Editorial

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Biographical notes: David C. Chou is a Professor of Computer Information Systems at Eastern Michigan University. He received a BC from Feng-Chia University and an MS from National Taiwan University and a PhD from Georgia State University. He has published more than 170 papers in the fields of information systems. He is the President of the Southwest Decision Sciences Institute 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 2 issue. The objectives of *IJISCM* are to promote the research and practice of the fields of information systems and change management. This journal aims to establish an effective channel of communications amongst educators, information systems worker, managers and industry practitioners to contribute, disseminate and learn from each other. We welcome your continuous support, communication and submission to this journal.

The second issue of the Volume two collects six high quality papers. Topics in this issue are: 'Political dimensions in IT consulting projects – a governance theory approach', 'The relationship between individual differences, culture, anxiety, computer self-efficacy and user performance', 'Developing a configuration management capability model for the medical device industry', 'Component design, integration and service transformation in finance industry', 'Improved methods for estimation and project tracking', and 'An investigation into IS outsourcing success: the role of quality and change management'.

The first paper utilises the principles of governance theory into the area of IT consulting. Based on a variety of theoretical and logical demonstrations, this paper develops a theoretical framework for analysing and designing IT consulting processes. IT consulting is an area that brings changes to a socio-technical system, the organisation and related technologies. Therefore, change management can be applied to this process. Bjorn Niehaves, Karsten Klose and Jorg Becker (all from University of Munster, Germany) contribute to this work. Finally, this paper uses an ERP implementation case study as an illustrative example.

The second paper conducts a longitudinal study to examine the impact of individual differences, culture, anxiety and computer self-efficacy concurrently on actual performance in a training setting. Ravi Paul, Richard Hauser and John Bradley (all from East Carolina University, USA) adopt previously validated instruments to measure

culture, anxiety and computer self-efficacy. The actual performance variable is measured by a standardised hands-on databases test. The results of data analyses support all four hypotheses proposed in this paper.

The third paper focuses on the development of a Configuration Management Capability Model (CMCM) for the software development process that is to be used in the medical device industry. Fergal Mc Caffery (University of Limerick, Ireland) and Gerry Coleman (Dundalk Institute of Technology, Ireland) discuss how medical device regulations may be satisfied by adopting relevant practices from the Capability Maturity Model Integration (CMMI) Configuration Management (CM) process area.

Software componentisation is the first step in component-based service design. In the fourth paper, Raymond Wu (IBM Software Group) identifies components in business, service and physical layers that build up the alignment and inter-layer interoperability. This paper also reviews recent literature in component-based implementation and uses the example in the financial industry to review the design process for component-based service virtualisation.

The fifth paper focuses on the project management and the change management areas. Among the project management activities, task estimation, task execution and task tracking are found to be the top controlling factors. Change management is also driven by the accuracy of project tracking. James R. Burns (Texas Tech University, USA) and Balaji Janamanchi (Texas A&M International University, USA) conduct a simulation study to investigate the issues of task estimation and Earned Value Analysis (EVA) for achieving a tighter integration and validity of project management. This paper also utilises a PERT-based probabilistic approach to evaluate the accuracy of project estimation and tracking.

The sixth paper distinguishes the role of quality and change management in the IS outsourcing practice. David C. Chou (Eastern Michigan University, USA) points out the needs of incorporating change management and quality processes into information systems outsourcing practice. Economic theories have been reviewed to support the need of such inclusion. This paper identifies an information systems outsourcing success model through four constructs and five propositions.

I hope these six papers would continuously adjoin their values and contributions to the areas of information systems 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.