

12-12-2021

Leading a Special Interest Group with Data: Motivate and abate the cost for knowledge sharing in information system research

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Recommended Citation

NGUEWO NGASSAM, Rhode Ghislaine; Lumor, Truth; and Brohman, Kathryn, "Leading a Special Interest Group with Data: Motivate and abate the cost for knowledge sharing in information system research" (2021). *ICIS 2021 TREOs*. 76.
https://aisel.aisnet.org/treos_icis2021/76

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Leading a Special Interest Group with Data

Motivate and abate the cost for knowledge sharing in information system research

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Knowledge on a subject grows as scholars consume, produce, and share knowledge; however prevailing databases and knowledge sharing platforms are limited in supporting knowledge-seeking efforts and in providing motivators for and abating the cost of knowledge sharing (Kim, 2018). Building on initiatives in our field (e.g., Research Transparency Initiative, (Burton-Jones et al., 2021)) that call attention to the reality that scholars possess more knowledge than what is presented in a typical research article, we conceptualize a novel digital knowledge sharing artefact designed to motivate and abate the cost of knowledge sharing among IS scholars.

Our digital artefact aims to promote knowledge sharing by improving the accuracy and the completeness of search results. Designed as a platform, both knowledge contributors (authors) and knowledge seekers will enhance their ability to share knowledge using features that are influenced by the seven complexity-inducing characteristics of digital technology introduced by Benbya et al. (2020). Just to name a few of these characteristics, the embeddedness is operationalized through a feature that allows authors to populate a semantic layer with metadata on knowledge items (e.g., concepts, theories, methods) making it efficient for knowledge-seekers to search and map knowledge using a broader range of tags and keywords. The connectedness allows knowledge seekers to provide additional meta-data (e.g., comments, classifications) that creates a more complete and accurate description of the article's impact and how it is used to promote further research progress. Finally, associability may be enabled by digital flashcards that gamify the knowledge sharing process by keeping both contributors and seekers informed about advancements in their respective interest areas.

The first version of the digital knowledge sharing artefact is under development to serve the Association of Information Systems Special Interest Group in Digital Innovation, Transformation and Entrepreneurship (SIG DITE). Upon successful implementation, we intend to escalate the artefact to include other knowledge items relevant to other SIGs and to use it as a prototype of the capabilities that our AIS e-Library could have. We thus invite comments from and participation of other scholars who share this intent with us.

References

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