Introduction to the Minitrack on Life in the Fast Lane: The Intersection of Mobile Computing and the IS Workforce

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This minitrack covers issues relating to the places where people and technology meet, that may be examined from an organizational, managerial, psychological, social, political, or cultural perspective. This minitrack seeks innovative research regarding emerging issues facing IS professionals—(i.e., leaders at the IS project level, CIO level, line staff or external professional service providers)—such as the impact of cloud computing, social networking technologies, mobile technologies, and BYOD/consumerization, as well as how these affect the management of human computing resources. This minitrack welcomes papers that perform analysis at the industry, workgroup or department, and individual level. Studies developing or extending theory on issues such as the diversity and professional identity of the computing workforce, to the behavioral, technical and managerial implications of mobile computing are examples of the type of papers seen in this minitrack. This minitrack also welcomes papers which offer insights into the training and professional development of current and future generations of IS professionals. This minitrack will welcome all methodologies and research paradigms as well as best practices/lessons learned that focus on the intersection of people and technology.

This minitrack encompasses a plethora of different issues, with special accent on the following topics:

- IT mobile workers
- HRIS / HRMS
- IT team diversity and performance
- IT professional soft skills
- Mentoring in the IT work environment
- Gender research and IT professionals
- IT professional career paths
- Career Development Practices for Computing Professionals
- Attracting Students to the Computing Professions
- Diversity in the Computing Pipeline

• Retention of IT professionals
• Needs, Interests and Abilities of Computing Professionals
• Individual Fit / Alignment with the Work Environment
• Behavioral Aspects of HCI
• Communication / Interaction (individuals, groups, networks, organizations)
• Work-life Balance (Imbalance) in IT
• Training and certifications

From this year’s submissions, three outstanding papers have been selected for conference presentation. The first paper is "Speeding Up the Theoretical Progress of Understanding Crowdsourcing Phenomena and Fostering the Adaption of the Global Workforce to Enterprises: A Framework to Guide Future Crowdsourcing Research", written by Ricardo Buettner, reviews all of the ‘substantial’ scientific crowdsourcing work from an HRM perspective. The second paper entitled “Leveraging Consumer Technologies: Exploring Determinants of Smartphone use Behaviors in the Workplace”, written by Michelle Carter and Stacie Petter, evaluates the relationships between factors posited to influence the use of consumer technologies in the workplace and investigates the actual behaviors of individuals using personal smartphones for work purposes.

The third paper, entitled “Viewing Turnover through a Wide-Angle Lens: Conceptualizing Locality Turnover” written by Jamie Windeler, Jo Ellen Moore, and Cindy Riemenschneider conducts a field study of 244 workers and examines the effect of organizational embeddedness and community embeddedness on intention to leave a locality.

Collectively, these papers paint a picture of the intersection of people, process, and
technology to address questions of who we are and where do we belong as IT professionals.

The Minitrack Chairs would like to thank the authors for submitting their work to this minitrack, and thank the reviewers for their constructive feedback on the manuscripts. We hope that you appreciate the engaging presentations and papers at the conference.