



# *JITTA*

## **JOURNAL OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY THEORY AND APPLICATION**

---

ISSN:1532-3416

### **Editorial: Information Systems—A Truly Global and Diverse Research Discipline**

**Jan vom Brocke**

Institute of Information Systems  
University of Liechtenstein

[jan.vom.brocke@uni.li](mailto:jan.vom.brocke@uni.li)

## Editorial

Information systems (IS) has become a global and diverse research discipline that contributes strongly to global markets, to organizations, and to individual interactions alike. IS research has grown into a global community as the three regions of the Association for Information Systems (AIS) (America (region 1); Europe, Africa, and the Middle East (region 2); and Pacific Asia (region 3)) show.

The IS discipline's global profile is a true achievement because the community has its roots in several geographic regions with diverse methodological and educational backgrounds and specific economic, socio-political, and technological constraints. Even so, diverse approaches to IS research around the world remain, and the community must recognize this diversity as an opportunity to study information technology from a variety of angles and to jointly develop innovative solutions to contemporary problems.

*JITTA*, one of the official AIS journals, recognizes the diverse nature of IS research and education and has made important editorial changes to stimulate and contribute to the global discourse:

- Carol Hsu from National Taiwan University has been appointed Co-Editor-in-Chief, so representatives from all three AIS regions are now on the editorial board, which affords *JITTA* a truly global profile and reach. Carol replaces Mark Srite, who stepped down at the end of his term after having served for six years. We thank Mark for his meritorious service to the journal.
- We now continuously publish accepted papers, with new papers appearing on the AIS eLibrary as soon as they are ready for publication. This change further reduces publication times and facilitates the disciplinary discourse. Issues will close three times a year—in April, August, and December—and will each include the papers published during the previous four months.
- Sandra Beyer from the University of Liechtenstein has been appointed executive editor in charge of handling the operational aspects of the submission and review process to ensure its quality and timeliness.

We are confident that these measures will contribute to helping establish *JITTA* further as an important outlet of IS research.

The current issue acknowledges IS research's diverse and global profile. The first paper, "Managing Risk Areas in Software Development Offshoring" by John S. Persson from Aalborg University and Bjarne R. Schlichter from Aarhus University, presents an interpretive case study of how managers perceive and mitigate the risk areas in offshoring software development. In concordance with extant research, the authors find that managers perceive and mitigate most of the areas of offshoring risk but that, in the risk area of task distribution, managers perceive high levels of uncertainty about their tasks and see equivocality and coupling across sites as risk mitigation rather than risk-taking.

The second paper, "Understanding the Role of Theory in Instrument Development: An Examination of Strengths and Weaknesses of Discriminant Validity Analysis Techniques" by Damon E. Campbell from Millsaps College, John D. Wells from University of Massachusetts Amherst and Craig D. Parks from Washington State University, focuses on the role of theory in construct validity, specifically discriminant validity, and examines some popular methods with which to support this type of validity when using cross-sectional data. The authors highlight these techniques' applicability by analyzing a sample dataset in which they theorize two constructs to be highly correlated.

I am grateful to all of the authors, reviewers, and editors who contributed to this issue and also thank all of the colleagues who have contributed to developing the journal's profile. I hope *JITTA*'s consequent accounting of the global and diverse nature of IS research and education will lead to positive and dynamic developments in the IS discipline.

## References

- Persson, S. & Schlichter, Bjarne R. (2015). Managing Risk Areas in Software Development Offshoring. *Journal of Information Technology Theory and Application*, 16(1), 5–24.
- Campbell, Damon E., Wells, John D & Parks, Craig D. , Tretiakov, A., & Whiddett, D. (2015). Understanding the Role of Theory in Instrument Development: An Examination of Strengths and

Weaknesses of Discriminant Validity Analysis Techniques. *Journal of Information Technology Theory and Application*, 16(1), 25–56.

Copyright © 2015 by the Association for Information Systems. Permission to make digital or hard copies of all or part of this work for personal or classroom use is granted without fee provided that copies are not made or distributed for profit or commercial advantage and that copies bear this notice and full citation on the first page. Copyright for components of this work owned by others than the Association for Information Systems must be honored. Abstracting with credit is permitted. To copy otherwise, to republish, to post on servers, or to redistribute to lists requires prior specific permission and/or fee. Request permission to publish from: AIS Administrative Office, P.O. Box 2712 Atlanta, GA, 30301-2712 Attn: Reprints or via e-mail from [publications@aisnet.org](mailto:publications@aisnet.org).

# JITTA

## JOURNAL OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY THEORY AND APPLICATION

### Editors-in-Chief

**Jan vom Brocke**

University of Liechtenstein

**Carol Hsu**

National Taiwan University

**Marcus Rothenberger**

University of Nevada Las Vegas

### Executive Editor

**Sandra Beyer**

University of Liechtenstein

<b>Governing Board</b>			
<b>Virpi Tuunainen</b> <i>AIS VP for Publications</i>	Aalto University	<b>Lars Mathiassen</b>	Georgia State University
<b>Ken Peffers</b> , <i>Founding Editor, Emeritus EIC</i>	University of Nevada Las Vegas	<b>Douglas Vogel</b>	City University of Hong Kong
<b>Rajiv Kishore</b> , <i>Emeritus Editor-in-Chief</i>	State University of New York, Buffalo		
<b>Senior Advisory Board</b>			
<b>Tung Bui</b>	University of Hawaii	<b>Gurpreet Dhillon</b>	Virginia Commonwealth Univ
<b>Brian L. Dos Santos</b>	University of Louisville	<b>Sirkka Jarvenpaa</b>	University of Texas at Austin
<b>Robert Kauffman</b>	Singapore Management Univ.	<b>Julie Kendall</b>	Rutgers University
<b>Ken Kendall</b>	Rutgers University	<b>Ting-Peng Liang</b>	Nat Sun Yat-sen Univ, Kaohsiung
<b>Ephraim McLean</b>	Georgia State University	<b>Edward A. Stohr</b>	Stevens Institute of Technology
<b>J. Christopher Westland</b>	HKUST		
<b>Senior Editors</b>			
<b>Roman Beck</b>	IT University of Copenhagen	<b>Jerry Chang</b>	University of Nevada Las Vegas
<b>Kevin Crowston</b>	Syracuse University	<b>Wendy Hui</b>	Curtin University
<b>Karlheinz Kautz</b>	Copenhagen Business School	<b>Yong Jin Kim</b>	State Univ. of New York, Binghamton
<b>Peter Axel Nielsen</b>	Aalborg University	<b>Balaji Rajagopalan</b>	Oakland University
<b>Sudha Ram</b>	University of Arizona	<b>Jan Recker</b>	Queensland Univ of Technology
<b>René Riedl</b>	University of Linz	<b>Nancy Russo</b>	Northern Illinois University
<b>Timo Saarinen</b>	Aalto University	<b>Mark Srite</b>	University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
<b>Jason Thatcher</b>	Clemson University	<b>John Venable</b>	Curtin University
<b>Editorial Review Board</b>			
<b>Murugan Anandarajan</b>	Drexel University	<b>F.K. Andoh-Baidoo</b>	University of Texas Pan American
<b>Patrick Chau</b>	The University of Hong Kong	<b>Brian John Corbitt</b>	Deakin University
<b>Khalil Drira</b>	LAAS-CNRS, Toulouse	<b>Lee A. Freeman</b>	The Univ. of Michigan Dearborn
<b>Peter Green</b>	University of Queensland	<b>Chang-tseh Hsieh</b>	University of Southern Mississippi
<b>Peter Kueng</b>	Credit Suisse, Zurich	<b>Glenn Lowry</b>	United Arab Emirates University
<b>David Yuh Foong Law</b>	National Univ of Singapore	<b>Nirup M. Menon</b>	University of Texas at Dallas
<b>Vijay Mookerjee</b>	University of Texas at Dallas	<b>David Paper</b>	Utah State University
<b>Georg Peters</b>	Munich Univ of Appl. Sci.	<b>Mahesh S. Raisinghan</b>	University of Dallas
<b>Rahul Singh</b>	U. of N. Carolina, Greensboro	<b>Jeffrey M. Stanton</b>	Syracuse University
<b>Issa Traore</b>	University of Victoria, BC	<b>Ramesh Venkataraman</b>	Indiana University
<b>Jonathan D. Wareham</b>	Georgia State University		

JITTA is a Publication of the Association for Information Systems  
ISSN: 1532-3416

