

Number	T - 26		
Name	Philosophy and Methods		
Co-Chairs			
	Allen S. Lee Virginia Commonwealth University	Suprateek Sarker University of Virginia	Chee-Wee Tan (primary contact) Copenhagen Business School
	http://www.people.vcu.edu/~aslee/VCU/index.html	https://www.commerce.virginia.edu/faculty/suprateek-sarker	http://www.cbs.dk/en/staff/ctaitm
Descriptor	<p>Philosophy is reflection that deliberately and rigorously examines what has been accepted as given. Philosophy requires a researcher of information systems to pause his or her research efforts in order to question, for instance, what constitutes "research", what constitutes "information", and what constitutes "systems", and then to open oneself up to whatever difference the questioning will make when one resumes research on information systems. Philosophy requires the information-systems research community to eventually research itself and its own intellectual and historical context, where the community's ineffectiveness in doing this would foreshadow the community's ineffectiveness in researching information systems.</p> <p>Such philosophy also sets the stage for the specific ways - the methods - that we follow in order to build and test theory when we do our research. Methods can be revealed as inadequate and even incorrect when illuminated under the light of philosophy, just as philosophy can reveal what methods may, should, and might better do. As such, methodological research - research on methods - best entails a philosophical perspective.</p> <p>The <i>Philosophy and Methods Track</i> prefers submissions that regard philosophy and methods in the ways just delimited. Purely empirical papers, not driven by philosophical and methodological reflection, are not suitable for this track, but empirical material is always welcome as a part of a paper for illustrating the paper's larger philosophical and methodological examinations.</p> <p>Should authors feel unsure about whether to submit their methods-related paper to the <i>Theory and Theorizing Track</i> (T01) or the <i>Philosophy and Methods Track</i> (T26), please contact the track chairs prior to submission.</p> <p>Topics of interest for the <i>Philosophy and Methods Track</i> include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Have the philosophical foundations and methodological practices of IS research evolved over time? ▪ How do philosophical foundations inform methodological practices within IS research? ▪ What is the maturity of IS research as a reference discipline for theories and methods? ▪ How can we define evaluative criteria for determining the contribution of IS research? ▪ How can we strike a balance between rigor and relevance in IS research? ▪ Is there room for phenomenon-driven research within the IS discipline? ▪ What is the nature and role of theories in IS research? ▪ What are the constituent components of a native IS theory? ▪ How should we go about developing native IS theories? ▪ What does it mean to theorize within IS research and how can we improve the process of 		

	<p>theorizing?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ What are the philosophical and methodological impacts of emerging paradigms in IS research (e.g., critical realism, design science, engaged scholarship and pluralism)?▪ What are predominant methodological trends in IS research and how do these trends influence theory development?▪ What is the purpose of theory in IS research?▪ What is the purpose of data in IS research?
Track Associate Editors	List of Track Associate Editors