

Call for Papers

Special Issue on the Kleinian Approach to Information System Research

European Journal of Information Systems

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This special issue is dedicated to the memory of Heinz K. Klein. We believe one of the best ways to remember him is to collect and publish high quality papers that define, re-define or deconstruct what we call a “Kleinian view of information systems”. This viewpoint is epitomized in his work (as explained below), along with that of many of his colleagues. In the spirit of Klein’s work, we welcome papers that take a critical, argumentative or even a confrontational approach to this particular view of information systems. From a perspective of social constructivism, the diversity in the profession and the discipline means that there will be diverse interpretations of the underlying phenomena that are information systems. Likewise, we hope and expect that there will be diverse approaches to Klein’s work represented in this special issue.

Scope

This special issue seeks to collect and publish the most current and highest quality research studies that explore and engage with a “Kleinian view of information systems.” We describe a Kleinian view as post-functionalist, axiologist, emergent, semantical, and Hellenic,

- A post-functionalist view of an information system is one for which the delivery of information is a secondary aspect; rather, the main focus is one that sees an information system as a vehicle for changing the organizational relationships between people (Klein 1984; 1994; 1995; 2000).
- An axiological information system is one that normatively creates a corresponding system of ethics, one that is masked by the technical-economic imperative (Klein 1984; 1994; 1995; 2000).
- An emergent information system is one that evolves as an organic adaptation to the social and political constraints of an organization (Klein 1999b).
- A semantical information system is one in which meaning dominates the structure of any communication; this meaning carries with it a world view (Klein 1999b).
- An Hellenic information system is one in which information technology delivers democracy through enlightenment (Klein 1994; 1995).

Research into Kleinian systems usually adopts an approach that is constructivist, ideographic, aimed at sense-making, socially situated (Klein 1999a), critical (Klein 2008), and often delivered as a consequentialist narrative (Klein 1999a).

Aim

Through this special issue, we aim to better define, refine, defend and criticize what we call a “Kleinian view of information systems.” We also aim to better delineate a genre of research studies that have adopted and engaged with this viewpoint.

The special issue editors will consider papers with a wide variety of approaches to the topic, including empirical research, theoretical essays, analytical studies of literature, practice commentaries, etc.

Due Dates and Submission Instructions

Papers may be submitted to the special issue anytime before February 1, 2010. Submit using the EJIS online paper submission system at

<http://ejis.msubmit.net/cgi-bin/main.plex>

(Select the Kleinian Special Issue during submission.)

Follow the EJIS formatting guidelines at

http://www.palgrave-journals.com/ejis/author_instructions.html

N.B. Papers should be no longer than 8000 words.

Special Issue Editors

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