Corporate disclosure regulation traditionally intends to enhance firms’ information environments, render capital markets more efficient, and improve resource allocation. Recent years have brought many examples of additional or tightening disclosure requirements – but also some rare instances of de-regulation. However, some of these new regulatory initiatives appear different in two important respects:

First, some address the needs of audiences other than capital market participants. For example, corporate social responsibility reporting targets NGOs, consumers, and the public at large.

Second, several recent initiatives appear motivated by policy objectives other than increasing transparency or comparability. Rather, they create strong incentives for firms to change non-disclosure aspects of their operating, investing and financing policies. This new type of disclosure regulation is interesting because its “real” (i.e., non-disclosure) consequences are not unintended “side effects”, but are (sometimes explicitly) their main purpose. Also, some of these regulatory initiatives are local or regional, and therefore likely to be understudied.

Against this background, the SBR & ZfbF Special Issues “Regulation of Corporate Disclosure” invite papers that speak to the effectiveness and efficiency of disclosure regulation – with a possible focus on its non-disclosure consequences. Current regulatory trends of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Corporate social responsibility (CSR) reporting, Integrated Reporting, environmental and sustainability reporting, other forms of non-financial disclosure
- Country-by-country reporting of key financial information to tax authorities
- Disclosure of payments made by oil and gas extraction firms to governments
- Reporting of top management compensation details and CEO pay ratios
- Alternative Performance Measures
Abolishment of quarterly reporting requirements in the EU
New International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs)
The International Accounting Standards Board’s (IASB) Disclosure Initiative
Regulatory disclosure requirements for financial institutions and insurance firms (e.g., outcomes of stress tests, quantitative impact studies and asset quality reviews).

Ideally, the body of evidence published in the Special Issues will be useful to regulators in assessing the effectiveness and efficiency of disclosure regulation – including as a tool for achieving publicly policy objectives that go beyond traditional, transparency-related objectives of disclosure regulation.

The editors are open to diverse methodological approaches, including analytical modeling, descriptive and hypothesis-testing empirical-archival analyses, surveys, interview-based studies, grounded theory case studies, field and lab experiments, historical and other.

Submission deadline: 30 November 2017

Manuscripts are subject to double-blind review by two referees. Accepted papers will be published in “Special Issue” sections in the SBR (English) or in the ZfbF (German). Please submit papers through https://www.editorialmanager.com/sbre/default.aspx (SBR) and https://www.editorialmanager.com/zfbf/default.aspx (ZfbF), respectively, indicating the Call for Papers for these Special Issues. For questions please contact sellhorn@bwl.lmu.de.

About the Journals:

Both Schmalenbach Business Review (SBR) and & Schmalenbachs Zeitschrift für betriebswirtschaftliche Forschung (ZfbF) publish original and innovative research that is of wide interest to business research and practice. SBR publishes manuscripts in English, ZfbF targets the German-language community. Both journals are managed by the same editors. The scope of both journals includes major areas, such as accounting and taxes, finance, marketing, organizations, management, and digital business, but is also open to further subjects that promote a better understanding business practice. SBR and ZfbF welcome articles that use rigorous theoretical and empirical research methodologies to establish their results. All papers are subject to double-blind peer review. While the history of ZfbF dates back to 1906, which makes it Germany’s oldest and most respected German-language business journal, SBR started in 2000 as its English-language spin-off. Traditionally, both journals champion the stance that taking a broader perspective and including advances in all business areas are necessary to successfully meeting the challenges of business practice. SBR and ZfbF are the official journals of the Schmalenbach-Gesellschaft für Betriebswirtschaft e. V. More details are available at http://www.springer.com/business+%26+management/journal/41464 (SBR) and http://www.springer.com/business+%26+management/journal/41471 (ZfbF).