Wearables and the Internet of Everything

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The Internet of Things (IoT) refers to a computing concept that allows everyday physical objects to be connected to the Internet so that these are able to identify themselves to other devices and engage in seamless and automatic data exchange. The IoT is receiving more and more attention among researchers, especially as connecting “things” (e.g., jet engines, manufacturing equipment) steadily moves towards Gartner’s Slope of Enlightenment.

At the same time as the digital and industrial worlds merge, and possibly collide through the IoT, the phenomenon of wearable technologies is quickly emerging, allowing users to monitor, control, optimize and even autonomize a wide range of functions and behaviors. As these new devices become equal actors alongside connected “things” in the real world and purely virtual entities online, they extend people’s roles from being mere users and observers of the Internet, to becoming part of the Internet – what might indeed be termed the Internet of People (IoP).

The combination of IoT, wearables and the IoP leads us to the Internet of Everything (IoE). The opportunities and challenges that the new data stocks and flows of the IoE will create for organizations, governments, individuals and society are the focus of this mini-track.

Our first team of presenters, Abdul Sesay and Jacob Steffen will discuss Wearables as Augmentation Means: Conceptual Definition, Pathways, and Research Framework. This will be followed by Mirheta Omerovic, Nihal Islam and Peter Buxmann’s research agenda based on their review of the literature about the next wave of business models in the Internet of Things era. After our two paper presentations, for the remainder of our mini-track session, we will lead an interactive discussion between the audience, our paper presenters and our panel of IoE experts.

Chaired by Ian Cross (Bentley University) and Melissa Akaka (Gustavson School of Business, University of Victoria), this panel will focus on Exploring Emerging IoE Perspectives. It will include Jeremy de Beer (Faculty of Law, University of Ottawa), Hope Schau (Professor of Marketing/Entrepreneurship and Innovation at the University of Arizona), Pierre Berthon (Professor of Marketing and Professor of Information Design and Corporate Communication at Bentley University) and David Castle (School of Public Administration, University of Victoria).