Foreword

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Biographical notes: Dr. Binshan Lin is the BellSouth Corporation Professor at the College of Business Administration, Louisiana State University in Shreveport. He is a seven-time recipient of the Outstanding Faculty Award at LSUS. Dr. Lin received the Computer Educator of the Year Award from the International Association for Computer Information Systems (IACIS) in 2005, Ben Bauman Award for Excellence in IACIS 2003 and the Distinguished Service Award from the Southwest Decision Sciences Institute (SWDSI) in 2007. Dr. Lin has published over 160 articles in refereed journals, and currently serves as Editor-in-Chief of nine academic journals.

Dr. Nada Trunk Širca has a PhD in Management in Education from the Manchester Metropolitan University. She is the Manager of the Faculty of Management, University of Primorska in Koper. Prof. Trunk Širca is a member of numerous committees at home and abroad, *e.g.*, Professional Council of the RS for General Education, National Academic Recognition Information Centres (NARIC), National Commission for Quality in Higher Education and European Educational Research Association (EERA). Her research fields include management, quality and evaluations in tertiary education, and the introduction of lifelong learning in higher education.

There is a growing demand to provide a thorough understanding of management in education along with its foundations to meet industry, academic and community needs. The *International Journal of Management in Education (IJMIE*, ISSN Online: 1750–3868, ISSN Print: 1750–385X) aims to satisfy these needs by providing rigorous, timely research occurring at the forefront of management in education.

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Internationalisation, growing technology and its development increasingly influence education in society. This also increases the need for managing education and learning. The significance of education management is becoming apparent in schools, entire education systems and other areas. The management of education and knowledge is therefore becoming an important factor in national systems and organisations in all areas of social life. This journal aims to publish papers that analyse all aspects of international and national education, in different nations. Researchers and professionals from education have the opportunity to discuss the most demanding issues regarding the development and leadership of education at all levels and in all areas of education management. Similarly, it is interested in how international or intercultural questions can produce problems that are ethical in nature or which have ethical consequences with regard to management in education.

Journal orientation

The *IJMIE* is an international journal designed to bridge the contributing academic disciplines and links academia with industry and other community. The central mission of the *IJMIE* is to publish original, well-written, self-contained contributions that elucidate novel research and practice in management in education, which advance the field fundamentally and significantly.

The objectives of the *IJMIE* are to develop, promote and coordinate the development and practice of management in education. The *IJMIE* is an outstanding outlet where management in education research could take shape and where the following results could be shared across institutions, governments, researchers and students, and industry as well:

- up-to-date, leading edge research to keep you ahead in the area of management in education
- practical guidance on ways to achieve great effectiveness and efficiency in management in education
- in-depth analysis and interpretation to advance our understanding and provide a framework for further study of management in education
- international coverage that allows us to share information, knowledge and insights on a worldwide scale.

Published quarterly, the *IJMIE* publishes original and review papers, empirical research, technical reports, case studies, management reports and commentaries.

Subject coverage

The *IJMIE* is a refereed journal of original scholarship. We invite submissions of paper bearing upon issues relevant to the journal's editorial aims. Although the possible set of paper topics is large and we encourage submission on any area within the scope of management in education, the following areas are particularly suitable (though not exclusive):

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• analysis of political, economic, social, legal and cultural environment in education

- autonomy, professionalism and decision policies
- case studies from schools in different countries
- change management and education quality
- classroom management
- computers in educational administration
- differing cultural perceptions of management in education
- distance education and multimedia environments
- education economics
- educational leadership
- educational systems planning/strategic planning
- equity and education
- finance and accountability in education
- globalisation and education
- individual professional learning portfolio
- information systems for education and training support
- intellectural capital and education
- IT culture in education
- IT and education
- knowledge and education
- KM in education
- KM in e-library
- leadership in education
- lifelong learning and development of competences
- management in higher education
- management of e-education
- managing the curriculum
- marketing in education
- mobile learning
- online communities
- organisations as learning communities

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- · policy analysis and evaluation of institutions and study programmes
- professional development of teaching staff
- public policies management
- research methods in education
- · school and school system improvement
- school culture
- sustainability in management education
- transactional education, student and teaching mobility
- weblog technology management and education.

In this inaugural issue

We received an overwhelming response (more than 150 paper submissions) from leading academic and industrial researchers to our call for papers for the inaugural issue of *IJMIE*. Owing to space constraints, we decide to select the best articles for the inaugural issue. The inaugural issue will hence be Volume 1, Nos. 1/2, 2007.

Finally, we would like to express our gratitude to the Inderscience staff for their high-quality professional assistance during the prepublication process and to our editorial team and board members for their continuous support during the journal's planning phase. We also wish to acknowledge a very large number of colleagues from across the world who have made the *IJMIE* a reality; they have contributed enormously to its research and development, right from concepts inception to final paper form. A sincere 'Thank You' to all.