



EDITORIAL (in English)

One of the objectives of the journal since its launch in 2005 has been “to stimulate, value and share the most important research presented at seminars, conferences and other scholarly meetings at the School for Management, Hospitality and Tourism of the University of the Algarve”. In fact, many papers published in the journal have stemmed from relevant research presented in different seminars and conferences at our School. However, since five years have passed, we feel that it is the appropriate time to implement that objective with new dynamics, namely by organizing international conferences under the sponsorship of the journal. In this regard, the first event that we are organizing is the International Conference on Tourism & Management Studies – Algarve 2011, which will take place in Faro between the 26th and the 29th of October 2011 and will focus on a wide variety of topics related to tourism studies and tourism and hospitality management. This event aims to stimulate research and dissemination of scientific knowledge, providing a platform for interdisciplinary discussions in the above mentioned areas and promoting scholarly cooperation and collaborative work among researchers from all over the world. We are proud to announce that the keynote speakers will be Abraham Pizam, Ana Ferreira, Dimitrius Buhalis, Jafar Jafari, Jonathan Edwards and Richard Butler, and that the next issue of the journal will be dedicated to the forthcoming conference.

There are two main reasons for the decision to organize this first conference in the area of tourism: firstly, due to the dynamics that tourism is assuming at the University of the Algarve through two of its organic units, the Faculty of Economics and the School of Management, Hospitality and Tourism, which offer several undergraduate courses and masters degrees in tourism related areas as well as a PhD in tourism. Secondly, because our School already offers regular international events in the areas of Management and Taxation. However, we are still bearing in mind the possibility of organizing an international conference on management in the future.

This issue offers an interesting collection of papers, some of which arise from research for PhD theses whilst others are the outcome of post-doctoral research.

In the area of tourism, we present papers on creative tourism, tourism and economic growth, travel agency franchises, residential tourism, crisis management in tourism, tourism and crime, tourism and gastronomy, rural tourism, and information systems for tourism management.

In the area of management we have papers which deal with the internationalization process and the role of brand, the Portuguese banking system, bank supervision and financial crisis, dividend policy and life cycle of the firm, hospital management, and development of emotional competencies in organizations.

With this issue, we hope to meet both the authors’ and readers’ expectations, bringing them together and giving rise to a multiplying effect in the delivery of scientific knowledge.

José António C. Santos