

A Time Will Come to Ride the Wind and Cleave the Waves: Postprint of the Foreword to Volume 1 of Knowledge Management Forum

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Abstract

We are currently in an information age, wherein information technology, represented by the Internet, is reconstructing society's established rules and order, and driving transformation and reform across all industries and fields from the superficial to the fundamental; more significantly, it is also a knowledge era, where knowledge as a productive force is profoundly influencing and transforming people's modes of thinking, working styles, and professional capabilities, thereby bringing new vitality, momentum, and wisdom to our society. We need both the Internet and knowledge management: the Internet without knowledge management is superficial and bleak, while knowledge management without the Internet is narrow and inefficient. The Internet and knowledge management are interdependent and mutually reinforcing, and will undoubtedly shine brilliantly together.

Full Text

Foreword: A Time Will Come to Ride the Wind and Break the Waves — Message for the Inaugural Volume of Knowledge Management Forum

We live in an information age, where information technology—epitomized by the internet—is reconstructing established social rules and orders, driving transformation across all industries and sectors from surface to core. More profoundly, we live in a knowledge age, where knowledge as a productive force is reshaping human thinking patterns, working methods, and professional capabilities, infusing society with new vitality, momentum, and wisdom. We need the internet, and we need knowledge management. An internet without knowledge management is superficial and bleak, while knowledge management without the internet

is narrow and feeble. The two are born of each other and will undoubtedly shine together.

Over the past decades, knowledge management in China has grown from an infant in swaddling clothes to a young adult, emerging from seclusion to public recognition, evolving from a “pre-science” or “latent science” to gradually standing among established disciplines. This has been a journey of arduous exploration, marked by self-reliance and perseverance. While knowledge management may not yet be fully mature or widely recognized, its name and essence are undoubtedly captivating and charismatic. Whether we acknowledge it or not, we cannot do without knowledge management—its absence is simply unimaginable. Though it may not yet be a prominent field comparable to major disciplines, its growth is filled with challenges and passion. If decades ago knowledge management was merely a concept, today—in the context of digitalization, Internet Plus, IoT, big data, and cloud computing—it is poised to burst forth with vibrant vitality. To overlook knowledge management is to risk missing opportunities for new development and losing the possibility of leaping ahead.

Knowledge management exists across all sectors of society—be it enterprises, library and information institutions, government agencies, or research organizations. Its value is increasingly vital. After years of practical exploration, we must push knowledge management further into the spotlight to attract broader societal attention and participation. Indeed, recent years have seen numerous publications in the field—including articles, monographs, and textbooks—with many universities establishing dedicated knowledge management programs or courses. The establishment of the China Knowledge Management Alliance in Beijing in October 2015 marked the moment when the tree of knowledge management truly took root in Chinese soil, offering a glimpse of its future flourishing.

Today, the sapling of *Knowledge Management Forum* has emerged from its nascent stage, breaking through the ground. It has obtained official recognition through the CN number granted by the State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television, and is bearing witness to a new journey in China’s knowledge management theory and practice, supported vigorously by the community. As China’s only academic journal dedicated to knowledge management, it strives to break free from the constraints of traditional print publishing, fully leveraging the advantages of new publishing models (pure online publishing, open access, article-by-article publication, etc.). It shoulders the significant historical responsibility of aggregating Chinese knowledge management research and guiding the field’s future direction. This is a mission entrusted by our era and an inevitable outcome of Chinese knowledge management’s evolution.

Starting with this inaugural issue, *Knowledge Management Forum* will present itself to readers anew. It may still be weak and immature, but with the care of readers, the support of authors, and the backing of practitioners and researchers across the knowledge management community, it will undoubtedly grow robustly, progressing ever further and better. We look forward to the

brilliance of *Knowledge Management Forum*! We await your applause, and even more so, your care, participation, and support!

Editor-in-Chief, *Knowledge Management Forum* (Online Edition)

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Note: Figure translations are in progress. See original paper for figures.

Source: ChinaXiv — Machine translation. Verify with original.