December 1999

CAIS-The First Year: A Report from the Editor

Follow this and additional works at: https://aisel.aisnet.org/cais

Recommended Citation


This material is brought to you by the Journals at AIS Electronic Library (AISeL). It has been accepted for inclusion in Communications of the Association for Information Systems by an authorized administrator of AIS Electronic Library (AISeL). For more information, please contact elibrary@aisnet.org.
CAIS-THE FIRST YEAR

A REPORT FROM THE EDITOR

Paul Gray
Editor, CAIS
cais@cgu.edu
CAIS – THE FIRST YEAR

A REPORT FROM THE EDITOR

Paul Gray
Editor, CAIS
Paul.Gray@cgu.edu

With the first year of publication for the Communications of AIS now complete, it is an appropriate time to review the status of the journal and where it is going.

STATISTICS

The over-all statistics for the two volumes in 1999 were:

- Number of articles published: 44
- Number of letters published: 4
- Number of different authors: 89
- Total pages in .pdf: 1489

TOPICS

A fundamental idea of the Communications of AIS is that its role is to present articles that help IS professionals keep up with what is happening in the field. To meet this objective, CAIS published the following types of articles (the numbers add to more than 44 since some articles are counted in 2 areas)

---

1 Total pages does not include the cover page or the list of editors. Each of these adds two pages to an article.
In terms of subject matter, CAIS tried to cover topics that are at or near the leading edge of the field, many of which have not yet reached the curriculum or are just now being tried as innovative courses. Table 1 lists, in alphabetical order, some of the topics on which articles were published.

### Table 1. Partial List of Topics Covered By CAIS In 1999

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balanced Scorecard Analysis</td>
<td>Multimedia Networks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaborative Learning Environments</td>
<td>Personal Productivity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customer Relationship Management</td>
<td>Project Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Warehousing</td>
<td>Push and Pull technologies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-commerce</td>
<td>Research Strategies in IS over time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise Resource Planning</td>
<td>Risk Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty recruiting</td>
<td>State of the IS Discipline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge Management</td>
<td>The Internet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legacy Systems and Reengineering</td>
<td>Visualization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Computing</td>
<td>Year 2000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### STRATEGY

The strategy followed by CAIS contains the following elements:

1. Publish articles that
   - teach the reader about current issues and ideas
   - are of broad interest
   - open new areas for research and teaching
   - are timely
   - provide case examples for teaching.
   - deal with professional issues

Obviously, each article will deal with only some of these areas.
2. Invite tutorials, papers on hot topics, and opinions

Examples include recent tutorials on ethnographic research, action research, and project management; two papers on Y2K issues, and long opinion pieces the basis for the field, research relevancy, and the journal review process.

3. Obtain papers by “known” people to give the journal credibility.

As a new journal published electronically, it is important that CAIS receive recognition so that it continues to attract excellent work and so that contributions by junior people coming up for review or tenure be recognized as publication in a significant place. CAIS is fortunate to have published contributions by many people who are well known in the field, including Presidents of AIS, authors of well-known books, and top researchers. Articles by these senior people is intended to give a clear signal that the leadership in the profession considers CAIS an important venue in our field.

CAIS is fortunate to have a number of people who published two articles during the year, including (alphabetically) Steven Alter, Gordon Davis, Christopher P. Holland, Don McCubbrey, and Richard Watson.

4. Use the “electronic” capability of the journal.

Because CAIS is an electronic journal, it is able to overcome many of the limitations of conventional print journals. Table 2 lists some of these advantages that are already in used and gives examples of where they have been applied. CAIS expects that future articles will include audio, video, frames, and other multimedia capabilities.
Table 2. Features of CAIS Articles that Use Electronic Capabilities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No limit on the size of articles</td>
<td>Vol. 1 Nos. 13,No. 16, and Volume 2 No. 22 are between 68 and 72 pages in .pdf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of color and complex graphics</td>
<td>See, for example, Volume 1, No. 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters to the Editor about an article are appended at the end of the article</td>
<td>See for example, Vol. 2, No 3. and Vol. 2 No 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAIS publishes in both .htm and .pdf</td>
<td>True for every article</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of hyperlinks</td>
<td>Now true for many articles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Provide quick turnaround

For many authors, the ability to publish quickly is important. As pointed out in Vol. 2, Article 14, the typical article in other IS journals is published two or more years after it is submitted. In keeping with CAIS’ role of publishing information about currently relevant material, the journal aims to reduce this time. By publishing articles as they are accepted, the delay and backlog between acceptance and publication is virtually eliminated. Furthermore, by a vigilant policy of trying to move to acceptance quickly (including the review alternatives discussed in item 6) , what is usually the longest part of the publication process – the time from receipt of an article to its acceptance – is reduced significantly. The shortest time from receipt to publication thus far is eight days.

6. Alternate forms of review

Authors have the option of asking for normal peer review or asking for associate editor review. In the former case, an associate editor hands the paper as in any review process, with the admonition to obtain reviews quickly. The fact that an article was fully peer reviewed is noted at the end of the article. In the latter case, the article is either accepted or rejected by the associate editor. Once an authors selects a form of review, it cannot be changed. This rule is imposed so that authors rebuffed by one option, do not try the other.
7. A diverse, international editorial board.

In many respects, a journal is only as good as its editorial board. CAIS is particularly proud to have a very distinguished editorial board that includes people from large schools and small schools, man and women, who come from places as diverse as Australia, Canada, Finland, Hong Kong, Israel, Korea, Netherlands, Norway, Singapore, United Kingdom, and the United States. The board meets regularly at AIS-sponsored meetings such as AMAIS and ICIS. Their input was particularly helpful during 1999. In particular, I want to thank Chris Holland of the Manchester Business School in the UK who edited a “special focus issue” that resulted in eight articles on legacy information systems and business process change.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

Letters to the Editor. Late in the year CAIS introduced a new feature, Letters to the Editor. Two kinds of letters started appearing: The first are letters in response to articles. Because CAIS is an electronic journal, it is possible to append such letters at the end of the article. An envelope appears next to the article name in the directory to show the presence of letters. During 1999, Vol. 2 Articles 3 and 12 contain letters.

The second kind of letter is freestanding. It typically presents a new subject or idea. A letter and response dealing with the role of end users was published in December.

Readers are encouraged to submit letters. They will be published quickly. Usually, the author will be given an opportunity to respond if she or he so chooses.

Annual Report of the President. CAIS published Grodon Davis’ AIS President’s report. The journal intends to publish this report each year so that readers can keep up with the growth of AIS.

Multimedia Cases A teaching case is in work that uses the multimedia capabilities of the Internet. The case will be published in two ways: the .htm
version will use the full capabilities of the system. The .pdf version will be straight
text.

HOW AUTHORS CAN HELP
Authors can help themselves be published quickly and create outstanding papers by following a few simple steps:

1. Turn articles around quickly. Very often, the editorial board will come back with comments and the author will not respond for some time. Such delays make the journal less current. Similarly, authors must proofread their articles before they are published.

2. Use the style manual. It can be found at [http://cais.aisnet.org/format.asp](http://cais.aisnet.org/format.asp). In particular, be sure that formats and references follow the form indicated in the style manual.

3. Write in an active voice rather than a passive voice (for example, “Jones shows that …” rather than “it has been shown by Jones that…”)

4. Use the multimedia capabilities available, including more figures.

5. Use hyperlinking where appropriate, but do not simply hyperlink to every reference.

HOW READERS CAN HELP
Readers of CAIS can help the publication and AIS in a number of ways:

1. Write articles, particularly in new areas. Or, if you know of someone who is doing innovative work, let the editor know (cais@cgu.edu) and the article will be solicited. The articles should be well written, informative, and meet the criteria discussed at the beginning of this report.

2. Critique what CAIS publishes. Write a Letter to the Editor if you agree or disagree with a particular article. CAIS publishes selected letters.
3. Tell colleagues in your school what CAIS is about that that articles are important.

CONCLUSIONS
The first year of CAIS was exciting. The IS community published a large number of important articles through CAIS. Your contribution through writing new articles will move the journal forward as an important part of our profession.

APPENDIX A
DISTRIBUTION OF ARTICLES PUBLISHED 1999

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Article</th>
<th>Volume 1 Article Nos.</th>
<th>Volume 2 Article Nos.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>7,11,15,16,18,20</td>
<td>3,4,5,6,7,8,10,15,20,21,24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tutorial</td>
<td>1,4,10,14</td>
<td>1,13,17,18,19,23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching</td>
<td>2,8,9,12,17,18</td>
<td>16,22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional</td>
<td>5,13,18</td>
<td>11,12,13,14, Letter1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methodology</td>
<td>3,8</td>
<td>19,20,21,23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cases</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2,22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

APPENDIX B
CAIS TABLE OF CONTENTS
VOLUMES 1 AND 2

VOLUME 2 1999

Investigating Information Systems with Ethnographic Research
Volume 2 Article 23 December, 1999
Michael D. Myers

The Case of/for The Missing User.
Letters from Jim Sutter and from Lorne Olfman
Volume 2 Letter 1 November, 1999
Shopping.com: When E-Commerce Isn't A Bargain
Volume 2 Article 22 November, 1999
Steven Alter

The Diffusion of the Internet in a Pro-IT Cultural Environment:
A Content Analysis of the Singapore Experience
Volume 2 Article 21 November, 1999
Margaret Tan and Thompson S. H. Teo,

Dimensions of Information Systems Success
Volume 2 Article 20 November, 1999
Peter B. Seddon, Sandy Staples, Ravi Patnayakuni, and Matthew Bowtell

Investigating Information Systems with Action Research
Volume 2 Article 19 October, 1999
Richard L. Baskerville

Information Technology as the Enabler of One-to-One Marketing
Volume 2 Article 18 September, 1999
Mark L. Gillenson Daniel L. Sherrell, and Lei-da Chen

Software Project Management: The Manager's View
Volume 2 Article 17 September, 1999
Jaak Jurison

Developing and Delivering a Data Warehousing and Mining Course
Volume 2 Article 16 September, 1999
Elizabeth M. Pierce

Evaluating the Integrated Measurement and Evaluation System IMES: A Success Story
Volume 2 Article 15 September, 1999
Kostas S. Metaxiotis, Athanassios P. Papakonstantinou, and John Psarras

An IS Research Relevancy Manifesto
Volume 2 Article 14 September, 1999
Ralph Westfall

Recruiting IT Faculty
Volume 2 Article 13 September, 1999
Martha Myers and Cathy Beise

Volume 2 Article 12 August, 1999
Ron Weber
AIS President's Report - 1998
Volume 2 Article 11 August, 1999
Gordon B. Davis

The Russian Federation's Y2K Policy: Too Little, Too Late?
Volume 2 Article 10 August, 1999
William McHenry and Leonid Malkov

Focus Issue on Legacy Information Systems and Business Process Change:
Introduction
Volume 2 Article 9 July, 1999
Christopher P. Holland, Ben Light, and Peter Kawalek

Focus Issue on Legacy Information Systems and Business Process Change:
Banking on the Old technology: Understanding the Organisational Context of 'Legacy' Issues
Volume 2 Article 8 July, 1999
Dave Randall, John Hughes, Jon O'Brien, Tom Rodden, Mark Rouncefield, Ian Sommerville, and Peter Tolmie

Focus Issue on Legacy Information Systems and Business Process Change: A Business Perspective of Legacy Information Systems
Volume 2 Article 7 July, 1999
Sue Kelly, Nicola Gibson, Christopher P. Holland, and Ben Light

Focus Issue on Legacy Information Systems and Business Process Change: Modelling of Organisational Change Using the EKD Framework
Volume 2 Article 6 July, 1999
V. Kavakli and P. Loucopoulos

Volume 2 Article 5 July, 1999
George Giaglis

Focus Issue on Legacy Information Systems and Business Process Change: The Role of Stakeholders in Managing Change
Volume 2 Article 4 July, 1999
Elayne Coakes and Tony Elliman

Focus Issue on Legacy Information Systems and Business Process Change: Migrating Large-Scale Legacy Systems to Component-Based and Object Technology: The Evolution of a Pattern Language
Volume 2 Article 3 July, 1999
A.J. O'Callaghan
Leaders Assess the Current State of the Academic IS Discipline
Volume 2 Article 2 July, 1999
Hugh J. Watson, Kenneth P. Taylor, Guy Higgins, Chris Kadlec, and Michael Meeks

Year 2000: A Reality Check
Volume 2 Article 1 July, 1999
Leon A. Kappelman

VOLUME 1 1999

Manheim Auctions
Volume 1 Article 20 June, 1999
Patrick McKeown and Richard T. Watson

A Historiographical Examination of Information Systems
Volume 1 Article 19 June, 1999
Ali Farhoomand and Don H. Drury

Disintermediation and Reintermediation in the U.S. Air Travel Distribution Industry: A Delphi Study
Volume 1 Article 18 June, 1999
Donald J. McCubbrey

Developing and Teaching IS97.2: Personal Productivity with Information Technology
Volume 1 Article 17 June, 1999
Gordon B. Davis, J. David Naumann, and Gove Allen

Current Technological Impediments to Business-to-Consumer Electronic Commerce
Volume 1 Article 16 June, 1999
Gregory Rose, Huoy Khoo, and Detmar Straub

Assessing Risks in Two Projects: A Strategic Opportunity and a Necessary Evil
Volume 1 Article 15 May, 1999
Janis L. Gogan, Jane Fedorowicz, and Ashok Rao

Information Delivery Systems: An Exploration of Web Pull and Push Technologies
Volume 1 Article 14 April, 1999
Julie E. Kendall and Kenneth E. Kendall
A General, Yet Useful Theory of Information Systems  
Volume 1 Article 13 March, 1999  
Steven Alter

Web-CCAT: a Collaborative Learning Environment for Geographically Distributed  
Information Technology Students and Working Professionals  
Volume 1 Article 12 March, 1999  
Donna Dufne, Ojoung Kwon, and Rassule Hadidi

Enablers and Inhibitors of Business-IT Alignment  
Volume 1 Article 11 March, 1999  
Jerry Luftman, Raymond Papp, Tom Brier

Multimedia Networks: Fundamentals and Future Directions  
Volume 1 Article 10 February, 1999  
Nalin Sharda

Using ERP Systems in Education  
Volume 1 Article 9 February, 1999  
Edward E. Watson and Helmut Schneider

Volume 1 Article 8 February, 1999  
William F. Wright, Rodney Smith, Ryan Jesser, and Mark Stupeck

Knowledge Management Systems: Issues, Challenges, and Benefits  
Volume 1 Article 7 February, 1999  
Maryam Alavi and Dorothy Leidner

Welcome to the Communications of the Association for Information Systems  
Volume 1 Article 6 January, 1999  
Paul Gray

The State of the Information Systems Field  
Volume 1 Article 5 January, 1999  
Henry C. Lucas, Jr.

Business Information Visualization  
Volume 1 Article 4 January, 1999  
David P. Tegarden

Adding Value to Key Issues Research Through Q-Sorts and Interpretive Structured Modeling  
Volume 1 Article 3 January, 1999  
Eduardo M. Morgado, Nicolau Reinhard, and Richard T. Watson