
Editorial

Michael K. Fung

School of Accounting and Finance,
Hong Kong Polytechnic University,
Yuk Choi Road, Hung Hom,
Kowloon, 852, Hong Kong
Email: afmikef@polyu.edu.hk

Biographical notes: Michael K. Fung is currently an Associate Professor of Economics at the School of Accounting and Finance, Hong Kong Polytechnic University. His interdisciplinary research interests span over economics, finance, accounting, and operation research.

The papers published in this IJMEF special issue were presented at the *SIBR-Thammasat 2016 Conference on Interdisciplinary Business and Economic Research*, which was held on 2–3 June, 2016 in Bangkok. The conference was organised by The Society of Interdisciplinary Business Research and the Faculty of Economics of Thammasat University. The papers appearing in this special issue were peer reviewed following the procedure outlined as follows. The guest editor initially evaluated all manuscripts nominated for the special issue. Papers rejected at this stage were outside the aims and scope of the journal or were insufficiently original. Papers that met the minimum criteria were forwarded to at least two experts for further review. This special issue employed double blind reviewing, where both the referees and the author(s) remained anonymous throughout the process.

This IJMEF special issue strives to stimulate cross-disciplinary interest in the convergence of financial practices and monetary phenomenon among nations. Specifically, using the survey method, Gamayuni investigated the government accounting standard and financial reporting quality, which is crucial to the creation of a transparent and accountable financial reporting system in Indonesia. Pramitithanakan et al. studied the adoption of direct seeding method in Thailand's rice production, which has implication on the country's national incomes and stability. Muzindutsi and Manaliyo turned their attention to the relationship between exchange rate fluctuations and tourism revenues in South Africa. They found one-way causality from real exchange rate to tourism revenues.

Several papers are in the field of financial development and integration. Ratanavararak found that trade reduces the negative effect of financial integration on consumption smoothing while financial integration reduces output fluctuation and dependency on foreign economies in Thailand. Moreover, Lerskullawat showed that a larger degree of banking sector and capital market development weakens the effect of monetary policy through the bank lending channel. Moreover, Sodsai and Suksonghong found evidence against the random-walk hypothesis for small-capitalisation sub-index in the Stock Exchange of Thailand.

In the field of financial management and governance, the paper by Damayanti et al. sheds light on the asset allocation strategies of equity mutual funds and that by Soekarno and Prayogo traces the capital structure adjustments of state-owned enterprises. Moreover, using data on public-listed firms in Malaysia, Chuah and Hooy examined the impact of board ethnic diversity on firm performance.

This special also features several interdisciplinary studies that may have financial implications on the public and private sectors. Raharja explores the strategic challenges faced by a public water company in Indonesia. Zulkifli and Abdul-Aziz identified the determinants of workers' pay in the Malaysian manufacturing sector. Susilowati demonstrated how Multi-stakeholder partnership creates economic values. Noermijati and Azzuhri explored the relationship between transformational leadership and organisational citizenship behaviour. Finally, Amelia and Ronald drew implications from the market of generic drugs to the national health insurance policy.