Why think about organizational goods?

A means of being neither and both optimistic and pessimistic about possibilities for institutional change...

A displacement activity that might just pay off?
Organizational Goods?
A sense in which all goods are organizational...
A good-in-itself is something pursued collectively for its own sake.

Organizational learning and knowledge...
Knowledge (and its corollary learning) as a good-in-itself... is necessarily actively pursued... in and through organization

Experiencing ‘Organizational Goods’ as slightly disconcerting

*what we’re doing together here*...
... *vast collective organisation* ... and much organizing has gone into staging this event
... *a contribution to organising the organisational good* ... of talking together about organisational knowledge as an organisational good...
Experiencing ‘Organizational Good’ as slightly disconcerting...

I propose we attempt to consider the concept of organizational good as a companion concept. We admit we’re not entirely comfortable in its presence... but recognize that something good might come of cultivating an acquaintance.

Experiencing ‘Organizational Good’ as slightly disconcerting...

In this lecture I want to promote the idea of nurturing our capacity for ontological disconcertment as an organizational good.
Explaining Ontological Disconcertment...

• Knowledge and Learning as goods pursued in and through organization
  ... for organisation

• An Organization IS
  collectively enacted knowledge practices

Organizations...

AS enacted knowledge practices

The working of an organization is collectively enacted answers to five epistemic questions

• What is known—ontology
• How is it known—method
• How is it known to be known?—epistemology
• Why is it worthy?—axiology
• How are knowers figured?
Three stories of ontological disconcertment...

Taking seriously the question ‘What is known?’

Thinking of concepts as companions is a useful first step...

Disconcerting numbers in Nigerian Classrooms
Disconcerting Land Management Fires on Yolngu Aboriginal Lands

Disconcerting Roadside Rocks in Northern Norway
Towards Ontological Disconcertment as Organizational Good...

• Cultivating Ontological disconcertment is a step towards institutional recognition of organizations as ‘clotted knowledge practices’
• Ontological disconcertment has us asking ‘What is collectively known?’
• Recognizing concepts we work with as ‘companions’ that participate, is a first step