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## New Editors-in-Chief of Scandinavian Journal of Management

Ulhøi, J. P.; Verduijn, J. K.

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# Scandinavian Journal of Management

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## New Editors-in-Chief of Scandinavian Journal of Management

As of January 2021, we are serving as new Editors-in-Chief of Scandinavian Journal of Management (SJM). We are greeting you as such, and obviously do so in uncertain, unstable times. Times in which organizations, and managers, are struggling to find new ways of working, and of 'existing'. We are aware that this may have consequences for the scholarship that finds an outlet in SJM, a journal that is actually renowned for its passionate interest in the fascinating and dynamic nature of organizational life.

In our capacity as incoming Editors-in-Chief, we are neither newcomers to the journal nor inexperienced in undertaking editorial responsibilities. John P. Ulhøi has served as Associate Editor of SJM since 2016. He further serves as Editorial Board Member and/or Associate Editor of other Elsevier and Springer journals. Karen Verduijn has joined SJM as Associate Editor in February 2019, and has ample experience as special issue, and edited volume editor.

We are honored to have been selected as the new Editors-in-Chief of Scandinavian Journal of Management and we appreciate the opportunity to further strengthen and develop the journal. Our intention is to continue the process of internationalization of the journal. Good research and quality assurance are neither restricted by geographical origin, nor (sub)disciplinary traditions or preferences. We are happy also to announce that we have been able to welcome new Associate Editors to support this process. In that respect, we view upon journal editorship as a collective effort, not only in the sense of *our* collaborative leadership, but also in terms of the contributions from the rest of our Editorial Board. Here, we also want to stress the importance of our reviewers. We realize that it is a privilege to engage committed reviewers.

Jointly, we will keep a strong eye on preserving the generic qualities, that have characterized the journal from its launch in 1985, while at the same time making necessary room for changes that can add new value to SJM. The unique qualities of SJM include *openness* (in terms of theoretical lenses and empirical design), *innovativeness* (daring to side-step the main-road to gain new insights, testing new approaches), *reflexivity* (contemplating assumptions, in relation to issues that matter), and *relevance* (relevant problems, both theoretically, and 'for' practice). While increased internationalization in terms of submissions and the review process will continue, we feel confident, that this development will serve to strengthen these generic qualities, and thus continue to nurture the curiosity that drives so many of the journal's articles.

In line, we do not plan to change the scope of the journal. Scandinavian Journal of Management remains a broad management journal that will continue to publish relevant, interesting, novel and critical

research from different sub-fields of management. We apply a broad interpretation of management to signify decisions, activities, processes, interactions and exchanges associated with organizing and managing in different settings and on different levels. We do not feel obliged to pursue a certain 'balance', or representativity, across the different sub-fields of management. Rather, quality, and a clear focus on managing, organizing and the fascinating nature of organizational life will be what is appreciated. Specialized sub-field contributions (targeting a specialist audience), are likely to fall out of the scope of SJM.

Special Issues are expected to (re)appear on a more frequent basis (1–2 times a year). SJM has had this feature before although on a rather infrequent basis. We hope that bringing back this feature as a more frequent element, will add dynamics and bring innovation.

The increasing focus on 'publish or perish' translates to an increasing number of manuscripts being sent to journals. SJM is no exception from that development. This in turn emphasizes the importance of our quality assurance process. At the same time, we acknowledge the value of a rapid turn-around process. We will look for new ways, not only to secure a fast process, but also to identify unnecessary delays both ends of the process, i.e. at the editorial as well as the author end of the process.

So, as incoming Editors-in-Chief we will safeguard the journal's passion for empirical inquiry driven by curiosity over the fascinating nature of organizational phenomena and supported by a strong theoretical basis and further emphasize, that high quality research and high relevance are not mutually exclusive.

Before closing this short inaugural essay, we wish to say, that we have actually not yet decided how 'loud' our voices or the voices of the entire editorial board will be (apart from the 'internal' editorial activities). We see that as something, a style perhaps, that will develop over time. We do, however, appreciate also to hear voices from outside the editorial board. Suggestions and/or feedback from authors and readers are always welcome.

J.P. Ulhøi  
Aarhus University, Aarhus, Denmark

J.K. Verduijn\*  
VU Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands

\* Corresponding author.  
E-mail address: [karen.verduijn@vu.nl](mailto:karen.verduijn@vu.nl) (J.K. Verduijn).

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