CALL FOR PAPERS

International Journal of Production Economics

Special Issue on

Behavioural Operations Management/Production Economics

Guest Editors

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Introduction

Although human behaviour has been always important to operations management/production economics (OM/PE), most theoretical models in traditional OM/PE have been developed with overly simplified assumptions about realistic human characteristics. That is, human beings are assumed to be rational optimizers in most production, service, and supply chain systems. While the traditional research on production and operations management provides helpful understandings of system behaviours, recent empirical studies have shown that the actual behaviours of human actors in OM systems are not fully consistent with the rational assumption and predictions. Over the past few years, there have been increasing research activities in the new emerging area of behavioural operations management/production economics (Behavioural OM/PE). Aiming to incorporate realistic human behaviour as one critical component into operations processes and systems and offer new insights into performance improvement, studies in this new area have been spanning the boundaries between OM/PE and other disciplines including psychology, behavioural economics, decision science, and sociology.

In this special issue, we plan to publish high quality, state-of-the-art research findings in Behavioural OM/PE. We seek research papers that explicitly explore human behaviour with relevance to operations management/production economics. We are open to papers from a broad range of operations settings in (but not limited to) production and inventory control, R&D and project management, logistics and supply chain management, quality management, and queuing and service systems. Research deploying various methodologies such as modelling, optimization, simulation, laboratory experiments, case studies, survey-based research, and event studies, is welcome.

Examples of topics that are appropriate to this special issue are:

- Investigating actual human decision making in a particular operations context (e.g., ordering and capacity decisions in production, inventory, and service systems) or
testing existing theories empirically (e.g., coordination of supply chain partners and supply chain dynamics);

• Developing new theories based on established psychological principles (e.g., reference-dependence, loss aversion, anchoring, over-confidence/over-precision, and fairness and reciprocity);

• Examining alternative mechanisms for performance improvement at various levels that account for realistic human behaviour (e.g., new processes for individuals making operations decisions, design and management of project teams within an organization, and collaboration among supply chain partners).

Manuscript Preparation and Submission

Manuscripts are required to be prepared following the “Instructions to Authors” described at the back of any recent issue of the International Journal of Production Economics. Submissions must be made via the electronic submission system of the IJPE. Paper review will be handled according to the standards of the journal. For further enquiries, please contact any one of the guest editors.

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