

## **Mini-Track Title: Organizations, Information Systems, and Competitiveness**

Track Title: Organizational Issues in IS

### **Mini-Track Chairs:**

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### **Description:**

Information systems (IS) are integral to providing organizations a sustainable competitive advantage. According to strategy scholars, competitive advantage lies in value activities as a mutually reinforcing system and not separately in its parts. Information systems are the glue that makes a disparate system of activities an integrated and interlocking whole. With less successful firms persistently imitating winners, winning firms have to engage in a continuous quest to strategically relocate, reorder, and regroup their activities to retain their competitive lead. New systems of activities lead to organizations with novel capabilities and characteristics. Firms employ information technologies to not just redesign and refocus their value-chain but also to create new knowledge and to innovate. The need of IS, in the era of increased globalization, is most evident in multinational corporations' (MNCs) organizing their value-chain spanning the world. Information systems enable MNCs to develop a sustainable competitive advantage through this trans-national strategy. Information systems scholarship has focused on individual and group level issues of organizations. Studies focusing on organizational characteristics and IS architectures are now coming into vogue. The mini-track will provide an opportunity for presentation and discussion on issues pertaining to organizations and IS and their mutual impact on firms' competitiveness. The authors are encouraged to submit both theoretical and empirical work on organizations, information systems and competitiveness.

### **Suggested Topics:**

- Organizational IS diffusion and assimilation;
- Operational efficiency and IS;
- Firm-level e-Business challenges;
- IS enabled firm capability issues;
- Organizational IS, suppliers, and customers;
- Institutional environment, organizations and competitiveness;
- Organizations, IS and B2B/B2C contexts;
- Firm level challenges of enterprise resource planning (ERP);
- Knowledge management and IT strategy;
- Open-source software and competition;
- Case studies of organizational IS issues;
- Innovative qualitative studies of organizational challenges;
- IS strategy implementation and competitive advantage;
- MNCs and global IT strategy;
- Outsourcing strategy and IS;
- Industry-specific IS strategies; and
- Aligning IS and strategy for competitiveness.