

## **VOL. 10, NO. 1, January 2007**

### **SPECIAL ISSUE ON IT/IS ISSUES IN ASIA-PACIFIC**

Guest Editors: Weiling Ke, Clarkson University; Kwok Kee Wei, City University of Hong Kong; & Wei Wayne Huang, Ohio University

### **EDITORIAL PREFACE: IT/IS ISSUES IN ASIA-PACIFIC**

Weiling Ke, Kwok Kee Wei, and Wei Wayne Huang

Over the recent two decades, the Asia-Pacific region has experienced the fastest economic growth in the world and this high growth rate is expected to sustain for years to come. The growth of IT market in the Asia-Pacific region poses tremendous challenges to IT/IS researchers and practitioners. The special issue editors discuss the challenges in Asia-Pacific due to the unique social, cultural, political, and economic characteristics of the region.

### **ARTICLES:**

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE PLACEMENT OF THE INFORMATION SYSTEMS ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE: A COMPARATIVE SWOT ANALYSIS OF QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY AND KOREA UNIVERSITY**

Guy G. Gable, Robert W. Smyth, Jae-Nam Lee, and Jaemin Han

This study uses SWOT analysis to explore perceptions of differential administrative placement of the Information Systems academic discipline within two Universities in Australia and Korea. The analysis provides a useful basis for decision makers to exploit opportunities and minimise external threats. It offers insights for IS academics contemplating administrative relocation of their group. The paper serves the dual-purpose of (1) informing the positioning of IS in the two case Institutions, while (2) evolving an approach and related tools for usefully extending the SWOT analysis to other institutions and States, and across time.

#### **E-GOVERNMENT FUNCTIONALITY AND WEBSITE FEATURES: A CASE STUDY OF INDONESIA**

Edhy Rahardjo, Dinesh Mirchandani, and Kailash Joshi

Indonesia is still in the early stages of e-government implementation. An understanding of stakeholder perspectives can help the government plan its services and provide useful information to other governments at similar stages of implementation. This study assesses the importance of e-government functions and website features from the perspective of Indonesian citizens (regular users and government officials). It finds that transactions functions are related to website appeal and efficiency; services functions are related to website appeal; local information functions are related to website appeal and personalization; constituent functions are related to website quality, efficiency, and personalization; and government resources functions are related to website efficiency. Improving the quality, appeal, efficiency, and personalization of e-government sites is necessary in order to achieve stakeholder buy-in to the services.

#### **AN EXTENDED TAM MODEL FOR CHINESE B2C WEBSITES DESIGN**

Zhang Pei, Zeng Zhenxiang, and Huang Chunping

Firms are devoting resources to the development of electronic commerce (EC) to enhance their competitiveness. In addition to strategic planning and financial support, an effective B2C web site is important to reap the potential benefits of EC. This study examines the key factors influencing the effectiveness of B2C sites and how these factors affect customer's behavioral intention to purchase through these sites. The authors draw on the technology acceptance model (TAM) and derive an extended TAM framework to relate web site design factors with major constructs in TAM. Assessed are three famous B2C sites to identify and classify the main web-design elements of B2C sites in China. The study concludes with a consideration of the managerial and research implications.

#### **THE EXPERT OPINION: AN INTERVIEW WITH ALAN M. PRESTON, PRESIDENT AND CEO, SYNERGYST, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

Conducted by Jeffrey E. Johnson.

Synergyst is a broad-based health care and medical practice management consulting firm offering comprehensive services which include data analytics, predictive modeling, population health management, clinical research, and employee wellness. Mr. Preston discusses the services his company outsources to India, the IT concerns of its clients, and the strategic challenges their consultancy faces.

**BOOK REVIEW: OFFSHORING IT SERVICES, BY MOHAN BABU K**

Reviewed by Hindupur V. Ramakrishna

The body of knowledge on successful offshoring is far from mature. This book adds to that body of knowledge. Any organization that is considering offshoring IT services or struggling with offshored projects should find this book useful. The author draws on relevant literature wherever necessary and presents an offshoring management framework.