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Knowledge Management Education: Five Ws and One H

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Abstract

This panel will discuss key aspects of knowledge management (KM) education in response to challenges posed by the necessity to improve KM as a discipline and an established professional field. Through panelists' thought-provoking presentations and interactions with the audience, the discussion will address KM education from the starting why, what, who, where and when perspectives to the end result and understanding of how to approach KM education in the future.

Keywords: knowledge management (KM); KM education; KM skills and competencies; panel;

1. Introduction

As a still emerging field of study, knowledge management (KM) is faced with many challenges. Two especially significant evolving issues are associated with education for KM. These concern people's perceptions of KM and the ways in which KM offerings are placed in education [1]. Responding to the challenge of advancing the state of the art

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by creating a shared understanding of the KM concept and its place in education, this IAKM panel (iakm.net) will address both people's perceptions and present several academic perspectives on a series of key questions concerning KM education.

2. Format

The panel format is designed as follows. Firstly, the moderator will give a brief introduction of panelists and discussion guidelines (5 min.). Next, panelists will present their positions on five "W" questions (why, what, who, where, when) of KM education (5 min. each). Then, the audience will be encouraged to participate in the questions and answers session ending with a summary vision of the ultimate "H" (how) to KM education (30 min.).

3. Topics

As previously mentioned, the panel discussion is organized around five descriptive questions about KM education, termed why, what, who, where and when, followed by a single procedural question – how? A brief description of the topics covered by each panelist is provided below.

- Why: Presenter1 will remind us of the environmental forces driving KM education [2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9].
- What: Presenter2 will emphasize the multiplicity of the required KM competencies due to its interdisciplinary nature.
- Who: Presenter3 will point to a variety of potential actors and roles having different knowledge needs within KM.
- Where: Presenter4 will identify university programs worldwide where KM is taught as an academic discipline.
- When: Presenter5 will discuss KM teaching in the different stages of a person's education, and will particularly argue the need for teaching personal KM quite early through the school system [10,11].

From the summary of panelists' ideas and their further exploration through interaction with the audience, it is expected that the discussion will result in the development of a common vision on how to approach KM education in the future.

- How: The summary of participants' common vision on how to approach KM education in the future (to be reported later on)

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