Foreword: Information Systems Frontiers

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Ram Ramesh · H. Raghav Rao

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In 2014, Information Systems Frontiers (ISF) completed 15 years of publication. Thanks to all the readers, reviewers, advisory and executive editors and guest editors, the journal has grown enormously in the past decade and a half. The year 2015 marks the first year from which six issues of ISF will be published each year. This move, from the current level of five issues per year to six, is a landmark achievement. This demonstrates the level of growth and maturity ISF has attained over the past 15 years and its establishment as a well-regarded first-tier academic journal.

ISF occupies a niche area among IS journals. It publishes cutting-edge research with a multidisciplinary focus, crossing numerous inter-disciplinary boundaries. ISF focuses on new advances and emerging trends in next generation information systems and technologies. It explores innovative responses to the challenges of doing business in an increasingly mobile and global marketplace. For example, the special issues of ISF published in Volume 16 (2014) ranged from Dynamic intelligence towards merging cloud and communication services, Advances in infrastructures and tools for multiagent systems, Information Reuse, Integration, and Reusable Systems and a special section in memory of Paul Gray (1930–2012) on the application of “futures research” to MIS. Such a wide range and variety of cutting-edge research areas have been the hallmark of every volume of ISF since its inception. While ISF was created with such a concept as its central theme, the resounding realization of this concept as demonstrated in these

volumes would not have been possible without the numerous contributions of its editors, authors and readers.

The first issue of Volume 17 starts with an article by Nobel Prize winning economist Kenneth Arrow (2015) on “Microeconomics and operations research: Their interactions and differences”. The article is based on a Stanford Engineering Hero lecture which was delivered in March 2014. Professor Arrow’s lecture spans the interface between microeconomics and operations research and includes his reminiscences of Harold Hotelling, George Dantzig, and Tjalling Koopmans among others. The article is a wonderful “romp through history” and quite fascinating.

Following this article, this issue presents a set of articles that constitute a special issue on *IS/IT success and failure*, edited by an international team of guest editors - Yogesh Dwivedi and David Wastell from the UK, Helle Zinner Henriksen from Denmark and Rahul De from India. The articles in the special issue range from case studies of a large transformation project in the Netherlands, an information system for updating land records in Bangladesh, to public grievance redress system in India. In addition, the special issue includes a multi-authored perspective oriented paper on IS failures and successes.

Subsequently, this issue presents a set of regular papers on antecedents of cognitive trust (Lee et al. 2015), structural models of online auctions (Scott et al. 2015) and profiling of internet banking users (Mansingh et al. 2015). This issue closes with a piece by Chris Bang (2015) that analyses the various articles that have been published in ISF over the years and categorizes the different topics into clusters.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to once again thank the various referees who have spent a great deal of time and effort in reviewing, and have helped to maintain

R. Ramesh · H. R. Rao (✉)
University at Buffalo, SUNY, NY 14260, USA
e-mail: mgmtrao@buffalo.edu

R. Ramesh
e-mail: rramesh@buffalo.edu

high standards of quality in ISF publications. Last but not least, we wish to extend our appreciation of the Springer team for their support over the years.

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Ram Ramesh is Professor and Chair of Management Science & Systems department, School of Management, SUNY at Buffalo. His current research focuses on cloud infrastructure availability analytics and statistical modeling, market mechanisms and contract structures. He serves as an Editor-in-Chief of *Information Systems Frontiers* and an Area Editor of *INFORMS Journal on Computing* for the area “Knowledge Management and Machine Learning”. He has published extensively in the areas of cloud computing and database systems in journals such as *Information Systems Research*, *INFORMS Journal on Computing*, *IEEE TKDE* and

many others. His research has been funded by NSF, Air Force Office of Scientific Research, Air Force Research Laboratory, Army Research Institute, Google, Raytheon, Samsung and Westinghouse among others.

Professor H. Raghav Rao graduated from Krannert Graduate School of Management at Purdue University. His interests are in the areas of management information systems, decision support systems, e-business, emergency response management systems and information assurance. He has chaired sessions at international conferences and presented numerous papers. He also has co-edited four books of which one is on Information Assurance in Financial Services. He has authored or co-authored more than 175 technical papers, of which more than 100 are published in archival journals. His work has received best paper and best paper runner up awards at AMCIS and ICIS. Dr. Rao has received funding for his research from the National Science Foundation, the Department of Defense and the Canadian Embassy and he has received the University's prestigious Teaching Fellowship. He has also received the Fulbright fellowship in 2004. He is a co-editor of a special issue of *The Annals of Operations Research*, the *Communications of ACM*, associate editor of *Decision Support Systems*, *Information Systems Research* and *IEEE Transactions in Systems, Man and Cybernetics*, and co Editor-in-Chief of *Information Systems Frontiers*. Dr. Rao also has a courtesy appointment with Computer Science and Engineering as adjunct Professor. Prof Rao is also the recipient of the 2007 State University of New York Chancellor's award for excellence in scholarship and creative activities. In 2010, Professor Rao was appointed a SUNY Distinguished Service Professor. He is the only School of Management Professor to be honored as a SUNY Distinguished Service Professor, which represents a promotion in rank above full professor. At ICIS, December 2010 in St. Louis USA, Professor Rao and his colleagues won the Best Paper Award in information Systems Research, for the year 2009. The article was entitled, “Two Stepping Stones for Successful E-commerce Relationships” (by Dan Kim, Don Ferrin, H. R. Rao). His recent book on Information Assurance Security and Privacy Services (edited by H. R. Rao and S. Upadhyaya) was published by Emerald Group Publishing ISBN 978-1-84855-194-7. Dr. Rao was ranked #3 in publication productivity internationally, in a Communications of the Association for Information Systems study (2011). He is a graduate of the FBI Citizens Academy.