Call for Papers for a JCP Special Issue (2017) on
“THE SHARING ECONOMY AND CONSUMER LAW & POLICY”

The sharing economy (also referred to as the collaborative economy or Peer-to-peer economy) is a phenomenon which has rightly been described as a “disruptive development” for business and consumer transactions, harnessing the opportunities created by the combination of the internet and smart technology. The sharing economy reflects an increasing desire to create new business opportunities through utilising under-used spare capacity in assets such as cars or accommodation. The rise of new business models such as those championed by Uber and Airbnb raises novel questions for consumer law and policy, including the applicability of existing consumer law to transactions concluded via on-line platforms, the way the multi-party relationship in a standard sharing transaction comes together in a new form of production process, and so on.

The Journal of Consumer Policy seeks to publish a special issue dedicated to this phenomenon. We invite submissions of original papers which examine features of the sharing economy from a legal, marketing, economics or behavioural science perspective, as well as papers taking an interdisciplinary focus. It would be helpful if papers could highlight the wider implications of their particularly disciplinary perspective for consumer policy and law as a whole.

If you would like to discuss your idea for a paper, please contact Professor Christian Twigg-Flesner (c.twigg-flesner@hull.ac.uk) who is the editor managing this special issue. All submissions are subject to double-blind peer review before a decision on publication is taken. Papers must be submitted before 15 January 2017 and according to the submission and author guidelines available on the journal website, http://www.springer.com/social+sciences/journal/10603.

Please note that the Journal of Consumer Policy does not offer individualized editorial support. All authors must ensure that their manuscript is correct and formatted in JCP style. Non-native speakers are encouraged to have their manuscript checked by a native English speaker before submission.
About the Journal

The interdisciplinary *Journal of Consumer Policy* (Springer Publ.) is a (double blind) peer reviewed journal publishing theoretical and empirical works that use a wide variety of methodological approaches that advance the studies of consumer behaviour, explore the interests of consumers and consequences of actions of consumers as well as consumers’ policy issues. It has published four issues per year for more than three decades (Vol. 31).

JCP encompasses a broad range of issues concerned with consumer affairs. It looks at the consumer’s dependence on existing social and economic structures, helps to define the consumer’s interest, and discusses the ways in which consumer welfare can be fostered – or restrained – through actions and policies of consumers, industry, organizations, government, educational institutions, and the mass media. It publishes theoretical and empirical research on consumer and producer conduct, emphasizing the implications for consumers and increasing communication between the parties in the marketplace.

Articles cover consumer issues in law, economics, and behavioural sciences. Current areas of topical interest include the impact of new information technologies, the economics of information, the consequences of regulation or deregulation of markets, problems related to an increasing internationalization of trade and marketing practices, consumers in less affluent societies, the efficacy of economic cooperation, consumers and the environment, problems with products and services provided by the public sector, the setting of priorities by consumer organizations and agencies, gender issues, product safety and product liability, and the interaction between consumption and associated forms of behaviour such as work and leisure.

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