CALL FOR PAPERS

22nd European Conference on Information Systems (ECIS 2014)

Track: Advancing Theories and Theorizing in IS Research

(http://ecis2014.eu/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/2.-Advancing-Theories-and-Theorizing-in-IS-Research3.pdf)

June 9-11, 2014, Tel Aviv, Israel (http://ecis2014.eu/)

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DESCRIPTION

While IS research placed an emphasis on methodological advances in the past decade, the issue of theory, theorizing, and theoretical contributions of IS research reemerged only recently through contributions of various senior scholars. Although the attention to theoretical work has been at the heart of our discipline for a while, there has been little agreement as to what constitutes valid theory, theorizing, or theoretical contributions. Even more so, the increasing permeation of digital work and life with IS and the recognition that IS have the potential to contribute to solving some of the greater societal challenges pose a significant challenges to our theorizing.

This calls for a dedicated discussion on the evolution of existing conceptual and methodological approaches to theorizing and a careful development of new theories. Our track seeks to fill this void and provide a place to share research that debates the nature and meaning of theory in IS. Moreover, some of our reference disciplines have recently turned towards reviving their examination of theories and theorizing. It is this rekindled interest that leads us to suggest that the IS discipline, too, should further intensify its discussion on the matter.

Our track provides a platform for the discussion and development of new approaches to theorizing and new methods to inform this theorizing. We also want to engage in a differentiated discussion on the nature and role of our theorizing in light of the increasing digitization of work and life. In this, we seek submissions that are innovative, novel, and significant in terms of advancing our discipline's ability to theorize phenomena of digital work and life. We place particular emphasis on a submission's ability to highlight how it helps us as a discipline to better describe, explain, predict, and design these phenomena. In methodological contributions, we thus encourage potential authors to elaborate on how and why the phenomena we study can now be captured better. In theoretical pieces, we will look not only for novel ideas, but also for a careful integration with what is known already and how and why the new contribution advances existing nomological nets.

SPONSORSHIP

Our track collaborates closely with the European Journal of information Systems (EJIS). Based on the reviews and editorial recommendations, the authors of the best papers submitted to the track will be invited to participate in the EJIS paper development workshop immediately after the ECIS conference. There, authors will have the opportunity to further develop their papers for consideration as part of a planned EJIS special issue building upon the track.

TOPICS OF INTEREST

Conceptual advances in theories for IS research

- New theories on phenomena of digital work and life
- Significant advances of existing theories (e.g., innovative or substantially improved construct conceptualizations or meaningful extensions through additional constructs)
- Integration / synthesis of existing theories
- Detailed application of existing theories to inform design and action
- Reflections on theories-in-practice and what we can learn from their application

Methodological advances in theorizing about IS phenomena

- New or advanced methods for data collection with an emphasis on what kind of data they contribute beyond conventional methods as well as a discussion of how and why this advances our theorizing
- New or refined methods of data analysis (theorizing or theory building) with an emphasis on a comparison to established approaches and a discussion of how and why they advance our theorizing
- Strategies for inductive theorizing and the building of substantive theories grounded in an IS context
- A constructive critique of existing methods and an identification of impacts on and limits to current theorizing

The nature and role of theoretical contributions of IS research

- An analysis of the current state-of-the-art of the discipline's theorizing
- Reflections on what can be learned from reference disciplines
- Frameworks and typologies for theories and theoretical work in IS

IMPORTANT DATES

Paper Submission begins:	**November 1, 2013**
Submission Deadline Date:	**December 8, 2013**
Notification of Acceptance:	March 3, 2014
Final version of accepted papers due:	March 30, 2014
Early Bird Registration closes:	April 16, 2014

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