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Proposal to PACIS 2016

Panel discussion

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Topic: *Rejuvenating the Undergraduate Information Systems Curriculum*

Being a part of college programs for almost 40 years, the identity of Information Systems (IS) has gradually built up. IS curricula has gone through major changes. ACM has presented several versions of IS curricula guidelines after the initial effort in 1973. To meet the needs of global economy, present its uniqueness and avoid confusion and overlap with computer science programs has been an effort and concern for every IS department. Around the year of 2000, many IS programs in the USA either downsized or merged with other domains for survival. The future of IS programs in college level remains uncertain.

Rosenthal & Dhariwal (2015) stated that 2002 to 2010 guidelines "…has moved our standard curriculum further and further away from reality…moved into astrospace…focused on concept at a higher level of abstraction…", and forgot about the job market. How guidelines from ACM/AIS are followed remains an issue. Whether a set of standard guidelines can meet global needs is also debatable. This discussion aims to provide a platform for exchanging ideas from scholars with expectation of rejuvenating a more promising IS curricular model.

Agenda:

- Panelists introducing their programs.
- Panelists presenting their curriculum structure and operations
- Presenting their thought on ACM curriculum and market needs
- Open discussion with audience on global IS educational issues.

Reference:

Rosenthal, Paul H, and Kewal Dhariwal, "Proposed IS 2015 Model Curriculum Reflecting the Emerging IS Profession", The Business Forum Journal, 2015