

**Електронний додаток до матеріалів  
Міжнародної науково-практичної інтернет-конференції**

**«КОНКУРЕНТОСПРОМОЖНІСТЬ ТА ІННОВАЦІЇ:  
ПРОБЛЕМИ НАУКИ ТА ПРАКТИКИ»**

присвячена видатному вченому-економісту О. Г. Ліберману

**Тези доповідей**

14 листопада 2019 року  
м. Харків, Україна

Харків  
2019

UDC 330.8, 378

## **MUSEUM SCIENCE AND THE CREATION OF ARTIFACTS BASED ON THE PRODUCTION FUNCTION**

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Museum is a rather old form of preserving and displaying items of values and stretches far back in human history. The reasons for collecting, preserving and displaying items are many.

The meaning and purpose of the museum is “for the increase and diffusion of knowledge”, James Smithson stated in 1829 (Smithson, 1829). Museums are a base for knowledge, its increase and diffusion in time and space. How is knowledge, the increase of knowledge and its diffusion produced? It is produced through the scientific process. Museum science is the process of production of knowledge, its increase and diffusion.

Museums are historically linked to colonialism, imperialism and European missionary work. Museum collections can be created in different ways: purchase, donations, exchange of artifacts, and of course robbery, to mention a few. This fact raises moral and political problems. Most, but not all, of the objects that museums hold have been moved out of countries as a result of wars, occupation and unfair purchase, and the owners have been left without any rights or protections of their valuables or economic compensation, or any other kind of benefits. In other words, most of what is on display and hidden in the repositories in museums around the world have been stolen from the original owners. There are many reasons behind this kind of disturbing activity. It is obvious that economic, political and social reasons are strong motivating factors. Exhibition of objects also serve as propaganda directed towards the nations’ own population, other competing nations and those nations and their inhabitants who have been robbed.

There are different terminologies describing the purpose and activities of museums, depending on language and regions (Wikipedia). Museology is the study of museums, their history and role in society, preservation, curation and education and is commonly used in Latin languages, like French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, as well as in German. Museum studies is the English variant of the same phenomenon. Museology and museum studies comprise the organization of exhibition, education and preservation of (stolen) objects, whereof the states are the principal owners.

A museum is not the same as a collection. In the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries and during the age of enlightenment early collectors, cabinets of curiosity and collections grew by large numbers. Hobbyists and wealthy individuals as well as anthropologists and naturalists created collections of natural history and ethnography. Curiosity, and wealth as well as mental disorder of the individual collector are often driving forces behind collections, and they have in common the interest to display their collections in terms of: Look what I have.

Some of the main purposes of a collection are to display as many rare and valuable objects as possible and to build a complete collection. For those who collect, the value is not monetary but emotional. The psychology of collecting is well described by leading psychologists throughout the history. Freud described the act of collecting as unresolved toilet training and Jung that collecting and completing sets have as their archetypal antecedents the collecting of nuts and berries, once needed for survival by our ancestors. A collection is a group of objects or an accumulation of an amount of material in one location for some specific purpose or the result of a process of collecting. Collecting mania is understood as a symptom of obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), which involves the collecting and hoarding of objects (hoarding disorder) to the point where social relations and health are damaged. Collecting mania is characterized by the collection of objects that have no use to the collector nor any great intrinsic value to a genuine collector. Accumulation of collectives beyond possible capacity of use or enjoyment is typical for this kind of individuals.

We will reserve the meaning of museum science as the purpose to collect, preserve, interpret, and display items of productive, artistic, cultural, or scientific significance arisen from the production function for the education of the independent scientist as well of the public. Furthermore, museum science represents a sophisticated and enlightened way to analyze the production function; the life and work of the entrepreneur and the independent scientist.

Artifacts are hand-made objects or other result of human activity such as a design or document as distinguished from a natural object. Artifacts are proofs of something or someone arising from or associated with an earlier time especially when regarded as no longer appropriate, relevant, or important. Objects become artifacts after production or productive use. Everything that has ever been produced was intended for sale and consumption in one way or another. When the product no longer was relevant, appropriate or important it was sold, donated, demolished or turned into an artifact.

The production function is an analysis of input and output in the production process. In the static production, a combination of land, labor and capital works in the production process and makes a surplus over cost: profit. A new combination of the first and second input factors, land and labor, is an innovation and creates an entrepreneurial profit (Schumpeter, 1912/1934). Entrepreneurs, single individuals who make judgmental decisions, create innovations.

Furthermore, private ownership to the production means is essential for the entrepreneurial process. The entrepreneur is not a wage earner or capitalist, but he is the creator of entrepreneurial profit. The production input factors have an owner, the entrepreneur.

As long as the innovation is ongoing, the input factors are appropriate, relevant and important. Anyhow, at some point of time the entrepreneurial profit will vanish. When the innovation has ended, the time is right for shifting the nature of the production means into artifacts. Artifacts representing the static production have less importance or interest for museum science. Static production per se does

not represent development, while the dynamic production is of our interest.

Governments cannot do the same as individuals in the process of innovation, entrepreneurship or independent science. That is one reason behind museum science as a scientific subject and the need for creation of private museums. The objectives behind Sandal Private Museum are independent science, documentation, exhibition, education, and diffusion of knowledge as a leading center for the production of new knowledge in its fields of interest, emphasizing cultural family heritage through objects of intrinsic values (Sandal). Sandal Private Museum invites independent scientists, doctoral candidates, students and the public to independent studies, education and publishing of articles, books, presentations and displays.

Entrepreneurs are the creators of civilization. The study of their life and work is of the highest interest for a deeper understanding of the process of innovation.

### Literature

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