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This Issue of the journal consists of seven (7) papers that examine a variety of social and behavioural issues. The papers employ a diverse range of methodologies with each paper contributing to the examination of social and behavioural issues.

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The first paper “Job Desire and Response Distortion in Personality Assessments” (Roess & Roche, 2017) examined the extent to which individuals engage in response distortion when applying for which they are highly motivated by job desire. The findings were that response distortion was significantly higher for all personality variables in the high job desire by contrast to those in the low job desire.

The second paper “Flow and Pokémon GO: The Contribution of Game Level, Playing Alone, and Nostalgia to the Flow State” (Loveday & Burgess, 2017) investigated the positive and beneficial concept of flow and its association with playing Pokémon GO. The research involved a quantitative survey of 202 adult players of Pokémon GO using two validated survey instruments, measured flow and nostalgia, to assess correlation between the beneficial state of flow, and playing Pokémon GO. The findings revealed significant predictors for 27% of variance in flow levels of Pokémon GO players were: game level achieved, playing alone, nostalgia for Pokémon from childhood, and playing with family.

The third paper “Knowledge Sharing Traits and Competitive Advantage: A Qualitative Inquiry” (Rajuli, Cheing, Adruce, Ting, Usop & Memon, 2017) examined the extent to which knowledge sharing traits shape organizational competitive advantage. The findings indicated that the dimension of conscientiousness was the most dominant personality among sharers. In terms of competitive advantage outcome, the majority of the organizations were found to be at competitive parity stage.

The fourth paper “Habermas and Critical Accounting Research: A Reflection of Working at the ‘fag end’ of things” (Perrin, 2017) uses a form of Critical Discourse combined with a touch of Postmodernist critical textual reflection to explore what was arguably the golden age in Critical Accounting Research providing insights into the trials and tribulations that existed even between Critical Theorists of opposing camps of thought. The discourse has relevance to the issues facing academics in the current higher education environment.

The fifth paper “Ethics in Financial Planning: Myth, Fact or Rhetoric Paradox?” (Cull & Bowyer, 2017) examined ethics in financial planning in the context of the events that have occurred in the Australian economic and regulatory environment over the last decade. The research involved a mixed methods research design using questionnaires and semi-structured interviews with financial advisers and clients. The clients ranked financial advisers highly on their technical competence but lowest on social/ethical awareness.
The sixth paper “Investors’ perceptions of auditor independence: Evidence from Hong Kong” (Yip & Pang, 2017) examined Investors’ perceptions of auditor independence in Hong Kong. The findings were that: audit firm size does influence auditor independence; a high level of competition does influence auditor independence; strict regulation and sever punishment does enhance auditor independence; and auditor tenure of 5 years or more does influence auditor independence.

The seventh paper “Social Media Practices of Vietnam-Based Public Relations Professionals” (Sutherland, 2017) examined the perceptions, attitudes and challenges faced by Vietnam-based public relations practitioners, and considered the influence of social media on their professional practices. The findings were that social media had overtaken traditional media as the core method of communication used in campaigns, and that governmental controls and unpredictable audiences posed the greatest challenges. Interviewees also identified Facebook as Vietnam’s most popular social media platform and Instagram as cash-on-delivery shopping service.

References


