Preface: the role of technology in the transition of the global economy – with implications for technology management

Guest Editor: Junmo Kim

From regional, national, and global levels, global economy has been continuously reshaped by diverse factors, including technology. Without relying too much on technological determinism, this special issue intends to cover different layers and approaches to analyse and discuss the role of technology in shaping the transition of the global economy with differences in levels and scope of analysis.

Especially, this special issue focuses on the following elements. First, this issue is interested to know how knowledge intensive sectors are making changes in the regional, national, and international level fields of the economy. Articles by Longhi, Wang et al., Kumar et al., Gustavsson et al., and Häkkinen have shown the role of technology in knowledge intensive sectors with their own industry cases. Second, this issue wanted to tackle theoretically contested arguments in the field of technology policy that has set constraints in policy discussions. Researches by Sung and Gibson, J. Kim, and Yoon have presented theoretically salient issues with great impact. Third, the issue intends to introduce relatively new ideas and concepts that will shed light on the future discourses in the field of technology management and technology policy. Contributions by Yoo & Kim and Aasheim et al. clearly are examples in this category.

This special issue also presents geographical and methodological diversity. In terms of the countries from which cases are drawn, this issue covers more than six countries. In addition, due to cross-national comparison in the papers, a whole range of the countries that can benefit from the implications would be much larger than the numbers presented. Methodologically, contributed papers have presented a wide spectrum of methodology and the level of analysis that could be utilised in the analysis of technology and its impact.

As a guest editor, I hope this issue can be a fine example in the field of technology management, useful for different audience groups of academics, practitioners and those within the business and public sectors.