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Message from SIM

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The Society for Information Management (SIM) seeks to provide thought leadership to IT leaders and Chief Information Officers. *MIS Quarterly Executive* (*MISQE*) provides thought leadership by providing research which impacts practice. Practice provides an invaluable context for creating research issues and topics which can be addressed through research. In turn, research can inform practice by coalescing and synthesizing lessons learned from practice and providing guidelines and frameworks for successful deployment of IT solutions and projects. Research and practice have a synergy with each other, because practice provides questions, and research provides a systematic way of addressing these issues through scholarship and valid methods of data collection and analysis.

This issue of *MISQE* provides excellent examples of how SIM is partnering with the research community to provide research which applies to practice. The article, "How LEGO Built the Foundations and Enterprise Capabilities for Digital Leadership," won the 2015 SIM Best Paper Award. The author team included Omar El Sawy and Pernille Kraemmergaard of the academic community and Henrik Amsinck and Anders Lerbech Vinther, senior IT executives at the LEGO Group in Denmark. The paper describes how LEGO enabled a digital leadership strategy in support of its overall business strategy.

The Call for Papers for the 2016 SIM Best Paper Award are available at the *MISQE* web site (www.misqe.org) and the SIM web site (www. simnet.org). This competition provides an opportunity to develop and to publish research which impacts practice.

The Advanced Practices Council (APC) also leads digital transformation through pragmatic research which explores real-world IT issues in depth. The paper on "Extending Business Value through Wearables" talks about how organizations can leverage wearable devices which are connected to the internet. This convergence of people and devices is called the Internet of Everything. In this APC report, the authors present decision frameworks that IT executives can use to explore how to leverage wearables.

The SIM Leadership community is undertaking a number of innovative partnerships to bridge the gap between the academic community and the IT Leadership community. These partnerships include capstone projects, internships, mentoring programs, STEM initiatives, and scholarship programs. By working together, the SIM Chapter Leaders and SIM members are improving the quality and effectiveness of the IT workforce pipeline. If you are interested in learning more about SIM-directed academic partnerships and SIM Chapter sponsored academic initiatives, please see the SIM web site (www.simnet.org) or contact Mary Sumner, SIM Academic Lead, at msumner@siue.edu

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