Special Edition Editor’s Note

Institute of Information Technology Professionals Conference 2013 Proceedings (IITP 2013)

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This volume represents a collaboration between CITRENZ and IITP, to produce an edited set of the proceedings for the academic papers from the IITP 2013 Conference. The conference, held in Tauranga on 23-25 October, saw academic and industry practitioners from the professional institute coming together to share insights and experiences. This special edition is a joint publication of the Journal of Applied Computing and Information Technology (produced by CITRENZ) and the New Zealand Journal of Computing, (produced by the former New Zealand Computer Society and now Institute of Information Technology Professionals). Each of the papers in this special edition has undergone a process of double blind review, by at least two reviewers, and subsequent revision prior to publication.

The volume includes a selection of six papers with a focus on Computing and Information Technology related topics of relevance to New Zealand IT Professionals and educators.

The first article entitled "The Impact of the iPad on the Paperless Office: Implications for Higher Education Institutes" discusses the use of tablet technology with a view to creating a paperless office, which was first described over 40 years ago. The authors review this concept and forecast the fate of the paperless office.

The second article entitled "Building community of local food market through mobile technologies - LOKeT" describes the development of an app to connect local agriculture and horticulture suppliers with consumers. Although the setting for this app is Slovenia it has applications in many countries including the growing popularity of locally produced sustainable food markets in New Zealand.

The third article which bears the title "Using Enterprise Systems to Enhance Organisation Agility" discusses the importance of agile thinking in business and how Enterprise Systems enable knowledge-based processes in critical functional areas to improve organizational agility. The author presents three case studies which evaluate whether an Enterprise System improves an organization’s operational efficiencies and creates competitive advantages by enabling agile practices.
In the fourth article, "Management Models in the New Zealand Software Industry" the authors interviewed eight innovative New Zealand software companies to find out how they manage new product development. The research looked at how management used standard techniques of software development to manage product uncertainty through the theoretical lens of the Cyclic Innovation Model.

The fifth article, "MOOC's as a Disruptive Force in Online Education" offers a comprehensive description of MOOCs and discusses key disruptive and challenging aspects of MOOC-based education such as university/student disengagement, low completion rates, peer assessment and business models.

The final article "Technology Assisted Education: An Overview of Success Factors" proposes that technology alone cannot deliver successful learning outcomes, there are many other factors involved. It reviews the effectiveness of a model for evaluating eLearning initiatives and concludes with the results of an evaluation of a cross institution assessment of the educational gains achieved in web based learning.

We thank the authors for their forbearance in working with us, as this issue took longer to bring to fruition than we might have wished, and take pleasure in bringing you this special issue. We hope that you will find the selection of papers informative, topical and relevant.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the CITRENZ editorial team, and express our appreciation to the reviewers for this special issue.

Stephen Corich, EIT, New Zealand
Stanley Frielick, AUT University, New Zealand
John Graves, AUT University, New Zealand
Waqar Hussain, AUT University, New Zealand
Chris McPhery, CPIT, New Zealand
John McPhee, CPIT, New Zealand
Simon, University of Newcastle, Australia
Harminder Singh, AUT University, New Zealand
David Weir, CPIT, New Zealand

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Journal of Applied Computing and Information Technology (JACIT): ISSN 2230-4398
(Incorporating the Bulletin of Applied Computing and Information Technology, NACCQ: ISSN 1176-4120 and
Journal of Applied Computing and Information Technology, NACCQ: ISSN 1174-0175)
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