

Project “Behavioral antecedents of scientific crowdsourcing: academic teachers’ perspective”

The dynamics of socio-technological transformations over the past decade, postulated for democratization of science, its opening, open access to data, open mutual assessment and open educational resources (OECD, 2015) – these are the reasons why the way academic teachers conduct the research activity is changing. It is increasingly more often stressed that scientific crowdsourcing is a new model of work of academic teachers, which complements a traditional approach to science, and it is the next step in development of science. It is valuable in that it enables, among other things, researchers to obtain knowledge from many sources, collect data and conduct research in large research teams, test new concepts and identify scientific problems, recruit participants to research, transcribe and analyze texts, establish cooperation with numerous researchers from different parts of the world, obtain answers to the researchers' questions, verify the quality of researchers' ideas, replicate the results obtained and gain access to funding.

However, the literature stresses that the success of crowdsourcing initiatives depends on the academic teachers themselves and their intentions to use solutions based on scientific crowdsourcing. Hence, it is important to search for an answer to the question of what factors determine academic teachers' decision to reach for scientific crowdsourcing. The literature did not attempt to recognize behavioral antecedents of scientific crowdsourcing from the perspective of academic teachers in management and quality disciplines. So far, foreign research has been very limited, while in Poland it has not been conducted at all.

The studies planned in the proposed project relate to the recognition of behavioral antecedents of scientific crowdsourcing from the perspective of academic teachers. The theoretical framework in this project is unified theory of acceptance and use of technology (UTAUT). The proposed research aims at acquiring new knowledge about scientific crowdsourcing from the perspective of academic teachers. The conclusions drawn from them will be theoretical in nature and will contribute to the development of the theory of management and quality sciences.

There are two reasons for the need and novelty of research. First of all, the recognition of behavioral antecedents of scientific crowdsourcing from the perspective of academic teachers of management and quality sciences is a significant research challenge, a response to the recommendations contained in the literature on the subject and an interesting cognitive gap. Second of all, the relationships between these variables have not yet been in the field of wider research exploration. The proposed research project is a way to broaden (reduce the limitations of earlier research: no research combining quantitative and qualitative methods) and create new knowledge (fill the identified cognitive gaps: recognition of behavioral antecedents of scientific crowdsourcing) in management and quality sciences.