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**Article — Published Version**

## Asian Business & Management 2018–2023: farewell from the outgoing editor

Asian Business & Management

**Provided in Cooperation with:**

Springer Nature

*Suggested Citation:* Froese, Fabian Jintae (2023) : Asian Business & Management 2018–2023: farewell from the outgoing editor, Asian Business & Management, ISSN 1476-9328, Palgrave Macmillan, London, Vol. 22, Iss. 5, pp. 1801-1803,  
<https://doi.org/10.1057/s41291-023-00255-0>

This Version is available at:

<https://hdl.handle.net/10419/311462>

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## Asian Business & Management 2018–2023: farewell from the outgoing editor

Fabian Jintae Froese<sup>1</sup>

Published online: 23 November 2023  
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In response to the growth of Asian economies and the emergence of world-leading companies such as Samsung, Toyota, Alibaba, and Infosys, an expanding body of scholarly literature has analyzed why Asian business has become so successful. In line with this development, Harukiyo Hasegawa founded the journal *Asian Business & Management* (ABM) in 2002, made Michael Witt editor in 2012, and in 2018, six years later, gave that role to me, Fabian Jintae Froese. Another six years later, my time as editor-in-chief has come to an end. Yipeng Liu will take over in January 2024. I wish him and his team all the best for the coming years.

In this editorial, I will review some of the highlights during my time and thank my colleagues and the many contributors to the journal. The last six years have seen ABM develop greatly in many dimensions. As regards typical journal performance indicators, the number of submissions has roughly tripled, to around 1500 submissions per year, the Clarivate (formerly SSCI) journal impact factor has roughly quadrupled, to around 4, and the number of downloaded articles has multiplied enormously, to more than 150,000 per year. In short, ABM has become a well-known and recognized journal devoted to the study of Asian business and management.

As stated on the journal's homepage, ABM is an academic management and business journal with a focus on Asia. The journal covers topics in the areas of corporate governance, human resource management, marketing, organizational behavior, organization theory, strategy, technology management, and related areas. ABM has been open to various topics and methodologies. In our 20-year anniversary issue, we provided a systematic review of research published in ABM (Froese et al., 2022) revealing that the journal had published research mainly in seven clusters: (1) corporate social responsibility, (2) business management in emerging markets, (3) corporate governance, (4) internationalization, (5) political and business ties, (6) organizational culture, and (7) strategy and human resource management. ABM has been swift to embrace emerging trends and publish papers on current phenomena. For example, ABM was one of the first scholarly journals to publish a special issue

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on the COVID-19 crisis in May 2020, only a few months after the outbreak of the global health pandemic. The groundbreaking article on the challenges and opportunities of the global health crisis from an Asian perspective (Liu et al., 2020) was one of the most read and cited articles published by ABM. Another example is the eye-opening commentary on the business implications of Russia's war in Ukraine (Markus, 2022). ABM has also continued to publish special issues with its partner associations. Noteworthy are the special issues on "Japanese Business," in cooperation with the Association of Japanese Business Studies (see editorial by Makino & Lehmberg, 2019), and on "Non-routine environments: European-Asian business in times of shock" in cooperation with the Euro-Asia Management Studies Association (see editorial by Horn et al., 2021).

During my time as editor-in-chief, I had the opportunity to implement many great initiatives together with my fellow editorial team members. I would like to wholeheartedly thank my editorial team members for their great contributions and friendship. To improve the review process, I asked Katharina Bader to serve as a reviewing editor to help me screen submissions. As time passed and the number of submissions increased dramatically, Jongmin Lee, Philip Rose, Philip Davies, and Taewoo Roh also joined as reviewing editors. During my six years, they have reviewed more than 4,500 initial submissions, and I would like to say 4500 thank you to them. Unfortunately, we had to desk-reject many submissions. If you received a desk-reject decision from us, I would like to apologize. Our goal is not to desk-reject papers but to publish them. Thus, we wrote an editorial with tips on how to pass the desk review (Froese & Bader, 2019).

Corresponding to the growing number of submissions, we have also expanded our team of editors who handle manuscripts. Our goal has been to help authors publish great papers. While we began with eight associate editors in 2018, that number has now increased to 17 associate editors and three deputy editors. I would like to thank our deputy editors, Jeoung Yul Lee, Yipeng Liu, and Shasha Zhao, for their great ideas, teamwork, contributions, and friendship. Hoping not to miss out any names, I would like to thank all our associate editors for their excellent work over the years: Katharina Bader, Xinming He, Martin Hemmert, Jianfeng Jia, Jongmin Lee, Ashish Malik, Hemant Merchant, Dilek Zamantili Nayir, Alfred Presbitero, Carol Reade, Tomoki Sekiguchi, Dylan Sutherland, Markus Taube, Jane Tong, Arup Varma, Jie Wu, Eugenia Xing, Axele Giroud, Asli Colpan, Peter Dowling, and Fang Lee Cooke. To arrive at decisions, our editors relied on the reviews of anonymous reviewers who devoted countless hours to providing feedback to authors. If you are one of our anonymous reviewers, I would like to offer you my profound thanks for your valuable feedback.

Another major new initiative was setting up a social media presence for ABM. Parth Patel took over as communication editor, set up accounts on Twitter (now X), Facebook, and LinkedIn, and regularly posts updates about ABM on these channels. If you have not connected with us, please do so! These channels have greatly helped increase the dissemination of ABM. Thank you for your excellent work, Parth.

Palgrave, our publisher, and Harukiyo Hasegawa, our founder, have been ideal partners to run a scientific journal. They have provided the necessary support when needed and granted us scholars the autonomy to realize our ideas.



At the end of my concluding remarks, I would like to address you, our authors and readers. I would like to congratulate our authors for publishing your excellent work in ABM. I would also like to thank you all for reading and citing ABM. I wish the new editorial team all the best and hope that you will continue to read and cite ABM.

**Funding** Open Access funding enabled and organized by Projekt DEAL.

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