

CASE RESEARCH JOURNAL
CALL FOR CASES: Special Issue on Short Cases
Quick-Read Cases with Thoughtful IMs



Special Issue Editors: **Brooke Klassen & Stephanie Raible**

The *Case Research Journal* will publish a **Special Issue of SHORT CASES** with a submission deadline of March 20, 2026 for targeted publication in 2027.

Domain of the Special Issue

The domain of the special issue is short cases that are rigorous and compact. They are considered **short in terms of the length of the narrative and/or the length of time to read the case**. Designed to allow the same in-depth analysis as a longer and more traditional case, short cases are decision-focused; the shorter narrative requires even tighter focus. They focus upon one issue, or perhaps on a narrow range of issues, and must be able to be read or presented in less than 15 minutes. We will consider short cases from any business discipline. The instructor's manual for short cases is expected to be of the same comprehensiveness and quality (e.g. depth, length, theory-driven) as that which accompanies a traditional case published in *CRJ*, regardless of the length of the case. These are intended to be 'short read, long think' cases. It is recommended that authors read the transcribed conversation between the editors of the previous special issue of short cases (from 2024), available at <https://nacra.net/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Transcribed-Conversation-Special-Issue-Editors-Formatted-Final.pdf>.

About Case Research Journal

The *Case Research Journal (CRJ)*, published quarterly by the North American Case Research Association (NACRA), is dedicated to enhancing case research and publishing exceptional teaching cases. *CRJ* is the leading academic journal for teaching cases in business and related disciplines. *CRJ* was ranked #1 among case journals and #10 in the field of management education, including case and non case journals, with a "B+" rating in the *Academy of Management Learning and Education Journal's (AMLE)* article on the rankings of journals based on reputation with active scholars. *CRJ* also was ranked as an "A" journal in a more recent assessment of case research journals in the *Business Case Journal*.

CRJ has the broadest distribution of any peer-reviewed case journal. In 2024-2025 more than 120,000 *CRJ* cases were distributed through Harvard Business School Publishing. The cases in *CRJ* are also available through several other distribution partners including Ivey Publishing and the Case Centre, and the journal is listed in Cabell's directory. Further information about the journal is available at <https://nacra.net/case-research-journal/>.

Special Issue Focus and Methods

For the special issue, short cases can take two different forms including:

- **Short Written Cases.** Cases of no more than 6 pages (narrative AND exhibits). Case narratives cannot be any longer than 4 pages or about 2000 words (2-3 pages, or 1000 – 1500 words, recommended, as reviewers often ask for additional material).

- **Micro Written Cases.** Cases that are 1-2 pages, or 500 – 1000 words, in length (narrative AND exhibits) and designed to be read in five minutes or less, often during the class. Please note that even for Micro Cases, a comprehensive and thorough instructor's manual is required.

For this issue, consistent with the approach of the journal in general, *CRJ* will publish decision-focused cases based on original primary field research. Cases based on archival data and secondary sources may be considered, but authors are encouraged to consult the article published in *CRJ* on Publishing Secondary Sourced Cases (<https://nacra.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Writing-and-Publishing-Secondary-Data-Cases-Formatted.pdf>) to understand the definition, terminology, and the *CRJ*'s perspective on such cases. Preference will be given to cases where the protagonist and organization are named, rather than disguised, but disguised cases will be considered where the case scenario and/or issue warrant. Note: sensitive information, such as financial data, may be disguised to protect an individual's or organization's competitive position. Authors who intend to disguise information are encouraged to consult the special issue editors.

Methods: Cases based on original, primary field research will be prioritized for this special issue. Examples of such research include: interviews with key decision-makers in the organization; interviews with stakeholders affected by an organizational decision, issue, or problem; participant observation; review of primary materials, such as legal proceedings, congressional testimony, recordings of meetings, or internal company or stakeholder documents supplemented by appropriate secondary research (e.g. journalistic accounts). *CRJ* does not publish fictionalized or hypothetical cases. To be considered for the special issue there must be a focused decision and an identified decision-maker (protagonist).

An *Instructor's Manual* (IM, also known as a teaching note) must accompany each case submission. The IM should follow the guidelines outlined at: <https://nacra.net/case-research-journal/crj-editorial-policies-and-submission-guidelines/>. The IM should not be substantially different from a typical *CRJ* IM; it is the case that is shorter, not the IM. Submissions lacking a comprehensive and complete IM will not be put under review for this issue.

It is highly recommended that any authors considering submitting work to the special issue first examine some recent *CRJ* cases and IMs (ideally those from the most recent Special Issue on Short cases: <https://nacra.net/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Spring-2024-CRJ-Abstracts-Vol.44-Issue-2.pdf>) to ensure that *CRJ* style, format, and structure are understood. Cases and IMs are available, if you have or create an educator's account, through our distribution partners (Harvard Publishing, Ivey Publishing, The Case Centre).

Further Information

For further information regarding this issue or a potential submission, please contact the special issue editors:

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