Preface

As information technology applications are incorporated into all functioning aspects of organizations of all types and size, more managers need to address concerns regarding the impact of these technologies on organizational politics and culture. The need to understand how the human side of technology affects the overall management of changes and power structures combined with organizational culture inside any business becomes extremely crucial. *Cases on Information Technology and Organizational Politics and Culture*, part of Idea Group Inc.'s *Cases on Information Technology Series*, documents real-life cases describing issues, challenges, and solutions related to information technology and how it affects organizational politics and culture.

The cases included in this volume cover a wide variety of topics, such as an integrated online library resources automation project; IT within a government agency; the politics of information management; the alignment of business strategy with business structure, culture, communication, and change within NASA; IT and organizational performance within corporations; information systems endeavor within a food products co-op; the improvement of army housing management through information technology; small business-to-business e-commerce; new producer support plan development; electronic infrastructures in the air cargo industry; IT governance within the airlines industry; information technology supporting work within the automobile industry; the cross-cultural implementation of an information system; decision support systems for government; the implementation of an ambulance despatch system; the e-commerce initiative of a stock exchange; the decision of companies to "go global"; the introduction of networked PCs in a local government office; the implementation of a network print management system; the development of a system to improve computer facilities for researchers; identification of and solutions to problems with an IT call and services center; the connection of software buyers and sellers through systems development; public administration improvement through information technology; and university library networking.

While organizations worldwide have benefited from new innovations in information technology, they have also discovered that in order to increase the overall effective utilization of these technologies in their respective organizations, they need to learn more about the human and organizational impacts of these technologies. Cases included in *Cases on Information Technology and Organizational Politics and Culture* will provide a much needed understanding of how management can deal with the

impact of politics and culture on the overall utilization of information technology within an organization. Lessons learned from these cases will be very instrumental in attaining a better understanding of the issues and challenges involved in managing information technology and impact on organizational politics and cultures.

Note to Professors: Teaching notes for cases included in this publication are available to those professors who decide to adopt the book for their college course. Contact cases@idea-group.com for additional information regarding teaching notes and to learn about other volumes of case books in the IGI *Cases on Information Technology Series.*

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Mehdi Khosrow-Pour, D.B.A.
Editor-in-Chief
Cases on Information Technology Series
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