



The first article of the eleventh volume of the South African Journal of Information Management opens discussion with a report on how to increase or rather improve the value of knowledge workers in a large enterprise. This article by Steyn and Du Toit (*Maximising the value of knowledge workers*) focuses on the role of knowledge workers, as established via an empirical survey to determine the role and contribution of knowledge workers to the objectives of a South African technology-oriented company. A high percentage of respondents indicated a positive relationship between a worker's position on the organisational hierarchy and the opportunities for the worker to make knowledge contributions. It was found that, in general, the surveyed enterprise was not really geared to any future knowledge demand and that the knowledge workers were sensitive to this shortcoming.

Questions of technological inclusion and exclusion in sub-Saharan Africa via an analysis of the South African governmental discourse on indigenous knowledge systems (IKS) are being asked in the article by Lotriet, Mathee and Mazanderani. In their article entitled *Selective exclusion: the digital divide in the context of indigenous knowledge systems in South Africa* the authors first discuss the gap separating individuals who have access to new technology, and thus to knowledge and specifically indigenous knowledge, and those who do not have access. As the aim of the research was to analyse government discourse pertaining to IKS in the context of the digital divide, a search was carried out on the official repository of South African government speeches by senior figures in the Department of Science and Technology. The speeches were delivered to diverse audiences, ranging from South African government representatives and African peers to international bodies and diverse IKS holders and practitioners. The analysis conducted on the South African governmental discourse on IKS revealed a much more complex relationship with ICT in the context of development than is often assumed.

'Electronic records management has become an essential business activity and an element of compliance with regulation in many countries', is the opening argument of Kyobe, Molai and Salie in their article *Investigating electronic records management and compliance with regulatory requirements in a South African university*. To prove this statement their investigation questioned the extent to which academics and students at a leading university in South Africa managed electronic records in accordance with good practices and regulatory requirements. Literature on electronic records management (ERM) and regulatory compliance was analysed to create a framework for effective records management. A survey was then conducted to test this framework with mainly academic staff and students of various faculties. The results revealed several incidents of poor records management and lack of compliance with regulations. Many academics and students were unaware of legislative requirements and penalties. Read more about the respondents' lack of good file management, for example not backing up or archiving records regularly as there were no standard procedures to be followed.

The last article, *Effect of online social networking on employee productivity* covers a very important issue in the social networking environment, namely that of the impact of online networking on employee productivity. In their contribution, Ferreira and Du Plessis explain that the effect of online social networking (OSN) on employee productivity has not received much scholarly attention. Most likely the reason lies in the social nature of social networking sites and OSN, which is assumed to have a negative effect on employee productivity and not

bear organisational benefit. The authors consequently investigated recent Internet developments as seen in the social Web and specifically investigated the effect of OSN on employee productivity and what some of the consequences would be if employees were allowed unrestricted access to these networks. In their article the authors indicate how social networks can be used to increase collaboration between individuals who share a common interest or goal. Therefore, increased collaboration will stimulate knowledge sharing between individuals with the possible effect of increased productivity. However, the risks associated with OSN should be noted, such as loss of privacy, bandwidth and storage consumption, exposure to malware and lower employee productivity.

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Scientific Editor

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