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CONTENTS OF THIS ISSUE OF JGITM (VOL. 14, NO.4, October 2011)
SPECIAL ISSUE ON “MANAGING IT PROFESSIONALS IN GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTS”.
GUEST EDITOR: RICARDO COLOMO-PALACIOS, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain.

EDITORIAL PREFACE: MANAGING IT PROFESSIONALS IN GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTS

Ricardo Colomo-Palacios, Guest Editor, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain, ricardo.colomo@uc3m.es
Global Software Development (GSD) has emerged to cover specific aspects of global distributed software development. The effective IT governance of GSD needs a collaborative and participative relationship between IT people, business and technology. With the aim of exploring the complex issue of personnel management in IT environments and more precisely in global IT environments, in this special issue the guest editor is glad to present three innovative and interesting works focused on the topic and an interview discussing the main issues of peopleware and their management in global scenarios.

A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE ON INFORMATION SYSTEMS PERSONNEL TURNOVER

Hoon S. Cha, Chung-Ang University, cha@cau.ac.kr
Jing Quan, Salisbury University, jxquan@salisbury.edu

Anchored in the theory of human capital, the equity theory, and the theory of planned behavior (TPB), this research attempts to fill the gap in the current turnover studies. Using a comprehensive dataset of 15,554 IT professionals in two developed countries (the U.S. and the EU) and two developing countries (India and China), it examines the similarity and dissimilarity in the factors that affect the turnover likelihood of IT professionals. Empirical results show that the universal factors affecting turnover intention across national boundaries include the number of new IT certifications, turnover history, perceived organization support, and concerns about IT outsourcing. However, there are also unique factors that are important in one country are not applicable in other countries.

TRUST BUILDING IN GLOBALIZED SOFTWARE ENGINEERING: A CULTURAL PERSPECTIVE

Heli Aramo-Immonen, Tampere University of Technology, heli.aramo-immonen@tut.fi
Hannu Jaakkola, Tampere University of Technology, hannu.jaakkola@tut.fi
Petri Linna, Tampere University of Technology, petri.linna@tut.fi

Commitment is the manifestation of trust. Therefore the building of trust in global software engineering (SE) companies is a relevant question to study. The objective of this research is to explore the trust-building processes in global SE from a cultural perspective. In this research, staff from five large multinational SE companies were interviewed. In the conceptual part of the article, firstly the domain of SE is introduced, secondly there is a discussion on the concept of trust and trust-building processes and thirdly, cultural dimensions affecting trust-building processes are examined. Finally, findings from the case companies are discussed.

RESEARCH TRENDS IN MANAGEMENT ISSUES OF GLOBAL SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT: EVALUATING THE PAST TO ENVISION THE FUTURE

Deepti Mishra, Atılım University, Ankara, Turkey, deepti@atilim.edu.tr
Alok Mishra, Atılım University, Ankara, Turkey, alok@atilim.edu.tr

This paper presents research trends in management issues (project management, process management, knowledge management, requirements management, configuration management, risk management, quality management) of distributed/global information system development. The results are based on peer-reviewed conference papers/journal articles, published between 2000 and early 2011. The analysis revealed that most research has been done in project management, process management, knowledge management and requirements management areas while configuration, risk, and quality management issues could get only limited attention. This indicates the need for future research (quantitative and qualitative) in these areas.

THE EXPERT OPINION: AN INTERVIEW WITH MARC SABBAGH, R&D VICE PRESIDENT, META4 SPAIN

Conducted by Ricardo Colomo-Palacios, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain,
<mailto:ricardo.colomo@uc3m.es>ricardo.colomo@uc3m.es

Meta4 is one of the world's leading providers of solutions for the management and development of human and intellectual capital (HICM). Marc Sabbagh is Vice President of Meta4 R&D Worldwide since January 2004. He is responsible for a group of 200 developers based in Europe and the Americas, primarily focused on driving evolution of Meta4's flagship product and researching the latest in technology and people management trends. The interview discusses the role and responsibilities of R&D, human resource management, and global software development in the context of Meta4.

BOOK REVIEW: SOURCEIT: BALANCING SOURCING AND INNOVATION IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT, BY MORTEN HERTZUM & CARSTEN JORGENSEN

Reviewed by Ricardo Colomo-Palacios, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain ricardo.colomo@uc3m.es
SourceIT is a timely book that seeks to enhance the understanding of the interrelation between sourcing and innovation in information systems development. For the purpose of this book, sourcing has been used as an umbrella term for outsourcing, insourcing and partnership sourcing. The editors and authors give us a glimpse of sourcing software development. This function is facing a set of attributes that need to be analysed and addressed: service-orientation, global software development, innovation outsourcing, open source, agile methods, among others. The editors provide a set of chapters that covers some of the main challenges that software practitioners and managers face in their work.