Human Systems Management

CALL FOR PAPERS

MANAGEMENT AND FUNCTION
FROM ADDED VALUES TO AUGMENTED REALITIES

The distinction of function systems such as the political system, the economy, science, religion, or the legal system is considered a key principle of modern societies. Modern man knows how to talk business and when to avoid politics or religion in conversations; considers the buying of votes as corruption; and differentiates show trials from normal cases. Though these and similar differentiations are naturally applied by a considerable part of the world population, the function system science has as of yet hardly explored the forms and functions of functional differentiation. What is known so far at least is that function systems emerge from the use of symbolically generalized communication media such as power, money, truth, or belief, whose application recodes communication according to the individual function system’s function. Functional differentiation thus adds code values to almost every aspect of social life, hence multiplying social realities, and constantly re-creating the augmented reality of modernity.

The aim of the present special issue is a functional modernization of management theory and practice. Submissions will apply a new set of variables and open up a new dimension of diversity that complements existing research focused on gender, age, race, nationality, hierarchy, centrality or culture in management, organizations, and markets. In doing so, contributions ask as to how management can act on stages whose designs are set by functional rather than theatrical properties; how identities emerge as a climate of functionally differentiated opinions; and how the observation of constellations of function systems spans a multifunctional horizon for decision-making. The manuscripts’ ambition is theoretical or conceptual, and yet they disclose how the observation of functional differentiation adds value to management theory and practice. Contributions that apply ambitious theoretical reasoning to management subfields are particularly welcome. Such ventures could debark or depart from the subsequent list of starting points:

- Organizational identity in the age of functional differentiation
- Blue oceans in and between the function systems
- Business model generation by functional differentiation
- Functional versus value-based management
- Customer segments thought out of the strata box
- Communication media and competition
- The functional differentiation of strategy
- Multi-functional accounting

Contributions to the special issue must be submitted by November 15, 2014 via email to steffen.roth@esc-rennes.fr. Manuscripts should be prepared according to the HSM Author Guide available at http://www.iospress.nl/journal/human-systems-management/ and will be subject to peer-review in line with the HSM policy. The word count of manuscripts should range from 4000-8000 words, with terms and conditions for shorter formats or book reviews upon request.