EDITOR’S INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Vol.5, No.2 of the *SIU Journal of Management*, date December, 2015. As the issue is published, we reach the end of another year in the Land of Smiles and, surveying the landscape, it is difficult not to be seized with gloom. However, we also have a new year dawning and, with appropriate optimism of the will, it is possible to believe, perhaps with gritted teeth, T.S. Eliot’s line from Ash Wednesday: “Consequently I rejoice, having to construct something/Upon which to rejoice.” These lines from the Eighteenth Brumaire also become important at the turning of the year: “Men make their own history, but they do not make it as they please; they do not make it under self-selected circumstances, but under circumstances existing already, given and transmitted from the past. The tradition of all dead generations weighs like a nightmare on the brains of the living.”

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The year 2016 heralds the launch of another stage in the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC). Much has been written about this phase, although little of it seems to have been read by the people of the region and there remains a contradictory sense (at least here in Thailand) of both unrivalled opportunities and, on the other hand, dread of what it will mean for a society now fueled so brazenly by a form of paranoid hyper-nationalism. In reality, of course, the new measures will be limited in scope and less convenient to access than might be hoped. Boldness will assist some people in achieving success but, as I occasionally observe in various classes, while the early bird gets the worm, it is the second mouse which gets the cheese.

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In this issue, I am happy to publish two double-blind peer-reviewed articles, together with book reviews and conference reports. This year,
in addition to various other duties, I have been involved with editing the *Journal of Shinawatra University* and establishing, as Chief Editor, the *Nepalese Journal of Management Science and Research*. I fear that, had I been able to spend more time with the SIU Journal of Management, I might have been able to encourage more paper submissions. I intend not to let this happen again in future issues.

In the first paper, Jacob Adenyanju considers the nature of the evolution of management thought and relates it to the specific context of management of educational institutions in Nigeria. He finds that many faults of managers in the past might, with appropriate action and support from relevant stakeholders, be improved if not, at least immediately, eradicated. In the second paper, Sharmeen Ahmed, Zahurul Alam and Mohammad Khaled Afzal look with some optimism on the case of Bangladesh as a host for inward investment, irrespective of the many problems that still beset the nation. The focus is mainly on the reduction of the amount and simplification of the type of bureaucracy in place when seeking to establish new ventures there. Attention is also given to the needs of workers and their protection in the context of the Rana Plaza disaster and other serious problems in workplaces across the country.

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Once again, my thanks go out to anonymous peer reviewers and all others who have contributed to making publication of the *SIU Journal of Management* possible.

*John Walsh, Editor, SIU Journal of Management.*

*Opinions expressed in this introduction belong to the editor alone and should not be ascribed to Shinawatra University as a whole or any individual member of it.*