Call for Papers for a Special Issue

Reviews of Strategic Management Research
Submission Deadline for Proposals: April 30, 2014
Submission Deadline for Papers: January 15, 2015

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Overview
Since the founding of the Strategic Management Journal in 1980, strategic management research has grown both in scope and depth. The papers published in the early issues of SMJ focused mainly upon strategic planning practices and techniques and empirical relationships between strategy and firm performance. In the past three and a half decades the subject matter of SMJ has expanded enormously in terms of the phenomena addressed and the theories deployed to explain them. This widening domain of strategic management research is a tribute to the dynamism of the field, yet it also carries with it the risk of fragmentation and the loss of the integrated approach that is an inherent characteristic of strategy.

For these reasons, the Editors of SMJ believe that a Special Issue of SMJ comprising reviews of strategic management research has the potential to make an important contribution to the literature both in appraising the current state of strategic management research and in providing a platform for the future development of the field. Such an issue will have value both to new scholars of strategic management seeking to come to terms with the scope and diversity of the field and to established scholars whose specialized research activities have made it difficult to keep abreast of developments in other areas of strategic management research.

Papers
We therefore invite contributions to a special issue of SMJ comprising reviews of strategic management research. Our interest is in papers that extend well beyond literature surveys and offer interpretation, evaluation, and challenges to existing areas of strategic management research. Such papers will not only reflect the current state of the field, they will also have the potential to stimulate and guide future research efforts.

With this initiative, we encourage submissions that offer illumination and insight into core strategy concepts (such as competitive advantage, organizational capabilities, profit persistence), important strategic management phenomena (such as strategic innovation, resource allocation decisions, interfirm collaboration), or theoretical streams (such as evolutionary approach to strategy, cognitive aspects of strategy making, institutional theory and strategic behaviour). To foster coherence within the field, papers would address what we know and do not know from the extant research and more significantly direct attention to the relationships among concepts and theories within and across the different subfields.
We also envisage papers that go beyond integrating prior theoretical and empirical work and explore novel phenomena and emerging research areas that merit development. Such papers would not only clarify the importance of the phenomena or research area for the strategy field but also delineate critical paths for future research. In this way, they would provide a foundation for defining the field’s future research streams. Such papers may also point out ways to extend strategic management research by encompassing themes that have gained currency among practitioners and investors but have received limited scholarly attention. In short, we envisage a Special Issue that not only reviews the past but also redirects research within strategic management.

**Details of Paper Content, Length, and Due Date**

The broad scope of this Special Issue will require the editorial team to assume a more developmental role than is typical of SMJ Special Issues. To this end we encourage prospective contributors to submit a proposal to SMJ’s online submission site (http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/smj) by April 30, 2014. Proposals should be a maximum of 5 pages single spacing, excluding references, and not less than 11pt font. The editors will then provide feedback on the proposals. We strongly encourage contributors to use the proposal process; however, we will consider papers that are submitted without being preceded by a proposal. The deadline for full paper submissions is Jan. 15, 2015 (the submission system for full papers will open on September 1, 2014).

**Further Information**

For questions regarding the content of this special issue, please contact the guest editors:

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For questions about submitting to the special issue contact the SMJ Managing Editor, Lois Gast: lgast@wiley.com or visit http://smj.strategicmanagement.net

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