

What is it like to do an Information Systems PhD in Europe? Diversity in the practice of IS research

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Description of panel

It is widely acknowledged that there is considerable diversity in the process of doing a PhD, especially in Europe where there are many different national models (Avgerou *et al.* 1996) for PhD programmes. The aim of this panel is to explore the diversity of PhD experiences in Europe, from the perspective of the PhD students themselves. The panel will therefore consist of presentations from a number of current or recently completed PhD students who will reflect on a series of questions designed to highlight the differences and commonalities in their experiences.

Format of the presentation

The panel will discuss a series of questions relating to the PhD experience including:

- What kind of timescales are involved in completing the PhD?
- Are PhD students expected to teach whilst completing their PhD?
- Are they expected to publish during their PhD?
- Do they choose their own topic or is it allocated to them by their supervisor?
- What is the course workload?
- What career opportunities does having a PhD open up?
- What is the format of the PhD examination?

Each presenter will focus on a question that is particularly pertinent to their own experience of doing a PhD with the other panellists then offering their contrasting experiences. There will also be an opportunity for further contributions from the audience and further questions to the panellists.

Deliverables

The panel audience can expect to take away two things from this panel: first an appreciation of the various different ways in which PhD programmes are organised in Europe. In addition to providing basic information about different national practices, it will also provide an opportunity for the sharing of best practice ideas across institutions and countries. Secondly, the audience will have an increased appreciation of just how diverse practices are.

Panelists

Sandra Sieber, Professor, IESE, Spain (Panel chair) (sieber@iese.edu)

Cristina Cáliz, IESE, Spain (ccaliz@iese.edu)

Mary Darking, London School of Economics and Political Science, United Kingdom (m.l.darking@lse.ac.uk)

Chiara Frigerio, Catholic University, Italy (chiara.frigerio@mi.unicatt.it)

Edoardo Iacucci, University of Oslo, Norway (edoardo@ifi.uio.no)

Anna Nöteberg, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands (noteberg@fee.uva.nl)

References

Avgerou C, Land F, Lyytinen K, Krcmar H, Roode D and Bartoli J-A (1996) Panel: How does PhD research in information systems differ across countries? In *Proceedings of the Fourth European Conference on Information Systems* (Coelho J D, Jelassi T, König W, Krcmar H, O'Callaghan R and Sääksjärvi M eds.) 1359, Lisbon, Portugal.