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Greetings on the First Issue of the Journal of Japanese Management

The journal of the Japan Federation of Management Related Academies (JFMRA) is an official publication of JFMRA. I am very pleased with this first electronic publication of a scholarly journal of the Japan Federation of Management Related Academies. Through this journal, we aim to contribute to international academic progress through advanced studies in wide-ranging research fields related to management, management information, commerce, and accounting in Japan. JFMRA was established through the affiliation of 57 academic societies in the fields of management, accounting, and commerce on 23 November 2006. It emerged out of the gap left by the disappearance of what were the three Research Liaison Committees (management, accounting, and commerce)—due to re-organization the Science Council of Japan (SCJ)—and now has 61 affiliated academic societies in Japan. I think that JFMRA now has a very significant presence in Japanese academies, and is far more than merely the successor organization of the previous Liaison Committees in the SCJ.

To date, economic inequality, global environmental issues, ageing and depopulating of societies, accelerated development of new emerging markets, or innovations like the internet of things (IoT), artificial intelligence(AI), open innovation and linkages-innovation, etc. have changed our social life and cast a lot of research themes to our researchers, which need a wide-ranging interdisciplinary approach that calls for cooperation going beyond the existing academic frameworks of individualistic society. Therein lies the significance of JFMRA.

JFMRA has been working with the following aims: (1) Development of research and spread of knowledge in fields related to management, management information, accounting, and commerce; (2) Research and contribution to society through education related to management; (3) Exchanges between various academies and researchers associated with management; (4) Promotion of cooperation with researchers overseas related to management, and; (5) Promotion of cooperation with the Science Council of Japan and the academic research communities working in cooperation with the Council. The association also organizes public lectures twice every year, as well as an annual symposium. One of the positive results has been publications such as "The Creation of a New Business Management" (Chuokezai-sha, 2014).

I rejoice at the release of the first issue, and would like to thank the members of the JJM editorial board, especially Prof. Fangqi Xu, the vice-president of JFMRA. I am sure that this journal is beyond the expected levels of many academic researchers at home and abroad and will intellectually stimulate the readers.

Dr. Nobutaka Kazama
President, Japan Federation of Management Related Academies
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Preface

We often hear that the global competitiveness of Japanese firms has been declining in recent years. However, once you consider the long-term sustainability of firms as “going concerns”, Japanese managerial practices might prove to be more viable than Western style short-term profit orientation. It is incumbent on us to continue to conduct research on Japanese managerial practices that emphasize sound business management and further disseminate it to the world.

Unfortunately, while many academic associations exist in Japan, few appear to be active in disseminating Japanese knowledge abroad, particularly in the field of social sciences. Needless to say, even if individual academic associations were interested in actively doing so, limited resources make it difficult to accomplish such a task. Fortunately, 61 academic associations representing management, commerce, accounting and management information are participating in the Japan Federation of Management Related Academics (JFMRA).

One of the main means of knowledge dissemination is the publication of an academic journal in English. In particular, in today’s highly networked society thanks to the internet, there is no doubt that electronic journals should be the most appropriate media accessible to anyone anytime anywhere around the world.

Under the leadership of the new board of directors, the JFMRA had in earnest initiated action in this direction, and after about 20 months of efforts, launched as planned the first issue of the Journal of Japanese Management (JJM) in 2015. As the representative of the editorial board, I would like to acknowledge our appreciation to those academic associations that participated in this effort, manuscript contributors, and reviewers for their cooperation.

We continue to work hard for the further development of JJM in the future.

Dr. Fangqi Xu

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