
Preface

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Biographical notes: Pekka Kess is a Professor of Industrial Engineering and Management at the University of Oulu, Finland. He has extensive managerial experience from both universities and industrial enterprises. He has worked in managerial positions in chemical, steel and electronics industries as well as in software business. He is an active project evaluator and manager in international research and development projects. His research areas are strategic management, production organisations, knowledge management, quality management and e-learning. He has an extensive network of partners in Europe, Asia and USA.

Hanna Kropsu-Vehkaperä received her MSc in Engineering, majoring in Industrial Engineering and Management, in 2005 and her Dr (Tech) in 2012, both from the University of Oulu, Finland. She currently works as Post Doctoral Research Fellow and Head of Industrial Engineering and Management undergraduate and graduate programmes at the Department of Industrial Engineering and Management, the University of Oulu, Finland. Her research interests cover business process development, information and data management, management information systems and product lifecycle management. In addition, she has some years work experience from the IT industry.

Matti Muhos is a Research Director of Micro-Entrepreneurship at the University of Oulu. He holds a Doctoral in Industrial Engineering and Management. He participates in the editorial processes of several international journals as an associate editor, guest editor and advisory board member. His primary research areas are management of business growth and internationalisation, technology management, management of micro-sized and small business, and industrial management. He designs, coordinates and implements international and national research and development projects and has written more than 70 publications in the forms of journal papers, book contributions, refereed conference papers and technical papers.

Note on the special issue

The special issue aims at promoting new findings in the areas of innovation and learning, especially global viewpoints and emerging practices on technology, innovation, and industrial management. Its overall goal is to encourage more discussions and exchanges of ideas on the global trends in managing industrial operations, and to utilising new knowledge and findings for sustaining continuous performance improvement in an organisation. The theme of this special issue is ‘value creation for sustainable innovation and learning’.

The issue includes revised and extended versions of selected papers presented at Technology, Innovation, and Industrial Management or TIIM 2013, earlier held in Phuket, Thailand during 29–31 May, 2013. All papers were subjected to the double-blinded review. The target participants are scholars, researchers, practitioners, and doctoral students. Finally, on behalf of *IJIL* editorial board members, I would like to thank Guest Editors for all the efforts and time in evaluating, selecting, and reviewing the manuscripts.