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## Editorial: Knowledge-based development of cities: a tribute to Richard V. Knight

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Professor Richard V. Knight (17 November 1935–27 June 2017) needs no introduction to the audience of this journal. He is the person who coined the term ‘knowledge-based development of cities’ – more popularly knowledge-based urban development (Yigitcanlar, 2010; Carrillo et al., 2014; Yigitcanlar and Bulu, 2015) – in his seminal article entitled ‘Knowledge-based development: policy and planning implications for cities’ (Knight, 1995). He defined knowledge-based urban development as “the transformation of knowledge resources into local development, which could provide a basis for sustainable development” [Knight, (1995), pp.225–226].

Richard was a political economist and counsellor to cities on knowledge-based development. His initial research concerned the spatial structuring of the economy and the development of a typology for classifying cities based on their role regionally and nationally. His analysis of changes occurring in New York’s economic base led him to focus on the growing role of advanced services and knowledge-intensive activities. While a professor of economics in Cleveland during the ‘70s and ‘80s, he became deeply involved in redefining the region and in its turnaround. In 1989, he moved to Europe to learn from their experience in maintaining the liability of their central cities. He was based at Universities in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Lyon, Venice, Milan, Moscow and Genova where he participated in a major study on *The Future of European Cities: The Role of Science and Technology for the European Union*; conducted case studies of knowledge-based development in Delft, Amsterdam, Barcelona, Genoa, Lille, Lyon and Milan following which he organised an in-depth study of Vienna’s knowledge base. In 1995, he moved to Genova where he was a Visiting Scholar at the Faculty of Architecture, University of Genova and served as a counsellor to the mayor. He participated in several European level activities concerning the future of cities including the ‘Carrefours de la Science et de la Culture’, initiated by Jacques Delors, President of the European Union and was a member of the President’s committee of experts on cities. He was the author of the books entitled *The Metropolitan Economy* (1970), *Employment Expansion and Metropolitan Trade* (1973), *Suburbanization and the City* (1976), *Cities in the 21st Century* (1982), and *Cities in a Global Society* (1989). Even during his retirement period busy with his Huntsburg, Ohio vineyard, he continued to illuminate many of us with his views on cities and their knowledge-based development.

In 2008, he contributed to two pioneering books on knowledge-based urban development (Yigitcanlar et al., 2008a, 2008b) with his opinion pieces focusing on the knowledge-based development challenges for cities. In the Foreword of one of these books, he stated that

“Globalization provides cities with new and exciting opportunities to develop their knowledge resources and position themselves as knowledge centres (knowledge city) in the expanding global knowledge-based society. Cities can shape their destinies if their development is knowledge-based; knowledge-based development hinges on two interrelated factors – on the advancement and integrity of knowledge and on the liveability of the city. It is basically a question of cities learning about the nature of their own development, of increasing their understanding of the nature of the forces, processes and principles driving the development of organisations that comprise their own unique, local institutional base.” [Knight, (2008), p.18]

Most recently, he contributed to the 9th Knowledge Cities World Summit, held in Vienna, Austria, between 12–13 October 2016 with a paper entitled ‘Knowledge-based city development’. In this keynote paper, he highlighted that

“The shift towards a more open and knowledge-based society is changing the nature of the development challenge and the role of cities. Development is becoming increasingly knowledge-based. The challenge for the city is to nurture and enhance the cultures that produce knowledge by creating an environment where all types of knowledge resources are valued and by creating conditions conducive to their valorisation. In order to ensure that their knowledge resources are securely anchored and passed on to succeeding generations, the city also has to be able to identify, develop, attract, and retain talent. Listening to the dialogue seminars in Vienna convinces me that cities do have the power required to shape their destiny; their power derives from the integrity of knowledge they produce and on the liveability of the city and the quality of life they offer. This is the cities’ role as a civilising force” [Knight, (2016), p.24]

He was a prolific and tremendously influential researcher and the doyen of the knowledge-based urban development field. His students are now professors, and their students are now making contributions to the field of knowledge-based urban development. Knowledge-based urban development community will miss you greatly Richard.

This final issue of the *International Journal of Knowledge-Based Development* for 2017, dedicated to Professor Richard V. Knight, contains five papers that are looking at the knowledge-based development issue from various angles in order to provide a further understanding of the complex but crucial nature of knowledge-based development concept in the age of global knowledge economy and rapid urbanisation.

Following this editorial introduction, the issue commences with a paper (paper 1: ‘Intellectual capital reporting: a knowledge tool to coordinate a group of regional non-profit organisations’) by Stefania Veltri, Giovanni Bronzetti and John Dumay that focuses on the intellectual capital reporting issue and process. This paper aims to explore the intellectual capital reporting process from an internal and managerial point of view. The paper employs a case study methodology, focusing on a not-for-profit organisation, to address its aim through semi-structured interviews as the main investigation tool on the intellectual capital reporting process evaluation including the costs and benefits management gets from intellectual capital measurement.

Paper 2 of the issue by Ana Cristina Fachinelli, Ana Cristina Fachinelli, Fabiano Larentis and Fernanda D’Arrigo (‘Measuring the capital systems categories: the perspective of an integrated value system of social life as perceived by young citizens’) focuses on the generic capital system measurement issue. This paper aims to advance the generic capital system approach towards the social dimension by incorporating young

citizens' perspectives. The objective of this study is to construct and validate a scale to measure this perception that the younger people comprehend the inherent concepts of each individual capital system category. Methodology of the study includes a thorough review to identify the theoretical constructs underlying the capital system categories for subsequent construction of a scale to measure the perception of these constructs. Findings reveal that the identification of an integrated value perspective of the social life from the point of view of young citizens is possible.

Next, in paper 3, Sabrina Bonomi, Francesca Ricciardi and Cecilia Rossignoli ('Network organisations for externality challenges: how social entrepreneurship co-evolves with ICT-enabled solutions') focuses on the ICT-supported social entrepreneurship issues. This paper aims to investigate how network forms of organising, ICT-enabled solutions, as well as their institutional context, co-evolve in social entrepreneurship. The study finds that: Social entrepreneurship manifests itself through a network shaped organisational form, which is mainly expected to catalyse the transformation of externalities into successfully manageable commons for societal benefit; Social entrepreneurship evolves dynamically through specific organisational features and success factors, which are effectively understandable by leveraging the joint explanatory power of the theory of the commons and the theory of sustainability transitions, and; These theories provide sound conceptual tools to explain how ICTs co-evolve with the social entrepreneurship organisation, its business model, and the institutional context.

Paper 4 ('Residential choice in polycentric border-crossing agglomeration areas: the example of the Lake Constance-Alpine Rhine Valley'), by Stefan Gueldenberg, Laura Hecker, Adrian Klammer, Stefan Wilhelm, Francesco A. Schurr and Peter A. Staub, focuses on the issue of residential choices of citizens in cross-border regions. This paper outlines and deals with differences and similarities arising in polycentric border-crossing agglomerations in knowledge-based economies. The study examines the multi-country border-crossing polycentric agglomeration in the Lake Constance-Alpine Rhine Valley region, comprised of Liechtenstein, and parts of Austria, Germany, and Switzerland. It identifies factors influencing the residential choice within polycentric border-crossing agglomerations in a knowledge-based economy. The research finds that the most important factors for residential choice are proximity to family and friends, safety, career opportunities, and a high quality of living.

The last contribution of the issue, paper 5, by Yaman Kouli ('A new 'European story'? – The rise of the knowledge-based economy, 1870–1913'), focuses on the rise of the knowledge economy in the context of European countries. In this review paper, the author investigates the origins of the science-based knowledge-based economy, and highlights the challenges ahead. The paper argues that the growing importance of human capital and research and development in conjunction with the emerging world market today places the European countries in economically difficult position. While growing competition puts prices under pressure, growing demands on the quality of human capital require salaries and investments in labour-protection and social policy to rise significantly. The findings also suggest that growing investments in research and development made the matter of protecting innovations on an international level necessary.

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