Debate Department of CAIS

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The *Communications of the Association for Information Systems (CAIS)* is intended to foster the free flow of ideas within the Information Systems (IS) community; its emphasis is on originality, importance, and cogency of ideas; it is also a vehicle for cases, survey articles, tutorials, and other materials of general interest to the IS community. The Journal is a classical, reviewed outlet for research with every intention of being equal to the best in the field; a living discipline and disciplinary community based on lively debate.

We have therefore taken the mission of CAIS a step further and included a standing Debate department. Some of the IS community journals such as Management Information Systems Quarterly (MISQ) or the European Journal of Information Systems (EJIS) provide space for issue and opinion pieces, and as a flagship journal of the AIS, the *Communications of the Association for Information Systems* will also carry out the mission by publishing debates within every volume.

In the debate section at the *Communications of the Association for Information Systems* we invite critical notes, reflection or commentary about information systems research practices, institutions, and values. Any critical or controversial topic is welcome, but we prefer positions which clearly address a phenomenon within our community in general or which deal with specific arguments made in our journals, at our conferences or in a book. In the past, the *Communications of the Association for Information Systems* published debates on topics such as the Value of IS research, Open Access publishing, or Peer Reviewing.

While issues and opinion pieces often stand alone and are debated outside the journals or with some delay in subsequent journal issues the CAIS format is designed to enable a dialogue without delay. CAIS is committed to publishing one complete debate per volume.

Submission instructions

Debates are handled by solicitation. The department editor both seeks and solicits manuscripts and will, in collaboration with the author(s), determine what is appropriate to be published and what is not.

We invite prospective authors to approach the department editor via email with an informal proposal about a debate including a possible title and abstract and potential respondents. Proposals, viewpoints as well as rejoinders are to be submitted via email directly to the department editor. On the basis of an original standpoint paper (about 10,000 words length) between five and six academic colleagues will be invited by the department editor, based on either the authors' suggestions or chosen by the editor, to provide their rejoinder position (about 3,000 words length). The author of the original manuscript will then have the opportunity for a rejoinder to the rejoinders as a preliminary final word. All this will be published in one package. In case specific colleagues' work is addressed in a viewpoint these colleagues are invited to respond before the package is published. Once accepted for publication, the entire package of papers will enter the formal submission and production system of CAIS.