Call for papers
for the special issue of the Journal of Accounting and Management Information Systems (JAMIS)

Accounting academia in Central and Eastern Europe

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Introduction
The challenges to and changes of accounting academia over the past several decades gained sustained attention recently in the international literature. However, much of the research with international visibility is focused on the context of developed countries. The matters associated with journal rankings (see for example, Reiter and Williams, 2002; Lowe and Locke, 2005; Raffournier and Schatt, 2010), the effects of assessment and evaluation practices (see for example, Cottingham and Hussey, 2000; Lowe and Locke, 2005; Cruz-Castro and Sanz-Menendez, 2006), the relationship between accounting research and practice (see for example, Lee, 1989; Cottingham and Hussey, 2000; Moehrle et al., 2009; Baldvinsdottir et al., 2010; Singleton-Green, 2010), and the academic life and career (see for example, Gendron, 2008; James, 2008; Chua, 2011; Czarniawska, 2011) are but a few of the issues addressed in prior literature, mainly in the context of developed countries.

Calls have thus been launched to study the challenging academic environment of developing countries (Samkin and Schneider, 2012). In the context of such countries, there is some tension between the local culture and history on the one hand, and the mimetic actions of following international models, on the other hand, which is worthy of investigation in these settings. In a world characterized by global norms and models, intensified exchange of students and academics, the local context might still play an important role and impact the academic environment. For example, Venter and de Villiers (2013) explain how the accounting profession dominates academia in the South African context, and imposes rules and structures that suit the profession. Albu et al. (in press) mobilize the specific problem of journal rankings in order to discuss how the immediate adherence to international rankings in Romania impacts national academics’ behavior. Various anecdotal evidence exists in other emerging economies in general, and in Central and Eastern European countries in particular, of the perverting effects of journal and university ranking on the accounting academic (including focusing on publishing in journals indexed in certain databases not in international accounting journals, attending conferences that produce large conference proceedings on paper with ISSN number, not necessarily relevant accounting conferences, among others). Discussions have recently emerged on whether focusing on such targets would contribute to increasing the visibility of research conducted by researchers in emerging economies, or they would rather stagnate in their local environments.

Scope of the special issue
This special issue thus aims at bringing together papers reflecting the experience of the countries in Central and Eastern Europe with regard to the changes in their accounting academic environment, to give a more coherent regional perspective of such processes. We welcome papers regardless of their methodological approach and paradigm, as long as proper methodological approaches are employed.
An indicative list of themes includes, but is not limited to:
- the construction of the academic’s identity in the current academic environment;
- the relationship between academia and practice, and implications on research and teaching;
- work in academia-work outside academia-life balance;
- micro (individual) and macro (university) perspectives on the current trends in academia (rankings, performance indicators, commodification of research);
- accounting education: what is taught (local vs. international accounting), how it is taught (traditional vs. modern teaching methods), and the impact on students’ competencies and on the professional identity’s construction.

Submission
The papers should be submitted via email to the guest editors (at catalin.albu@cig.ase.ro, nadia.albu@cig.ase.ro and bneedles@depaul.edu) before January 31 2015. Early submissions are encouraged. For early feedback please email the guest editors at your earliest convenience. Accepted papers will be published in the June 2015 issue of JAMIS, and will be included in the conference bag of the 10th edition of the Accounting and Management Information Systems International Conference (AMIS 2015) to be held at the premises of the Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania, in June 2015 (exact dates to be announced on www.amis.ase.ro).

About the Journal
JAMIS is published by the Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania, and is intended to become and act as the leading journal publishing papers in the accounting domain, representative for the countries in Central and Eastern Europe. JAMIS is indexed and covered in a number of relevant databases and catalogues, such as REPEC, EBSCO, ProQuest, ABDC’s Journal Quality List, or Ulrich's Periodicals Directory, and it is included in ESSEC's Ranking of Journals 2011 as well as in nation-wide rankings such as Italy or Poland. For journal details visit www.revistacig.ase.ro.

References