

# JOURNAL OF BUSINESS LOGISTICS

## *Call for Papers: Special Topic Forum*

### *USING INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH TO ADDRESS CONTEMPORARY SCM PROBLEMS*

Contemporary SCM problems are considerably more complex and multi-faceted than those of the past. Discipline focused research limits the ability to address these issues as it views problems from a single “siloes” lens, does not bring richness in expertise, and, as a result, may not provide complete and holistic solutions to problems. Interdisciplinary research, by contrast, enables broader and more nuanced perspectives to a research problem as it draws from different types of expertise. It offers greater insights into a research problem and reduces the myopic, discipline-based perspective. As such, interdisciplinary research has greater potential for development of more complete solutions to contemporary SCM problems. It also enhances rigor and reliability of findings, and offers greater potential for innovative SCM breakthroughs.

Interdisciplinary research brings together perspectives from two or more disciplines in an integrative manner. It refers to a process by which researchers go beyond weaving together research from different disciplines, but actually construct new knowledge, solutions, and methods. Unfortunately interdisciplinary research is often difficult to execute and publish. This call for papers addresses this void by specifically encouraging research that seeks to address contemporary, novel and challenging SCM problems that utilizes interdisciplinary research.

We are looking for papers that will not only address contemporary SCM challenges in novel ways, but will serve as exemplars for conducting interdisciplinary research. We hope that these research papers will showcase the best of what interdisciplinary research can bring and pave the way for future research efforts. Preference will be given to papers that address supply chain problems that especially benefit from multiple perspectives. Key criteria for any accepted papers will be both theoretical development and managerial relevance. Authors are expected to address the SCM problem in a rigorous manner in terms of utilizing theory found in the relevant disciplines. Research papers must also provide guidance to practitioners through the outcomes of this research.

Exemplary topics include, but are not limited to:

- Distribution and finance in emerging economies
- Sustainability challenges in supply chain management
- Risk and disruption management
- Healthcare services delivery
- Design and management of global supply chain networks
- Collaborative decision-making between supply chain members and/or across functions
- Integration across processes
- Product and process innovation

All topically appropriate papers submitted will be subjected to the typical double blind JBL review process. Submission date for full consideration will be December 31, 2013. Interested authors can submit a paper to the **JBL system**. In the drop down menu manuscript type, please select “special issue.” For questions, e-mail the guest editors directly at either [nrs209@lehigh.edu](mailto:nrs209@lehigh.edu), [brian.fugate@colostate.edu](mailto:brian.fugate@colostate.edu), [zg208@lehigh.edu](mailto:zg208@lehigh.edu).

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