Dear friends,

Hello and welcome to another EurOMA newsletter. First, I would like to welcome Federico Caniato and Laura Macchion as new Editors of the EurOMA newsletter and, at the same time, express my gratitude to Pamela Danese for the successful editorship of the past editions.

During this last year EurOMA has been, as usual, very active. We had a very successful conference in Edinburgh last year, where we have reached the highest number of participants in a EurOMA Conference. This was really an important achievement that testifies how our community is continuously growing, both in numbers and in quality. Let me thank again Nigel Caldwell and Amos Haniff for the wonderful job they did.

In 2017 we had another important event, the 8th EurOMA Summer School that has been held at Letterkenny Institute of Technology – Ireland, under the guidance of George Onofrei. This event was also a success, with 25 students attending. I take this opportunity to thank again George Onofrei and his team and all the EurOMA colleagues that offered their valued contribution for the event.

2018 started very well from the events perspective. In March we had the 5th International EurOMA Sustainable Operations and Supply Chains Forum that was held in Kassel, Germany. It was a very fruitful forum with more than 100 participants from 21 countries. I would like to thank Stefan Seuring for his effort and dedication in organising such a successful event.

Now we are approaching our annual event, the EurOMA Conference in Budapest. This will be a special occasion because we are going to celebrate the 25th year since the foundation of the association. I know that the local organisers, especially Gyula Vastag that has been working side by side with the EurOMA Board, will make the 25th anniversary conference an unforgettable one. We are going to have a special Workshop dedicated to celebrating the past and the future of EurOMA and many other sub-events.

The Board has intensively worked during last year to assure that EurOMA will continue to develop in the future. We have undertaken a strategic initiative whose main aim is to try to better understand how we can improve services to our members and how to improve our activities and events. Lately you have been invited to take part in a large survey that the Board has promoted through our community. The results of this survey will be presented at the Assembly General Meeting in Budapest. Also, as you probably know, our reference journal, IJOPM, has changed editors in the last year. We are very happy that two of the new editors, I am talking about Cristina Gimenez and Constantin Blome, are EurOMA members who significantly had (Cristina) and are (Constantin) contributing to our Board. This allowed us to reshape our agreement with the journal, by making the EurOMA involvement more significant. We have also decided to produce a new EurOMA promotional video that will be...
revealed during the 25th year celebration in Budapest. Finally, we are constantly working to enlarge as much as possible our community by involving new European scholars working in the OM field. Concerning this, I am very happy to announce that we will support the second EurOMA Danube Forum 2018 that will be held in Zagreb. I consider this a very important step toward an increasing involvement of our OM colleagues from Eastern Europe in our association.

I really wish to thank all the Board members for the consistent work done during the last year.

I would like to conclude this introduction of the Summer newsletter highlighting again how the Board and myself are always open to any kind of suggestion you might have to make our community as stronger as possible in the future. I would like also to invite all of you to participate and contribute in our community in the way you will find more suitable.

See you in Budapest for a successful EurOMA 2018 Conference and for celebrating our 25th anniversary all together!!!

Giovanni Perrone
EurOMA President
Dear All,
welcome to the EurOMA Newsletter #48.
2017 was a very active year with several events organized, including a great EurOMA Conference in Edinburgh. Many initiatives involving our community are organized for 2018 as well.

This Newsletter includes:

- Some information on: past and future conferences and events
- An update from the IJOPM editorial team
- Call for papers
- A section dedicated to the new EurOMA Fellow
- EurOMA Board composition.

Please, if you would like to contribute to the next EurOMA Newsletter, submit your proposal to: federico.caniato@polimi.it.

Federico Caniato and Laura Macchion
Editors
PRE-EurOMA CONFERENCE EVENTS

EurOMA DOCTORAL SEMINAR 2018

By Pär Åhlström, Stockholm School of Economics, Sweden

The annual EurOMA doctoral seminar, now in its 17th edition, is per custom scheduled to take place immediately prior the annual conference. This year the seminar will meet in Budapest on June 22nd and 23rd. This year, a total of 42 have applied, a quarter of which are returning as second years students.

The intention of the PhD seminar is to offer PhD students a safe environment, where they can present and discuss their work with peers and senior researchers. Students get one hour devoted to their research, receiving feedback from both peers and senior academics.

The seminar is thus also an opportunity for PhD students to practice discussing and constructively commenting the work of others. This is an invaluable skill to develop, as it helps students to understand the strengths and weaknesses of their own work. The seminar is, and has always been, highly appreciated by those attending – both students and faculty!

The PhD seminar is also an excellent opportunity for network development. As such, it is an important part of EurOMA’s offering to its PhD students and young faculty. Together with the EDEN seminar on research methodology, the young scholar’s workshop and the writing workshop, the PhD seminar helps to further develop a great community of OM scholars.

Over the years, over 500 PhD students have benefited from the doctoral seminar. Many of these students are now a key part of the vibrant EurOMA community.

YOUNG SCHOLARS WORKSHOP 2018

The anniversary 10th edition of the Young Scholars Workshop will take place prior to the forthcoming EurOMA conference in Budapest, on Sunday 24 June 2018. The topic, Operations management – research and practice, attracted eleven participants from Europe, Asia and South America.

Jan Godsell (University of Warwick) will address the question “How to increase the usefulness and relevance of OM research?”. Paul Coughlan (Trinity College Dublin) will share his experience with and suggestions for “Designing, conducting and publishing collaborative research”. Federico Caniato (Politecnico di Milano) will address the interaction between theory and practice in his presentation on “Taking theory to practice: taking practice to research”. The YSW is chaired by Harry Boer (Aalborg University).

11TH EurOMA WORKSHOP ON JOURNAL PUBLISHING IN OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

By Juliana Hsuan, Copenhagen Business School, Denmark

The 11th EurOMA Workshop on Journal Publishing in Operations Management is especially organized for faculty in the field of Operations Management, who wish to increase the quality of their publications in recognized international academic journals in the field. The Publishing Workshop has 3 specific steps: 1) Writing, 2) Overview of submission and review process, and 3) Small group discussion.

Step 1: Writing

The Publishing Workshop process starts with a EurOMA conference abstract which has been accepted for the main conference program and also for the Publishing Workshop. Following acceptance, each participant will develop the abstract into a conference paper. This paper forms the basis for participation in the Publishing Workshop. In the workshop, each paper will be allocated to a reviewer or journal editorial board member as discussant, who will comment on the content and clarity of presentation of the ideas.
Step 2: Overview of the submission and review process
The workshop will start with a session with reviewers and members of the editorial boards, where participants will be briefed on the editorial policy, publication process and strategies for submission.

Step 3: Small Group Discussions
Discussion of each paper will follow, in small group sessions. These sessions will enable participants to obtain feedback on their papers from the reviewers and editorial board members, as well as from other workshop participants in the same track. The suggestions for further development will allow authors to identify the key steps to bring the paper up to publication standards. There is, of course, no certainty of subsequent publication as a result of the participation in the workshop since the journals’ blind review is the only process that leads to the acceptance of a paper for publication.

This year we have the pleasure of welcoming 26 participants from 16 countries, who will work closely with the Editors, including:

- **Professor Christopher Voss**, London Business School and Warwick Business School,

Consulting Editor International Journal of Operations & Production Management (IJOPM), Associate Editor Journal of Service Research (JSR) and Editorial Board member Journal of Product Innovation Management (JPIM)

- **Professor Cipriano Forza**, Università di Padova, Associate Editor Decision Sciences Journal (DSJ)
- **Professor Cristina Gimenez**, ESADE Business School, Co-Editor-in-Chief IJOPM
- **Professor Jan Ollager**, Lund University, Editor-in-Chief Operations Management Research (OMR), Associate Editor IJOPM, Associate Editor DSJ
- **Professor Juliana Hsuan**, Copenhagen Business School, Associate Editor IJOPM, Associate Editor DSJ
- **Professor Mark Pagell**, University College Dublin, Co-Editor-in-Chief Journal of Supply Chain Management (JSCM)

We are looking forward to meeting you in Budapest!
The Editors

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25TH EurOMA CONFERENCE 2018

By Gyula Vastag, Széchenyi István University; Tamás Kolta, Budapest University of Technology and Economics; László Monostori, Institute for Computer Science and Control (HAS), Hungary

Dear Colleague,

We are delighted to share some information with you about the upcoming 25th International EurOMA Conference in Budapest, Hungary, 22-27 June 2018.

The conference will be hosted by the Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Széchenyi István University, and the Institute for Computer Science and Control (Hungarian Academy of Sciences).

The theme of EurOMA 2018 is:
To Serve, to Produce and to Servitize in the Era of Networks, Big Data, and Analytics.

This theme aims at fulfilling EurOMA’s vision in the new era of networks, big data, and advanced data analytics by giving theory-based, practically relevant, generalizable and innovative answers to current and emerging issues in services, manufacturing and capability development (that is servitization, at its core). We also intend to broaden EurOMA’s base by highlighting the interfaces between operations management - engineering and operations management -

data analytics, by securing organizational commitments from reputable academic and industrial partners and, lastly, by placing the conference, after 13 years, again in the centre of Europe, in the inspiring environment of Hungarian history and culture.

As of today, there are **442 full papers and 555 registered participants**. The top countries by the participants’ affiliation are as follows: United Kingdom (132), Hungary (50), Sweden (42), Italy (37), The Netherlands (30), Brazil (26), Germany (26), USA (26) and Denmark (23).

The conference will be preceded by the EurOMA Doctoral Seminar, the EurOMA Publishing Workshop, and the EurOMA Young Scholars’ Workshop. The plenary speakers will be Professors Wallace J. Hopp (University of Michigan), Bart L. MacCarthy (University of Nottingham) and László Palkovics (Minister of Innovation and Technology).

Welcome reception will be on Sunday evening (June 24), Conference Dinner is on Monday (June 25), Wednesday is the Plant Tour (Audi Hungaria in Győr)
and Cultural Visit (Pannonhalma Abbey). For more information, please visit the EurOMA 2018 website at euroma2018.org

We are looking forward to seeing you in Budapest.
Letterkenny Institute of Technology (LYIT) hosted 25 delegates, from 13 countries across the world, at the 8th European Operations Management Association (EurOMA) Summer School. The EurOMA Summer School was organised from the 25th to the 29th of June, 2017 and the main theme of the event was ‘Achieving Competitive Advantage through Operations’.

Each of day of the summer school focused on a specific one-day module that drawn on the expertise of the keynote speakers:

- Sustainable Supply Chains (Prof. Mark Pagell);
- Supply Chain Management in a Changing Industrial Landscape (Prof. Janet Godsell);
- Supply Chain Integration (Prof. Dirk Pieter van Donk);
- Operations Strategy (Prof. Chris Voss) and Global Operations and Supply Chains (Prof. Kasra Ferdows).

Dr. George Onofrei, led the organising committee for this event at LYIT, Ireland. George commented, “This event was a unique learning experience for anyone who had an interest in empirical research at both the operations and supply chain level. The interaction with faculty members helped participants define relevant research topics and gave them an opportunity to network, not only with their peers, but with leading researchers in the operations and supply chain management community. I would strongly recommend this event to all PhD candidates and young scholars in the area of Operations and Supply Chain Management”.

By George Onofrei, Letterkenny Institute of Technology, Ireland
In March 2018, the 5th International EurOMA Sustainable Operations and Supply Chains Forum was hosted by the University of Kassel, Germany. 111 participants from 21 countries attended the forum, so this year the steady growth in participants continued. While in Europe participants from the UK and Germany dominated, there was quite a large group of attendees from Brazil (12), making it the strongest number of people from a country outside Europe. Prof. Joseph (Joe) Sarkis from Worcester Politechnic Institute gave a keynote on global developments impacting sustainability and supply chains. One example was the New Silk Road initiative the Chinese government is driving forward.

The forum emphasizes feedback and therefore encourages the interaction among presenters. A usual expectation is that each presenter has read the other presenters’ papers beforehand so that detailed feedback for improving the paper can be provided. Additionally, session chairs took a very active role in providing feedback. Hence, it was ensured that each researcher had to act as session chair only once during the forum.

Some observations on the content of the research presented can be summarized as follows:

1. The social topic is well established now in operations and supply chain management
   Quite a number of papers related to different forms of social issues in companies and their supply chains were presented. The claims that social sustainability is underrepresented seems to disappear.

2. The green topic seems to move to circular economy
   Various aspects of a circular economy were the dominating environmental issue at the Forum. Such papers came predominantly from developed countries.

3. Supply chain scope and perspective may evolve further
   One topic clearly emerging is multi-tier supply chains; however, there were not too many papers on it as a core topic. In line with the stakeholder debate, nontypical supply chain actors are studied more-often, such as NGOs being involved in the collaboration in a supply chain setting.

4. Application context broadens
   While much of the empirical research is still on the food industry and the apparel and fashion supply chains, other contexts are now studied more frequently. There were several studies focusing on emerging countries or base-of-the-pyramid settings. Furthermore, SMEs or start-ups were also chosen as an empirical setting.

5. Information technology is gaining relevance in SSCM research
   While there was only a limited number of papers on information technology and digitization related issues, they are emerging topics where now much evidence is at hand on how e.g. blockchains might contribute to tracking and tracing or how big data helps in monitoring suppliers still remains unclear. On the method side, there were not so many changes evident. Literature reviews are increasingly conducted for consolidating the knowledge in a field and providing respective synthesis. Case studies are still very prominent. While we were pleased to welcome some participants from the modelling side, there was hardly research addressing the intersection among methods. This also holds for engaged methods (e.g. action research). While seen as relevant at previous Forums, they have not made it to the mainstream just yet.

We are looking forward to the 6th International EurOMA Sustainable Operations and Supply Chains Forum. It will take place at Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenburg, Sweden, March 18-19, 2019.

For 2020, we are already set for the University of Nottingham, United Kingdom.

We hope to see you then!
2nd EurOMA DANUBE JOURNAL PUBLISHING WORKSHOP, “GETTING IT PUBLISHED IN OM/SCM”

By Kristina Petljak, University of Zagreb, Croatia

Workshop Venue: University of Zagreb, Faculty of Economics & Business, Trg Johna Fitzgeralda Kennedyja 6, 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia

Workshop Dates: Thursday, September 13 and Friday, September 14, 2018

Fee: 250 EUR – The fee includes participation in the journal publishing workshop, documents, morning and afternoon refreshments, lunches, workshop dinner.

The 2nd EurOMA DANUBE Journal Publishing Workshop will have cover two days and will focus on Research Design and Paper Development Process in Operations and Supply Chain Management. The second day will focus on Paper Development Process and Paper Publishing.

The workshop aims to help researchers to transform their ideas and research projects into journal-level submissions. We welcome researchers in the field of Operations Management or Supply Chain Management, who wish to increase the quality of their publications in recognised international academic journals or wish to know the community and better understand paper publishing process. Academics are judged on their ability to produce research papers appearing in good quality international journals which are also the basis of Business School and University prestige and success.

Journal publishing workshop is typically targeted, but not exclusively, at the following journals:

- International Journal of Operations and Production Management (IOPM)
- International Journal of Logistics Management (IJLM)
- International Journal of Physical Distribution & Logistics Management (IJPDLM)
- Supply Chain Management: An International Journal (SCMJ)
- International Journal of Production Economics (IJPE)

The journal publishing workshop team consists of internationally recognised and well-established researchers:

- Professor Dr. Stefan Seuring, University of Kassel, Chair of Supply Chain Management
- Professor Dr. Gerald Reiner, University of Klagenfurt, Faculty of Management and Economics, Department of Operations, Energy and Environmental Management
- Professor Dr. Britta Gammelgaard, Copenhagen Business School, Department of Operations Management
- Professor Dr. Cristina Giménez, ESADE, Department of Operations, Innovation and Data Sciences
- Professor Dr. Gyula Vastag, Corvinus University of Budapest, University of Pannonia, Széchenyi István University (Győr), National University of Public Service (Budapest)

APPLICATION FOR JOURNAL PUBLISHING WORKSHOP

Applications are welcome from researchers in all research areas of Operations Management and Supply Chain Management, especially those from Central and Eastern Europe. There are two ways of applying for the publishing workshop:

1) with extended abstracts, presenting your research;
2) without extended abstracts, learning about research design and paper development process.

Workshop applicants are kindly asked to submit an extended abstract up to 1000 words presenting their research projects, prior to participation. Please send your extended abstracts to Kristina Petljak, PhD, e-mail: kpetljak@efzg.hr

Please state in abstract which theoretical stream you aim to take up as well as which (empirical) research methods you plan to use. Please make sure, that you also point out, how theory and method relate to each other.

Please structure the extended abstract according to the following segments:
1. Purpose - Theoretical background, managerial problem and research questions, objectives and/or hypotheses.
2. Design/methodology/approach - How are the objectives achieved? Describe the main data and data sources as well as methods of data collection, analysis and validation.
3. Findings - Presentation and discussion of achieved or expected results.
4. Originality/value - Highlight achieved or expected contribution to the theory, practice, methodology or teaching of SCM/OM.

If you would require more guidance, please take a look at the Emerald website for structured abstracts. http://www.emergaldgrouppublishing.com/authors/guides/write/abstracts.htm

IMPORTANT DATES
Submission of extended abstract: due July 17, 2018
Workshop Fee Payment and Registration: due August 23, 2018
Workshop Dates: September 13 and September 14, 2018

ACCOMODATION
Hotel Dubrovnik
Gajeva ulica 1, 10000 Zagreb

Phone: +385 1 4863 555
Web: https://hotel-dubrovnik.hr

The Westin Zagreb
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Web: http://www.westinzagreb.com/hr

Hotel Jägerhorn
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Phone: +385 1 4833 877
Web: http://www.hotel-jagerhorn.hr/hr/

Palace hotel Zagreb
Trg Josipa Jurja Strossmayera 10
Phone: +385 1 4899 600
Web: http://palace.hr/

REGISTRATION AND FEE
Registration for the journal publishing workshop is open until August 23, 2018. For successful registrations please fulfil registration form that is available on the following link: https://goo.gl/forms/z2IyZ9ZmxwERQUh7
We would encourage you to proceed with the registration at your earliest convenience. After the registration, please proceed with fee payment.

POMS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2018

The deadline for submission of abstracts for POMS 2018 International Conference, Granada, Spain, October 22 - 24, 2018 is on June 30, 2018.

More details on deadlines to plan for registration, travel, and accommodation are available at http://www.poms.org/ and http://www.poms-granada.es/

Conference Chair: Professor Daniel Arias Aranda, University of Granada, Spain

Conference Steering Committee:

- Daniel Arias Aranda, Conference Chair, Professor, Department of Management, Faculty of Economics and Management, University of Granada, Spain
- Rafael Cano Güervós, Dean, Faculty of Economics and Management, University of Granada, Spain
- Amit Eynan, Vice President, Europe, POMS, University of Richmond, USA
- Sushil Gupta, Executive Director, POMS, Florida International University, USA
- Norma Harrison, POMS Board Member, Macquarie University, Australia
- Nagesh N. Murthy, Associate Executive Director for Global Initiatives and Outreach, POMS, University of Oregon, USA
- Martin K. Starr, Director of Strategic Planning, POMS, Emeritus, Columbia University, Rollins College, USA

Contact details
Nagesh Murthy
(541) 346-5137
(541) 346-3341 (fax)
Sustainability is a business objective to which many organisations aspire, but achieving this aspirational goal presents many operations and supply chain management challenges. The forum targets all researchers interested in Sustainable Operations and Supply Chain Management. It aims at stimulating discussion between researchers and research communities and encouraging studies that elaborate on the important questions of how to develop, improve operate and study operations and supply chains in a truly sustainable way. The event enables and encourages in-depth discussions in a small setting in order to generate new insights and facilitate collaborative opportunities.

This year’s theme is engagement and co-creation of knowledge; to enable the concurrent development of theory and practice. Contributions in this area are most welcome at the conference. As for the earlier Forum events, all contributions that include aspects of environmental or social sustainability are invited.

The Forum will use three different session formats

- Plenary Sessions
- Discussion sessions for work-in-progress papers
- Sessions for regular conference papers

6th EurOMA Sustainable Operations and Supply Chain Management Forum invites researchers from all relevant fields who are interested in the sustainability of operations and supply chains.

Authors are invited to submit abstracts, not exceeding 500 words (exclusive of references). Abstracts should be uploaded to the online submission system which will open in October 2018. Abstract submission deadline is November 9, 2018.

Organizing Committee

- **Anne Touboulc**, University of Nottingham
- **Árni Halldórsson**, Chalmers University of Technology
- **Carla Machado**, Chalmers University of Technology
- **Ceren Altuntas Vural**, Chalmers University of Technology
- **Ida Gremyr**, Chalmers University of Technology
- **Jessica Wehner**, Chalmers University of Technology
- **Mats Johansson**, Chalmers University of Technology
- **Stefan Seuring**, University of Kassel

Key Dates

- Registration opens: September 15, 2018
- Abstract submission deadline: November 9, 2018
- Notification of acceptance: November 30, 2018
- Paper submission deadline: January 25, 2019
- Standard registration fee deadline: January 25, 2019
- Final date for registration: March 1, 2019
- Forum dates: March 18-19, 2019

See [www.chalmers.se/euromaforum2019](http://www.chalmers.se/euromaforum2019) for more information
José A. D. Machuca, Full Professor of OM at the University of Seville, has been Head of Department and Vice Dean, as well as Visiting Professor/Research Scholar at prestigious institutions. His academic career has been recognized by 8 national and international Awards. He served at the Boards of EurOMA (2002 -2015), POMS (1998-2001) and System Dynamics Society (1989-1991, 1994-1997). He has significantly contributed to OM education and research, linking both with practice. For example: leading a successful crusade to introduce OM courses in Spain and pioneering the introduction of the first OM course in the Faculties of Business and Economics; designing and developing with his team the innovative Transparent-Box Business simulators (awarded by POMS, DSI, IST and MED-Academy of Management); leading over 15 funded research projects (Europe and Spain); leading the European Thematic Network for the Excellence in Operations and Supply Chain Management Education, Research and Practice (THENEXOM), sponsored by EurOMA and funded by the European Commission; writing with his team two books on P&OM (Mc Graw Hill, 1995), which were the most widely adopted at Business and Engineering schools in both Spain and Latin America; writing 8 books, over 80 articles (JOM, IJOPM, UPE, UPR, HBR, JCP, …), over 90 book chapters and over 200 Conference papers; being editor/co-editor of 8 Journal Special Issues (IJOPM, UPE) and 5 research books; serving at several Editorial Advisory Boards (JOM, IJOPM, OMR) and Editorial review Boards (POM, IJMT, JOMS); co-authoring (with K. Ferdows and M. Lewis) the cases Zara (ranked 15th among the top all-time 40 bestselling cases worldwide (1973-2013) and Zara: The World’s Largest Fashion Retailer (POM category Award 2017, The case Centre); leading in Spain the International High Performance Manufacturing Project (providing reports about OM strengths and weaknesses to over 100 plants in Spain, Italy and Austria). Finally, he is recognized for his contribution to a worldwide OM community, working for over 20 years to build bridges between EurOMA, POMS and JOMSA, and creating and establishing the P&OM World Conferences, aiming the global collaboration OM scholars from all over the world. He has been Conference Chair or Steering Committee Chair for the 5 past P&OM World Conferences.

José Machuca has contributed substantially to the EurOMA development. He has contributed to several research areas in the OM field, such as service operations management and responsive supply chains. He has served many years within the EurOMA Board by providing always a constructive and reliable effort for making EurOMA more successful. Finally, he has a primary role in the relationship between EurOMA and the other sister associations in USA (POMS) and Japan (JOMSA). He is one of the promoters of the P&OM World Conference and he always worked hard to push this idea further.
Dear IJOPM community:

As you hopefully have recognized, a new editorial team has been providing leadership for IJOPM and has been aiming to drive IJOPM to the next level. After five months of service, we wanted to give a quick update on where things are heading and what – we believe – we have achieved so far.

Our strategy for the journal included four pillars:

**A. Proactive solicitation of authors and submissions**

We have been popularizing the Journal at conferences and organized workshops that were geared to elevate the recognition of IJOPM, increasing the attention it receives from scholarly communities, with the aim to increase the number of submissions (e.g. Brazil, DSI conference in USA). Further activities at IPSERA, POMS, but also in Shanghai, are scheduled. IJOPM presentations at targeted schools in the USA, France and the UK are scheduled. If you would like us to present IJOPM at your school, or you want to represent IJOPM on our behalf, please get in touch with us. We will support you with material, talking points, recent achievements, etc. We are also offering e-features through Skype for doctoral programs and other stakeholders or interested parties.

**B. Enhanced operational excellence in the review and publishing process**

This was our main focus for the first months, but still a lot more can be done. We on-boarded 40 Associate Editors (AEs) and are grateful for their time and experience they offer IJOPM. We also radically changed the reviewer base, clearly focusing on quality, constructive development and timeliness in the review process. We can still do much better here, but considering we changed the reviewer base by literally hundreds of scholars, we are happy with the result. We also introduced an Editorial Review Board and have implemented a clear procedure with which ad-hoc reviewers can be promoted to a member of the Editorial Review Board; this is done in combination with a wider performance-based selection of best reviewers. Of course, when change happens, not everybody will be happy with the process. Since we might have different preferences compared to the previous editorial team, some friction here and there was inevitable. We want to make the Journal stronger, and push it to new heights, and in order to do so, we believe, we need to challenge prior assumptions and ways of doing business. We do not claim to have the recipe for success, but believe that we are going in the right direction in the pursuit of our objectives of developing an even better Journal. This is evidenced in some of the early statistics we recorded for our tenure, and we are very close to already achieve our turnover targets.

The average turnaroud time for original submission – including desk rejects though – is under 8 days, without desk rejects. Without desk rejects we achieve now a 29 day first round revision cycle which is far lower than our initial target of 60 days. The average time from resubmission to decision for a revision is roughly 24 days. Of course, introducing this new strategy makes it more difficult to publish in IJOPM from a numbers game, but we try to keep an open mind as much it is possible with respect to topics and methodology when assessing the papers’ fit within the scope of IJOPM. In addition, we paid great attention to the need to focus on manuscripts that have a good chance to be meeting the IJOPM criteria eventually. This has led to a far greater desk rejection rate (65%), which however also means that once your paper is sent out for review, your chance of getting through the process has improved significantly. And in cases in which the manuscript is desk rejected, it will be typically done within 48 hours. And it will include a commentary why it was desk rejected and what can be done to improve the paper.

**C. Continued and expanded purposeful efforts to disseminate work in IJOPM to international operations and supply chain management entities, stakeholders in other related disciplines, and practitioner constituencies**

For example, we already reached out to other conferences (e.g. DSI, AOM, IPSERA) and set up workshops. However, one of our focus areas in this domain—practitioner publications—has yet still to materialize. Stay tuned for what we plan here!

**D. Improved impact and influence factors, and improved ranking of the Journal in research active markets**

Of course, Impact Factors for IJOPM look golden and we will do our best to improve those, but at the same
time drive the quality of the Journal. As such, the aim is to drive up factors without accepting manuscript that do not develop our discipline further (e.g. descriptive literature reviews, conceptual work that does not develop solid theory, but rather uses buzzwords). The main focus is on the unique contribution to the literature based on solid theoretical and methodological grounds. We strongly believe in the fact that high quality will lead to improved factors and ranking. We will ensure though that by targeting various rankings per region, IJOPM will receive the best perception in the ABS journal ranking, which it already does. As a side note, one thing that hopefully helps here is that all accepted papers are now visible in a month’s time. The time for waiting a long time until papers are published and proofs are available is gone! Overall, we have been busy with transforming the Journal substantially and setting the stage for the next developments. Please encourage your peers to submit their manuscripts. We make sure that they will receive professional reviews with a fast turnaround time. We also ensure that the Editorial Board of IJOPM can focus and concentrate on good work, and will be rewarded for it. Occasionally, we will push for certain research topics in special issues and do everything necessary to make the Journal successful, but most important for us is that we see ourselves as service providers to the profession, with the belief in mind that we all will benefit from an internationally highly regarded Journal. Our first editorial will appear over the summer, since it will then be that most of the papers from the previous editorial team will have been published, and thus a clearer cut will be possible. From then onwards, handling AEs will also be acknowledged on accepted manuscripts, to provide credit for their oftentimes significant effort in constructively guiding the paper through the review process. Finally, all of this would not be possible without the great help of the Editorial Assistant, Martin Schleper (University of Nottingham) and Claire Jackson (Emerald), to whom we owe great thanks. We promise that we will do our best to address the next pillars of our strategy soon and in the usual dedicated manner.

Thank you for your continued support of IJOPM.

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**UPDATES FROM THE JOURNAL OF BUSINESS LOGISTICS**

*By Andreas Wieland, European Editor - Journal of Business Logistics*

Dear JBL community,

The Journal of Business Logistics has a call for papers for a Special Topic Forum on “Participating in the Wider Debate on Resilience”.


Our CfP contains references to literature that links to an ongoing debate on resilience which we expect submitting authors to be familiar with. Additional literature is listed below, as it might be inspirational in the context of this CfP.

Submissions are due: June 1st, 2019 (next year!)

All submissions will be subject to a double-blind peer review process using the online submission process for JBL via Manuscript Central: [https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jbl](https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jbl)

The editors for this JBL Special Topic Forum are:

- Andreas Wieland, Copenhagen Business School, avi.om@cbs.dk
- Christian F. Durach, ESCP Europe Business School, cdurach@escp europe.eu

Additional literature:

# EUROMA BOARD

## PRESIDENT

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<td>University of Palermo, Italy</td>
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## ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

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<td>Martin Spring</td>
<td>Lancaster University Management School, UK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cristina Setyar</td>
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