Special Issues in 2012

The *International Journal of Consumer Studies* is published for academics, policy makers and lay people around the world who are interested in consumer affairs. It is published six times a year and strives to publish original articles of the highest quality. Designed to provide an international forum for academic and research papers about consumer affairs, it publishes studies of interest to an international audience and at the leading edge of consumer research throughout the world. The scope of the journal includes: *consumer sciences and their application, consumer policy, and consumer education*. Topics covered include: consumer safety, consumer behaviour, the consumer ecosystem, and family and household studies. Paper length is normally up to 5000 words. The Journal, now in its 34th year of publication, is registered with ISI for Social and Behavioural Sciences.

Special Regional Issue on Africa: July 2012

The purpose of this Special Issue is to identify and analyze current and future directions in consumer issues and home economics in Africa. Articles may be theoretical, report on detailed research or reflect on practice. They may be written from a local, national or international perspective. They should add significantly to the research literature in this area. Topics may include, but are not limited to the following headings:

- Clothing and textiles
- Food and nutrition
- Housing and interior
- Hospitality management
- Consumer behaviour and decision-making
- Entrepreneurship, education and community development
- Sustainability, energy, water
- Health and well-being
- Globalisation
- Education and consumer education

This list is by no means exhaustive. The journal and editors of this special issue would welcome any work which contributes to a better understanding of consumer security and well-being in Africa.

The journal has agreed to provide a forum for publication of selected, peer reviewed papers presented to the South African Association of Family Ecology and Consumer Science (SAAFECS) 10th International Conference, Building a New Identity, to be held in Pretoria 7th–11th March 2011 and the International Federation for Home Economics Regional Conference 2011.

Guest editors, Dr Alet Erasmus (Alet.Erasmus@up.ac.za) and Dr Elizabeth Kempen (kempeel@unisa.ac.za). Contributors should consult web pages [http://wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/ijcs](http://wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/ijcs) for author guidance.
Consumer Issues in Credit, Debt and Financial Literacy:
September 2012

The global financial crisis has highlighted the extent of consumer debt and its implications for governments, business and families in achieving a good standard of living and quality of life. As a consequence of the financial crises it became obvious that individuals in their role as consumers and members of a household are often overcharged in budget management. In addition to this very basic issue they often feel disorientated and unconfident in financial decisions and processes, such as bookkeeping, raising of credit, financial investment and closing of an insurance contract. The reason for these deficits is not only a lack of information rather than the missing of competences in real life economics. The results are often precarious financial and social consumer situations.

The Journal is interested in developing a strong body of academic literature relating to consumers and debt, credit and financial literacy, for publication in a Special Issue in May 2012. Manuscripts are particularly welcome on the following topics:

- The financial management of private households
- Financial literacy, capability and economics education – studies, models and best practice
- Consumer decisions – private finances and investments
- Consumer decisions on debts
- Prevention of over indebtedness
- The impact of credit and debt on the consumer – quality of life, poverty, social status and future

This list is by no means exhaustive. The journal and editor of this special issue would welcome any work which contributes to a better understanding of the consumer as related to credit and debt. Articles may be theoretical, report on detailed research or reflect on practice. Articles should add significantly to the research literature in this area.

Guest Editors Dr. Konstantin von Normann, Sabine Reinhart-Maack
e-mail contact: k.vonnormann@iwr.uni-bonn.de reinhartsabine@gmx.de
Special Issue on Retailing and the Consumer: March 2013

The journal is interested in developing a strong body of academic literature related to consumer issues pertaining to Retailing and the Consumer and invites submissions for a special edition, to be published in November 2012.

The retail industry and its interplay with the consumer permeate the lives of consumers and producers on local, national and international levels. The desire to discover new and exotic products continues to push producers, suppliers and retailers to find or develop new products to satisfy what often appears to be an insatiable appetite for ‘more’. The retail industry is an evolving landscape of micro-businesses often contrasting against large multinational retailers and suppliers. The ever changing and diverse nature of consumers continue to be a force that drives retail change; but conversely, consumers can become victims of the ‘need’ to keep up with the burgeoning ‘consumer society’. Standards, Rights, Protection, Ethics, Education, Debt and Environmental Impact are some of the arguably harder edged issues that co-exist against those of Fashion, Marketing, Trends, and Choice. Manuscripts are particularly welcome on the following topics:

- Retailing and the consumer
- Consumers and their affect on the retail environment
- Fashion and the consumer
- Retail consumption – retailing as leisure
- International retailing
- Consumer and retail marketing - celebrity endorsement
- Independent retailers
- Decline and survival of the high street
- Sustainable retailing
- Consumer retail credit and debt issues
- Consumer education
- Retailing and environmental impact
- New product development at the consumer interface

This list is by no means exhaustive. The journal and editor of this special issue would welcome any work which contributes to a better understanding of the consumer as related to retailing. Articles may be theoretical, report on detailed research or reflect on practice. They should add significantly to the research literature in this area.

Expressions of interest and an outline of the proposed paper should be submitted by 30th March 2012 (finished manuscripts by 31st July 2012) to the guest editors of this issue, Richard Bent, Claire Seaman and Mike Pretious at the address below.

Call for Peer Reviewers/Referees
R Bent, C Seaman and M Pretious
School of Business, Enterprise and Management
Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh
Queen Margaret University Drive
Musselburgh
East Lothian
EH216UU
0044(0)131 4740000
rbent@qmu.ac.uk
cseaman@qmu.ac.uk
mpretious@qmu.ac.uk
Call for Peer Reviewers/Referees

The International Journal of Consumer Studies offers an opportunity for interested academics and professionals to engage in the double-blind peer review process. As a referee for the Special Issue you will be asked to review one or two articles and will be provided with guidelines. Interested parties should forward a brief note to the address below, indicating up to six topic areas (key words) on which you are confident of being able to provide a considered assessment, and your contact information.

Please contact:
Katherine Hughes
Editor, International Journal of Consumer Studies
www.wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/ijcs
katherine.hughes@btconnect.com
0044 29 2088 6569