The COVID-19 has not only significantly slowed down the global economy but also has profoundly changed the daily activities of people. As of October 5, 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic had infected over 35 million people and caused 1.04 million deaths world-wide (Johns Hopkins University & Medicine, 2020), has devastated physical and mental health of countless people around the world (Stoll, 2020), and has pushed 88 to 114 million people around the world into extreme poverty (Zumbrun, 2020).

The pandemic crisis has also brought disruptions to the business environment and the way organizations operate. COVID-19 has caused the global economy to enter a rapid downward spiral to recession. The most recent world economic outlooks from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund indicate that both advanced and emerging countries are already in recession or depression (Gopinath, 2020; IMF, 2020; The World Bank, 2020). We are witnessing business closings, suspended construction projects, and restaurant, theaters, or sporting events operating at a drastically reduced capacity. It is estimated that social distancing, the use of masks, avoiding group activities, and other measures have saved approximately 40.76 trillion USD globally (Yoo & Managi, 2020).

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on business organizations may not dissipate until effective vaccines or cures are developed. Meanwhile, companies are striving to mitigate the impact of the disease and adjust to the new normal. A recent survey by McKinsey & Company shows that "one-third of surveyed companies have accelerated the digitization of their supply chains, half have sped up the digitization of their customer channels, and two-thirds have moved faster to adopt artificial intelligence and automation" (McKinsey & Company, 2020).

The purpose of this special issue is to present research on the advancement of managerial issues, enhancement of knowledge and innovation during the time of pandemic crisis. This special issue explores businesses’ successes and failures of different approaches for managing the pandemic and strategies for sustaining and thriving during the current and future crisis. We also invite original research dealing with developing new risk mitigation methodologies to be applied by business organizations in the post-pandemic world.
Suggested topics for the special issue include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Case studies and field experiments that describe the managerial best practices or lessons learned by organizations during the pandemic.
- Agile organizational structures during the COVID-19 and post-pandemic world
- Managerial approaches that support business disruptions
- Innovative supply-chain models that can survive during the global pandemic crisis
- Using artificial intelligence and data analytics for mitigating the crisis
- Redesigning organizational strategies during the time of crisis
- Remote work, online training, and design of the new workplace in the time of crisis
- The role of technology and the digital transformation of organizations during and in the post-pandemic period
- The role of organizational entrepreneurship and creativity in times of the crisis
- The impact of the pandemic on operations management and lessons for the post-pandemic world
- The impact of the pandemic on the role of marketing management and lessons for the post-pandemic world
- The impact of the pandemic on the role of financial management and lessons for the post-pandemic world
- The impact of the pandemic on human resource management and lessons for the post-pandemic world
- The effect of pandemic on gender and racial inequality at workplaces

Submission Guidelines:

Send submissions for this special issue to beni-asllani@utc.edu in Microsoft Word format. Submissions must follow the JMI requirements listed at www.journalofmanagerialissues.com. Questions regarding the special issue should be addressed to either guest editor.

References


