Panel

Innovation in Healthcare: A Global Perspective

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Panel Outline
This panel focuses on how technological innovations are transforming the healthcare industry in various settings around the world. With some exceptions, in most countries, the healthcare industry is faced with a myriad number of challenges. Among them are rising costs due to an aging population and growth in chronic diseases; inefficient systems for providing information to healthcare providers and patients; and an overall lack of quality
care. Technology is viewed as a positive catalyst for changing the current healthcare system into an environment in which patients, caregivers, and other healthcare institutions can all have access to relevant information and communicate in an efficient manner to resolve medical problems. This panel will showcase some of the key issues associated with incorporating technology in various healthcare settings around the world including scenarios in Australia, China, parts of Europe and North America as well as suggest further research topics which can be explored in the healthcare arena and highlight critical issues which should form the priority for healthcare delivery globally. There will be five panellists:

- Nina Ziv is Industry Professor of Technology Management at Polytechnic Institute of New York University. She has done extensive research on the challenges facing managers as they seek to incorporate technological innovations into their businesses. Her research interests include the adoption and diffusion of technologies such as wireless devices and social networks in corporate and healthcare environments. She is widely published in journals and books. The focus of this presentation will be on the managerial challenges facing healthcare practitioners who are implementing technological innovations into their organizations and institutions in the United States. These issues include the lack of standardization and interoperability of technologies; a culture in the healthcare industry which has been largely adverse to adoption of innovations; an enormous number of stakeholders, each with their own agenda; and concerns about privacy and security of healthcare data. A study about the adoption and diffusion of wireless healthcare devices in a healthcare setting will be discussed as a case in point.

- Elaine Lawrence is the Head of the School of Computing and Communications in the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology at UTS in Australia. She is the director of the Mobile Health laboratory and has been working on the use of wireless sensor networks (WSNs) integrated with mobile devices for remote healthcare monitoring systems to improve the quality of life of the elderly, the chronically unwell and infirm whether they are living in their own homes or in aged care facilities. The focus of this presentation will be the opportunities and challenges of working with WSNs (including those using Crossbow Motes and SunSpots) as well the numerous mobile devices to which they must be attached. A Case study on the design of a user friendly interface for such a system will be presented.

- Wilfred Huang has been a faculty of Alfred University since 1983. Wil is the George G. Raymond Chair in Family Business and Professor of Management Information Systems at Alfred University. He is the director of Confucius Institute at Alfred University. His research interests include e-business and entrepreneurship. He has numerous publications in both fields, and is associate editors and guest editors of several journals. Wil is also the co-chair of the Wuhan International Conference on e-Business.

- Juergen Seitz received his diploma in business administration and business information systems from the University of Cooperative Education Stuttgart, nowadays, Baden-Wuerttemberg Cooperative State University Stuttgart, Germany, and in economics from the University of Stuttgart-Hohenheim. He received his Ph.D. from Viadrina European University, Frankfurt (Oder), Germany. He is professor for business information systems and finance, and head of the business information systems department at Baden-Wuerttemberg Cooperative State University Heiden-heim, Germany.

- Nilmini Wickramasinghe is the Professor of Information Management and Library Science at the school of Business IT and Logistics at RMIT. She is well published with over 100 peer reviewed journal publications, 10 books and an encyclopaedia. She is recognised internationally as an authority regarding using technology to effect superior healthcare delivery. Dr Wickramasinghe regularly presents her work throughout North America, Europe and Australasia.