Cross-Organizational and Cross-Border IS/IT Collaboration in the COVID-19 Pandemic Era

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In a pandemic era like COVID-19, we need to rethink fundamentally the way of living, working, and collaborating with other people. We should have to change a lot of methods and tools more intelligently to adapt new environment. The ‘Black Swan’ phenomenon inforce us to collaborate with people, companies, and organizations totally differently from the traditional ways. IoT, AI, Intelligent Systems, Hyper Physical Systems and their roles become much more important in the ‘untact’ society.

COVID-19 brings us new challenges and opportunities in our daily life. We need new forms of collaboration tools, we need new ways of collaboration, and we need new core values and methods of collaboration. We should redesign collaboration tools and methods.

Virtual leadership in a learning environment, global virtual teams using speech-to-text technology, exchange of sensitive data in collaboration systems, and online parasites in online social networks were the leading research issues among the papers submitted to our mini-track on Cross-Organizational and Cross-Border IS/IT collaboration. Among them, based on the evaluations with comments and suggestions from 26 reviewers, 4 papers have been accepted for online presentations at HICSS 54.

New ways of collaboration in an uncertain environment, virtual leadership, smart collaborations tools, ‘Persona’ participations in social network, requirements design for future collaboration network will be the main topics in our session.

The first paper entitled “Requirements for Usage Control based Exchange of Sensitive Data in Automotive Supply Chains” by Sebastian Oriel, Frederik Moller, Ute Burkhardt and Boris Otto shows the ways of identifying current problems and barriers for the inter-organizational exchange of sensitive data.

The authors derived 16 problems and 38 requirements with accepted standards for the exchange of sensitive data in the inter-organizational systems. They propose a comprehensive array of business and system requirements in order to overcome mistrust and other concerns.

In the second paper, “Virtual Leadership Matters: Capturing its Role in Facilitating Knowledge Sharing in Virtual Learning Environment” by Xiaolong Wei and Ilsang Ko, the authors try to understand the importance of the role of virtual leadership in academic learning environments. They introduce self-presence and member trust as exogenous variables, and derive interaction, tacit knowledge sharing, and explicit knowledge sharing as mediating variables to team performance. They found moderating effects of virtual leadership on explicit knowledge sharing and finally to team performance.

The third paper entitled “Are Online Parasites Really Different from Lurkers?” by Shaoyang Bu, Liguu Lou, and Joon Koh attempts to differentiate the concept of ‘Online Parasites’ from that of ‘Lurkers’ in terms of their interaction behavior and perceived contributions to community. Online parasites are shown to be different from lurkers in their community participation, their duration time, attitude toward information acquisition, and their dependence on the network.

The final paper, “Acceptance of Speech-to-Text Technology: Exploring Language Proficiency and Psychological Safety in Global Virtual Teams” by Carolin Fleischmann, Peter Cardon, and Jolanta Arizt investigates the relationship between the language proficiency and psychological safety during the use of speech-to-text technology. They try to explain the adoption of the technology with the aspects of performance expectancy, effort expectancy, hedonic motivation, self-efficacy, and anxiety.