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2020 Special Issue Call for Papers by the African Journal of Career Development

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Theme:

“Postmodernising career development to enhance people’s ability to negotiate multiple career-related transitions”

Editor:

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Submission due date: 31 March 2020

Background to the special issue:

Much has been written on the extent and nature of changes in the world of work and the impact of these changes on workers’ and prospective workers’ wellbeing (Urbanaviciute, Udayar, & Rossier, 2019). These changes come at a high cost: ‘workers increasingly experience insecurity about the continuity and stability of their employment. Such feelings of insecurity, unfortunately, can lead to more stress, poorer health, and

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the context of mass migration and unstable labor markets ... traditional career guidance is no longer sufficient ... the need for a paradigm shift is becoming more urgent' (p. 573). Arulmani (2019), too, asserts that 'More than two-thirds of the world follow occupations where work is mainly in the informal sector' and asks: 'Does "career" really exist in these contexts?' (n.p.). Currently, the need for post-modernising career development (helping people navigate distinctive life phases and bolstering their attitudes, beliefs, and competencies (ABCs) to enact multiple personal and career-life roles) is at its greatest (Hartung, 2018).

Many organisations can no longer provide workers with a sense of security and 'guarantee' life-long contracts. Consequently, workers struggle to deal with the glacier effect of rapidly and constantly changing occupational contexts. Many of them feel traumatised by this struggle and start to believe that their work has no personal or social meaning and purpose. Inevitably, they are obliged to re-plan, re-construct, and re-design their career-lives to help them become employable and find sustainable, decent work (Rossier, Ginevra, Bollmann, & Nauta, 2017). Accordingly, career development theorists, researchers, practitioners, and policymakers are challenged to rethink and post-modernise the theory and practice of career development (Duarte, 2017; Guichard, 2013; Hartung, 2015; Maree, 2018; Savickas, 2015). Their response should contextualise, update, and innovate career counselling theory, research, practical intervention, and policymaking endeavours (Maree & Di Fabio, 2019; Ribeiro & Guilherme de Oliveira, 2018). Savickas (2019a) rightfully contends that '[t]he future of the profession rests on our ability to develop new models and methods to help individuals cope with the new organization of work that is becoming increasingly less predictable, regulated, stable, and orderly' (n.p.).

People and their best interests should always be central to efforts aimed at post-modernising, contextualising, updating, and innovating career development. Likewise, self-designing and career construction (Maree, in press; Savickas, 2019a) including construction, deconstruction, reconstruction, and co-construction of career-life stories should be regarded as critical features of efforts that equip people with the skills to negotiate an increasingly insecure and unpredictable future, characterised by multiple, repeated transitions in their personal and career-lives (Briddick & Sensoy-Briddick, 2017; Savickas, 2019b).

Given the context outlined above, we must continue our dialogue on these matters until the challenge of post-modernising career development has been met satisfactorily and answered effectively. Accordingly, the principal aim of this special issue of the AJCD is to promote and maintain such dialogue.

Types of manuscripts we are looking for

We welcome proposals for innovative micro-, meso- and macro-interventions that use career development to promote and enhance people's ability to negotiate multiple career-related transitions.

Typical questions requiring answers are the following:

- What are some of the most influential models for post-modernising career development in Global South contexts, especially, and how can these models be advanced?

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- Which economic systems are most suited to promote post-modernising of career development in Global South contexts?
- How can post-modernising career development be supported systemically through various levels of education in Global South contexts?

What can the public sector, the private sector, individual people, civil society and policymakers do to promote the post-modernising of career development and enhance people's ability to negotiate multiple career-related transitions in Global South contexts?

welcome thought-provoking, constructive contributions from across the spectrum of research methodologies – manuscripts that deal with theoretical and practical issues and that report on research in a quantitative, a qualitative, a mixed-methods, or an integrative qualitative-quantitative perspective (Hartung & Santili, 2018; Maree, 2013, 2019).

For the current guest issue, contributing authors are requested to consider the term 'career development' as including associated constructs such as information provision, placement, coaching, vocational guidance, career education, psychological counselling, career guidance, career advice, career counselling, as well as life designing and healing (Savickas, 2015).

Deadline for submissions

Please e-mail proposals for articles to kobus.maree@up.ac.za. In your proposal, please include:

- the proposed title
- a brief abstract (maximum word count: 250 words)
- author names, e-mail addresses, and affiliations for contributing authors
- contact details of the corresponding author

Please submit your proposal by no later than 31 March 2020. Proposals will be considered, and you will be notified about the outcome at our earliest convenience. Complete manuscripts should be submitted for review before 30 June 2020. The submission should be made online through the journal's website ajcd.africa (AOSIS publishes the journal). Exceptionally, a manuscript may be submitted by e-mail attachment to the Guest Editor Kobus Maree (kobus.maree@up.ac.za). Submitted manuscripts will undergo peer-review, and authors will typically receive the results of the review within six weeks after the submission of their manuscripts. We hope to complete the proof-reading and editing of the guest issue by 30 November 2020. The issue will be published online in a fully citable form. Hard copy publication will occur at the earliest opportunity.

List of references

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Yours sincerely,

Kobus Maree

Editor-in-Chief

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