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EDITORIAL PREFACE: THE FINANCIAL CRISIS ON WALL STREET: COMPLEXITY, STABILITY, AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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Few have alluded to the lessons that can be learned from the role of information and information technology in the current economic crisis. Four lessons are drawn: the role of information in the integration of complex enterprises, systems and networks; the need for some regulation to ensure that essential data moves through the system; the possibility of information ignorance; and the need to identify who is responsible for the quality of information.

CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS FOR MANAGING OFFSHORE SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

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This paper identifies and structures the critical success factors of offshore software development projects, and more importantly, it analyzes the relevance of the identified factors from several perspectives, such as type of company, company size, geographical location, project type, size and experience. The findings are particularly relevant for companies in countries where English is not the first language and where OSD is still an emerging field.

CULTURAL DETERMINANTS OF LEARNING EFFECTIVENESS FROM KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS: A MULTINATIONAL INVESTIGATION

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The effectiveness of KMS is dependent on individual learning and individual-specific learning preferences. Using a multi-national survey, this study aims to determine to what extent learning preferences are dependent on culture. KMS designs that ignore culture may result in incomplete or ineffective knowledge transfer and learning outcomes. These findings contribute to the KMS literature by suggesting that KMS design should be conducted with the goal of effectively facilitating learning across cultures. Specific KMS design recommendations include incorporating group activities and providing flexibility, depending on the culturally derived learning preferences of specific users.

E-GOVERNMENT IN THE CARIBBEAN NATIONS

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This study provides an overview of the current state of e-government in the Caribbean. The methodology employed is a web site content analysis using a theoretical framework based on the Siau and Long (2005) e-government stages model. This analysis focuses specifically on member states of the Caribbean Community also called Caricom, which is a trade agreement encompassing several of the territories in the region. This study examines the level of maturity of e-government in the Caribbean. The analysis indicates that e government among Caricom member-countries is established and poised for continued growth.

THE EXPERT OPINION: AN INTERVIEW WITH TIMOTHY RICE, CEO AND PRESIDENT, MOSES CONE HEALTH SYSTEM

Conducted by: Pam Cash, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Pam_Cash@uncg.edu

Timothy Rice is President and CEO of Moses Cone Health Systems in Greensboro, North Carolina, USA. The interview discusses healthcare issues in the United States and the role of information technology in providing solutions. Mr. Rice frames his comments in the context of “The Good”, “The Bad”, and “The Potential” of IT in healthcare.

BOOK REVIEW: KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT IN ACTION

by Mark Ackerman, Rose Dieng-Kuntz, Carla Simone, and Volker Wulf

Reviewed by: Roberto Vinaja

This timely book presents some of the latest implementations of knowledge management systems in multiple global settings. While discussing some of the latest conceptual developments in this area, the book complements the theoretical discussion with a detailed description of many action-based implementations.