
Editorial

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The last issue, on my part being *Founding Editor-in-Chief*, of the *International Journal of Comparative Management* in Vol. 3, No. 4, 2020 publishes a set of five academic research articles, which contributed by nine authors based in developed and emerging markets. These articles include analyst coverage and information asymmetry issues, macroeconomic determinants of stock markets, inter-organisational familiness, day of the week effect in emerging market stocks, and a literature review on mergers and acquisitions. As per the publisher and journal guidelines, these articles have been reviewed under a double-blind review method and revised/resubmitted timely via the *IJCM*'s online submission gateway. These published articles would advance our scholarly knowledge and contribute to different areas of the business and comparative management literature.

With respects due to the contributors, the publisher and the editorial board, I take this opportunity to conclude *my part* on being handling the *IJCM* during the past four years, from March 2017 to December 2020.

First of all, having special issues managing experience at business management journals of Inderscience and other publishers, I had some interest to initiate a new journal, then contacted the publishing staff Barbara Curran, in February 2017. The matter was then communicated with the publishing senior staff Darren Simpson, who offered excellent guidance in and other publishing crew members' desk supports to launching the "*International Journal of Comparative Management*", in March 2017. It was commenced and managed on my part by agreeing 'unpaid voluntary service' with the publisher, for and at the journal. According to Inderscience guidelines and following their portfolio of management journals, the editorial board had been established, then special issue call for papers, conference-journal linked calls, and other email promotions were placed on the agenda, thus to publish four issues in a year. With supports from editorial board members and the publisher, these efforts had been continued until the last quarter in 2020. Unfortunately, none of the conference-linked call for papers was succeeded; only one special issue edited by *IJCM* board member was achieved with a good set of research articles.

In all my previous editorials (Redding, 2018a, 2018b, Reddy 2018, 2019a, 2019b, 2020), I did mention the summary of articles in respective issues, review guidelines, and acknowledgements to special issue calls, conference calls, reviewers, best papers, best reviewers, publisher and colleagues at my school. The previous editorial (Reddy, 2020) had already summarised on indexing achievement of the journal, the authorship of published papers, status of submissions and decisions, and publication statements.

By the end of three volumes with 12 issues during 2018–2020, over 150 papers were submitted (managed on both old and new submission systems) and a total of 48 articles were published. And yes, the journal was also applied for several ranking agencies, though it could not achieve all of those rankings given the short-history of the journal and other issues like journal index metrics, except the fact that *IJCM* had already been ranked or indexed by two European academic databases.

Although publishing staff may have better information, to my knowledge, this is the direct, first journal on “*Comparative Management*”. However, given the increasing number of new journals around the world and given my own limitations on social relationships and networking in academics and personal life too, only a few comparative management articles were (submitted to) published in the journal. I accept my own errors whatever, though kindly note that many new journals do not receive (too) many submissions at the start and thereby fail to publish each issue timely. I really do not know myself if I am just average, poor or the worst; I just did this voluntary editor service which I liked, based on my own learning and prior special issues managing experience.

Therefore, theoretical foundations, models, frameworks and qualitative and empirical evidences within comparative management stream are yet to evolve, despite there is negligible amount of published articles on this subject in management literature/journals. I sincerely believe in senior editorship and the new editorial team headed by Prof. V. Baba, from January 2021, would take the *IJCM* to the next level with his goals for the journal.

I am very much thankful to all editorial board members, authors, reviewers, and publishing staff who offered their contributions, supports, suggestions and services to establish the *IJCM*. Profound acknowledgements to and admire and dedicate my academic editorship service to my current affiliating academic institution Xi'an Polytechnic University School of Management, China who constantly supported me in every aspect of my academic life here, offering me a faculty job and providing me medical assistance and visa assistance, in hard times. Thank you very much again!

My sincere apologies for any misunderstandings during my services at the *IJCM* and I take them on my personal part. Each activity, voluntary or fee, is a learning course for early career scholars like me. Please note that my last name ‘Reddy’ was changed to ‘Redding’ for only a short period in my academic- and social-life just because of some traditional faithful suggestions of my grandmother (late) at my native home since childhood and aspiring some scholars’ names in economics and management literature, if could settle my personals and career after a significant delay, being a late-born middle child; hence, this name astrology did not help me anyway, also a new learning for me, so back to original parental name finally (full name *Kotapati Srinivasa Reddy*; medium *K. Srinivasa Reddy*; short, *K.S. Reddy*, like in the previous years). Above all, I am doing well, learning and improving, and *Thank You One and All!*

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