

## Journal evolution

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Dear readers:

This issue of *LOGISTICS RESEARCH* is the last one edited by the team which started and guided the journal through the first phase of its life (to be precise—and for the record—there was a “prenatal” period, when we tested the market and practiced the craft of making a journal through publication of a German-language journal *LOGISTIK MANAGEMENT* between 1999 and 2007).

Five volumes of *LOGISTICS RESEARCH* articles were published between 2008 and 2012. The primary members of the team were Dr. habil. Angela Roth at Friedrich-Alexander-University, the helpful staff members of the journal’s primary sponsor “BVL International Bundesvereinigung Logistik e.V.” and their Vice-President in charge of research, Joern Fontius, myself and—last but not least—Dr. Thomas Lehnert and the international professionals of SPRINGER Science and Business Media. We learned that starting and building an academic journal is not an easy and not a quick job. Many of our goals and visions we had for the journal could be realized. But there is still huge potential for some further goals to be fulfilled. We enjoyed the work and thank you all, our readers, the authors, reviewers, and colleagues, for your help and interest!

Editorial responsibility for the next phase in the evolution of *LOGISTICS RESEARCH* will now be passed on to a new team of “editors-in-chief”:

Prof. Dr. Herbert Kotzab, University of Bremen, Germany;  
Prof. Dr. Thorsten Schmidt, Technical University of Dresden, Germany;  
Prof. Dr. Stefan Minner, Technical University of Munich, Germany;  
Prof. Dr. Lauri Ojala, Turku School of Economics, Finland.

They represent a set of competences—and have access to a network of professional contacts—which is deeper and much wider than ours, the team of the infant years of the journal. This is great! It will help to further move the journal up the rankings, and closer to realizing its ambitious mission: being an integrator between the various disciplinary approaches to Logistics and Supply Chain Management, to serve as a publication platform equally accessible to members of the academic community of Logisticians across all continents, and acting as a stimulator of research which aims for both “rigor” and “relevance”. *LOGISTICS RESEARCH* is committed to simultaneously advancing the “Science of Logistics”, and “Best Practice” applications.

The selection of papers you will find in this issue focusses on the last point: There are three discussions on applications of logistical know how to relatively younger fields of application: Logistics in the health care sector (by Kriegel/Jehle/Dieck/Mallory), the Logistics of big cities and metropolitan areas (by Bretzke and Wu/Haasis). The article by Van Le/Hynth/Claudiu/Achim is addressing the needs for designing efficient, lean and safe distribution networks in environments of rapidly growing volatility. Weichert et al. present an innovative engineering solution to the detection of logistical objects.

Explore these articles and stay connected with *LOGISTICS RESEARCH* for a successful second phase of its evolution!

Good bye and best regards,

Yours

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Klaus".

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