

TRANSPORTATION JOURNAL

The *Transportation Journal* Special Themed Issue **Developing Logistics and Transportation Theory** through Systematic Literature Reviews

A systematic literature review is a valuable tool for synthesizing the results of many separate studies that examine essentially the same question but may have conflicting findings for the purpose of highlighting areas where further original research is required. This themed issue is designed to advance theory by focusing on complex issues in logistics and transportation through a holistic and systematic investigation approach. A paper with a multi-disciplinary focus is highly desired as it extends the boundary/framework for theory development beyond the traditional scope. This call for papers for the special issue is purposefully not specifying themes with the intent of soliciting reviews across a wide array of topics relevant to logistics and transportation.

Systematic literature reviews are increasingly prevalent in other fields. There are numerous references and guidelines available on writing systematic literature reviews. Submitted papers for the themed issue should emphasize a primary research question that tries to identify, critically appraise, select, and synthesize all quality research relevant to that question. Searches that extend beyond major databases would increase the effectiveness of the systematic literature review. Manuscripts for the themed issue should utilize a robust methodology that contributes to theory advancement; narrative reviews using inadequate or methodology will be rejected by the editors. Reviews should include the following characteristics:

- Provide evidence that a thorough literature search was conducted;
- Present a description of the literature analyzed through a number of perspectives;
- Provide structure to the literature by using typologies and categorizations to identify themes;
- Raise new research questions; and
- Result in a better understanding of a phenomenon.

We are pleased to announce that the themed issue will be the Summer 2017 issue. Manuscript lengths for the themed issue are flexible but should be a maximum of 8,000 words (excluding references and tables). Manuscripts should be submitted no later than **August 31, 2016** for consideration. Please refer to www.editorialmanager.com/TransJour for author and submission guidelines. The *Transportation Journal* has been the leading journal of logistics and supply chain-related transportation research for over 50 years. We look forward to your contributions, including industry notes, to this special themed issue of the *Transportation Journal*.

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