Crowdfunding and the “Wisdom of the Crowds”

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Abstract
Crowdfunding research thus far has largely examined its link to entrepreneurship, despite the phenomenon’s digital nature. This mini-track calls for papers that delve into the digital, or information systems, involved in crowdfunding.

1. Introduction

The advent of crowdfunding has given scholars new reams of data from which to explore entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial finance, with recent research looking at motivations for investment [1], [2], how entrepreneurs choose their financing partners [3], the relationship between crowdfunding and other forms of funding [4], [5], as well as through the lens of signaling theory [6] (Moss et al. 2014).

The chief focus thus far has, indeed, been on the link between crowdfunding and entrepreneurship [7], [8]. However, the phenomenon is a digital one; one that is well within the realm of established information systems research, broadly defined (see, e.g., Walsham 2012). The underlying dynamics that govern the phenomenon, and the implications of these dynamics for information systems and society deserve further exploration.

This track is a forum for discussion around the emergence of crowdfunding and its social and technical implications. Submissions therefore cover topics that include, but are not limited to:
- Is there evidence of the “wisdom of the crowds”?
- If so, what is technology’s role enabling or constraining it?
- The digital generativity of crowdfunding platforms;
- Digitally mediated trust-building in crowdfunding platforms;
- Cultural differences in crowdfunding adoption;
- The anticipated and unanticipated implications of crowdfunding for entrepreneurs;
- The anticipated and unanticipated implications of crowdfunding for existing institutions.

2. References:


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