



## **SIG 12 - RM&RP - Research Methods and Research Practice**

With our theme **Exploring the Future of Management: Facts, Fashion and Fado**, we invite you to participate in the debate about how to explore the future of management. We look forward to receiving your submissions.

### **ST12\_01 - Evolutionary Approaches in Management Research**

#### **Proponents:**

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#### **Short description:**

How do open, adaptive systems in socio-economic contexts, such as firms and industrial networks, evolve? This track aims to build on the growing body of evolution-based research within disciplines such as management, business history, marketing, decision making, entrepreneurship and innovation, economic geography, philosophy and psychology. In the production of knowledge regarding the evolution of socio-economic systems, we encourage the exploration of a wide range of methods, as well as discussions on how these can advance evolutionary-oriented management research. Thus, perspectives based on multi-level co-evolution, system thinking, ecology, memes, or agent-based modelling, constitute only examples of the welcomed submissions.

#### **Long description:**

How do open, adaptive systems in socio-economic contexts, such as firms and industrial networks, evolve? The proponents of evolutionary and Darwinian-inspired theorizing in management research argue that it can meet a need to contribute answers to the escalating call for dynamism, process-orientation and systems thinking approaches to cope with uncertainty and disruption in business contexts.

Stemming from Charles Darwin's seminal work *The Origin of Species* (1859), this standing track in the Research Methods and Research Practice SIG seeks to contribute to the lively discussion about the possibility and opportunity to develop evolutionary thinking within management research. Since conception in 2010, the scholars in this track have provided much debate on what common features and differences exist in how socio-economic entities at various levels behave and evolve. Thus, as in the previous years, the track aims for 2019 to attract papers interested in elaborating on whether important phenomena associated with the current practice of business can be conscientiously explained through the partial (or general) adoption of Charles Darwin's thought in social sciences.



The track aims to build on a constantly growing body of evolution-based research within a wide range of disciplines such as management, business history, marketing, decision making, entrepreneurship and innovation, economic geography, philosophy and psychology. As we believe methods are complementary to each other in the production of knowledge regarding the evolution of socio-economic systems, we encourage the exploration of a wide range of methods, as well as discussions on how these can advance evolutionary-oriented management research. Thus, perspectives based on multi-level co-evolution, system thinking, ecology, memes, or agent-based modeling, constitute only examples of the welcomed submissions. Related efforts to capture the evolutionary processes and open, adaptive system dynamics with proper concepts and methods, as well as empirical studies based on evolutionary approaches and informed contributions on limitations or overt simplifications of the evolutionary approach, are also very much warranted.

#### **Keywords:**

Organizational Adaptation and Open, Adaptive Systems  
Ecology and Life-Cycle  
Routines, Memetics and Cultural Evolution  
Co-Evolution  
Systems Thinking and Complexity Theory  
Generalised Darwinism

#### **Publication Outlet:**

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#### **AUTHORS GUIDELINES**

<http://www.euramonline.org/submissions-guidelines-2019/author-s-guidelines.html>