Special Track

Smart Organisations: Reinventing Management through Social Innovation

Track Chairs
Antonella Martini | University of Pisa | A.Martini@ing.unipi.it
Emanuele Lettieri | Polytechnic University of Milan | Emanuele.Lettieri@polimi.it

Organizers
Antonella Martini | University of Pisa | A.Martini@ing.unipi.it
Emanuele Lettieri | Polytechnic University of Milan | Emanuele.Lettieri@polimi.it
Mariano Corso | Polytechnic University of Milan | Mariano.Corso@polimi.it
Luca Gastaldi | Polytechnic University of Milan | Luca.Gastaldi@polimi.it

Description
During the last decade a stream of literature (Hamel, 2006; Birkimshaw et al., 2008; Birkimshaw, 2010; Hamel, 2012) has developed around the topic of reinventing management. In fact, while the functions of management have changed very little over the years (Hamel, 2007), the methods and the tools through which management practices are accomplished have changed dramatically (Hamel, 2012). According to Birkimshaw (2010), if on the one hand organizations tend to manifest inertial behaviours in dealing with new managerial models, on the other hand they are consistently looking for elements to improve them. As a result it is possible to see a progressive switch from the traditional principles implicitly followed for decades by managers to innovative principles that seem more coherent to the current managerial landscape.

These principles are rooted in a smart use of firms technological knowledge base, and are increasingly enabled by 'social innovation'. According to Volberda and Van Den Bosch (2012), social innovation consists of changing a firm's organisational form, it’s management principles, practices, processes and the organisation of work in a way that is new to the firm and/or the industry, and results in leveraging the firms technological knowledge base and its performance in terms of innovation, productivity and competitiveness. In comparison to pure technological innovation, social innovation is more difficult to assess and quantify. However, fundamental understanding of social innovation—as well as its influence on technological innovation—will increase productivity, firm competitiveness and quality of (working) life of future generations.

The track welcomes papers (work in progress or finished research—both empirical as well as theoretical works) exploring the innovative levers allowing to capture the enlightening potential of social innovation, in order to reinvent management and develop smarter organisations able to grow in these uncertain, turbulent times. The aim is to discuss the various ways in which social innovation—as well as its leverage of, and its complex interplay with, technological innovation) can be enhanced within and among firms.

Potential Journal Publication
All the papers submitted for the conference track will undergo a double blind review process. The best papers presented at the track will be invited for a special issue in an International Journal.

References


**Keywords**

- Smart organisation
- Management innovation
- Social innovation
- Knowledge management
- Enterprise 2.0

**Guidelines**

Researchers wishing to contribute are invited to submit an extended abstract (in Word format) of 1000-1500 words by January 20, 2013. The abstract should address theoretical background, research objective, methodology, and results in terms of expected contribution to Knowledge Management theory and practice. Authors are encouraged to follow the guidelines for both extended abstracts as well as full papers that will be made available on IFKAD site.

**Deadlines**

- Abstract submission: 20 January 2013
- Review decisions sent to authors: 20 February 2013
- Full paper submission: 20 April 2013
- Registration to the conference (for at least one author of the paper): 25 May 2013
- Conference sessions: 12–14 June 2013

**Further Information**

For further information, please contact: Luca.Gastaldi@polimi.it