

**MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR
OF THE BUCHAREST UNIVERSITY
OF ECONOMIC STUDIES, AND DIRECTOR
OF THE JOURNAL OF ACCOUNTING
AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

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Established by Royal Decree on April 6, 1913, under the name of the Academy of High Commercial and Industrial Studies, the Bucharest University of Economic Studies (ro. Academia de Studii Economice-ASE) is celebrating a century of existence.

Due to the persistent endeavors and dedication of its academic and administrative staff, as well as those of its students, ASE is now a research intensive university, accredited by ARACIS (the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education) with a high confidence rating. Given this standing, it is only fitting for us to employ university management strategies and programs that would allow us to capitalize on our tradition and prestige so as to rank among internationally competitive universities.

With a century of proud heritage, the ASE has a research potential that needs to be developed and leveraged to its fullest. In this context, senior management give an undertaking to pursue strategic actions which will: attract, maintain and develop research-intensive staff; support early career researchers to develop advanced research skills in internationally-recognized institutions (e.g. dual-PhD programs, post-doctoral training) as well as to encourage them to return to their home country to create partnerships and research cells; facilitate presentations by internationally-recognized researchers for seminars, speeches and classes in doctoral schools and research centers; and reward and retain researchers with international visibility. At the institutional level, we have also set up the Center for Advanced Interdisciplinary Research, where we welcome all academics seeking to capitalize on their research ideas and projects.

In his effort to increase the international visibility of our institution, I am also extremely thankful to Professor Robert Faff for taking on the very difficult and time-consuming task of guest-editing this special issue of our Journal. Robert is one of the most respected international finance scholars worldwide, with a very

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productive and significant research track record, and a truly devoted friend of the ASE, its Faculty of Accounting and Management Information Systems, and Romania in general. I am all the more grateful to him for investing his time in coordinating this special issue, and for attracting internationally-relevant accounting and finance authors. I also congratulate and thank Associate Professor Nadia Albu, the Journal's Editor in Chief, and her team, for developing since 2006 a truly international journal, indexed in prestigious international databases, and attracting international scholars from all over the world to make JAMIS their publication home. I am very confident that the considerable time invested in building this journal will be highly beneficial in helping to develop the international visibility of the ASE.

With a thankful thought towards those in the past, a respectful thought towards those in the present, and a welcoming thought towards those in the future, let us say **Vivat Academia! Vivat Profesores!** for our institution in its centennial year!

Bucharest, May 6, 2013