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Guest editor: Dr. Thea van der Westhuizen

Theme: Entrevolutionizing the 4th Industrial Revolution: Best practices and global lessons learnt

As we are in the midst of the 4th Industrial Revolution, and some may even say entering the 5th, advances in technologies are emerging all around us and affecting our lives in several ways. Some scholars also argue that it is in fact a social revolution taking place as a result of the changes in the digital era. Understanding the changes our economy and even lifestyles are undergoing, either positively or negatively, could prove beneficial to the greater society. Although the effects of the 4th Industrial Revolution may be more visible in certain economies than others, Africa, and more specifically South Africa, has also been affected in different interrelated technological advances. As with most changes, the effect of such may pose threats and impact some negatively and others more positively bringing about opportunities. This is also the case when it comes to industrial revolutions, past, current and those yet to come. Opportunities could include the design of new innovative products and methods and improved business models. However, one of the biggest threats includes loss of jobs as improved technologies replaces human labour, especially in less advanced economies.

A key concept of entrepreneurship is innovation, and the mere mention of an industrial revolution brings about new and improved inventions and technologies. Hence, as far as traditional entrepreneurship is concerned, the two concepts cannot be separated from each other. However, in recent years, other forms of entrepreneurship, such as social entrepreneurship, has also emerged as a growing field and interest, and this phenomenon might view or embrace the existence of a new revolution differently. In essence, the evolution and existence of future revolutions cannot be managed or slowed down and from an entrepreneurial perspective should be embraced for the opportunities they create. Entrepreneurial development should be incorporated to promote new innovations and to transform the way businesses manage their day to day activities. Policies should be geared to simultaneously allow for technology advances to improve society whilst also protecting the vulnerable. In light of this, the theme of the special edition, entrevolutionizing the 4th Industrial Revolution: Best practices and global lessons learnt, was chosen.



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Authors are invited to send original articles related to the following sub-themes encapsulated in the main theme:

- Entrepreneurial trends;
- Barriers to entry and/or growth;
- Business growth success factors;
- Gender related entrepreneurial aspects;
- Social entrepreneurship;
- Business strategy and models;
- Innovation and technology opportunities;
- Developing vs developed economy entrepreneurship;
- The link between entrepreneurship and economic growth;
- Policy formulation;
- Entrepreneurship and education;
- Entrevolutionizing a Digital Era - Rethinking Contemporary Management and Entrepreneurship
- Any other entrepreneurial related topic fitting into the theme.

Articles can be sent directly to the journal (info.jcman@gmail.com) or to the guest editor of this edition Dr. Thea van der Westhuizen (Shape@ukzn.ac.za).

Kind Regards

JCM editorial team