Information Systems Division:
Questions of Identity and Future Directions

Fri, May 25, 11:00 to 12:15
Hilton Old Town, M, Liszt

*Note: All our division's sessions on Friday, May 25, 2018 are located in the Hilton Old Town Hotel. “Best of Information System” and then the business meeting will be in the same room in the afternoon, starting at 2pm.

Abstract

It’s been almost two decades since the important defining article on Information Systems Division was published in Communication Yearbook (Shapiro, Hamilton, Lang, & Contractor, 2000). The leading senior and junior members of the division will discuss how the identity of the division evolved over the last 20 years. In addition, we will consider how our division compares to other divisions of ICA. Do the changes within the division reflect changes in the field in general? What are some evolving trends within the division? What are the opportunities, challenges, and future directions for our division? All members are invited to join our conversation at the round table and continuously after the meeting.

The Panel

We have three invited talks, but the panel is expected to be interactive between invited panelists and attendees.

Chair and Moderator: David Ewoldsen

Talk 1 (20 minutes)
by Noshir Contractor, Annie Lang, Mark Hamilton, & Michael Shapiro

As leading senior scholars in the field and the authors of the division’s defining paper (Shapiro, Hamilton, Lang, and Contractor, 2000), they will review the historical context of their classic paper, discuss what defines Information Systems and their view on the changes and directions of the Division.

Talk 2 (20 minutes)
Nadine Bol, Richard Huskey, & Claire Segijn

As the emerging leading junior scholars of our division and our dissertation award winners in recent years, they will discuss what attracted them to the Division and their view on the Division’s identity and future. Key points will touch on: (a) the utility of an information processing approach in modern communication science, (b) opportunities for distinguishing the Division from others, and (c) the role of online community-building tools (such as social media) in advocating our identity within the larger discipline.

Talk 3 (20 minutes)
Zheng Joyce Wang, Narine Yegiyan, Prabu David, & Kevin Wise

As current or past Chairs/Vice Chairs of InfoSys, they will present some content analysis findings on conference presentations of our Division and survey responses of our members to identify the research topics, patterns, and trends of our Division, as well as members' view on the Division’s identity and future.