

# Conference Review: 4th International Management Conference on Advances in Management Through Research, Innovation and Technology

FIB Business Review  
8(1) 29–31, 2019  
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in.sagepub.com/journals-permissions-india  
DOI: 10.1177/2319714519827422  
journals.sagepub.com/home/fib



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*Fortune Institute of International Business (FIIB)* successfully organized a two-day 4th International Management Conference which was held during 19–20 December 2018 at FIIB campus. This year's conference theme was 'Advances in Management through Research, Innovation & Technology' (AMRIT). The term 'AMRIT' evokes feelings of peace, harmony, higher order enlightenment, a state of bliss, which all present at the conference hoped to achieve from scholarly inputs, intellectual enquiry and community of researchers, practitioners, etc. This year the conference was organized in collaboration with CEREN, Burgundy School of Business, France; SolBridge International School of Business, South Korea; 3CLab-DMIS, University of Salerno, Italy; Uniglobe College, Nepal, and Sa-Dhan, India.

The conference primarily aimed at the importance of research, innovation and technology in the field of management to enhance productivity. It drew a large number of subject experts, scholars, academicians, industry captains and participants from other leading national and international universities, fostering collaboration and valuable associations at an individual and institution level. Some of the key experts attending the conference included personalities such as Heinz Herrmann, Professor, Torrens University, Australia; Dr Arvind Ashta, Professor, Burgundy School of Business, Dijon, France; Dr Shyam S. Lodha, Professor, Southern Connecticut State University, USA; Dr Radhe S. Pradhan, Academic Director, Uniglobe College, Nepal; Anisul M. Islam, Professor, University of Houston-Downtown, USA; P Satish, Executive Director, Sa-Dhan, New Delhi, India; Dr Aneesh Zutshi, UNIDEMI, FCT, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal; Mr Rajeev Ranjan Roy, Senior Journalist, *Daily Post*, Chandigarh; Dr Pinaki Dasgupta, Professor, IMI, New Delhi, India; Dr

Pongky Arie Wijaya, Assistant Professor, State Islamic University of Mataram, Indonesia; Dr Mihaela Bonescu, Associate Professor, Burgundy School of Business, Dijon, France; Dr Cornelia Caseau, Associate Professor, Burgundy School of Business, Dijon, France; Dr Amit Kumar Singh, Associate Professor, Department of Commerce, Delhi School of Economics, Delhi University, India, amongst others, hosted by the FIIB faculty members Dr Amiya Kumar Mohapatra, Conference Chair; Dr Sudhir Rana and Dr Avinash K. Shrivastava, Conference Conveners; Professor Arpan Anand, Conference Co-convenor. Apart from the key resource persons, academicians and practitioners from various world class universities from India (IIM Raipur, BML Munzal, Haryana, BITS Pilani, FMS, University of Delhi; FORE School of Management, New Delhi; IMI Delhi, Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi, and Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi) and abroad participated in the conference. The conference attracted more than 150 submissions across five domains. After review, a total 117 researches were selected to be presented in five technical sessions.

## Inaugural Session

Inaugural session began with the inaugural address by Dr Anil Kumar Sinha, Director, FIIB citing the purpose behind naming the conference 'AMRIT'. Dr Sinha spoke about the importance of research in the context of improvement and deliberating upon the original findings to deliver outstanding quality research. Following the address by Dr Anil Sinha, Dr Amiya Mohapatra introduced the guests on the panel and appreciated the visit of students from Kathmandu, Nepal. Post address by Dr Mohapatra, Dr Heinz Herrmann, Professor, Torrens University, Australia, talked about the need for not only enhancing the managerial practices but

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also implementation. He discussed the importance of data mining, marketing, econometrics and operations management to assess, analyse and resolve management problems. According to Dr Herrmann, data science enables us to be inductive and observational while facilitating classification, analysis and assessment for running a bunch of data called algorithms for solving business problems. Following the remarks of Dr Herrmann, Dr Arvind Ashta congratulated Dr Amiya Mohapatra for organizing the conference each year for meaningful interactions and networking. Dr Ashta also marvelled at FIIB's endeavour of imparting serious business knowledge through such conferences. Agreeing with his views, Dr Shyam S. Lodha, keynote speaker, also emphasized on creativity that brings change. He stated that quick growth comes with collaboration. Dr Radhe S. Pradhan, Academic Director, Uniglobe College, Nepal, thanked FIIB for collaboration with Uniglobe College. He remarked that a positive relationship will make the business education more relevant to practicing managers.

### Book Release and Publications

Acknowledging the hard work of authors, three books were released at the inaugural session, namely *Advances in Management Research & Innovation*, *Business Innovation & Sustainability* and *Business Management & Technology*. These books have been published by Bloomsbury Publishing. Another book published by Taylor & Francis and three special issues with international journals of repute such as *International Journal of Business and Globalisation*, *Operation Management Education Review*, *International Journal of Supply Chain and Operations Resilience* and *FIIB Business Review* are also on the way.

Bringing the inaugural session to closure, Dr Sudhir Rana, Conference Convenor and Faculty at FIIB, delivered the vote of thanks to the respected panellists.

### Panel Discussion

A panel discussion on the topic 'Role of Innovation and Technology in Entrepreneurship Development' was held after the inaugural session where practitioners from the industry and academics were invited to deliberate their opinions on the given theme. The distinguished panel members were: Dr Arvind Ashta (Panel Chair), Professor, Burgundy School of Business, France; Dr Anisul M. Islam, Professor, University of Houston-Downtown, USA; Dr P. Satish, Executive Director, Sa-Dhan, New Delhi, India; Dr Aneesh Zutshi, UNIDEMI, FCT, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal; Dr Deepak Pandit, Panel Co-Chair and Moderator, Professor, FIIB, New Delhi, India; and Mr Rajeev Ranjan Roy, Senior Journalist, *Daily Post*, Chandigarh, Punjab, India.

### Technical Sessions

Five technical sessions on various themes of management were held in the span of two days. Papers were presented by scholars, academicians and practicing managers around the world. Technical Session on 'Marketing' was chaired by Dr Pinaki Dasgupta Professor, IMI, New Delhi, India, and Dr Mihaela Bonescu, Associate Professor, Burgundy School of Business, Dijon, France. Technical Session in Finance & Economics was chaired by Dr Radhe S. Pradhan, Academic Director, Uniglobe College, Nepal and Dr Cornelia Caseau, Associate Professor, Burgundy School of Business, Dijon, France. Technical Session on 'General Management & Public Policy' was chaired by Dr Anisul M. Islam, Professor, University of Houston-Downtown, USA and Dr Arunava Narayan Mukherjee, Executive Director, Bonhomie, India. Technical Session on 'Human Resource Management' was chaired by Dr Payal Kumar, Professor, School of Management, BML Munjal University, India and Mr Ashok Ashta, Leicester Castle Business School, De Montfort University, UK. Technical Session on 'Operations and Information System Management' was chaired by Dr Heinz Herrmann, Professor, Torrens University, Adelaide, Australia and Dr Saroj Koul, Professor, Jindal Global Business School, Sonapat, India.

### Cultural Evening

Adding a flavour of refreshment and setting a new trend, on 19 December 2018, FIIB students and Uniglobe College students presented before everyone an evening of cultural extravaganza which included dance and vocal music to refresh the gathering. Students and faculty members of FIIB also gave a show on faculty-student collaboration on the stage.

### Valedictory Session

On day two of the conference, the valedictory session started with the address by Dr Sudhir Rana drawing outcomes and purpose behind organizing IMC by saying that through experiences shared by the esteemed visiting business personalities helps in understanding the value and importance of research, innovation and technology in present-day competitive scenario. He spoke about the power of knowledge sharing that forms a phenomenon of rising together.

Followed by the comments of Dr Sudhir Rana, Dr Anil Kumar Sinha reflected upon the outcomes, number of submissions of research papers, research ethics, association and participation of leading national and international universities with FIIB, etc. He mentioned that researchers from more than 70 institutions in 10 countries marked their presence and interest in IMC. The participation and submission came from prestigious institutions from all

across the globe, such as 'Eastern Illinois University, USA; McMaster University, Canada; State Islamic University, Indonesia; Kwara State University, Nigeria; University of Huston-Downtown USA, Torrens University Australia, Australia; and also Indian institutions such as IIMs, IIT, NIT, IMT, FMS—Delhi Universtiy, Delhi School of Economics Australia, to name a few', he stated. Concluding his remarks, Dr Sinha also thanked the participants for their presence and interactions. Expressing his takeaways from IMC 2018, Guest of Honour, Mr Ananta Raj Ghimire, Program Director, Uniglobe College, Nepal, thanked FIIB for providing the platform for knowledge sharing and meaningful discussions through IMC.

Marking the closure of the IMC, Professor Arvind Ashta thanked Dr Anil Kumar Sinha, Dr Amiya Mohapatra and Dr Sudhir Rana for their initiative of organizing the conference as it brings leaders and researchers together for advanced knowledge sharing beneficial for rising entrepreneurs. The conference closed with the announcement of best paper awards and certificates by Dr Amiya Mohapatra presented to Deep Narayan Pathak from Uniglobe College, Nepal; Amit Kumar Singh and Rohit Kumar Shrivastav from Delhi School of Economics and

followed by the best research paper award to Dr Heinz Herrmann, Professor, Torrens University, Australia, for his outstanding research and knowledge with the highest originality. In the end, Dr Avinash Kumar Shrivastava, Faculty, FIIB and conference Convener delivered the vote of thanks.

### Major Takeaways

The Conference standing true to its name turned out to be an intellectual churning (AMRIT) of academicians, scholars and industry practitioners. Like the last three conference, the 4th International Conference too was an outlet for bringing together management research, innovation and practice and provide an opportunity to its participants not only to debate and discuss their ideas but also to provide a platform to young and budding researchers to network with those on the same line of research. With the themes of management research, innovation and technology in mind, the conference successfully highlighted the importance of these three interrelated components in management research and education.

### About the Reviewer



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