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## **Editorial**



As most readers probably know, the Journal Citation Reports<sup>®</sup>, published by Thomson Reuters, were released in July, detailing the 2013 impact factors, along with other journal quality indicators. Most editors and authors are aware of the limitations of such indicators as a proxy for journal quality, but as an editor I realize that a high score is important to many academics. Indeed, I have noticed that impact factors are now used extensively as measures of research quality in for example tenure and grant applications.

I am pleased to inform JET-M readers and authors that our 2013 impact factor of 2.106 has more than doubled over last year's score of 0.967, and 2011s impact factor of 1.032. We also published more papers during this time, which in turn relates to an increasing trend of quality submissions. Many thanks to the authors and reviewers who have contributed towards this improvement, as well as the Journal's Managing Editor, Dr. Vernon Bachor, our Elsevier publisher, Jessica Bibb, and journal managers that have worked on the journal during this period, Emer O'Connor, Poornima Aravind and Santhosh Rao.

I speculate the improved impact factor can be attributed to a number of reasons. First, the transition from a manual to an online submission system (e.g., Elsevier's EES and other publishing initiatives) has improved the publication lag, making the articles more current. As can be expected, there is a considerable lag between when a paper is published and then cited, which can be expedited through more effective on-line submission systems. In the case of Elsevier (EES), once accepted papers are posted online and citable (after about a month of copyediting). Thus, papers do not wait in limbo for the next issue, which may be extensive if there is a backlog of papers.

We have also made a greater effort to desk reject papers that are not aligned with the Journal. Finally, a few papers published in 2012 have been heavily cited, most notably papers by Zhu, Sarkis, and Lai (cited 17 times as of August 2014), Zhu, Mukhopadhyay, and Kurata (cited 12 times) and Chen and Tsou (8 times). A few papers published in 2013 are also showing promise (for example, three citations for Jiao et al. (2013); two citations each for Gnyawali and Srivastava (2013), Martinez Leon et al. (2013) and Plewa et al. (2013)). My congratulations and thanks to these authors.

As shown in Table 1, JET-M is listed under three categories (two in the Social Science Citation Index, and one in the Science Citation Index). Based on the most recent impact factor, JET-M falls within the upper quartile in all three areas.

JET-M also compares favourably when compared to other technology and innovation management (TIM) journals, samples of which are listed in Table 2. It currently ranks 3rd, up from 8th place in both 2012 and 2011.

**Table 1**JET-M journal ranking by category.

Social Science Citation Index	Business	28 out of 110
	Management	40 out of 172
Science Citation Index	Engineering: Industrial	5 out of 43

 Table 2

 Impact factors for technology and innovation management journals.

Technovation	2.704
Research Policy	2.598
JET-M	2.106
Technological Forecasting and Social Change	1.959
Journal of Product Innovation Management	1.379
Industrial and Corporate Change	1.330
Journal of Technology Transfer	1.305
R&D Management	1.266
Industry and Innovation	1.116
IEEE Transactions on Engineering Management	0.938
Technology Analysis and Strategic Management	0.841
Research Technology Management	0.745
Creativity and Innovation Management	0.714
International J. of Technology Management	0.492
Innovation: Management, Policy & Practice	0.439
Asian J. of Technological Innovation	0.167

JET-M would also fall within the range of those journals ranked by the London *Financial Times* 'FT45' list of premier management journals. As many readers may have experienced, publishing in journals recognized by the FT and other journal rankings have become an increasing expectation for business professors, especially those applying for tenure. Indeed, prior to receiving tenure, I was warned that a failure to publish in FT journals would likely result in a denial of tenure, a particularly frustrating situation for an innovation scholar, given that none of the journals listed in Table 2 are on the FT list. At one time I explored why this was the case, and was told informally that FT journals were selected based on subject area (e.g., economics, MIS, finance, marketing, strategy, human resource management, etc.) plus a few practitioner journals, but technology and innovation management (TIM) was not recognized as an area. The closest area is perhaps entrepreneurship, with the *Journal of Business Venturing* and *Entrepreneurship: Theory and Practice* on the FT list.

While it might be appropriate to advocate for the inclusion of an FT innovation journal, in the meantime the following table might be helpful for those trying to make a case for publishing in innovation journals, specifically how they compare to the FT list. Table 3 lists the FT journals along with the top innovation journals (bolded) from Table 2 that have an impact factor at least as high as the lowest ranked FT journal. The resulting list includes eight TIM journals, what can be called the 'FT+TIM 53' list. Two TIM journals, *Technovation* and *Research Policy*, would rank within the top half, whereas *JET-M* would rank a respectable 36. Of course this is a rather superficial comparison; other studies such as Linton and Thongpapanl (2004) and Linton (2009) conducted a more detailed analysis that provides insights on how TIM journals can be assessed.

Overall I am pleased with this improvement, but as stated above I realize there are major limitations to such quality measurements, and that much work still needs to be done. For example, our citations to other JET-M articles are a bit above average, total citations are relatively low, although this is constrained by 4 issues a year, and the 5 Year impact factor, while improved, brings us down to 6th place on the above TIM list. As a relatively small journal, JET-M's total citations are significantly less than for example larger journals such as *Research Policy* (9518 total citations), *Technological Forecasting and Social Change* (2966 citations), *Journal of Product Innovation* 

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