PUBLISHING RESEARCH OF HIGH QUALITY IN JOURNALS OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS: TECHNIQUES AND TIPS

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Educators in information systems are challenged frequently by the difficulty that students may have in completing a bona fide research study. Students may not be creative or critical enough in forming a foundation for a research study. They may be dependent on merely periodical practitioner research as a foundation for study. They may lack a disciplined method for researching a Big Idea, or ideas of originality in information systems, which might be contributory to the field if not publishable in higher tier conference proceedings and journals. The tutorial is proposed as an aid to students and to educators instructing in the practice and the theory of research and is based on a Research Project Seminar begun by the presenter for graduate students, but relevant to undergraduate students, at a leading northeast school of computer science and information systems.

The focus of the tutorial is to furnish an easy-to-follow method for guiding students in doing research in the field of information systems. The tutorial begins with an exploration of ideas for formulating a research study in information systems. The tutorial highlights elements of importance in the abstract, background, introduction, focus of study, methodology – instrument of survey, analysis and discussion of data, implications, limitations and opportunities, conclusion, and references of a study – the essential skeletal structure of a study. It highlights the importance of readability of a research study. The relevancy of contemporary practitioner research and prior scholarly research sources in a descriptive, exploratory or predictive study is a further focus of the presentation. The tutorial concludes with methods for profiling conferences and journals and for publishing papers of improved research in an evolving mix and sequence of Tier III to Tier I conference proceedings and journals.

The benefits of the tutorial are for graduate students and undergraduate students considering the design of a bona fide research study that can contribute effectively to the field of information systems. The tutorial furnishes a disciplined but evolving method for increasing the confidence of students in initiating a research study that is potentially publishable, from research abstract and research-in-progress study to full research study, in high Tier conference proceedings and peer reviewed journals. The integration of foundational models of prior research of scholars in the field of information systems may benefit researcher students. The benefits of the tutorial are also for instructors educating students on the practice and the theory of research and helping as mentors in the preparation of a publishable research study. Throughout the tutorial, the presenter, as an associate editor and a frequent reviewer of papers for a number of leading publications in information systems, will share insight for students submitting potentially publishable research to Tier III to Tier I proceedings and journals of information systems. In summary, this tutorial will be beneficial to both students and instructors in formulating a methodology for plausibly publishing research of quality and of significance of solutions in the study of information systems and technologies – the WOW!