



## Information Systems Research

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:  
<http://pubsonline.informs.org>

### Editorial Notes

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To cite this article:

Vallabh Sambamurthy, (2007) Editorial Notes. Information Systems Research 18(1):1-3. <https://doi.org/10.1287/isre.1070.0117>

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## Editorial Notes

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The performance of the journal in 2006 is reviewed. Editorial transitions, including the appointment of new senior and associate editors are described. Finally, proposals for a new special issue are invited. These proposals should focus on and highlight emerging, interdisciplinary research on novel and underresearched phenomena and must adhere to the guidelines developed for the journal.

*Key words:* annual performance; editorial transitions; proposals for special issues

This issue marks the beginning of my third year as Editor-in-Chief. Submissions to the journal continue to be robust and have shown a modest increase over the last year (Table 1). This includes 74 submissions to the special issue on “The Interplay Between Digital and Social Networks.” Further, due to the robust number of submissions last year, the number of revisions has gone up significantly. The acceptance rate is about the same as last year, although the actual number of acceptances is slightly higher.

Table 1 shows the cycle times for review of the submissions at different stages. New submissions involve the assignment of a senior editor (by the Editor-in-Chief), selection of an associate editor, solicitation of reviewers, submission of reviews, development of an associate editor recommendation, and a decision by the senior editor. Cycle times at different stages of the process continue to compare well with the previous year. More significantly, the journal has begun to accept papers roughly 18 months from the time of their initial submissions. Note that authors are given about six months for completing each one of their revisions (first and second revisions) and three months for completing their third revision.

One noteworthy change has been the implementation of the Manuscript Central system for manuscript submission and review. The new system has worked well, and it has enhanced our ability to monitor the timeliness of reviews.

My editorial philosophy has been to commit the journal to publishing one special issue each year.

Special issues serve a valuable purpose in motivating research on emerging phenomena and providing a forum for attracting research from a diversity of theories, methodologies and perspectives. At present, submissions to the first special issue (“The Digitally Enabled Extended Enterprise in a Global Economy”) have gone through two rounds of review and this special issue will be published in the September issue. The submissions to the second special issue (“The Interplay Between Digital and Social Networks”) have been reviewed, and 17 manuscripts have been invited for further review. A workshop is being organized at the University of Maryland, College Park, for further discussion and feedback on these revisions. The third special issue has been announced, “Flexible and Distributed Information Systems Development,” with Brian Fitzgerald (University of Limerick) and Sandra Slaughter (Carnegie Mellon University) as the Guest Editors. The deadline for submissions to the special issue is June 1, 2007, and details about the special issue can be found on the journal’s website at <http://isr.pubs.informs.org/>.

### Editorial Transitions

One of the significant strengths of a premier journal such as *Information Systems Research* is the caliber of its senior and associate editors and their dedication and commitment to goals of the journal. However, editorial work is quite demanding and taxing. Editorial transitions are meant to ensure that the members of the editorial board earn well-deserved breaks and get

**Table 1** Performance Metrics

	2006	2005	2004
Total submissions	532	384	242
New manuscripts	359	320	142
Revised manuscripts	173	64	100
Acceptances	25	21	21
Acceptance rate (%)	7	6.4	14.8
Cycle time (days)			
initial review	112	99	66
Decision on first revised version	114	123	127
Decision on second revised version	80	87	88
Decision on third revised version	14	26	18
Decision on fourth revised version	20	3	42
Number of rounds to accept			
After 1st revision	0	2	2
After 2nd revision	11	5	4
After 3rd revision	12	12	12
After 4th or more revisions	2	2	3

an opportunity to channel their valuable time in other scholarly pursuits, including submitting papers to *Information Systems Research*! However, saying goodbye is never easy. The following associate editors have done a yeoman job in upholding the high standards of the journal and will now transition off the board.

Brian Butler, University of Pittsburgh  
 Sarv Devaraj, University of Notre Dame  
 Rajiv Dewan, University of Rochester  
 Samer Faraj, University of Maryland  
 Sanjay Gosain, University of Maryland  
 Il-Horn Hann, University of Southern California  
 Nirup Menon, University of Texas at Dallas  
 Alain Pinnsonneault, McGill University  
 Michael Smith, Carnegie Mellon University  
 Mani Subramani, University of Minnesota

I have personally observed the hard work and dedication of this group and know that they will be missed. Though they will no longer handle new manuscripts, they will continue as associate editors emeriti to handle revisions of the papers on which they had initially worked.

Further, after three years of dedicated work as a senior editor, Sandra Slaughter (Carnegie Mellon University) is also leaving the board for a well-deserved break. I have immensely valued her leadership at the journal and have known her to work tirelessly in moving promising articles toward publication. She will be missed.

At the same time, I am delighted to announce the appointment of new associate editors. All of these colleagues have solid track records of research and have been among the outstanding reviewers for the journal. Their selection occurred through a process of consultation with the senior editors. Collectively, these associate editors strengthen the journal's coverage of key topics and methodologies in information systems research. I look forward to working with the following new associate editors. Profiles of their expertise can be found on the journal's website at <http://isr.pubs.informs.org/>.

Indranil Bardhan, University of Texas at Dallas

Pei-Yu Chen, Carnegie Mellon University

Chris Forman, Carnegie Mellon University

Sung Kim, University of Wisconsin, Madison

Natalia Levina, New York University

Victoria Mitchell, University of Calgary

Kar Yan Tam, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Hock Hai Teo, National University of Singapore

In addition, I am delighted to announce the appointment of two senior editors. Arun Rai (Regents Professor and Harkins Chair in Information Systems at the J. Mack Robinson College of Business, Georgia State University) has begun a three-year appointment as senior editor. Arun's research focuses on the digitally enabled innovation of business networks, business processes, and supply chains. He approaches the investigation of problems in these contexts by probing the cross-functional relationships between information systems, operations management, and strategy. He has published extensively in leading academic and practitioner journals, including *MIS Quarterly* and *Information Systems Research*. Arun has been one of the top associate editors at the journal and is also completing work as guest editor on one of the journal's special issues.

M. S. Krishnan (Mary and Mike Hallman e-Business Fellow, Area Chairman and Professor of Business Information Technology at the Ross School of Business, University of Michigan) has also started a three-year term as senior editor. His research interests include corporate IT strategy, business value of IT investments, and management of distributed business processes, software engineering economics, metrics and measures for quality, productivity, and customer

satisfaction for products in software and information technology industries. His research has appeared in most of the top journals, including *Management Science*, *Information Systems Research*, and the *Harvard Business Review*. He has served on the editorial board of reputed academic journals including *Management Science* and *Information Systems Research*.

### Proposals for Special Issue

*Information Systems Research* is committed to publishing one special issue each year. Special issues have a threefold purpose. First, they focus on and highlight emerging, interdisciplinary research phenomena that otherwise might not be appear in the journal in a timely fashion. Second, they enable the readers of *Information Systems Research* to access an archive of quality scholarship on this emerging topic. Third, they motivate scholars pursuing research in this emerg-

ing topic to push the limits of knowledge regarding this topical area by providing a developmental review process that is sympathetic to the difficulties of undertaking quality research in underdefined domains.

The journal now invites submissions of new proposals for the next special issue. The evaluation of the proposals and selection of the topic and editors will be completed by late-April 2007, and editors of the selected special issue will be expected to provide the call for papers by July 2006, with a submission deadline around July 2007. Papers accepted for publication will most likely be published in March 2010.

I encourage those who have an interest in proposing a special issue to contact me (sambamurthy@bus.msu.edu) so that I can send out the journal's guidelines for special issues. Submission of proposals for a special issue must conform to the criteria described in these guidelines.