

AJIS EDITORIAL

AJIS publishes high quality contributions to theory and practice in the global Information Systems discipline. While research is global, AJIS contributions should have an emphasis on the Australasian context of the work. The journal welcomes papers on research and conceptual development based in a very wide range of inquiry methods, ways of thinking and modes of expression.

In this edition the AJIS Featured Theme examines the ranking of academic journals, including this one. The debate on journal ranking has been sparked by the Australian Government's push to change the way research is funded by its introduction of a Research Quality Framework. The topic is current in the socio-political aspect of the discipline, although it is on the periphery of the Information Systems knowledge domain.

The debate, however, opens up the bigger issue of the role of information systems in knowledge creation and mobilisation (e-Research). And that is a core topic in our field. Scholarly publishing is a subsystem in that activity and the editors of AJIS have a continuing interest in the potential for information systems in e-Research.

The obvious first step was to put AJIS online (just google AJIS). It is now a fully open-access journal with web-based workflow management for article submission and tracking. The Australian Computer Society is managing the hosting of AJIS through its digital library initiative with the Public Knowledge Project at Simon Fraser University and the University of British Columbia. Tom Worthington deserves our thanks for setting up the initiative as does Steve Elliot for his support in the ACS. All back issues have now been loaded into the system. This was a large task supported by the University of Canberra - thanks to Marina Materne.

The journal being online improves access to articles and more work is being done now to improve indexing. Of course, the more AJIS is used the better. Next we are looking into a range of e-Research ideas that can enhance scholarly work. In particular we are exploring the possibilities of:

- public reviewing of offered articles (like the British Medical Journal) and discussion forums associated with articles;
- curation of data (in concert with other repository projects) and research instruments that support articles but that are rarely published;
- an IS concept management system (perhaps a wiki) to facilitate ongoing development, and coherent usage, of IS concepts;
- 'living' articles;
- explicitly positioning AJIS with other journals (eg, those that address specific fields, approaches or aspects of the IS domain).

In short, we aim to address the journal from a knowledge management perspective.

Future Featured Themes include Enterprise Architecture, Systems Governance, Design Science and highlights from the 2007 Australasian Conference on Information Systems. Please approach the editor with additional suggestions.

My thanks to the co-editor, John Campbell, and the paper authors. Thanks too to the School of Information Sciences and Engineering, University of Canberra, for its significant ongoing support.

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June 2007