

## **Journals, Conferences, and Funding Sources for Management Information Systems (MIS) Researchers and Educators: A Resource Guide**

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### **Disclaimer:**

This document summarizes my (biased) review and assessment of high-quality journals and conferences that are of relevance to researchers and educators in Management Information Systems. In addition, I also provide pointers for potential federal funding sources. It is intended as a resource guide to my graduate students and some junior colleagues.

Due to my personal academic experience, the review is more system (technology) oriented (or biased). However, as an associate editor of four major refereed journals, a full professor at a top-5 MIS program for 14 years, a founding director of two research centers, and a principal investigator (PI) of more than 15 NSF and NIH grants (totaling more than \$15M), I hope this resource guide provides useful pointers.

### **Journals: A-level, Broad Coverage**

The following “pure” MIS journals are generally of high quality and are considered A-level. However, they tend to be more behaviorally oriented:

- Information Systems Research (ISR)
- Management Information Systems Quarterly (MISQ)

After the above two journals, the following journals, though not as highly regarded, are also of high quality (maybe A minus, instead of A) and are comprehensive in MIS coverage:

- Decision Support Systems (DSS)
- Decision Sciences
- Journal of Management Information Systems (JMIS)

There are many other major journals, sponsored by other major professional societies, which also publish relevant MIS papers. The list below is considered A-level:

- Communications of the ACM (CACM)
- Journal of the ACM (JACM)
- IEEE Computer
- Management Science
- Academy of Management Journal

### **Journals: A-level, Topic-Specific**

Most journals or transactions published by major professional societies are of high quality (i.e., A-level), but they tend to focus on some specific MIS or IT topics, for example:

- ACM Transactions on Information Systems (ACM TOIS)
- IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering (IEEE KDE)
- IEEE Transactions on Systems, Man, and Cybernetics (IEEE SMC)
- IEEE Intelligent Systems
- Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology (JASIST)

The ACM and IEEE Computer Society transactions are generally of high quality, especially those with a longer history.

Several international journals also publish significant MIS works, especially in the areas of human-computer interactions and information retrieval. The following is considered as A minus.

- International Journal of Human-Computer Studies (IJHCS, formerly known as International Journal of Man-Machine Studies, IJMMS)
- Information Processing and Management (IPM)

## **Conferences: MIS, Broad Coverage**

The following conferences are considered “mainstream” MIS. ICIS is A-level; while HICSS is A minus.

- International Conference in Information Systems (ICIS)
- Hawaii International Conference on Systems Sciences (HICSS)

## **Conferences: Topic-Specific**

The following conferences are generally sponsored by other major computing societies. They are of high quality and often attract relevant and high-powered researchers:

- IEEE International Conference on Data Mining (ICDM)
- ACM/IEEE Joint Conference on Digital Libraries (JCDL)
- National Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)
- International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI)
- International Conference of Very Large Data Bases (VLDB)
- World Wide Web Conference (WWW)

## **Funding Programs: Commercial, NSF, NIH, DARPA, and NIJ**

In general, commercial companies are good sources of funding for equipment and software. In particular, the following companies have a long history of working with MIS departments:

- Hewlett-Packard, IBM, Sun, Oracle, SGI, SAP, Microsoft

Companies are typically more interested in recruiting top graduates than in providing research funding. Commercial company funding is mostly between \$10,000 and \$100,000.

National Science Foundation (NSF) is the most likely place for major MIS funding. NSF funding is generally between \$100K and \$5M. However, the success rate is low (5-10%) and you need to approach the right program(s) (under NSF/CISE/IIS, check [www.nsf.gov](http://www.nsf.gov)), such as:

- Digital Society and Technologies (DST)

- Human Computer Interaction (HCI)
- Information and Data Management (IDM)
- Special Projects (Digital Libraries)
- Information Technology Research (ITR)

In addition, National Library of Medicine (NLM) Extramural Program, under National Institutes of Health, also supports major biomedical informatics research. National Institute of Justice (NIJ) supports technology research of relevance to law enforcement and security. Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) ITO, ISO, and IAO Offices also support major information technology projects of relevance to Internet, security, and defense.

Know your program and program manager before you submit any proposal. Do your homework! Never send a “cold” proposal.