

Interdisciplinary and Path Breaking Research (Senior Editor: Varun Grover)

As digital technology continues to evolve and deeply penetrate every aspect of contemporary society, IS scholarship should reflect such changes in the technology and the society. By working with scholars in other fields, the IS community must provide the intellectual leadership in understanding emerging phenomenon driven by the rapid and continuing evolution of digital technology. While these new phenomena can be studied through conventional theoretical frameworks and methodologies, they also offer potential opportunities to build new theoretical language and methodological tools.

The interdisciplinary and path breaking research section of JAIS invites scholars to submit bold new ideas that offer fresh insights on the role of digital technology through rigorous and reflective research on emerging phenomenon driven by digital technology. As digital technology is being enmeshed with various forms of human activities, tools and contexts, IS scholars must strive to work with scholars in other fields to gain deeper understanding on the transformative nature of digital technology. Such understanding can be gained only when we attend to both technology and the subject domain where technology is being used. Furthermore, the incessant developments in digital technology and the emergence of novel phenomenon demand fresh approaches to our scholarship. The focus should not be entirely on the novelty of the technology, but on the formulation of new theoretical language and empirical approaches that are necessitated by the novel phenomenon. Successful Interdisciplinary and Path Breaking Research submissions should challenge scholars in all disciplines including IS to rethink what has been taken for granted in the past, and provide an opportunity to break away from the familiar practice of scholarship. While the ideal submission should be simultaneously interdisciplinary and path breaking, submissions can emphasize either one of these aspects.

When submitting an Interdisciplinary and Path Breaking Research manuscript, authors should, (a) clearly indicate in their cover letter, and in the paper itself, how they believe the work is indeed interdisciplinary and/or path breaking, and (b) in their cover letter to the EIC, designate the manuscript as such, and nominate Varun Grover as the Senior Editor.