



\*\*\*\*\* **NEW SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR MCIS 2016: JUNE 5** \*\*\*\*\*

**Please consider submitting a paper to the MCIS 2016 TRACK:**

### **VIRTUAL COLLABORATIONS FOR BUSINESS INNOVATION**

Information and communication technologies (ICTs) have provided unprecedented opportunities for collaboration across time and distance for individuals, groups and organizations alike. Enabled by technological capabilities, virtual teams and online groups emerged as a response to a highly competitive global business arena. With these, organizations are expected to capitalize on global expertise, cross-cultural collaboration, and time differences (Lee and Panteli, 2010), whilst providing opportunities for innovation and creativity (Shachaf, 2008; Chamakiotis *et al.*, 2013). Similarly, the use of social media, an IT innovation itself (Miranda, Kim & Summers, 2015), has been found to develop business opportunities for innovation (Ooms *et al.*, 2015). As a result, the track aims to shed light on these issues by addressing how the aforementioned, and other, virtual configurations enable collaborations and by extension creativity and innovation in a variety of contexts.

The track invites submission of empirical and conceptual papers that examine the use of ICTs for promoting virtual collaborations that emerge as a result of interactions within and beyond organizations. Topics that are explicitly orientated to the 2016 MCIS theme on '*Information Systems for fostering innovation and business opportunities*' are especially encouraged ([www.MCIS2016.eu](http://www.MCIS2016.eu)).

#### **Topics of interest include but are not limited to:**

Crowdsourcing

Crowdfunding

Social media

Online Communities

Digital technologies for innovation and creativity

Emergent forms of virtual organizations

Virtual (online) education (e.g. MOOCs)

Leadership for creativity and innovation online

Business Models and strategies for virtual organizations

Full research papers, work in progress and posters are accepted for the track.

References:

Chamakiotis, P., Dekoninck, E. A., & Panteli, N. (2013). Factors Influencing Creativity in Virtual Design Teams: An Interplay between Technology, Teams and Individuals. *Creativity and Innovation Management*, 22(3), 265-279.

Lee, J. Y., & Panteli, N. (2010). Business strategic conflict in computer-mediated communication. *European Journal of Information Systems*, 19(2), 196-208.

Miranda, S. M., Kim, I., & Summers, J. D. (2015). Jamming with social media: how cognitive structuring of organizing vision facets affects it innovation diffusion. *Mis Quarterly*, 39(3), 591-614.

Ooms, W., Bell, J., & Kok, R. A. (2015). Use of social media in inbound open innovation: Building capabilities for absorptive capacity. *Creativity and Innovation Management*, 24(1), 136-150.

Shachaf, P. (2008). Cultural diversity and information and communication technology impacts on global virtual teams: An exploratory study. *Information & Management*, 45(2), 131-142.

**Track Chairs: Niki Panteli, Petros Chamakiotis and Joyce Y. Lee**

**Track Chairs Biographies:**

**Dr Niki Panteli** is a Professor of Information Systems at Royal Holloway University of London. She has done extensive research in the field of virtuality, virtual teams and computer-mediated communication systems. Within this field, she studied issues of trust, identity, conflict and collaborations in virtual, geographically-dispersed environments. She served as the Chair of the IFIP - International Federation of Information Processing - W.G. 9.5 on Virtuality & Society (2006-2009) and organized international workshops and conferences on this topic. Her research has appeared in numerous management and Information Systems journals such as *Human Relations*, *Information Systems Journal*, *Communications of the ACM*, *Decision Support Systems*, *Information and Management* and *IEEE Transactions on Professional Communication* among others. She is the co-editor of 'Exploring the Nature of Virtuality' (Palgrave, 2008) and editor of 'Virtual Social Networks' (Palgrave, 2009).

**Dr Petros Chamakiotis** is a Lecturer in Information Systems in the School of Business, Management and Economics at the University of Sussex, UK, and the Secretary of the IFIP Working Group 9.5 on Virtuality & Society. His research interests include virtual

teams, leadership, creativity, connectivity, and work-life boundaries. Until recently, he worked on an EPSRC-funded project, entitled Digital Brain Switch (<http://digitalbrainswitch.org.uk>), exploring the implications of information and communication technologies (ICTs) for transitions across work-life boundaries. He earned his PhD from the University of Bath, UK, with the support of an EPSRC scholarship, and was previously with Royal Holloway and Birkbeck, both Colleges of the University of London, UK. Prior to becoming an academic, Petros worked in junior management positions in Madrid, Spain. He is fluent in English, Greek and Spanish, and has an intermediate knowledge of German and Portuguese.

**Dr Joyce Lee** is an Assistant Professor of Information Management at Yuan-Ze University, Taiwan. She holds a Ph.D. in Management from University of Bath, UK. Her current research interests include virtual alliances, online communication behavior and cross-cultural communication. Her work has been published in the European Journal of Information Systems, Engineering Management Journal and international conferences, such as the Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS), Pacific Asia Conference on Information Systems (PACIS) and International Sunbelt Social Network Conference. She also has wide-ranging experience in industry related to international business collaborations.