Introduction to the 2012 Electronic Government Track

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As in previous years, so in 2011 the volume of e-Gov research has increased over the previous year in double digits (see http://tinyurl.com/p5w8sv). Also, the number of submissions to the HICSS-45 e-Government Track has again reached an all-time high this year. So, I repeat last year’s statement: E-Government research is thriving.

ISI-rated journals such as Elsevier’s GIQ, or also IOS’s highly reputed Information Polity continue to dedicate significant space to this study domain. Other journals such as Inderscience’s Electronic Government: An International Journal (EGaIJ), Emerald’s Transforming Government: Process, People, Policy (TGPPP), and IGI’s International Journal of Electronic Government Research (IJEGR) have increasingly been accepted as premier outlets for publishing e-Government-related research.

Over a decade, three annual conferences have established themselves as core conferences, which the global e-Government community preferably uses to convene: the International Digital Government Conference (dgo) in May of each year, the IFIP EGOV/ePart conference in late August/early September, and, of course, last but not least, the e-Government Track at HICSS in January. Just like HICSS on a larger scale, so also the e-Government Track has gained the reputation among members of the community for serving as a bellwether for important new developments in this maturing domain of study.

This year and for the sixth time, the e-Government Track is accompanied by a full-day symposium on “E-Government Research meets Practice.” The symposium has become a major event in the community’s ongoing discussion, particularly, with respect to new avenues of research and collaboration with practice.

This year, the e-Government Track has surpassed the next threshold with regard to the number of sessions: Due to the again higher number of submissions we now run sessions in parallel for a full day indicating the growing interest in both e-Government research and this track at HICSS.

In 2012, the e-Government Track proudly hosts a total of 48 (up from 41) accepted papers in ten minitracks with one or two sessions each:

**Development Methods for Electronic Government** focuses on the range of technical, organizational, and regulatory components involved in the practical development of electronic Government.

**Emerging Topics** nurtures new topics such as mobile Government, research methods in e-Gov research, e-Gov foundations, and others.

**E-Policy, e-Governance, Ethics, and Law** addresses how public policies and laws are related to the use and development of information and communication technologies both in government and in society at large.

**Insider Threat Modeling, Detection, And Mitigation** is a new minitrack that starts with two sessions upon launching. Organizations’, and particularly, governments’ vulnerability from within is the focus of this new minitrack.

**Interoperability and Cloud Infrastructures** focuses on the technical, organizational, and social underpinnings of vertical and horizontal integration of business processes and cloud computing in government.

**Open Government, Transparency, and Citizen Engagement** is a minitrack in its second year at HICSS highlighting research on this rapidly growing study area and straightaway attracted the highest number of submissions.

**Security and Critical Infrastructure** presents research focusing on the critical role of security and assurance to government operations, critical infrastructure, and citizens’ trust.

**Services and Information** showcases research dedicated to the rapidly developing field of electronic service in the public sector.

**Social Networking and Social Media** is another minitrack in its second year at HICSS, which studies the emergence of social media in the context of government

**Transformational Government: Strategy, Management, Organization, and Users** covers characteristics, development, implementation, and uses of information systems that support the full range of management and administrative functions.