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## Editorial

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**Biographical notes:** Kathrin M. Möslein is a Professor of Information Systems at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg and Professor of Management and Academic Director at the Center for Leading Innovation and Cooperation at HHL Leipzig Graduate School of Management. She is a fellow of the European Academy of Management (EURAM) and serves, among others, as a member of the advisory boards of the Peter Pribilla Foundation at the Technische Universität München (TUM), the Cambridge Service Alliance (CSA) at the University of Cambridge and the Fraunhofer IIS-SCS, Erlangen. Her current research focuses on the implementation of innovation strategies and technologies as well as leadership systems in service organisations.

John Bessant holds the Chair in Innovation and Entrepreneurship at Exeter University where he is also the Research Director. In 2003, he was awarded a fellowship with the Advanced Institute for Management Research and was also elected a Fellow of the British Academy of Management. He has acted as an Advisor to various national governments and to international bodies including the United Nations, The World Bank and the OECD. He is the author of over 20 books and monographs and many articles on the topic and has lectured and consulted widely around the world.

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We are delighted to introduce you to the special issue for the Annual Conference of the European Academy of Management (EURAM) ‘Waves and winds of strategic leadership for sustainable competitiveness’ held in Valencia, Spain, June 2014. We have selected the best papers from the innovation general track, and invited the authors to develop them based on feedback from our normal double-blind peer review process. The seven papers accepted for publication represent an excellent view of current research and practice of innovation management.

Cordón-Pozo, Vidal-Salazar and de la Torre-Ruiz analyse the influence of specific innovation training on product innovation performance and investigate how external cooperation can moderate this relationship. Based on an analysis of 176 Spanish firms in high-tech industries, the findings highlight a positive impact of innovation training on product innovation performance when firms are cooperating with external agents. Thus,

the findings suggest that external cooperation might be important for firms to overcome the problems that a focus-oriented training can have regarding product innovation performance.

Gnekpe and Coeurderoy conduct a systematic literature review on the impact of internal and external technology sourcing on innovation performance. The review consolidates the key findings from 207 different articles. In particular, the authors point out the need for moderators in studying the relationship between technology sourcing and innovation performance. The review also suggests fruitful avenues for future research on innovation performance in the field of technology management.

Based on extant theory, Comberg and Velamuri identify distinct categories of reasons why firms engage in business model innovation. These are increased profitability, improved strategic positioning, and customer attraction. Following an exploratory single case study approach, the authors confirm these categories by identifying the distinct reasons for eBay to introduce a competing business model. In addition, the impacts on the focal firm as a result of the new business model are analysed. The study concludes that when firms launch competing business models, intended and unintended consequences can be both positive and negative.

Based on a case study of a German IT consulting firm, Hoeber and Schaarschmidt combine customer integration and solution selling at service companies. The study explores how a transformation from a service provider to a solution provider influences the provider's relationship with customers, affects customer-induced service, and influences the provider's absorptive capacity. The key results are presented as testable propositions.

Jonas and Roth explore the integration of internal and external stakeholders in service innovation. Drawing upon a case study analysis, the findings suggest that stakeholder integration is realised in the modes of reactive integration for the majority of stakeholders, whereas mutual integration is only realised with members of the organisation. The study shows that the stakeholder integration in service systems leads to interdependencies between stakeholders and concludes that indirect ways of stakeholder integration should be taken into account for project and stakeholder management.

Based on an empirical study of 211 customers of a luxury shoe individualiser, Habicht and Thallmaier investigate how customer value is created within the co-design process. The study reveals creative achievement and perceived fun to be significant components of co-design value. The findings show that both components have significant impact on product perception, and the intention to recommend the mass customisation offer to others, but no direct impact on purchase intention.

Using a network dynamic approach, Díez-Vial and Montoro-Sánchez analyse the impact of the evolution of local knowledge networks on the innovative capacity of firms co-located. The study shows that length of time that a firm spends in a science park affects its local knowledge network. In addition, the authors identify three different stages-local development incubation, growth and maturity, and therefore, provide new insights about the role of science parks in both promoting the exchange of knowledge among co-located firms and increasing their innovative capacity.

We would like to thank the authors and the reviewers for their time spent and excellent efforts. Enjoy our special issue of EURAM 2014 'Strategic Leadership for Sustainable Competitiveness'!