28TH ANNUAL SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR INFORMATION SYSTEMS CONFERENCE

Crowne Plaza Asheville, North Carolina USA

March 13 – 14, 2026

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Welcome from the President

Welcome to Asheville, and the 28th Annual SAIS Conference! We hope you are as excited as we are about SAIS 2026! This is the first time SAIS is being held in the North Carolina mountains. I hope you take some time to enjoy this spectacular location and to join the SAIS community by connecting with fellow researchers, academics, and practitioners.

I want to give a special thank you to everyone involved in making this year's conference a success. The board members, paper authors, reviewers, presenters, and participants have all contributed to the smooth preparation of SAIS 2026. I encourage everyone to get involved with a SAIS conference in the future. We will be having our annual business meeting after lunch on March 13th when we will be electing board members for several open positions! Come be a part of the future of SAIS!

Please take a moment to meet and thank our SAIS board members whose efforts and support make this event possible. The conference would not be possible without the significant organizing effort of this year's Conference and Program Chairs, Akanksha Singh and Kruttika Sutrave, our treasurer Shaun Lough, as well as our other board members, many of whom have served SAIS for many years. SAIS has been successful because of your ideas and hard work. Most importantly, I want to thank *you* for your contributions and attendance; SAIS 2026 would not exist without you!

It has been an honor to serve as your President for the second time (I was also president back in the early 2000's). Many who attend SAIS come back year after year to be a part of SAIS. I trust you will have an enjoyable conference experience. Enjoy your time in Asheville. When you are not engaged in one of the conference sessions, enjoy the venue, learn about your colleagues' research, engage in exciting conversations at coffee breaks and the social event on Friday night. Please also make a point to say hi to our long-time conference sponsor Prospect Press.

Finally, we hope you can join us on Saturday afternoon as we present the inaugural *SAIS Junior Faculty Consortium*. I will be moderating this event which includes advice from several senior faculty members on navigating the tenure and promotion process. All are welcome at what we hope becomes an annual event at SAIS.

We sincerely hope you will enjoy your time at SAIS 2026, and we look forward to seeing you at SAIS 2027 - our 29th Annual Conference - in Birmingham, Alabama! Thank you to UAB for agreeing to serve as the academic host in 2027.

Raymond Papp
The University of Tampa

Welcome from the Program Chair

Greetings and a very warm welcome to all attendees of the 28th Southern Association for Information Systems Annual Conference. SAIS has been awarded an outstanding AIS chapter in 2023, and now it is our pleasure to have you join us for yet another engaging and insightful 2026 event centered around the conference theme, "AI Stewardship". This year, we are privileged to feature two distinguished keynote speakers who will share their expertise and perspectives on harnessing the power of Information Systems and AI to foster positive societal change and contribute to a sustainable future.

Our conference will commence with an opening keynote by Dr. Venkata Achanti, Vice President, Cloud & Custom Applications, Capgemini America Inc. At Capgemini America, he leads AI-powered, cloud-native application modernization initiatives across various industries. He is a trusted advisor and advocate to CXO leaders. In this keynote, Venkata outlines how IS programs can proactively lead the shift toward an AI-native economy. He will present a practitioner's view of how curricula and learning models must evolve to remain relevant and impactful by drawing on industry experience in Generative AI, Agentic AI, and large-scale enterprise apps and data transformations.

The second day of the conference will be inaugurated with a keynote address by Dr. Robert Crossler, Hubman Distinguished Professor in Information Systems in the Carson College of Business at Washington State University. He serves as Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and chair of the Management Information Systems and Entrepreneurship Department. He is a Distinguished Member – Cum Laude in the Association for Information Systems and previously served as president of the AIS Special Interest Group on Information Security and Privacy. His talk will focus on adoption of AI for decision making and problem solving in IS curricula and beyond.

I would also like to extend my deepest appreciation to our sponsor, Prospect Press, for their unwavering support and partnership over the years. Their contribution has been instrumental in the success of our conference. Lastly, the success of the 28th SAIS Conference could not have been achieved without the relentless dedication and hard work of the entire SAIS board. Many thanks to our outgoing president, Raymond Papp for his contributions in making the SAIS events over the past couple of years a success. Special thanks to program committee Kruttika Sutrave (chair) and Valerie Bartelt (assistant chair) for their leadership and invaluable support in bringing this conference to fruition. A huge shout out to Christopher Krieder and Shawn Lough for their unwavering, consistent service to the SAIS board and for their contributions in making this event a success.

It is my sincere hope that your participation in the 28th SAIS Conference will be both intellectually stimulating and personally rewarding. Please make sure to join us for the social event on Friday, March 13th, at the Mt. Pilot room at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Asheville, located close to the meeting spaces. I look forward to meeting every single one of you wonderful participants at the event and making it yet another year of success here at SAIS!

Akanksha Singh
University of Alabama at Birmingham

Welcome from the Program Chair

Welcome to Asheville and to the 28th *Southern Association for Information Systems (SAIS) Conference!* We appreciate your scholarship, and look forward to your presentations – you are what makes SAIS successful!

This year, we had submissions from a total of 132 authors, with several of those with a student as the first author. This year, we accepted submissions from Mexico, the Philippines, and domestically from Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Virginia. SAIS, as a regional conference, continues to grow and draw authors from all over the world.

We have an exciting conference ahead of us! All sessions will be held at the Crowne Plaza on Friday and Saturday. Friday night's social event will be held in the Mt. Pilot room of the Crowne Plaza Hotel. It is a great opportunity for informal networking, seeing colleagues you have not seen in a while, and enjoying the company of fellow conference attendees. In addition to the lovely location and great local food options, the program is filled with sessions focused on interesting, timely, and relevant research areas.

We have organized the sessions to include a panel discussion, Junior Faculty Consortium and 10 tracks. The panel is on "Generative AI and Healthcare Information Systems: Economic vs Humanistic Perspectives". The tracks are as follows:

- Analysis, Design, and Development
- Artificial/Augmented Intelligence
- Data, Analytics, Data Science
- Enterprise Systems: Practice and Pedagogy
- Ethical Implications

- General IS
- Governance, Project Management & Strategy
- Information Systems in Society
- Security and Privacy
- Virtual/Augmented Reality

I would like to thank all reviewers for their work in assessing the fit, formatting, and quality of the submissions. As Program Chair, I relied heavily on reviewer input to highlight issues in submissions, so I greatly appreciate their diligence. It is worth noting that getting reviewers to commit and follow through is difficult. The reviewers contributed to each submission having at least 3 reviews and significantly strengthened what you will hear at SAIS 2026.

I wish to offer a special thanks to the SAIS President, Raymond Papp, and Conference Chair Akannksha Singh, as well as to Assistant Conference Chair Christopher Kreider and Assistant Program Chair Valerie Bartelt for their help and support in preparing this year's conference; I could not have succeeded without them.

I hope that you enjoy your time in Asheville; we strive to provide a welcoming and supportive conference for sharing and collaborating. We hope that you develop friendly and collegial relationships and consider attending a future SAIS conference – we will be meeting in Birmingham, Alabama, next year. Again, thank you all for attending the SAIS 2026 conference!

Kruttika

Kruttika Sutrave
Grand Valley State University

Keynote Speakers

Dr. Robert E. Crossler

Hubman Distinguished Professor in Information Systems
Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Carson College of Business, Washington State University

Dr. Robert E. Crossler is the Hubman Distinguished Professor in Information Systems in the Carson College of Business at Washington State University. He serves as Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and chair of the Management Information Systems and Entrepreneurship Department. He is a Distinguished Member – Cum Laude in the Association for Information Systems and previously served as president of the AIS Special Interest Group on Information Security and Privacy.

Dr. Crossler's award-winning research examines the factors that shape individuals' security and privacy decisions. His work has been funded by the National Science Foundation and the Department of Defense and has appeared in leading journals including MIS Quarterly, Information Systems Research, Journal of Management Information Systems, and Journal of the Association for Information Systems. His research has been featured in outlets such as ZDNet, Money Inc., and Voices of Privacy. He is also co-host of the AI Goes To College podcast.

Venkata Achanti

Vice President, Cloud & Custom Applications, Capgemini America Inc.

Venkata Achanti is Vice President in the Cloud and Custom Solutions organization at Capgemini America, where he leads AI-powered, cloud-native application modernization initiatives across manufacturing, automotive, aerospace & defense, and life sciences industries.
A trusted advisor and advocate to CXO leaders, he partners with senior executives to shape cloud modernization strategies, large-scale enterprise transformation programs, and AI-enabled operating models that deliver sustainable business value. His leadership bridges strategy and execution across complex global programs, helping organizations move decisively from experimentation to enterprise-scale impact. Venkata actively collaborates with startups and emerging technology ecosystems, accelerating the translation of innovation into enterprise-ready solutions. A strong proponent of industry–academia collaboration, he works closely with universities on capstone projects, curriculum development, and academic programs he helps design and deliver, bringing real-world transformation challenges into the classroom. He is deeply passionate about reimagining the workforce for the AI-powered economy and building talent that is future-ready, adaptable, and impact-driven.

Program Summary

We would like to thank each of the volunteers below for reviewing the manuscripts that were submitted to the conference. The conference could not be a success without their generosity.

Rianat Abbas Baylor University	**Mr. Abhigyan** Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee	**Ezekiel Adediji** Ohio University
Mr Joy Selasi Agbesi Ohio University	**Rushabh Agrawal** Google	**Vaibhav Agrawal** San Jose State University
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Serhii Savin ex-Lyft	**Dr. Akanksha Singh** University of Alabama at Birmingham	**Dr. Vera Spitzer** University of Koblenz
Karthik Srinivasan Independent Researcher	**Kruttika Sutrave** Grand Valley State University	**Karthikeyan Umapathy** University of North Florida

Program Summary

Thursday, March 12	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
12:00–5:00	Registration	
6:00-8:00	SAIS Board Meeting (SAIS Board & Invitees only)	Dogwood Room

Friday, March 13	ACTIVITY		LOCATION
7:30–4:00	Registration		Registration
7:30–8:30	Breakfast and Welcome		Mitchell & Roan Room
8:30–9:30	Keynote Address – Venkata Achanti *"Preparing IS and Computing workforce for workplace AI transformation"*		Mitchell & Roan Room
9:30–9:45	Break		
9:45–10:45	Session 1A	Artificial/Augmented Intelligence	Mt. Roan
	1B	Security & Privacy	Blue Ridge
	1C	Information Systems in Society	Mt. Mitchell
10:45–11:00	Break		
11:00–12:00	Session 2A	Panel: Generative AI and Healthcare Information Systems: Economic vs Humanistic Perspectives	Mitchell & Roan Room
12:00-1:30 12:00-1:00 12:45-1:00 1:00-1:30	Lunch, Awards, and Business Meeting Lunch Buffet Prospect Press Awards and Business Meeting		Mitchell & Roan Room
1:30–2:30	Session 3A	Artificial/Augmented Intelligence	Mt. Roan
	3B	Data, Analytics, Data Science	Blue Ridge
	3C	Information Systems in Society	Mt. Mitchell
2:30–3:00	Coffee Break		
3:00–4:00	Session 4A	Artificial/Augmented Intelligence	Mt. Roan
	4B	General IS	Blue Ridge
	4C	Security & Privacy	Mt. Mitchell
6:00–9:00	Reception Social Event *Cash bar, hors d'oeuvres!*		Mt. Pilot

Saturday, March 14	ACTIVITY		LOCATION
7:30–10:00	Registration		Registration
7:30–8:30	Breakfast		Mitchell & Roan Room
8:30–9:30	Keynote Address – Dr. Robert E. Crossler *"A Call to AI-Action through Small Wins"*		Mitchell & Roan Room
9:30–9:45	Break		
9:45–10:45	Session 5A	Artificial/Augmented Intelligence	Mt. Roan
	5B	Data, Analytics, Data Science	Blue Ridge
	5C	Governance, Project Management and Strategy	Mt. Mitchell
10:45–11:00	Coffee Break		
11:00–12:00	Session 6A	Junior Faculty Consortium	Mitchell & Roan Room

Detailed Schedule

Thursday, March 12

Time	Location	Session
6:00-8:00	*Hotel*	**SAIS Board Meeting: Board Members and Invited Guests Only**

Friday, March 13

Time	Location	Session
7:00–4:00	*Registration*	**Registration**
7:30–8:30	*Mitchell & Roan Room*	**Breakfast & Welcome** **Raymond Papp – SAIS President** **Akanksha Singh– SAIS Conference Chair**
8:30–9:30	*Mitchell & Roan Room*	**Keynote Address – "Preparing IS and Computing workforce for workplace AI transformation"** *Venkata Achanti*
9:30–9:45		**Break**
9:45–10:45	*Mt. Roan*	**Session 1A Artificial/Augmented Intelligence** **Chair – Akanksha Singh** An Agentic AI Platform for Coordinated Homeless Outreach and Crisis Support in New York City *Dawit Demissie, Roshan Sharma* Can AI Reframe Technical Reports for Executive Decision-Makers? *Meenah Wycliffe, Valerie Bartelt, Chen Zhong* Employees' utilization of organizational agentic systems *Ryan Ward, Clay Posey, AJ Burns* Comparison of authentic media and synthetic media in computer vision training *Jonathan Adams, Odirile Moja, Christopher Ko*
9:45–10:45	*Blue Ridge*	**Session 1B Security & Privacy** **Chair –Shawn Lough** Research in progress: extending the AUTHSPACE model to include AUTHELEMENT selection type *Christopher Kreider, Peter Pearson* Bridging the trust gap: a human-centered approach to explainable transformer-based IDRS *Michael Lapke* Balancing carrots and sticks: developing a contingency theory of information security policy compliance through agent-based simulation *David Sikolia*
9:45–10:45	*Mt. Mitchell*	**Session 1C Information Systems in Society** **Chair – Chris Kreider** Gender differences in cyberloafing and problematic technology use *Brandis Phillips*

28th SAIS Annual Conference, Asheville, North Carolina

Detailed Schedule

Time	Location	Session
		Analyzing the Interconnections Between the Multi-level Activity Systems of Deepfake-Infused Co-creation *Subhasree Sengupta, Shuyuan Ho, Katie Brodhead* Virtual Reality and Mental Health: Student Perceptions *Carley Perez, Gracie Taylor, Tucker Balch, Joy Godin, Jeannie Pridmore*
10:45–11:00		**Coffee Break**
11:00-12:00	*Mitchell & Roan Room*	**Session 2A PANEL** Generative AI and Healthcare Information Systems: Economic vs Humanistic Perspectives *Joseph Mansour, Rajesh Godasu, Jignya Patel, Akanksha Singh, Kruttika Sutrave, Craig Van Slyke*
12:00–1:30	*Mitchell & Roan Room*	**Lunch, Awards, and Business Meeting** *Lunch Buffet* *Prospect Press* *Awards and Business Meeting*
1:30-2:30	*Mt. Roan*	**Session 3A Artificial/Augmented Intelligence** **Chair –Akanksha Singh** Closing the Gap: AI-Integrated Teaching Methods and Student Preparedness for Technology-Enabled Accounting Roles *Shalyn Lapke* Fostering Critical Thinking and Metacognition in Business Education *Lilian Alfaro* Leadership Structures for AI Strategy, Governance, And Policy in U.S.-Based Companies *Candace Deans, Betsy Tretola*
1:30-2:30	*Blue Ridge*	**Session 3B Data, Analytics, Data Science** **Chair – Adrian Gardiner** An Autoethnographic Study of the Paper Review and Publication Process *Michael Cuellar* How Cross-App Performance and User Overlap Shape Cross Promotion Effectiveness in Mobile Apps *Pranith Abbaraju, William Kettinger, He Li* Why Experiential Learning Is Beneficial for Teaching Agile Project Management *April Reed, Brenda Killingsworth, Richelle DaSouza*
1:30-2:30	*Mt. Mitchell*	**Session 3C – Information Systems in Society** **Chair – Rajesh Godasu** A Framework for Building Cybersecurity Resilience in Microenterprises *Marcus Green, Eugeniya Iskrenova-Ekiert, Mehruz Kamal* Designing Information Systems for Procedural and LLM-Assisted Analytics in Cybersecurity Auditing Using Threat Intelligence *Gurkan Akalin* Deviant Security Behaviors in Remote Work: An Examination of Employee Autonomy *Frederick Adrah, Derrick Ganye*

Detailed Schedule

Friday, March 13

Time	Location	Session
2:30-3:00		**Break**
3:00-4:00	*Mt. Roan*	**Session 4A Artificial/Augmented Intelligence** **Chair – Raymond Papp** Detecting Integrity Events in Airbnb's Sparse Data Streams *Ramendra Kumar* Applications Of Artificial Intelligence Agents in Cybersecurity: A Systematic Review *Ehud Orenstain, Vinod Ahuja* Digitally enabled experiential education over a cloud hosted platform - A model to assess student learning *Gunjan Batra, Tridib Bandyopadhyay, Solomon Negash*
3:00-4:00	*Blue Ridge*	**Session 4B General IS** **Chair – Kruttika Sutrave** Capturing Consumer Behaviors in Agent-Based Models *Donald J. Berndt, Jessica Elrefaei* Mandated Vs. Voluntary: A Framework for Understanding Government-Imposed Technology Implementation *Teresa Paulk, Lars Mathiassen* Explainable AI for Alzheimer's Disease Detection *Anto Lourdu Xavier Raj Arockia Selvarathinam, Kruttika Sutrave*
3:00-4:00	*Mt. Mitchell*	**Session 4C Security & Privacy** **Chair – Valerie Bartelt** Employing African American Storytelling Tradition to Inspire the Management of Emerging Skillset Risks *Atiya Avery, Dr. Clarice Thomas, Dr. LaKami Baker* Co-Create with GenAI: Activity Traces and Sensemaking in Multi-level Information Practices *Subhasree Sengupta, Shuyuan Ho, Yue Liu, Rasleen Kaur, Ghazal Hussain* Who Gets Called Wicked? When Disagreement Becomes Disqualification Online *Shannon Williams*
6:00–9:00	*Mt. Pilot*	**Reception Social Event Cash bar and hors d'oeuvres**

Saturday, March 14

Time	Location	Session
7:30–10:00	*Registration*	**Registration**
7:30–8:30	*Mitchell & Roan Room*	**Breakfast**
8:30–9:30	*Mitchell & Roan Room*	**Keynote Address – "A Call to AI-Action through Small Wins"** *Robert E. Crossler*
9:30–9:45		**Break**

Detailed Schedule

Time	Location	Session
9:45–10:45	*Mt. Roan*	**Session 5A Artificial/Augmented Intelligence** **Chair – Raymond Papp** Let's Play! Examining the Impact of Gamification on Cybersecurity Training Effectiveness *Frederick Adrah, NIKHIL MEHTA, Lakshmi Iyer* AI Use Among Young Adults: A Privacy Concern or an Accepted Risk? *Ghazal Hussain* Public Or Private – A Comparison of University Cybersecurity Education Maturity Development Between Private and Public Universities In Virginia *Christopher Kreider, Lonnie Cheney*
9:45–10:45	*Blue Ridge*	**Session 5B Data, Analytics, Data Science** **Chair – Karthikeyan Umapathy** Technology-Business Incubators Fuel the Growth in the Philippine Ecosystem: The Societal Impact *Donald Amoroso, Srilekha Mandali, Pragathi Kodeli, Richard Day, Candice Lleses, Nandini Bolekar* The Dark Pattern-Trust Erosion Model: A Framework for Understanding Manipulative Interface Design *Anjali Prakash, Karthikeyan Umapathy, Haiyan Huang* Assess UX Design Challenges in Virtual Reality Training Systems: A Conceptual Framework *Rylee Aspinwall, Haiyan Huang, Karthikeyan Umapathy*
9:45–10:45	*Mt. Mitchell*	**Session 5C Governance, Project Management and Strategy** **Chair – Chris Kreider** Distrust in Generative Artificial Intelligence: A Randomized Controlled Experiment *Md Jabir Rahman, Huigang Liang* Scale Or Flexibility? Property Size and Listing Survival on Airbnb *Md Jabir Rahman, Md Juber Rahman, Samira Rahman, Nurmatov Shahriyor, Zannatur Raiya Khan* Understanding Human Detection of Multimedia Deception *Yue Liu*
10:45–11:00		**Coffee Break**
11:00–12:00	*Mitchell & Roan Room*	**Session 6A Panel** Junior Faculty Consortium *Raymond Papp, Robert Crossler, Craig Van Slyke, Bernie Farkas, Richelle De Souza*

Conference Abstracts

AN AGENTIC AI PLATFORM FOR COORDINATED HOMELESS OUTREACH AND CRISIS SUPPORT IN NEW YORK CITY

New York City operates the largest municipal homelessness system in the United States, providing nightly shelter to more than 85,000 individuals, including over 17,000 families with children. Despite public investment, outreach efforts remain fragmented across agencies, leading to delays in care, inconsistent follow through, and crisis encounters. Studies show that individuals experiencing homelessness miss 50 to 60 percent of medical and social service appointments, while outreach teams spend time on coordination. These inefficiencies contribute to avoidable emergency room use and preventable health crises.

This paper presents Homeless Outreach Coordination Intelligence, an agent-based AI platform designed to improve coordination among individuals, outreach workers, and service providers. HOCI uses multilingual conversational interfaces, voice enabled encounter logging, trauma informed design, and geospatial intelligence to connect individuals to shelters, food resources, healthcare, mental health services, and crisis support. The platform supports case managers through automated service matching, appointment scheduling, and citywide analytics.

Dawit Demissie, Roshan Sharma

CAN AI REFRAME TECHNICAL REPORTS FOR EXECUTIVE DECISION-MAKERS?

Cybersecurity incident response requires fast, high-quality decision-making from both technical and non-technical stakeholders. However, incident reports are often written in highly technical language, making them hard for executives and managers to interpret under pressure. This study examines whether AI can reframe technical cybersecurity incident reports into narratives that remain accurate while also being empathetic and accessible to non-technical stakeholders. Using a qualitative, interview-based approach, the project examines how C-Suite executives describe their experiences receiving and interpreting cybersecurity incident communication. The interviews explore how factors such as tone, framing, and clarity affect executives' understanding, trust in the information, and confidence in decision-making. By centering executive perspectives, this research offers qualitative insights into AI-supported cybersecurity communication.

Meenah Wycliffe, Valerie Bartelt, Chen Zhong

EMPLOYEES' UTILIZATION OF ORGANIZATIONAL AGENTIC SYSTEMS

Artificial intelligence (AI) systems are being rapidly adopted across society and industry. This adoption is occurring simultaneously with AI development, creating unique opportunities and challenges for employees as they face adoption pressures from their organizations. To shed light on the situation, we propose a study to develop an agentic system adoption framework that will help make sense of the emerging AI landscape.

Ryan Ward, Clay Posey, AJ Burns

COMPARISON OF AUTHENTIC MEDIA AND SYNTHETIC MEDIA IN COMPUTER VISION TRAINING

Air-sea rescue is a highly time sensitive endeavor. Victim submersion time strongly influences survival time. The problem is exasperated by the vast search spaces presented by the ocean. Finding individuals quickly in such spaces can be challenging. Drones using computer vision can be a great boon in these situations. Computer vision models require vast amounts of labelled data. The acquisition and labelling of said data can make the use of computer vision models infeasible. Synthetic data represents a possible solution. Generated images may present a sufficient facsimile of authentic images to be used in their stead. Our study used the combination of several tools to produce an automated synthetic data pipeline

Conference Abstracts

which both generated and labelled images. Our results showed the model performed well even in comparison to studies using purely authentic data.

Jonathan Adams, Odirile Moja, Christopher Ko

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS: EXTENDING THE AUTHSPACE MODEL TO INCLUDE AUTHELEMENT SELECTION TYPE

Knowledge Based Authentication (KBA) through the use of passwords is one of the oldest security controls still in use. Despite widespread use, passwords are generally disliked by researchers and practitioners alike. Research has explored alternatives that utilize graphics and even 3D spaces, however a lack of standardized framework has left these research streams fragmented and siloed. Work has been done to standardize specifications of KBA schemes through the use of the AuthSpace framework. While this framework provides a robust framework for specifying and comparing contemporary and novel KBA schemes alike, the framework does not have the capability of capturing different selection modalities. This research in progress works to include different selection strategies into the AuthSpace framework, and develop a proof of concept showing summative validity of the proposed changes.

Christopher Kreider, Peter Pearson

BRIDGING THE TRUST GAP: A HUMAN-CENTERED APPROACH TO EXPLAINABLE TRANSFORMER-BASED IDRS

Transformer-based Intrusion Detection and Response Systems (T-IDRS) offer sophisticated, autonomous cyber defense, yet their adoption is hindered by the "black-box" nature of machine learning. This opacity often leads analysts to either blindly accept or reject system recommendations, undermining security efficacy. This research evaluates human-centered explanation interfaces designed to align AI outputs with analysts' mental models. By implementing three distinct frameworks (counterfactual explanations, feature-attribution visualizations, and attack-path maps) the study moves beyond technical explainability toward functional transparency. Through a controlled user study with security analysts, the project plans to measure trust, decision quality, and cognitive workload across multiple simulated attack scenarios. The findings will provide empirical evidence of explanation effectiveness within professional workflows and establish human-centered design guidelines for AI-driven defense. Ultimately, this work contributes a reusable benchmark of interfaces and datasets to enhance the utility and trustworthiness of autonomous security systems.

Michael Lapke

BALANCING CARROTS AND STICKS: DEVELOPING A CONTINGENCY THEORY OF INFORMATION SECURITY POLICY COMPLIANCE THROUGH AGENT-BASED SIMULATION

Information security policy (ISP) compliance is often seen as employee-driven, shaped by sanctions ("sticks") and incentives ("carrots"). However, results vary because key dynamics such as peer effects, legitimacy, workload shocks, and path dependence are rarely modeled. We develop a contingency theory to explain when reward–sanction mixes lead to lasting, organization-wide compliance rather than brief spikes. Using agent-based modeling, we simulate diverse employees under different monitoring and legitimacy levels to find tipping points, stability, and limits for balancing carrots and sticks.

David Sikolia

VIRTUAL REALITY AND MENTAL HEALTH: STUDENT PERCEPTIONS

College students face an unprecedented mental health crisis, with 35% diagnosed with anxiety and 25% with depression (American College Health Association, 2024). Traditional counseling services face substantial barriers including long waitlists, limited sessions, and persistent stigma. Virtual reality (VR)

Conference Abstracts

meditation has emerged as a promising intervention, with systematic reviews showing VR mindfulness effectively reduces anxiety, depression, and stress among university students (Puente-Torre et al., 2024). However, little research examines how students perceive VR as a tool for introducing mental health resources in educational settings. This study investigates student perceptions of immersive VR meditation experiences at two southeastern public universities.

Carley Perez, Gracie Taylor, Tucker Balch, Joy Godin, Jeannie Pridmore

ANALYZING THE INTERCONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE MULTI-LEVEL ACTIVITY SYSTEMS OF DEEPFAKE-INFUSED CO-CREATION

This article motivates an analytical overview of how epistemic network analysis (ENA) can help unpack the associations between thematic elements drawn from focus group reflections on deepfakes, associated co-creation activities and team routines. Theoretically, these themes are derived from the activity theory framework, which situates a multi-level prism connecting information routines, collective norms surrounding information evaluation and synthesis, as well as the mediating effect of generative AI tools. The results of this analysis can help to situate how ENA can provide an empirically grounded understanding of the connections between the theoretical constructs of activity theory within the contextual stage of deepfakes co-creation, thereby providing theoretical and methodological contributions to information systems research.

Subhasree Sengupta, Shuyuan Ho, Katie Brodhead

GENDER DIFFERENCES IN CYBERLOAFING AND PROBLEMATIC TECHNOLOGY USE

This study examines the relationship among cyberloafing personal traits, hbits and problematic technology use (PTU). Using survey data from 475 students across three U.S. universities, we tested a path model where cyberloafing mediates psychological traits and PTU. Results indicate serious cyberloafing, habit, and neuroticism significantly predict PTU. Gendered analyses reveal neuroticism drives cyberloafing. Women's serious cyberloafing strongly influences PTU whereas for men the hypothesis was not significant.

Brandis Phillips

CLOSING THE GAP: AI-INTEGRATED TEACHING METHODS AND STUDENT PREPAREDNESS FOR TECHNOLOGY-ENABLED ACCOUNTING ROLES

Artificial intelligence is rapidly transforming higher education and the accounting profession, but its specific impact on accounting students' learning and employability is not yet well understood (Gautam, 2025; Ballantine et al., 2024). Surveys show high levels of AI use among students and growing reliance on AI tools in universities and accounting firms, alongside institutional concerns about academic integrity and over-reliance on automation (Holmes & Douglass, 2022). Grounded in the Unified Theory of Acceptance and Use of Technology (UTAUT), this proposal outlines a quasi-experimental study using pre- and post-intervention surveys with undergraduate accounting students (Venkatesh et al., 2003). A structured AI-integrated pedagogical module, featuring guided use of large language models and accounting-specific AI tools for GAAP-oriented tasks will be embedded between the surveys. Analyses will assess changes in conceptual understanding, problem-solving, engagement, and technology acceptance, and will inform a framework for integrating AI ethically and effectively into accounting curricula.

Shalyn Lapke

FOSTERING CRITICAL THINKING AND METACOGNITION IN BUSINESS EDUCATION

Conference Abstracts

Generative AI tools are rapidly transforming business education, raising significant concerns about academic integrity, cognitive offloading, and metacognitive decline. This work-in-progress study investigates AI-integrated learning activities in undergraduate business courses designed to strengthen metacognitive awareness through structured critique rather than diminish it. Positioning AI as a "foil" for analysis, the course integrates "adversarial critique" exercises, AI-generated counterarguments, and metacognitive reflections. A quasi-experimental design compares these tasks against traditional assignments using critical thinking rubrics, integrity indicators, and pre/post metacognitive surveys. The project aims to provide a replicable model for responsible GenAI andragogy in business education.

Lilian Alfaro

LEADERSHIP STRUCTURES FOR AI STRATEGY, GOVERNANCE, AND POLICY IN U.S.-BASED COMPANIES

This paper provides an assessment of leadership structures supporting AI strategy for the Fortune 500 U.S.-based companies. Four primary leadership models emerged from this research that represent who is leading the AI strategy for the company and where it falls in the organizational structure. Company size, industry and AI readiness also play a role in where each company is positioned across the four models. Results of this study help companies understand where they fit in comparison to other companies and the overall benefits of each model.

Candace Deans, Betsy Tretola

AN AUTOETHNOGRAPHIC STUDY OF THE PAPER REVIEW AND PUBLICATION PROCESS

This paper reports on an in-process autoethnographic study of the paper review process to determine whether criticisms of the process as enforcing "normal science" (Kuhn, 1996) and suppressing new ideas are accurate. The study follows my experiences and reactions to review comments, along with the rationale for my subsequent decisions, both in my current role as a tenured full professor and in my prior role as an untenured assistant professor. To this point, I have submitted to a major journal and to a pre-review to another. So far, I have found that editors' limitations in experience narrow what is acceptable for publication, thereby enforcing normal science and restricting the flow of new ideas.

Michael Cuellar

HOW CROSS-APP PERFORMANCE AND USER OVERLAP SHAPE CROSS PROMOTION EFFECTIVENESS IN MOBILE APPS

Cross promotion is widely used by mobile app developers to acquire new users, yet prior research has offered limited insight into how cross-app characteristics shape cross promotion effectiveness. Drawing on Attention Economy theory, this study examines how cross-app market performance and user overlap between the focal app and cross-apps jointly influence cross promotion effectiveness. Using longitudinal data from top iOS game apps, we find that advertising placements in outperforming cross-apps (with growing new users) are less effective than placements in underperforming cross-apps (with declining new users). We further find that user overlap between the focal app and cross-apps moderates these effects across both contexts. These findings shed light on how attentional conditions and audience alignment interact to shape cross promotion outcomes.

Pranith Abbaraju, William Kettinger, He Li

UNDERSTANDING HUMAN DETECTION OF MULTIMEDIA DECEPTION

With the widespread adoption of artificial intelligence, deepfake technology creates an increasingly severe threat to information credibility and cybersecurity. This study investigates how information priming influences human recognition of deepfakes across different media modalities. Based on media richness theory, participants evaluated textual, visual, and multimedia content under conceptual and

perceptual priming conditions. Results indicate that media characteristics significantly influence human judgment.

Yue Liu

DESIGNING INFORMATION SYSTEMS FOR PROCEDURAL AND LLM-ASSISTED ANALYTICS IN CYBERSECURITY AUDITING USING THREAT INTELLIGENCE

Cyber threat intelligence (CTI) can inform external audit planning when cyber incidents affect the risk of material misstatement (RMM), but CTI is often weakly structured and difficult to integrate into audit workflows that require traceable, reproducible documentation. This paper proposes a governed hybrid architecture that combines LLM-based semantic mediation with deterministic audit analytics. The four-stage design ingests CTI with provenance capture, normalizes heterogeneous sources into structured claim objects with explicit references, applies governance and human admission controls, and maps admitted claims to RMM-linked planning outputs through rule-based transformations with end-to-end lineage. We demonstrate the approach on six diverse CTI artifacts and evaluate governance outcomes of traceability, admission control, and reproducibility, showing how LLM assistance can be bounded within audit-ready planning workflows.

Gurkan Akalin

DEVIANT SECURITY BEHAVIORS IN REMOTE WORK: AN EXAMINATION OF EMPLOYEE AUTONOMY

Information systems security policy (ISSP) compliance remains a critical challenge, with human factors continuously cited as a primary cause of security violations. This study examines the drivers of deviant security behaviors in the pervasive context of remote work. Grounded in Tittle's Control Balance Theory (CBT), we investigate how control imbalances, violation motivation, and facilitating conditions lead to violation intention. We further derive insights from Self-Determination Theory to explore the moderating role of employee autonomy. Employing a vignette-based survey and PLS-SEM analysis, this research tests a model proposing that remote work and perceived autonomy significantly moderate the core relationships between CBT constructs and intention to violate ISPs. The findings aim to provide novel theoretical insights, offering organizations a refined understanding of how to manage security compliance in modern, remote work environments.

Frederick Adrah, Derrick Ganye

A FRAMEWORK FOR BUILDING CYBERSECURITY RESILIENCE IN MICROENTERPRISES

This work applies the Kamal-Qureshi Framework of Information Systems (IS) architecture to microenterprises to include cybersecurity concerns as outlined in the NIST Cyber Security Framework 2.0. The contribution of this study is twofold. The first is in the integration of the two frameworks resulting in a helpful blueprint for microenterprises to guide them towards better understanding and handling of cybersecurity risks and empowering them to take control and ownership of their cybersecurity resilience. The second is in understanding the impact of cybersecurity resilience on socio-economic development of the firm.

Marcus Green, Eugeniya Iskrenova-Ekiert, Mehruz Kamal

DETECTING INTEGRITY EVENTS IN AIRBNB'S SPARSE DATA STREAMS

Detecting safety-critical integrity issues on peer-to-peer platforms is challenging due to sparse, irregular, and narrative-driven user reviews. Conventional anomaly detection methods, such as Isolation Forests, treat reviews as independent events and often conflate routine maintenance complaints with genuine safety incidents, resulting in high false-positive rates and delayed intervention. We propose a semantic temporal risk modeling framework that formulates integrity detection as a self-exciting process over

Conference Abstracts

sparse textual signals. The framework implements a Semantic Neural Hawkes Process (S-NHP) that combines temporally contrastive sentence embeddings, interpretable multi-head semantic excitation kernels, and Extreme Value Theory–based tail modeling. This enables the modeling of semantic temporal resonance, where causally related safety narratives amplify risk intensity over time. Experiments on Airbnb reviews from Los Angeles demonstrate that our approach significantly reduces false alerts while detecting confirmed integrity events earlier than memoryless baselines, offering a practical and interpretable solution for Trust & Safety monitoring.

Ramendra Kumar

APPLICATIONS OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AGENTS IN CYBERSECURITY: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

Artificial Intelligence agents have emerged as autonomous systems capable of addressing cybersecurity's scalability challenges through automated threat detection, response, and security assessment. However, the landscape of AI agent applications in cybersecurity remains fragmented across domains and publication venues. This systematic literature review analyzes 57 peer-reviewed studies to provide comprehensive mapping of AI agent research in cybersecurity. Through thematic analysis, we identify and categorize agent applications into two primary domains: defensive agents (86% of papers) encompassing intrusion detection, malware analysis, security management, and threat intelligence; and offensive agents (16% of papers) including penetration testing, fuzzing, and attack simulation. Our analysis reveals that intrusion detection dominates with 70% of papers, while offensive applications remain underexplored. We contribute a comprehensive taxonomy of AI agent roles, systematic analysis of technical approaches within each category, and identification of underexplored research areas to guide future investigations.

Ehud Orenstain, Vinod Ahuja

DISTRUST IN GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: A RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED EXPERIMENT

Despite the rapid diffusion of generative AI (GenAI), users frequently exhibit distrust toward AI-generated content. Drawing on egocentric bias and motivated reasoning theories, we investigate how topic characteristics influence distrust toward GenAI outputs. We conduct a 2 × 2 × 2 between-subjects experiment (N = 723) in which participants use an AI assistant to complete writing topics varying in topic controversy, subjectivity, and complexity. Results show that topic controversy increases distrust only when topics are subjective, whereas no such effect emerges for objective topics. Topic complexity exerts an independent effect on distrust but does not amplify the effect of topic controversy. Across all conditions, distrust remains below neutrality, indicating calibrated skepticism rather than categorical AI aversion. These findings identify topic properties as a previously underexplored antecedent of GenAI distrust and refine IS theories of trust and AI aversion by demonstrating that distrust toward GenAI is context dependent rather than uniform.

Md Jabir Rahman, Huigang Liang

CAPTURING CONSUMER BEHAVIORS IN AGENT-BASED MODELS

This paper presents an agent-based modeling framework that captures market price formation and consumer choice by integrating tâtonnement-style price discovery with behavioral demand. Producer agents set prices using a hybrid rule that responds to realized excess demand and inventory, while optionally converging toward a market reference price. Consumer agents select among competing producers via a softmax choice model that balances loyalty and price sensitivity. Consumer loyalty evolves through an exponentially weighted update that accommodates reinforcement from purchases or other satisfaction signals. The resulting system produces emergent dynamics, such as price adjustments under excess supply or demand, lock-in from repeated successful purchases, and producer competition

without requiring closed-form supply and demand solutions. The model is implemented in Python, logs tick-level outcomes, and visualizes market trajectories (prices, supply and demand) alongside consumer behavior (choices and loyalty). The framework is modular and extensible, enabling scenario analysis and supporting empirical calibration for applied domains.

Donald J. Berndt, Jessica Elrefaei

SCALE OR FLEXIBILITY? PROPERTY SIZE AND LISTING SURVIVAL ON AIRBNB

Sustained provider participation is critical for the viability of peer-to-peer platforms, yet many service offerings discontinue over time. This exploratory study examines how property size features shape listing discontinuance on Airbnb. Using longitudinal data on more than 260,000 listings across 31 U.S. location, we analyze how different dimensions of listing size—accommodation capacity, number of bedrooms, and number of beds—are associated with the likelihood of listing removal over a one-year period. The results show that listings with higher accommodation capacity and more bedrooms are significantly more likely to be discontinued, whereas listings with more beds exhibit greater survival. By disentangling physical expansion from functional flexibility, this study provides a nuanced account of how scale affects listing persistence. The findings contribute to the literature on peer-to-peer platforms by documenting supply-side regularities that inform future theory development on platform survival and provider participation.

Md Jabir Rahman, Md Juber Rahman, Samira Rahman, Nurmatov Shahriyor, Zannatur Raiya Khan

EXPLAINABLE AI FOR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE DETECTION

Alzheimer's disease (AD) is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder for which early and reliable diagnosis is challenging. Artificial intelligence (AI) approaches have shown growing potential to support AD diagnosis and prediction; however, the lack of transparency in many models limits their clinical applicability. Explainable artificial intelligence (XAI) has emerged as a critical framework for addressing this challenge by providing interpretable insights into model predictions. This study presents a survey of the literature to examine how XAI techniques have been used to support AD detection using tabular and textual data. The results show a strong reliance on traditional machine learning models, and SHapley Additive Explanations (SHAP) emerged as the most frequently used explainable method. Whereas textual XAI approaches were comparatively limited. Most studies employed benchmark datasets, particularly the ADNI, and the explanation practices were largely descriptive, with limited evaluation of clinical utility.

Anto Lourdu Xavier Raj Arockia Selvarathinam, Kruttika Sutrave

WHO GETS CALLED WICKED? WHEN DISAGREEMENT BECOMES DISQUALIFICATION ONLINE

This paper theorizes social opprobrium as platformed governance, the collective sanctioning processes that convert disagreement into disqualification and police who can be treated as a credible knower. Using Wicked as an interpretive lens and a qualitative analysis of public Facebook posts and comment threads in misinformation oriented groups, we trace how villain making makes opprobrium durable and transmissible. We identify four recurring opprobrium moves, moral labeling, credibility foreclosure, boundary policing through insider outsider sorting, and pile on escalation, that operate as a loop from trigger to sanction to compliance or exit. The analysis shows how these moves bind identity, preempt counterevidence, and frame moderation or correction as persecution, sustaining diffusion even when specific claims shift. We conclude with design and ethics implications for interventions that reduce dogpiling and face threatening disqualification without intensifying martyr narratives.

Shannon Williams

Conference Abstracts

EMPLOYING AFRICAN AMERICAN STORYTELLING TRADITION TO INSPIRE THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING SKILLSET RISKS

There is currently a generation of workers who have never experienced the organizational practices that existed before the advent of technology. When technology fails, these workers may lack the skills to carry out essential tasks. Considering the African American storytelling tradition, which centers on the elder griot as the omphalos of knowledge, our research reveals parallels with long-tenured employees serving as "griots" who possess the skills and knowledge to carry out tasks in the absence of technology. Using narrative inquiry methodology and building on five narrative tenets in the African American Storytelling tradition, we present a knowledge management framework juxtaposed with the institutional knowledge of long-tenured employees. In our research conversations with organizational storytellers, we identified sixteen parallel threads across the narrative tenets that organizations can consider when addressing skillset risks. We close with practical suggestions for applying these tenets within organizational settings and offer suggestions for future research.

Atiya Avery, Dr. Clarice Thomas, Dr. LaKami Baker

CO-CREATE WITH GENAI: ACTIVITY TRACES AND SENSEMAKING IN MULTI-LEVEL INFORMATION PRACTICES

The rise of AI-generated content (deepfakes) is reshaping information practices and boosting creative and innovative digital content creation. Yet negligent use of such tools can erode the authenticity and veracity of digital content. We conducted 14 focus group sessions as part of a multi-phase experiment to gain a deeper understanding of the emerging information practices surrounding the use of deepfakes. Drawing on a novel theoretical framework that connects activity theory and sensemaking, we report several information practices that stimulate informal learning, creativity, logical reasoning, and experimentation with digital tools, thereby motivating responsible content engagement. The resultant themes describe how sense-making routines at both individual and collective levels shape engagement and decision-making regarding deepfake technology. Our findings reveal how deepfake-assisted creative activities can foster critical thinking, innovation, and digital literacy. Additionally, these insights inform cybersecurity education, yield insights for arousing responsible digital content usage, and support preparedness initiatives for cyber wellness.

Subhasree Sengupta, Shuyuan Ho, Yue Liu, Rasleen Kaur, Ghazal Hussain

LET'S PLAY! EXAMINING THE IMPACT OF GAMIFICATION ON CYBERSECURITY TRAINING EFFECTIVENESS

Gamification provides a promising avenue to improve training effectiveness, but its psychological and cognitive mechanisms remain underexplored as yet. Psychological mechanisms include employees' intrinsic motivation through self-determination needs of autonomy, competence, and relatedness and cognitive mechanisms include cognitive load induced by cybersecurity training complexity (intrinsic load), training clarity (extraneous load), and training engagement effort (germane load). In this study, we use the twin lenses of self-determination Theory (SDT) and cognitive load theory (CLT) to investigate the impact of these two mechanisms on cybersecurity training effectiveness (CTE) and how gamification moderate these relationships. We also look at how nudges moderate these psychological needs. To test our model, we will employ a randomized controlled trial where employees are assigned to either a gamified or a traditional training module. Our work contributes to both theory and practice by extending the work on gamification in IS research and organizational training.

Frederick Adrah, NIKHIL MEHTA, Lakshmi Iyer

AI USE AMONG YOUNG ADULTS: A PRIVACY CONCERN OR AN ACCEPTED RISK?

Conference Abstracts

The increasing use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools among young adults in higher education has raised important questions about data privacy and user trust. This study explores whether AI is perceived as a privacy concern by university students or whether such concerns are accepted as part of academic life. The research is based on 15 qualitative interviews conducted with students who regularly use AI applications for academic assignments. The interviews focused on students' awareness of data collection practices, their feelings of security or insecurity, and their willingness to discontinue AI use due to privacy concerns.

Ghazal Hussain

PUBLIC OR PRIVATE – A COMPARISON OF UNIVERSITY CYBERSECURITY EDUCATION MATURITY DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN PRIVATE AND PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES IN VIRGINIA

The demand for cybersecurity skills has outpaced the ability to generate enough qualified job seekers, sometimes called the cybersecurity skills/workforce/jobs gap. Existing research has explored what cybersecurity opportunities are available in colleges and universities. One such line of research uses a maturity model based on learning-network theory, the Cybersecurity Education Maturity Model (CEMM). Using this model and publicly available academic catalogs, it is possible to assign CEMM scores to universities and draw inferences from how these scores have changed over time. Our study explores the last decade of cybersecurity related offerings at colleges and universities in the state of Virginia, a state with a large cybersecurity workforce and high demand. Specifically, we explore how public vs private institutions have differed, finding that public universities exhibit statistically significant higher levels of maturity in their cybersecurity educational offerings, however both public and private have exhibited significant growth over the period examined.

Christopher Kreider, Lonnie Cheney

TECHNOLOGY-BUSINESS INCUBATORS FUEL THE GROWTH IN THE PHILIPPINE ECOSYSTEM: THE SOCIETAL IMPACT

The primary aim of this study is to understand the success factors for technology business incubators (TBIs) in the Philippine innovation ecosystem and their impact on society. The research focuses on the regional ecosystem in Davao City and is augmented by accelerators in Makati, Metro Manila. Using a qualitative case study approach, we conducted a series of interviews with directors of key ecosystem organizations and synthesized the findings. Findings reveal that the incubator's purpose is the most critical driver of its success, more so than its strategy or support mechanisms. At the same time, incubator support was highly correlated with the strategy of the incubator. Furthermore, the wider impact of the incubator on both society and the innovation ecosystem showed a significant correlation with both strategy and support.

Donald Amoroso, Srilekha Mandali, Pragathi Kodeli, Richard Day, Candice Lleses, Nandini Bolekar

THE DARK PATTERN-TRUST EROSION MODEL: A FRAMEWORK FOR UNDERSTANDING MANIPULATIVE INTERFACE DESIGN

Dark patterns are deliberate user interface design choices that prioritize manipulation over usability, thereby undermining user autonomy and eroding trust in digital systems. Although several classifications describe how dark patterns appear visually or structurally, far fewer studies explain how these tactics influence users over time or why they lead to a breakdown in trust. This gap limits our ability to distinguish persuasive designs from manipulative tactics. To address this need, we introduce the Dark Pattern - Trust Erosion Model (DP-TEM) framework. This conceptual framework links deceptive interface features to the cognitive and emotional mechanisms they trigger and the long-term deterioration of user trust. The framework provides a structured approach for identifying misleading design tactics and understanding

their cumulative impact on user autonomy and continuance intention. The proposed framework helps professionals and researchers identify, evaluate, and combat dark patterns, thereby promoting transparency and user empowerment in the online environment.

Anjali Prakash, Karthikeyan Umapathy, Haiyan Huang

ASSESS UX DESIGN CHALLENGES IN VIRTUAL REALITY TRAINING SYSTEMS: A CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

Virtual reality (VR) training systems offer safe, immersive skill practice but face user experience (UX) challenges. This paper employs a conceptual analysis of peer-reviewed literature to investigate the interconnection of usability, feedback design, comfort, and presence. The study introduces a conceptual framework that maps a logic pathway from usability/feedback through the interplay of comfort and presence to final learning outcomes. This model positions usability and feedback as foundational inputs that regulate the tension between physical comfort and psychological immersion, both of which are prerequisites for effective skill transfer. By formalizing these relationships, the framework provides a diagnostic blueprint to guide future UX improvements in VR training systems. It offers a structured approach for developers and researchers to prioritize interventions, ensuring that immersive training environments are both ergonomically sound and pedagogically effective.

Rylee Aspinwall, Haiyan Huang, Karthikeyan Umapathy

WHY EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING IS BENEFICIAL FOR TEACHING AGILE PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Experiential learning is a well-established pedagogy that emphasizes hands-on activities. The continued use of Agile project management processes in organizations underscores the need to teach them. This research explores the advantages and effectiveness of experiential learning in teaching Agile project management. Kolb's Learning Cycle for experiential learning has similarities to Agile project management's iterative processes, making it particularly well-suited to teaching Agile. This research study analyzes the project artifacts and student reflections from an Agile student project conducted in an online graduate project management course to determine if these advantages are supported. The study took place over four semesters with 68 students participating. The research question is: What are the advantages of using experiential learning pedagogy to teach Agile project management? Qualitative analysis of project artifacts revealed four key themes integral to Agile success: Collaboration/teamwork, Communication, Growth in Knowledge/clarity of Agile processes, and Productivity.

April Reed, Brenda Killingsworth, Richelle DaSouza

DIGITALLY ENABLED EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION OVER A CLOUD HOSTED PLATFORM - A MODEL TO ASSESS STUDENT LEARNING

Experiential learning is widely recognized as an effective pedagogical approach for bridging theory and practice in Information Systems (IS) education. However, providing meaningful experiential opportunities at scale particularly in online and hybrid programs, and measuring their effectiveness remain persistent challenges due to limited industry access, coordination overhead, delivery constraints, and student-related factors. In this work, we discuss our experience using a cloud-hosted and AI-augmented employer-matching platform to deliver scalable and digitally accessible experiential learning across eight IS and technology-oriented courses in undergraduate and graduate programs at a business school in a large university in the southeastern United States. Drawing on Connectivism, Kolb's Experiential Learning Theory, and Situated Learning Theory, we propose a research model and develop hypotheses to guide empirical investigation. This paper presents the experiential design, research model, hypotheses, data collection strategy, and descriptive statistics from the collected data.

Conference Abstracts

Gunjan Batra, Tridib Bandyopadhyay, Solomon Negash

MANDATED VS. VOLUNTARY: A FRAMEWORK FOR UNDERSTANDING GOVERNMENT-IMPOSED TECHNOLOGY IMPLEMENTATION
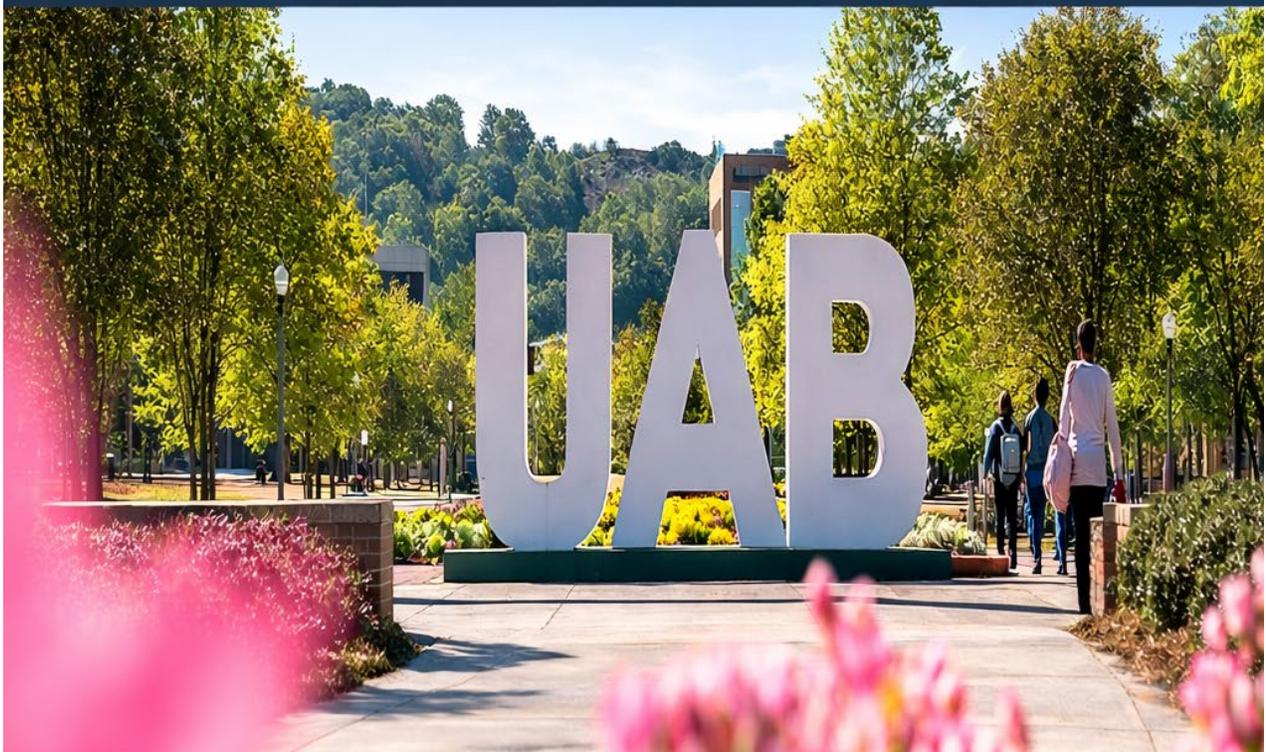
Organizations implementing government mandated technology (GMT) often encounter significant implementation challenges, yet empirical research on effective strategies remains limited. While regulatory compliance may drive initial deployment, organizations frequently struggle with end-user resistance, integration into existing workflows, and determining when mandated systems have been institutionalized. These challenges appear particularly pronounced in highly distributed organizations where coordination across multiple sites complicates standardized implementation efforts. This study investigates how a highly distributed Human Health Services organization (HHS Inc.) navigated GMT implementation through the Technology, Organization, and Environment (TOE) framework, modified to address the unique dynamics of government-mandated technology adoption. Employing a retrospective case study design (Yin, 2018) with an engaged scholarship approach (Van de Ven, 2007), the research examines co-creation strategies to overcome implementation barriers across distributed operations. The findings reveal effective co-creation strategies addressing common barriers, including structured feedback mechanisms and phased rollout approaches.

Teresa Paulk, Lars Mathiassen