

> Tuesday, May 31st, 2022

14:00 - 15:30

MIS

**RESEARCH
SEMINAR**



EMPOWERING CHANGEMAKERS FOR A BETTER SOCIETY

‘INFORMATION SYSTEMS AS A NEXUS OF IT SYSTEMS’ BY RICHARD BASKERVILLE, GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY

ABSTRACT



The concepts of information systems and information technology are overlapping in a way that creates issues for researchers. Usefully distinguishing between the concepts is problematic. The author reports on an investigation of the use of the systems concept in practice. This research finds a pragmatic distinction between an information system (IS) and an information technology system (IT system). In a practice view, an IS incorporates an emphasis on both a technical and a social subsystem, while an IT system predominantly emphasizes the technical elements. This distinction becomes useful in practice because contemporary IS practitioners are often involved in acquiring and integrating IT systems into an organizational IS. This involvement leads to a viewpoint on the organizational IS (including the social subsystem) as a nexus of multiple IT systems. This nexus creates issues in practice for not only integrating IT systems into the organizational IS, but also integrating multiple IT systems with each other in the context of the organizational IS. These issues lead to research opportunities such as the need for new methodologies for IT system acquisitions and new theories that accommodate the social integration of IT systems and IS.