Yukl, 1999, p. 325).
7) Charismatic and transformational leadership in organizations: an insider's perspective on these developing streams of research.	1999 / The Leadership Quarterly	Conger, J. A. 1999 DBA - Harvard Business School, Professor of Leadership Studies, Claremont McKenna College	 <i>Theoretical paper</i> Examines the "evolution" of Charismatic and Transformational leadership in organizations. Looks at "background forces driving the 	 Builds upon Weber's conception of charisma Advances the theory by arguing "Weber's notion that charisma must ultimately institutionalize itself may no longer be



8) Charismatic leadership:	1999 / The Leadership Quarterly	Fiol, C., Ph.D., University of	growth of interest" in transformational and Charismatic leadership (Conger, 1999, p. 147). • <i>Empirical study</i> • Developed a	 accurate", due to globalization and new era (Conger, 1999, p. 170). Advanced the theory by arguing
strategies for effecting social change.		Illinois; Professor of Management, University of Colorado at Denver Harris, D., & Ph.D., Management New York University; former professor Fairleigh Dickinson University; House, R. J, (1999), Ph.D. Management Ohio State University Former professor Wharton School, Department of Management, University of Pennsylvania	 Developed a "process model" of charismatic leadership utilizing theories of "social meaning" (Fiol, Harris, &House, 1999, p. 449). The model clarifies "why and how the charismatic leader/follower interaction can generate social change" (p. 450). Presented analysis of 42 "speeches of all 20th century U.S. presidents through Ronald Reagan". The results indicate, "charismatic leaders employ consistent communication strategies for breaking down, 	 theory of arguing that while Conger & Kanungo, 1987 and Weber, 1947 suggest that charismatic leaders can effect change the authors theoretical framework and results show charismatic leadership cannot be represented by a "single snapshot" and is a " dynamic process" (Fiol, Harris, & House, p. 476). Advanced the theory of Charismatic Leadership by seeking to "redirect attention" to "psychological processs" (Fiol, et al, p.470).



9) The effects of visionary and crisis-responsive charisma on followers: an experimental examination of two kinds of charismatic leadership.	1999 / The Leadership Quarterly	Hunt, J. G., Ph.D. Business University of Illinois; Former Professor, College of Business Texas College of Business Texas College of Business Texas Ph.D. University of Wisconsin-Madison; Professor, College of Business Texas Tech University Dodge, G. E.	 moving, and re-aligning the norms of their followers" (Fiol, Harris, & House, p. 450). <i>Empirical study</i> Tested 191 college undergraduates utilizing Boal & Bryson's 1988 model (Hunt, Boal, & Dodge, 1999, p. 423). The results suggest that "there are two 	 Challenges Weber's (1947) definition of leader as "extraordinary" (p. 443). Provides support for hypotheses of the existence of two kinds of leadership;
		2		
10) Charismatic leadership and	2000 / Journal of Organizational	Conger, J. A., DBA - Harvard Business	role in charisma (Hunt, Boal, & Dodge, 1999, p. 442). • <i>Empirical study</i>	• Data/scale



follower effects.	Behavior	School, Professor of	• With "Conger,	supports Weber's
		Leadership Studies,	Kanungo and	assertions (1947).
		Claremont McKenna	Menon, (2000)	• Present idea for
		College.	charismatic	future research to
		Kanungo, R. N., & Ph.D. McGill University,	leadership scale"	look at leadership
		Professor of Management	and utilizing	qualities and
		at McGill University.	structural equation	leader's
		Menon, S. T.	modeling the	motivations to test
		Ph.D. McGill University,	authors conduct a	the dimension of
		Professor of Management	study with 252	C-K model
		at	managers.	(Conger, Kanungo
		School of Business,	• Discussed Weber's	& Menon, 2000).
		Clarkson University	(1947) notion that	 Advanced the
			"leaders use their	theory by
			expertise in	suggesting
			demonstrating the	examination of
			inadequacy of the	"additional
			traditional	follower effects"
			technology, rules,	• (Conger,et al
			and regulations of	2000).
			the status quo as a	p. 764).
			means of	Suggested that
			achieving the	"Followers' sense
			shared vision and	of collective
			uses ideas as	identity and
			foundation for own	perceived group
			ideas" to advance	task performance
			the theory by	(which mediate
			proposing that	feelings of
			"Charismatic	empowerment)
			leadership	affected by
			behavior will be	charismatic
			positively related	leadership"
			to the followers'	(Conger, Kanungo
			trust in that	& Menon, 2000).
			manager" (Conger,	• , p. 762).
			Kanungo &	



			Menon, 2000).	
			• p.750).	
11) The effects of charismatic leadership on followers' self-concept accessibility.	2001/ Journal of Applied Social Psychology,	Paul, J., Ph.D. New Mexico State Ph.D. New Mexico State University of Kansas Medical Center Costley, D. L., Porter professor Department of Management New Mexico State University Howell, J. P., & Ph.D. Inviersity of California, Iviner; Professor Management New Mexico State University Porffman, P. W. Ph.D. University of Management New Mexico State University Ph.D. University of Management New Mexico State University Ph.D. Social Phychology, University of Philos Social Professor Department of Management New Mexico State University Phosecial Professor Department of Management New Mexico State University Professor Department of Management New Mexico State University Professor Department of Management New Mexico State University	 <i>Empirical study</i> Paul, Costley, Dorfman and Traflmow, (2001) addressed empirically the "effects of leadership messages on followers' self-concept accessibilities" (p.1821). 379 undergraduate college students enrolled in four courses participate in the study (Paul et al, 2001, p. 1829). The results suggest that "Charismatic and integrative leadership messages from a leader resulted in higher follower collective self-concept accessibilities than did routinized messages" (Paul et al, 2001, p.1821). 	 Authors concur with Weber (1947) "charismatic and integrative leadership messages delivered by a leader will have greater effects than will routinized charismatic messages" (Paul et al., 2001, p. 1828). Provide empirical support for some of Weber's views (Paul et al, 2001, p. 1837) Support the propositions of the self- concept-based theory of charismatic leadership (Paul, 2001, p. 1835, 1836). Contributes to the understanding between the content of leadership



			 Notes the importance of a charismatic leader (p.1821). Findings provide "some empirical support for the views of Weber (1947) and Weierter (1997) that a leader remains important to the effectiveness of charismatic leadership even when charismatic messages have become routinized" (p. 1837) 	messages and the communication of leadership messages (Paul et al, p. 1837).
12) An affective events model of charismatic leadership behavior: A review, theoretical integration, and research agenda.	2009/ Journal of Management	Walter, F., & Ph.D. Business St. Gallen University; Switzerland, Professor University of Groningen, Netherlands. Bruch, H. Ph.D. Business University of St. Gallen, Switzerland; Professor University of St. Gallen, Switzerland;	 <i>Theoretical paper</i> Reviews studies on charismatic leadership behavior emergence and seeks a "comprehensive perspective by integrating previous work into an overall conceptual framework" (Walter & Bruch, 2009, p. 1428). The authors 	 Advances the theory by suggesting scholars such Conger (1999) and Yukl (1999) have "neglected the origins of charismatic leadership behavior" Incorporated "individual and contextual influencing factors" (Conger, 1999, p. 1438).



			 integrate previous literature about Charismatic leadership ((Walter & Bruch, 2009, p. 1429). The author outlines ideas for potential future research The author discusses and questions Weber's (1947) theory that crises are a prerequisite for charismatic leadership (pg. 1433), comparing with other findings. 	 Advances the leadership Theory by providing "solid foundation for further scholarly efforts" (p. 1429). Promotes "a more inclusive depiction of charismatic leadership behavior emergence" (Walter & Bruch, 2009, p. 1444).
13) Measuring transformational and charismatic leadership: why isn't charisma measured.	2010/Communication Monographs	Levine, K. J., PhD, Michigan State; Associate Professor School of Communication Studies at the University of Tennessee Muenchen, R. A., M.A., Tennessee; Director of the Statistical Consulting Center at the University of Tennessee Brooks, A. M. PhD, Tennessee Assistant Professor at Georgia Southern University	 <i>Empirical study</i> Conducted a study with 422 participants and utilizes "text analysis and correlations" (Levine, Mychen, Brooks, p. 576). Argued that the measurement scales utilized to measure Charismatic and Transformational theories "fail to 	 A review of studies about Charisma, including Weber (1947); Conger (1989) and other important scholars, unveiled that verbs are used more frequently to define charismatic leadership. Argued that skills "should be evaluated when



14) Can charisma	2011 / Academy of	Antonakis, J.,	 adequately address and measure the communication behaviors that are believed to be a part of charisma" (Walter & Bruch, 2009,p. 576). Conclude there is no relation between current scales and aspects of charismatic behavior ((Walter & Bruch, 2009, p.586). 	 assessing a charismatic leader" (Walter & Bruch, 2009,p. 580). Challenges current scales, argues that they are not accurate (p. 582). Suggested the creation of a leadership measurement including charismatic communication behaviors ((Walter & Bruch, 2009, p. 589).
be taught? Tests of two interventions.	Management Learning & Education	Professor University of Lausanne Fenley, M., & Professor University of Lausanne Liechti, S. Professor University of Lausanne	 Conducted studies to evaluate if it is possible to "teach individuals to behave more charismatically, and if changes in charisma affect leader outcomes" (Anonakis, Fenep. 374). Studies utilized "a mixed-design field experiment" with "34 middle-level" participants ((Walter & Bruch, 2009, p. 374). 	 charisma phenomenon and suggests "Leadership is learnable" (Antonakis, Fenley & Liechtip. 390). Challenges Weber's (1947) suggestion of "charisma as a gift of the body and spirit not accessible to everybody" (p. 375). Suggests that



			 Second study uses "within-subjects laboratory experiment" with "41 MBA participants giving a speech" ((Walter & Bruch, 2009, p. 374). The experiments suggest "that leaders appear charismatic because they use a wide array of verbal and nonverbal Charismatic Leadership Tactics" (Walter & Bruch, 200). 	future research "focus on uncovering which learning processes are most relevant and how they can be managed and accelerated" (Walter & Bruch, 2009, p. 390).
15) Charisma under crisis revisited: Presidential leadership, perceived leader effectiveness, and contextual influences.	2012 / The Leadership Quarterly	Davis, K. M., & Ph.D. Candidate at the Rawls College of Business, Texas Tech University Gardner, W. L. DBA, Florida State University Professor in Organizational Behavior and Leadership and Chair Rawls College of Business, Texas Tech University	 <i>Empirical study</i> Examines "charismatic rhetoric" used by leaders under the influence of crisis (Davis & Garder, 2012, p. 921). Explores "leader charismatic rhetoric across two major crises" (p. 918). Utilizes "inductive approach to theory generation" (Davis 	 Adds to "the scholarly debate about the degree to which crisis is an antecedent for charismatic leadership by considering the patterns of leader charismatic rhetoric across different crises" (David & Gaardner, 2012, p. 919). Advances the



	& Gardner, 2012,	literature by
	p. 918).	providing "a
		deeper
		understanding of
		the dynamic
		relationship
		between crisis and
		the emergence of
		charismatic
		rhetorical
		leadership" (Davis
		& Garder, 2012,
		p. 919).

According to Yukl (2010), sociologist Max Weber intensely influenced theories of charismatic leadership (p. 261). Yukl explained that according to Weber's theory, "charisma occurs during a social crisis, when a leader emerges with a radical vision that offers a solution to the crises and attracts followers who believe in the vision" (p. 261). Yukl also contended that, "in the past two decades, several social scientists formulate newer versions of the theory to describe charismatic leadership in organizations" (p. 261). Therefore, making this topic not only timely in the 21st century, but also important.

Unquestionably, the literature reviews revealed that since the term "charisma" first appeared in the field of social sciences, the literature has advanced, and it presents a range of diverse studies, both theoretical and empirical, as well as interdisciplinary scholarly discussions. Over the years, scholars seemed to have attempted to advance the term charisma (e.g. Conger & Kanungo, 1987), and re-examined it under new lenses (e.g. Fiol, Harris, & House, 1999), to measure it (e.g. Levine, Muenchen, & Brooks, 2010), to challenge its value (e.g. Antonakis, Fenley, & Liechti, 2011) and to provide a greater understanding of charismatic leadership (Davis, & Gardner, 2012).

Conger and Kanungo (1987) introduced a theory of charismatic leadership, contending that organizational scholars have greatly ignored charismatic leadership and focusing on, "the assumption that charisma is an attributional phenomenon" (p. 637). Meanwhile, Fiol et al. (1999) draw attention to process management, developing and testing a, "process model of charismatic leadership" (p. 449).

At the end of the first decade of the 21st century, Antonakis, Fenley and Liechti (2011) advanced the literature on charismatic leadership by suggesting that leaders could learn charisma, thus, "shedding light on the charisma phenomenon" (p. 390), and directly challenging Weber's (1947) suggestion of, "charisma as a gift of the body and spirit not accessible to everybody" (p. 375).



1.1 The Discussion on Charismatic Leadership in the 1980's and Early 1990's

During the 1980's, scholars became exceptionally attracted by the, "emotional and symbolic aspects of leadership" (Yukl, 2010 p. 261). Some scholars, such as Conger and Kanungo (1987), suggested that organizational scholars have ignored charismatic leadership, and proposed an innovative "model linking organizational contexts to charismatic leadership.... [a] behavioral framework for studying charisma" (Conger & Kanungo, 1987, p. 637- 639).

The Conger and Kanungo's (1987) model viewed charisma, "as a set of dispositional attributions by followers and as a set of leaders' manifest behaviors" (Conger & Kanungo, 1987, p. 645). In spite of the fact that Conger and Kanungo (1987) indicated that Weber's (1947) conceptualization was limited as a result of an absence of "specificity", they agreed that charismatic authority is unpredictable (Conger & Kanungo, 1987, p. 638- 644).

Nevertheless, the authors advanced the studies of charismatic leadership by presenting a model that, "builds in the idea that charisma is an attributional phenomenon" (Conger & Kanungo, 1987, p. 639). Seeking to test empirically the theory, they suggested a creation of a questioner, "including the attributes believed to characterize charismatic leaders as well as those cited in the literature for other forms of leadership" (Conger & Kanungo, 1987, p. 645).

In revisiting the theory, Shamir, House and Arthur (1993) introduced an argument linking charismatic and transformational leadership stating, "that charismatic leadership has its effects by strongly engaging followers' self-concepts in the interest of the mission articulated by the leader" (p. 577). Hence, Shamir and colleagues advanced charismatic leadership by offering, "a theoretical extension of current theories of charismatic and transformational leadership" (p. 590).

Seven years later, still contending that not enough empirical research was done concerning Weber's (1947) theory Conger and Kanungo (1994) addressed their own call for a "development of questionnaire measure of perceived behavioral dimensions of charismatic leadership proposed by [their] previous model (Conger & Kanungo 1987, 1988)" (Conger & Kanungo, 1994, p. 439). The Conger-Kanungo Scale of Charismatic Leadership emerged as a tool to advancement of the construct. To develop the scale, Conger and Kanungo collected data from 488 managers in four different organizations in North America, seeking, "to operationalize the charismatic leadership role of managers in organizations by developing reliable and valid questionnaire measures of the perceived behavioral attributes identified by the Conger-Kanungo model" (Conger & Kanungo, 1994, p. 443). The result of the study was findings that supported the existence of behavioral dimensions in charismatic leadership (Conger & Kanungo, 1994).

It is important to call attention that five years earlier, Howell and Frost (1989), addressing the call for empirical studies in the field of charismatic leadership, also added to the scholarly discussion, but without developing a questioner. The authors conducted a study with 144 undergraduates at the University of British Columbia, in which participants completed, "a task under the direction of either a charismatic, structuring, or considerate leader" (Howell & Frost, 1989, p. 243). The results of the experiment indicated that, "individuals with



charismatic leaders" presented "higher adjustment to their leader than individuals with considerate leaders" (Howell & Frost, 1989, p. 263).

Howell and Frost (1989) greatly contributed to the theory of charismatic leadership, by validating that charisma, "can be studied under controlled laboratory conditions", and by suggesting that individuals "can be trained to exhibit charismatic behavior" (p. 265). Howell and Frost recommend numerous questions for progression of charismatic leadership, such as questions related to, "personality traits" and "situational determinants of charismatic leadership" (p. 266). Their paradigm suggests one of many approaches leading to becoming a charismatic leader regardless of prior leadership orientation.

Other scholars, such as Levine Muenchen and Brooks (2010), and most recently, Davis and Gardner (2012), later addressed empirically some of the questions posted by Howel and Frost (1989), related to "personality traits" and "situational determinants" (Howell & Frost, 1989, p. 266).

1.2 The Discussion on Charismatic leadership Late 1990's and 2000

The end of the 20st century brought an intense and thought-provoking discussion among scholars regarding charismatic leadership. For example, Yukl (1999) started by challenging many aspects of charismatic leadership, including its broad value and by stating that, "the potential for using charismatic leadership to improve organizations seems limited, and it may be warranted only in special situations" (p. 301). Yukl's (1999) evaluation of charismatic and transformational leadership theories suggested that, "most of the theories have conceptual weaknesses", and that limit the successful explanation of "leadership phenomenon" (p. 285). Yukl went further and described how earlier theories presented weakness such as, "ambiguous constructs, insufficient description of explanatory processes, a narrow focus on dyadic processes, omission of some relevant behaviors, insufficient specification of limiting conditions (situational variables), and a bias toward heroic conceptions of leadership" (p. 286).

Furthermore, Yukl's (1999) conceptualization of charismatic and transformational leadership and, "the extent to which they are similar and compatible" (p. 298) caused mixed reactions in the scholarly community. Beyer (1999), a proponent of Weber's (1947) sociological approach, commented on Yukl's article, indicating that a departure from "Weber's original conception" could "blur the distinctiveness of the charismatic form of leadership by ignoring or downplaying integral aspects of charisma, especially the precipitating crisis, the radical vision, and subsequent systemic change" (p. 307). In the argument, Beyer explained that, "neo-charismatic and transformational leadership paradigms have tamed the original conception of charisma advanced by Weber (1947) and, in the process, diluted its richness and distinctiveness" (p. 308). Beyer, however, acknowledged during the scholarly discussion, that Weber's (1947) definition of charisma could be a, "rare phenomenon" (p. 313). Beyer further advanced the theory by proposing that scholars start shifting the form of how they study leadership theories (Beyer, 1999) pondering, "that it is possible that the phenomenon of leadership is too situation specific to yield the kinds of generalizations that researchers are seeking" (p. 325).



Complementing the scholarly discussion, Fiol, Harris and House (1999) addressed Yukl's (1999) call for more research on process. They developed a "process model" of charismatic leadership utilizing theories of "social meaning" (Fiol et al., 1999, p. 449). The model clarified "why and how the charismatic leader/follower interaction can generate social change" by presenting an analysis of 42 speeches of 20th century U.S. presidents (Fiol et al., 1999, p. 449). The results of the study indicated that, "charismatic leaders employ consistent communication strategies for breaking down, moving, and re-aligning the norms of their followers" (p. 450). Fiol and colleagues seemed to advance charismatic leadership construct by arguing that while Weber (1947) and Conger and Kanungo (1987) suggested that charismatic leaders can effect change using "frame re-alignment", the authors' analysis implied the opposite, that in fact what happens is that followers, "will align around a new interpretive frame, they must reverse their previous relationship with the existing socially dominant values" (Fiol et al., 1999, p. 459). Ultimately, seeking to "redirect attention" Fiol and colleagues appeared to shed new light on the field of charismatic leadership in addressing psychological and relational processes.

In a similar vein as Yukl (1999), but with a more holistic view, Conger (1999) examined the evolution of charismatic and transformational leadership in organizations, seeking to address its past and future by examining the developments of the theories, and by considering "leader behaviors & their effects" along with "follower dispositions & dependency dynamics", "context", "institutionalization and success forces", as well as, "liabilities of charismatic and transformational leaders" (p. 145).

Conger (1999) started by primarily looking at, "background forces driving the growth of interest" not only Charismatic leadership but also in transformational leadership (p. 147). Building up on Weber's (1947) conception of charisma as "essentially an unstable force" (as cited in Conger, 1999, p. 168), the author stated that some important theorists presented theories similar to those of Weber (like Conger and Kanungo model) while other scholars presented important differences (e.g. Conger, 1999).

Conger (1999) advanced the charismatic leadership scholarly discussion during the late 1990's by contending that, "Weber's notion that charisma must ultimately institutionalize itself may no longer be accurate" due to the globalization, new realities, and new times (p. 170). Lastly, Conger revealed how far research and theories advanced, nevertheless, the author emphasized the idea that there are still areas to explore (p. 168).

Giving continuity to the discussion during late 1990's, Hunt, Boal, and Dodge (1999) questioned the absence of substantial studies concerning the intersection of crisis and charisma, suggesting that, "given the pervasiveness of arguments in the charismatic literature, especially Weberian-based, concerning the importance of crisis" (p. 445). Thus, these scholars challenged Weber's (1947) definition of leader as "extraordinary" (Hunt et at., 1999, p. 443).

In addition to challenging Weber's (1947) definition, Hunt et al. (1999), provided support for hypotheses that there are two forms of charisma; "visionary & crisis-responsive" (p. 425). Hunt et al. (1999) advanced charismatic leadership by testing 191 college undergraduates,



with results advocating that "If leaders respond to crisis, they will be perceived to be as charismatic as visionary charismatic leaders. Crisis alone does not create charisma but crisis and response does" (p. 443).

Finally, Conger, Kanungo and Menon (2000) seemed to close the 20st century Weberian's scholarly discussion utilizing the Conger and Kanungo charismatic leadership scale and to conduct a study with 252 managers. The results revealed a "strong connection between follower reverence and charismatic leadership" (Conger et al., 2000, p. 747). The significant finding of the study demonstrated that, "followers of charismatic leaders develop a reverence for their leader and that this appears to be based most strongly upon their perceptions of the leader's sensitivity to the environment" (Conger et al., 2000, p.760). The study certainly opened the doors to a discussion of Weber's (1947) notion that "leaders use their expertize in demonstrating the inadequacy of the traditional technology, rules, and regulations of the status quo as a means of achieving the shared vision and uses ideas as foundation for own ideas" (Conger et al., 2000, p. 751), to advance the theory by proposing that "Charismatic leadership behavior will be positively related to the followers' trust in that manager" (Conger et al., 2000, p. 750). The authors finalized the study by presenting a much-needed suggestion in the field for future studies, suggesting that future research should look at "follower effects" and "follower's attributions" and "will need to include explicit measurement of followers' attributions about the leadership unique qualities and the leader's motivations" (Conger et al., 2000, p. 764).

2. Charismatic Leadership in the 21st Century

Certainly, since its inception in the field of social sciences in 1947, the charismatic leadership theory seems to capture the attention of several scholars and diverse fields. The review of the literature revealed that Weber's (1947) definition, theory and initial concept of "charismatic authority" witnessed substantial increase in scholarly writing and discussions in the beginning of the twenty first century (e.g. Antonakis, Fenley & Liechti, 2011; Davis & Gardner 2012, Levine, Muenchen, & Brooks 2010; Paul, Costley, Howell, Dorfman & Trafimow, 2001; Walter & Bruch, 2009).

For example, Paul et al. (2001), empirical study of "The effects of leadership messages on followers' self-concept accessibilities" (p.1821), investigated 379 undergraduate college students enrolled in four courses. The study suggested that, "charismatic and integrative leadership messages from a leader resulted in higher follower collective self-concept accessibilities than did routinized messages" (Paul et al., 2001, p.1821). The study also shed light on "the importance of a charismatic leader, even when charismatic messages have become routinized" (Paul et al., 2001, p.1821). Paul and colleagues concurred with Weber's (1947) notion of "charismatic and integrative leadership messages delivered by a leader will have greater effects than will routinized charismatic messages" (p. 1828). Additionally, Paul's et al., study highlighted the significance of charismatic leaders (p.1836), providing, "some empirical support for the views of Weber (1947)" and suggesting "that a leader remains important to the effectiveness of charismatic leadership even when charismatic messages have become routinized" (p. 1837).



The 21st century also brought a noteworthy development in the field of leadership as it relates to charismatic leadership. For instance, Walter and Bruch's (2009) integration of previous literature into a comprehensive overview of charismatic leadership provided a comprehensive review of charismatic leadership behavior emergence looking to develop a "comprehensive perspective by integrating previous work into an overall conceptual framework" (Walter & Bruch, 2009, p. 1428). The study questioned Weber's (1947) notion that crises are, "prerequisite for charismatic leadership" (Walter & Bruch, 2009, p. 1433) (Walter & Bruch, 2009, p. 1433). Walter and Bruch (2009) advanced the theory of charismatic leadership by suggesting that scholars such as Conger (1999) and Yukl (1999) have "neglected the origins of charismatic leadership behavior" (p. 1444). Lastly, Walter and Bruch (2009) outlined suggestions for potential future research such as the development of an empirical study about possible important factors "underrepresented" in the literature suggesting that future research should explore the inclusion of studies that could possibly advance the study of "how leaders' immediate social context and larger work environment influence the 'dark', personalized aspects of their charismatic behavior" (Walter & Bruch, 2009, p. 1444).

Levine, Muenchen, and Brooks (2010) added significantly to Yukl's (1999) and Byer's (1999) discussions about the intersection of charismatic and transformational leadership. Levine et al. conducted a study with 422 participants, noting that the measurement scales utilized to measure charismatic and transformational theories, "fail to adequately address and measure the communication behaviors that are believed to be a part of charisma" (p. 576). The study considered important scholars such as Weber (1947) and Conger (1989), and explained that the verbs and descriptors utilized more frequently to define charismatic leadership are: behavior, presence in a crisis; determination; communication of ideas; and communication of expectations (Levine et al., 2010, p. 580). The results of the study suggested that in order to comprehend the interception of transformational and charismatic leadership, scholars should develop, "a new leadership measurement that includes charismatic communication behaviors theories" (Levine et al., 2010, p. 576). Levine et al. expanded the literature by challenging current scales, arguing that they are not accurate, and by suggesting the creation of a leadership measurement instrument including, "charismatic communication behaviors" (p. 589). Ultimately, Levine et al. offered direction for future research, including the incorporation of the "dimensions of charisma and charismatic behavior" and development of, "new measurement scales used in future research" (p. 589).

The 21st century also presented another important study. Antonakis et al. (2011) addressed Weber's (1947) suggestion of charisma as a gift, "not accessible to everybody" (p. 375), and investigates possibilities to "teach individuals to behave more charismatically, and if changes in charisma affect leader outcomes" (p. 374). Antonakis' et al., experiment suggested that, "leaders appear charismatic because they use a wide array of verbal and nonverbal CLTs" "Charismatic Leadership Tactics" (p. 390). The study advanced the literature by, "shedding light on the charisma phenomenon" (Antonakis et al., 2011, p. 390). The study, "main contribution is that leadership is learnable" (Antonakis et al., 2011, p. 390).

Furthermore, addressing issues raised by Howell and Frost (1989) at the end of the 20st



century, Davis and Gardner (2012) addressed situational determinants. Davis and Gardner, contribute to the discussion by adding to "the scholarly debate about the degree to which crisis is an antecedent for charismatic leadership by considering the patterns of leader charismatic rhetoric across different crises" (p. 919).

Davis and Gardner's (2012), computerized content analysis study investigated President George W. Bush's speeches and radio addresses following two different major crises. The investigation explored, "leader charismatic rhetoric across two major crises, longitudinally exploring potential long-term influences of charismatic rhetoric on perceptions of leader effectiveness" (Davis & Gardner 2012, p. 918).

Davis and Gardner (2012) utilized an inductive approach in order to generate a theory of charismatic rhetoric constructs, and to "advance propositions regarding potential time and ceiling effects of charismatic rhetorical leadership on followers" (p. 918). With a textual approach, the authors stated that both Obama and Bush saw a decline in approval rating, "despite high levels of charismatic rhetoric", a pattern that is consistent with Weber's (1947) and other scholars "assertion that while charismatic leadership may be effective in eliciting initial follower support for the leader's vision, such support will not be sustained without tangible evidence of success in achieving that vision" (p. 928).

Davis and Gardner (2012) notably contributed to the literature of Charismatic Leadership by adding to, "the scholarly debate about the degree to which crisis is an antecedent for charismatic leadership by considering the patterns of leader charismatic rhetoric across different crises" (p. 919). The authors advanced the literature by providing "a deeper understanding of the dynamic relationship between crisis and the emergence of charismatic rhetorical leadership" (Davis & Gardner, 2012, p. 919). Lastly, by shedding light to "potential follower effects of charismatic rhetoric in the form of perceptions of leader effectiveness" the authors seem to contribute to the advancement of literature (Davis & Gardner, 2012, p. 919).

Ultimately, the 21st century seemed to advance the literature slowly, but steadily, providing new directions and an emergence of new methods of studying the phenomenon, such as "computerized content analysis" (Davis and Gardner, 2102, p. 921). Suggestions of future research are also prominent, such as the necessity of scholars to, "focus on uncovering which learning processes are most relevant and how they can be managed and accelerated" (Antonakis et al., 2011, p. 390). Conversely, presentation of limitations and possibilities for future research are suggested such as, "future researchers should gather more complete data" (Antonakis et al., 2011, p. 391).

3. Conclusion

In this literature review the charismatic leadership construct was reviewed from its conception to the first decade of 21st century, by examining and summarizing different theoretical and empirical studies that highlighted various stages that the charismatic leadership theory has passed through, and its recent developments and methods of study.

The theory started with a sociological and physiological approach, and throughout the years, as scholars engaged in discussions, more dimensions and methods of study were added to the



investigation of the theory. Scholars such as Beyer (1999) endorsed that the original theory succeeded in fulfilling its theoretical promises. Other scholars such as Conger and Kanungo (1987) criticized Weber's (1947) original construct of charismatic authority.

The study of the construct of charismatic theory is certainly very thought provoking, and its applications in educational organizational studies are boundless. The possibility of testing and understanding the charismatic leadership in high-pressure contexts is much needed for the advancement of the construct. A study of charismatic rhetoric of professors in diverse online and hybrid environments for doctoral studies appears to be numerous. For instance, future studies should seek to examine the extent of the use of charismatic rhetoric in online courses in highly demanding courses, such as doctoral courses, and its impact if any, on students' achievement.

Additionally, future studies should assess the significance, effects, and educational value, of charismatic rhetoric in doctoral programs. Ultimately, the literature search, reviews and construct show that no studies have addressed this topic thus far.

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