

GUEST EDITORIAL PREFACE

Special Issue on Knowledge Management and Security

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IJKM Volume 3 Issue 1 started with an editorial in which I issued a call for research into KM and security (Jennex, 2007). Since then Alexandra Durcikova and I have started a minitrack at the Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences, HICSS, focused on KM security and intellectual property protection. Additionally, researchers are submitting and presenting KM and security related research at mainstream conferences and IJKM; and, the SecureKM conference is an annual event. This is a very positive development that comes as security issues continue to make the headlines. This issue presents five articles discussing KM and security from authors from six countries (United States, Sweden, Austria, Italy, Canada, and the United Kingdom). When I first wrote the editorial for volume 3 I envisioned research focused on security issues with KM systems. Of course I was short sighted. This issue presents papers that discuss security issues in KM and associated with protecting knowledge, using KM to assist in organizational risk assessment, and in looking at how KM can affect the understanding of security policies by users. I had focused on applying KM to security and of course that is too narrow, KM can also be used to help apply

security, and of course, in hindsight, this is what I should have expected. As KM researchers we have been advocating using KM to assist crisis response, data interpretation, help desk, customer relationship and supply chain management and virtually every other information system application so why not security? I am pleased to say that this special issue is hopefully the first of many KM and security articles.

The issue starts with *"Integrating IS Security with Knowledge Management: Are We Doing Enough?"* by Murray Jennex and Alexandra Durcikova. This article summarizes the KM and security literature and then examines 88 KM job postings to see if companies are seeing the importance of security skills in a KM worker. The second article is *"Genre-Based Approach to Assessing Information and Knowledge Security Risks"* by Ali Mohammad Padyab, Tero Päivärinta, and Dan Harnesk. This article proposes and genre based approach to information security for assessing knowledge centric risks. The third paper *"An Integrated Risk Management Framework: Measuring the Success of Organizational Knowledge Protection"* by Stefan Thalmann, Markus Manhart, Paolo Ceravolo, and Antonia Azzini. This

paper uses an integrated information security risk management process for identifying risks in knowledge assets. The fourth paper “*Knowledge Management in support of Enterprise Risk Management*” by Eduardo Rodriguez and John S. Edwards. This paper explores the use of KM in supporting enterprise risk assessment. The fifth and final paper is “*Exploring the Effect of Knowledge Transfer Practices on User Compliance to IS Security Practices*” by Tonia SanNicolas-Rocca, Benjamin Schooley, and Janine L. Spears. This paper applies KM approaches to knowledge transfer to improve the performance of information security compliance.

To thank you for reading this special issue and conclude once again that knowledge is vital organizational asset that needs protection and that we need to conduct more research into how

to protect these knowledge assets. I also add that while KM researchers focus on knowledge transfer and sharing we have useful tools and approaches for assisting information security professionals in the design and implementation of organizational cyber security and we need to research and explore this area also.

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REFERENCES

Jennex, M. E. (2007). Knowledge management and security: A call for research. *International Journal of Knowledge Management*, 3(1), i–iv.