

EJISE Editorial for Volume 21 Issue 1 2018

On behalf of the editorial team it is with great pleasure to present the first issue of EJISE for 2018. The pervasiveness of the internet has pushed the boundaries of the traditional ambit of Information Systems research. The papers in this issue thus tackle a range of problems in various spheres of our everyday life.

Research into cloud computing adoption features once more in this issue. The focus of the paper by Mezghani is on the SME sector, which in most countries have a critical role in the advancement of the economy. Mezghani's research takes a fresh look at adoption, by investigating the effects of *personal innovativeness* in respect of intentions to switch toward cloud ERP systems. The quantitative empirical evidence for this study is derived from Saudi Arabian SMEs. The findings are novel, in that it is demonstrated that personal innovativeness is found to significantly moderate the effects of the antecedent, rather than the effects of the determinants which have been more traditionally investigated in the extant literature.

There are several dimensions of the paper by Kolog, Montero and Tukiainen in this issue which makes it an interesting read and an important contribution. The paper reports on the development of *EmoTect* which is an intelligent e-counselling system for automatic detection of emotions and sentiments in text. The system is designed to assist school counsellors. The development of the system is based on a design science research paradigm, and the paper provides the results of the evaluation of the EmoTect classifier with positive results. The paper thus makes an important contribution to the IS evaluation literature as it demonstrates a model of evaluation prototypes from a participatory design process, using gold standard data from the users – in this case counsellors. Undoubtedly, the role of the system within schools is important, as the media have reported over several years the fickle mental state of learners, which impacts negatively on performance, and in some instances has even led to suicide. Moreover the potential for such a system, within the larger domain of the internetworld dominated by the big-data of social media, has future value too.

Okong'o and Kyobe introspect e-government in Kenya. Although e-Government is a well developed area in Information Systems research, a deeper understanding is required in developing country contexts. Although the International Telecommunications Union reports steady growth in internet penetration in developing nations, year on year, Governments in such environments are yet to fully harness broadband internet to improve service delivery. This paper identifies the dimensions of the public value of e-Government, and presents results of a survey of 340 Kenyan public service officers. The resultant e-Government public value model demonstrates the multi-faceted nature of the e-Government environment and as such has potential impact on policy development in the African continent in respect of the dimensions that comprise public value of e-Government. Finally the paper provides an understanding of the link between e-government value theory and the concept of public value.

The paper by Asmah, Ofoeda and Gyapong, investigates the electronic cheque-clearing system in Ghana. Whilst this may appear to be an aspect of banking that is well matured globally, the reality is that in some countries, the use of computerized information systems for cheque-clearing is a recent intervention. For example, Ghana only transitioned from traditional paper based cheque-clearing into the full electronic clearing in 2010. The paper therefore makes a welcome contribution to our understanding of Information Systems in a developing country context, given the reported failure of e-banking systems in countries such as Ghana to achieve the intended benefits. The importance of modeling a cheque-clearing system in Africa is important as the peculiarities of this continent's cultural and ICT adoption and usage norms must be taken into account.

Finally, on behalf of my colleagues on the EJISE Editorial board, I must record our sincere appreciations to the reviewers of the papers in this issue. Without their unstinting support, our commitment to independent assessment and review of the scientific endeavour cannot be upheld.

Yours in scholarship,

Shaun Pather

EJISE, Editor in Chief