Editorial

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Biographical notes: David C. Chou is a Professor of Computer Information Systems at Eastern Michigan University. He received his BC from Feng-Chia University, MS from National Taiwan University and MS and PhD from Georgia State University. He has published more than 170 papers in the fields of information systems. He is the Program Chair of the Southwest DSI 2006 Conference and also the Editor-in-Chief for the *International Journal of Information Systems and Change Management* (*IJISCM*) and the *International Journal of Management Theory and Practice* (*IJMTP*). Currently, he serves as an editorial board member for five academic journals.

The issue of *International Journal of Information Systems and Change Management (IJISCM)* is the second issue after the inaugural one. I am excited about receiving many submissions to this journal. It is clear that the field of IS change management has been widely recognised by both academic and business professionals. The journal *IJISCM* continues to act as a forum for the exchange of innovative ideas and for sharing practical experiences in fields of information systems and change management. In addition to publish the basic and practical researches in aforementioned fields, *IJISCM* intends to integrate with the other related research disciplines such as strategic analysis, economic modelling and simulation, innovation and product and operation management. Without any doubt, *IJISCM* will continue to promote and develop this important research area.

This second issue includes six research papers in information systems and change management areas. Topics in this issue includes 'Dynamics of change management in a technology project context', 'The effects of time on computer-mediated communication group meetings: an exploratory study using an evaluation task', 'The possible effects of team organisation and forum support on software development team interactions', 'Product development flexibility in changing business environment', 'Impacts of IS dependency on IS strategy formulation' and 'The role of information technology in supply chain integration.'

In the first paper, the dynamics of change management in a technology project context is studied. James R. Burns and Balaji Janamanchi (both from Texas Tech University, USA) capture and analyse the change management dynamics of a technology project using a system dynamics simulation model. This paper adopts several innovative features in its modelling analysis, including earned value management. This model provides many new features that can be applied to project change management. The results of this system dynamic simulation model provide useful and interesting insights for formulating effective change management strategies to assess the project's cost, humanpower and scheduling needs.

The second paper focuses on the group discussion and decision-making under time restriction. This research assists the planning and processing of organisational decision-makings. Zachary Wang (Sonoma State University, USA) and Milam Aiken (The University of Mississippi, USA) study the effects of time limits placed on computer-mediated group meetings, subjects participated in time-deprived, time-optimal and time-abundant conditions, respectively. Their study found that groups of different time conditions were varied in their perceptions; also, the relationships between time and groups' perceptions of meeting processes and outcome were not linear.

Software project management is one of the major studies in the field of IS change management. While managing a software project, the communication and interaction among project members are essential for the success of a project. Heng-Li Yang and Cheng-Hwa Lee (both from National Cheng-Chi University, Taiwan) conduct a study to find out the effects of team organisation and forum support on software development interactions. This paper applies computer simulation and social network analysis to explore possible interactions of the development of software project. Several interesting results and some managerial implications are reported in this paper.

The next paper studies the factors that affect the product development flexibility in the changing business environment. Amy Y. Chou (Illinois State University, USA) proposes a research model to depict the relationship among firm's clockspeed, supplier involvement, concurrent engineering practices and product development flexibility. This study indicates that a firm's capability to deal with uncertainty is increasingly important as global competition is increasing in the business world. Also, in the changing business environment, any firm that possesses a faster clock speed would enhance its product development flexibility to hedge against market uncertainty. This paper proposes four research propositions and related measurements to validate the model.

Thawatchai Jitpaiboon (Ball State University, USA) and Sema A. Kalaian (Eastern Michigan University, USA) challenge the traditional view on strategic information systems studies by introducing a new perspective on information system strategy formulation. They adopt McFarlan and McKenney's strategic grid framework to empirically test the relationship between information system dependency and information system strategies using the Structural Equation Modelling (SEM) method. This study could provide useful guidelines to companies on how IT should be managed in their particular organisations.

The last paper discusses and surveys the role of information technology in the supply chain integration. Antony Paulraj (University of North Florida, USA), Injazz J. Chen (Cleveland State University, USA) and Chen H. Chung (University of Kentucky, USA) evaluate the effects of the usage of different information technologies on two types of supply chain integration: the supplier integration and logistics integration. This study utilised a cross-sectional mail survey to collect empirical data. The research results support the fact that information technology facilitates the supplier as well as logistics integration.

I hope these six papers would continuously add their values and contributions to the fields of information systems and change management and also hope these six papers will be interesting to read.