The Digitization of Industry: An Inter-Disciplinary Approach and Critical Review of Research and Media

Dara Schniederjans
Assistant Professor - College of Business Administration; University of Rhode Island, USA

Keynote Overview:
Arguably, the next several years will engender the great digitization of industry. Lead by consumer demand and powered by new technologies, experts are claiming we are in a period of radical change that is likely to lead to an industrial paradigm shift. The goal of this presentation is to present the core elements of digitization, followed by a critical review of research and media, for the purpose of enhancing inter-disciplinary perspectives on the future of industry digitization. The presentation will start with an overview of the road to digitization, as well as future projections. This will be followed with the results of a critical review of the digital industry ecosystem, including elements and technologies that are contributing to the foreseeable paradigm shift. The presentation will continue by presenting results from a three-part review of research and media in supply chain digitization. Current findings and areas of improvement for research in this topic will be discussed along with potential avenues for inter-disciplinary collaboration. Current issues that will be discussed include: intellectual property infringement, cyber security and strategic directions on the effective integration of knowledge capital.

Main Topics:
- Industry 4.0
- Punctuated equilibrium model
- Cloud computing
- Cyber security
- 3D printing

About the Keynote Presenter:
Dara Schniederjans has a Ph.D. from Texas Tech University and is an Assistant Professor of Supply Chain Management at the University of Rhode Island, College of Business Administration. Dara has authored and co-authored research papers focused on theoretical elaboration and subsequent testing of models related to the interface of technology, innovation and supply chain management. Her focus is on the sustainability and societal factors and implications. She has published in journals such as Decision Support Systems, International Journal of Operational Research, International Journal of Production Economics, International Journal of Production research, Operations Management Research, and Supply Chain Management: An International Journal. She has also co-authored text books and served as a guest co-editor for a special issue on “Business ethics in Social Sciences” in the International Journal of Society Systems Science. She has also served as an ethics track chair, website coordinator and new faculty development consortium co-coordinator for Decision Sciences Institute. She currently teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in Supplier Relationship Management and Operations Management.