Knowledge Management is continuously gaining importance in research and practice, since economically growth economies are more reliant on the contribution of knowledge intensive businesses. Various methodologies to identify, capture, model and simulate knowledge transfers within business processes have been elaborated. These methodologies comprehend both the technical as well as the organizational aspect of knowledge being transferred between employees of organizations and between organizations.

This minitrack aims to provide insight on the economics of knowledge transfers on a macro or micro level. The macro perspective shall be employed to determine the overall economic benefit of knowledge transfer initiatives supported by knowledge management systems and knowledge management strategies, while the micro perspective should reveal the economic impact of a higher level of granularity, e.g. processes.

The minitrack is offered at this HICSS for first time, three papers have passed the rigorous double blind peer-review.

The first paper, “Knowledge Creation and Financial Firm Performance: Mediating Processes from an Organizational Agility Perspective,” by Ting-ting (Rachel) Chung, Chih-Hung Peng, Deng-Neng Chen and Ting-Peng Liang, examines the role of organization agility as a mediator between knowledge creation processes and financial firm performance and presents the results of a survey study conducted in 134 firms.

The second paper, “Matching up the gap between perceived importance and knowledge for IT skills among Australian accountants,” by Pranish Rai, presents the results of survey involving 165 accountants. The results of this survey confirm that accountants know, in general, how to use the communication software and spreadsheets. However, their knowledge of systems development and programming tools is rather limited.

The third paper, “Issues for Knowledge Acquisition, Transfer and Management in Regional Knowledge Economy Development,” by Eileen Trauth, examines which factors contribute to success of a regional knowledge economy, measured by the ability to attract and retain companies, the dissemination and application of knowledge, and the provision of services that support the knowledge workers.

Overall, the three contributions provide a first insight into the economics of knowledge management. The minitrack chairs are confident that this scheme will become established, attracting an increasing amount of contributions in the future HICSS conferences.