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## **Foreword**

### **Information Systems: Modeling and Analysis**

The success of an enterprise is now largely dependent on how its information resources are designed, operated and managed, especially with IS emerging as a critical input to be leveraged for significant organizational productivities. In this context, research on modeling and analysis of Information Systems is critical. In this issue, a set of seven papers that address these areas is presented. These are research papers accepted after a thorough refereeing process from a pool of general submissions to ISF.

The first paper in this issue is by **Ye** (Arizona State University), who focuses on a Quality of Service-centric resource management system that can be utilized in vulnerable information systems. Drawing from the principles of systems engineering, Ye develops control-theoretic structures to specify QoS guarantees for managing a variety of computational resources within an organization. Next, **Ghosh** (Stevens Inst of Technology) discusses the role of modeling and asynchronous distributed simulation in future complex systems. Encapsulating the knowledge from a number of real-world case studies, he derives a set of fundamental principles for systems modeling via distributed simulation. **Hansen** and **McDonald** (Brigham Young University) develop a generalized model for predictive data mining, a technique that would be particularly useful in next generation CRM systems. This work is motivated by the problems associated with misclassification, asymmetric costs of types I and II errors and the quality of representation of a large population by its estimators. In the next paper, also on data mining, **Erlich** (Open University, Tel Aviv),

**Gelbard** and **Spiegler** (Tel Aviv University) develop a method for clustering based on a binary representation of data records. While the traditional approach to clustering follows a methodological angle, these authors follow a representational approach, leading to significant improvements in clustering performance.

**Kraemmergaard** and **Rose** (Aalborg University, Denmark) present a longitudinal interpretive ethnographic study of an ERP implementation in a Danish production company. Based on hermeneutics, they derive several insights in the long and arduous ERP journey in terms of the managerial competencies within each stage of the journey. **Orman** (Cornell) develops an analytical framework for electronic markets, hierarchies, hubs and intermediaries. He develops a classification scheme for technologies and organizations in terms of their communication intensity and information processing intensity. We would also like to take this opportunity to welcome **Dr. Vijay Vaishnavi** to our executive editorial board. Dr. Vaishnavi is an IEEE fellow and a proponent of CJS at Georgia State University.

Finally, in their research note, **Hovav** (Temple University) and **Gray** (Claremont Graduate University) address e-publishing, a key area in the minds of research communities worldwide. They present a comparative study of electronic journals and paper publications and project a vision for the future of e-publishing.

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