

Group Support Systems

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One of our objectives in coordinating this year's Group Support System (GSS) mini-track was to encourage a wide range of papers that touched on a variety of important issues. As in the past, we used a strong reviewing process -- all papers were sent to at least three, sometimes four, reviewers. Our reviewers included scholars, practitioners, and developers, social psychologists, computer scientists, and MIS'ers. Integrating reviews from such a diverse set of reviewers can prove challenging, yet produce a group of papers that can speak to many different interests and issues. This year, we have four papers that include both the development of new systems as well as the testing of theory. The authors of these papers can summarize their conclusions far more eloquently than we can, so we will not repeat their words.

Over the years, the GSS mini-track has included research from a broad range of perspectives. This year is no exception. HICSS has emerged as an important venue for the discussion, development, and refinement of research on the use of information technology to support group work. Many of the ideas and papers first presented and discussed here have found their way into major research journals, not to mention those projects first conceived in animated conversations outside the formal sessions. We hope you enjoy the papers and the discussions they generate.