Editorial

David C. Chou

Department of Computer Information Systems,
Eastern Michigan University,
Ypsilanti, MI 48197, USA
E-mail: dchou@emich.edu

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 another MS and PhD from Georgia State University. He has published more than 170 papers in the fields of information systems. He is the President of the South-west Decision Sciences Institute (DSI) 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.

International Journal of Information Systems and Change Management (*IJISCM*) continues to publish its Volume 2, Number 4 issue. The objectives of *IJISCM* are to promote the research and practice of the fields of Information Systems (IS) and change management. This journal aims to establish an effective channel of communications amongst educators, IS workers, managers and industry practitioners to contribute, disseminate and learn from each others. We welcome your continuous support, communication and submission to this journal.

The fourth issue of the Volume two collects five high quality papers. Topics in this issue are: 'Supportive mechanisms for effective change management', 'Management of IT-enabled change in a public organisation in Tanzania', 'Reducing bullwhip oscillation in a supply chain: a system dynamics model-based study', 'Success with venture capital: a case study on business strategy' and 'Analysis of a new IS outsourcing practice: software-as-a-service business model'.

The first paper reports the findings of a European funded project, entitled 'Creating value through change: anthropocentric approach bringing together social partners, enterprises and knowledge providers', that was conducted in four countries: Greece, Spain, Denmark and UK. Korina Diamanti, Lina Ioannou, Athanasia Pouloudi (all from Athens University of Economics and Business) and David Baglee (University of Sunderland, UK) identified several critical factors to manage the changes within the chosen organisations. They also presented a list of interrelated mechanisms to handle organisational changes.

The second paper studies the management of IT-enabled change in a developing country. Edephonce N. Nfuka and Lazar Rusu (both from Stockholm University/Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden) analyses the IT-enabled change in Tanzania Revenue Authority by applying Ward and Elvin Framework. Using West-east framework they have studied the change process from nearly paper-based situation to computerised

business operations in Tanzania Revenue Authority. Their research also shows how such changes affected the performance of the organisation.

The third paper uses system dynamic models to study the dynamics of change management in a supply chain context. Balaji Janamanchi (Texas A&M International University, USA) and James R. Burns (Texas Tech University, USA) study a third complementary strategy of lengthening inventory replenishment times to check if further reductions in the bullwhip effect can be observed. His research results show that strategies such as expanded workweek to absorb sudden surges in production demand, as well as tweaking order forecasts are capable complements to information visibility.

The fourth paper is contributed by Day-Yang Liu and Chung-Chi Liu (both from National Taiwan University of Science and Technology, Taiwan). This paper studies the key successful factors of an entrepreneur who becomes a successful venture capitalist. The authors apply the 'Blue Ocean Strategy' framework to compare the various business strategies developed by this entrepreneur. This study discovered that the best strategy is to keep endless innovations to uncontested market all the time.

The final paper investigates a new IS outsourcing practice, that is, Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) business model. David C. Chou (Eastern Michigan University, USA) and Amy Y. Chou (Illinois State University) identify the implications of services, SaaS and IS outsourcing. IS outsourcing is a way of saving IT operational costs in organisations. Within various IS outsourcing practices, SaaS is the most inexpensive delivery model. Since SaaS vendors can offer outsourcing services onshore, the debates on the negative impacts that caused by offshore outsourcing can be greatly reduced.

I hope these five papers would continuously adjoin their values and contributions to the areas of IS and change management. I would encourage our readers to continue to develop new applications and theories in these fields. The *IJISCM* will continue to serve as an important forum for the exchange of innovative ideas.