

Editorial

An introduction to the special issue on advance in project management

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Dear Readers,

This special issue contains a collection of the best papers presented at the 2014 Project Management Symposium at the University of Maryland College Park. The symposium was attended by approximately 300 participants from academia, governments, and private organizations from around the world. 44 high quality papers were accepted out of a total 108 submissions and finally invited for conference presentation. Taken together, these papers constitute a significant advance in our understanding and practices in the project management field. This special issue focuses on three most interesting topics that have substantial impact on the theory and practice and therefore deserve a wide reading among project management researchers and practitioners.

The Keynote paper by Professor Miroslaw J. Skibniewski presents imaging information technology in construction project monitoring for reconciling site photographs with 4D construction process models. The paper illustrates the potential use of these two visual information aids for improved automated monitoring of construction projects. This approach to progress monitoring can lead to a better use of Augmented Reality tools on construction sites.

Three papers are collected in the first group with a focus on the management of complex projects. Paper by Warburton presents a new methodology for estimating project schedule by incorporating Earned Value Management techniques. Zhu and Mostafavi presented a system of system framework that aids in the breakdown structure and analysis of complex construction projects. Ke and his coworkers reviewed the state of art with respect to the public private partnership application in China by emphasizing the development and progress over time.

Sustainability in project management is the theme of the second group of papers. The set of collected and selected papers present a really strong comparisons and analysis of sustainability related issues. Zhu, Cui, and Avetisyan introduced a new model to select green performance contracting methods that incorporate various project and organizational features. The paper by Fong C. et al. introduces the comparison project delivery methods for a sustainable outcome of projects based on actual projects constructed in the US. Another paper by Zhang emphasizes the factors that restrain the green construction implementation in China.

The special issue also contains a collection of three papers targeting on application and implementation of project management theories in government projects and other project environment. Paper by Fanning presents the importance of having PMBok strategies applied on public sector projects, by stressing out the benefits of such consistent approach. In her paper Carol presented the application of project management techniques for ministerial security development and strengthening, where she pointed out the importance of a systematic and organized managerial approach for projects in highly uncertain environments. Walker presented ethics analysis for Value-Based-Leadership approach in project driven environments.

Yours Sincerely

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