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## Thematic Issue

# Innovation & the Sharing Economy

Innovation is a laboratory for applied creativity where development of innovative projects and exploration of new directions in different disciplines are dynamically perceived. Innovation enables a more conscious perception of place and its characteristics; it is an experimental space in which design methods can be used to examine and interrogate ideas, forms, structures, dreams and visions. Innovation is about transgressing boundaries of multiple disciplines in view of developing novelties or improving existing offerings, methods and processes while taking into account numerous dimensions and angles. It is also about opening new perspectives on the world of tomorrow. Innovation is also a state of mind, which has to be nurtured and cultivated. The currently turbulent environment renders innovation even more challenging, yet necessary, to reach the competitive edge and maintain sustainable advantage. The successful ability to innovate requires a multidisciplinary attitude towards understanding, designing and implementing an overarching innovation strategy.

### Objective of JIM

JIM addresses a wide audience involved in innovation and aims at bringing together international academics, professional associations, policy makers, thought leaders and practitioners, to discuss the various challenges linked to innovation.

### Innovation & the Sharing Economy

With business and society entering the fully digitized era, ideas and insights become abundant and more easily accessible through technology (e.g. through crowds, contests, communities and collaborators). This leads to a reinforcement of the amount of potential co-creators for new services that can reinforce or reframe the sustainability of the existing business models in society. This empowerment of a company's stakeholders further enhances the attention to collaborative consumption services such as crowdfunding, car-sharing or peer-to-peer lending. These are some examples of "the Sharing Economy" where underutilized resources between stakeholders are being leveraged at a large scale, following the co-creating of an innovative service which foresees monetary and non-monetary benefits in its business model for all the stakeholders and society. These notions hence resonate with the need for a circular economy and growth through greener innovation initiatives that foster a sustainable, economical and societal evolution.

### Submission Process

All submitted papers will be subjected to a double-blind review process, through the dedicated online submission system of JIM. User Registration: <http://www.open-jim.org/user/register>  
Your article will be reviewed as fast as possible and the results of the first screening will be available within 6 weeks after its full submission. The author guidelines for this topical issue are available on the journal's website: <http://www.open-jim.org/about/submissions#authorGuidelines>

### Submission Deadline

31 March 2016: Full paper submission

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