

EDITORIAL PREFACE

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As befitting an international journal, the articles in this issue of IJANTTI all come from different countries: Malaysia, Pretoria (South Africa), Windhoek (Namibia), Newfoundland (Canada), Melbourne (Australia) and Berlin (Germany).

The first article: “Future Research on Cloud Computing Adoption by Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises: A Critical Analysis of Relevant Theories” is by Amin Saedi and Noorminshah A. Iahad from Universiti Teknologi, Malaysia. The article investigates the range of theories that need to be integrated to provide a holistic explanation of Cloud Computing adoption by Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises. It begins by critiquing the two commonly used Information Systems adoption/diffusion theories: the Technology Acceptance Model and Diffusion of Innovation Theory, then evaluating the suitability of the Technology-Organization-Environment framework as an IS adoption theory and Actor-network Theory as an innovation translation approach for future research on developing an integrated theoretical framework for Cloud Computing adoption by Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises.

Scott Reid, from the Memorial University of Newfoundland, then writes on: “Distance, Climate, Demographics and the Development of Online Courses in Newfoundland and Labrador. He begins by noting that one of the assertions

of the Actor-Network Theory is that physical factors can be actors within a network of other factors which determine the development and use of technology. These physical factors include climate, distance and demographics and the paper documents the impact of these on the adoption of online courses at Memorial University of Newfoundland in Canada. Findings of the reported study demonstrate that these physical factors did influence professor’s decisions to use online courses.

The next article: “Using ANT to Uncover the Full Potential of an Intelligent Operational Planning and Support Tool (IOPST) for Acute Healthcare Contexts” was written as a cooperative effort by quite a large number of authors: Imran Muhammad (RMIT University and Epworth Healthcare, Melbourne), Fatemeh Hoda Moghimi (RMIT University and Epworth Healthcare, Melbourne), Nyree J. Taylor (Deakin University, Melbourne), Bernice Redly (Deakin University and Epworth Healthcare, Melbourne), Lemai Nguyen (Deakin University, Melbourne), Malte Stein (Technical University of Berlin, Germany), Bridie Kent (Deakin University, Melbourne), Mari Botti (Deakin University and Epworth Healthcare, Melbourne), and Nilmini Wickramasinghe (RMIT University and Epworth Healthcare, Melbourne).

The article describes how proof of concept for an intelligent operational planning and support tool for nursing in acute healthcare contexts has been demonstrated, based on initial pre-clinical data and results from focus group studies. The article then points out that moving from a simulated context to a large-scale clinical trial brings potential challenges associated with the many complexities and multiple people-technology interactions. The authors then contend that incorporating an ANT lens to facilitate analysis and to enable an in depth and rich analysis of such a context would be a prudent option.

In the final article of this issue Relebohile Moloi from Tshwane University of Technology, Pretoria, South Africa, and Tiko Iyamu from the Polytechnic of Namibia, Windhoek, Namibia,

write about: “Competitive Intelligence in the Enterprise: Power Relationships”. The article discusses Competitive Intelligence products, which some organisations have come to rely upon for sustainability and competitive advantage, some organisations deploying more than one competitive intelligence product. Case study research was conducted to understand how these products are deployed in an organisation, and actor-network theory was used to understand how control of resources for power defined and shaped relationships.

Arthur Tatnall
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Arthur Tatnall is an Associate Professor in the Graduate School of Business at Victoria University in Melbourne, Australia. In his PhD he used actor-network theory to investigate adoption of Visual Basic in the curriculum of an Australian university. Arthur's research interests include technological innovation, history of technology, project management, information systems curriculum, information technology in educational management and electronic business. Much of his research is based on the use of actor-network theory. Arthur is a Fellow of the Australian Computer Society and active in the International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP) as Chair of IFIP WG9.7 – History of Computing, Chair of IFIP WG3.4 – ICT in Professional and Vocational Education and a member of IFIP WG3.7 – Information Technology in Educational Management. He has published widely in journals, books, book chapters and conference proceedings and recently edited the Encyclopaedia of Portal Technology and Applications, and Web Technologies: Concepts, Methodologies, Tools, and Applications for IGI Global. Arthur is also Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Actor-Network Theory and Technological Innovation, Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Education and Information Technologies and Editor of the Journal of Business Systems, Governance and Ethics.