

## **KM/OM/OL Foundations – KM/OM Discovery to Representation**

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This mini-track is one of four mini-tracks emanating from last year's mini-track "Knowledge Management, Organizational Memory, and Organizational Learning" due to a high increase in the number of submitted papers.

This mini-track looks at the theoretical foundations of knowledge management, organizational memory, and organizational learning as well as at techniques and methods of knowledge discovery and knowledge representation.

Twelve papers were submitted to this mini-track of which six papers were accepted. All of the selected papers focus on Knowledge Management Foundations research. The papers were submitted from eight countries on four continents and accepted from six countries on four continents.

The accepted papers are organized into two sessions of three papers each. The first session looks at knowledge creation and knowledge conversion. The second session covers the topics knowledge discovery, knowledge visualization, and knowledge representation.

Session 1: Hannu Kivijärvi introduces an environment for supporting organizational knowledge and decision making. Its purpose is to offer a context for complete knowledge creation. Within this context, a proposed system is built to activate existing knowledge and to support the creation of valuable new knowledge in an organization. Michael D'Eredita and Charmaine Barreto discuss a synthesis of existing models to better understand the knowledge creation process as it enables expertise and creativity at the workplace. They provide a concrete explanation of how expertise and creativity develop and can be fostered within an organization.

Shih-Wei Chou and Mong-Young He investigate the interrelations among different categories of knowledge assets and different knowledge creation processes. Their argument, based on an empirical study, is that different types of knowledge assets may have differing influences on knowledge creation.

Session 2: Stefan Kremer, Stefan Smolnik, and Lutz Kolbe introduce a continuum of context explication, which comprises different relations between information objects and its contexts by means of the degree and ease of context explication. They evaluate different approaches to knowledge discovery in customer process oriented portals and provide guidelines for when to apply each approach. Greg Stephens and Meliha Handzic describe the development of a three dimensional virtual reality model that assists users to visually explore structures and relationships in collected data. They demonstrate the potential of this visual tool by having postgraduate students engaged in a knowledge discovery exercise with data collected in an academic work environment. Steve Halladay and Charles Milligan introduce a new discipline entitled 'simulated knowledge'. They state that simulated knowledge relaxes the requirements of human understanding while maintaining the capability for human interaction and emphasizing its computational capability.

Finally, we would like to thank everybody concerned: all authors for submitting interesting and challenging papers, the 21 reviewers who gave us thoughtful and knowledgeable assessments of the submitted papers, and the audience which will attend the sessions. Each one of you makes an essential contribution to the constitution and success of research in Knowledge Management Foundations.