



ISM SEMINAR SERIES

Summer Term 2013

Speaker: Professor Paul Carlile, School of Management, Boston University
Title: A history of accumulating interests: Fuelling the fire of information system emergence
Date: Tuesday 07 May 2013
Venue: B1.19, WBS Scarman Road
Time: 14.00

Abstract: What drives information emergence? To answer this question, we developed a 220 year history of the US patent system. Conceptually we combined insights from the fields of science and technology studies (STS) and library and information sciences (LIS) to then empirically track the historical accumulation of information as both thing and interest to explain what drives emergence. Outlining this dual nature of information allows us to specify an accumulation mechanism that explains the following branching layers of information system emergence: storage, classification, search and analytics. This accumulation model provides a more grounded mechanism to explain the origins and the contested nature of information systems emergence than more general, evolutionary arguments that are currently used.

Biography: Paul R Carlile is an Associate Professor of Management and Information Systems at Boston University's School of Management. A primary focus in Paul's work has been to understand the challenges and solutions to moving knowledge across specialized domains. His work has been published in *Administrative Science Quarterly*, *Harvard Business Review*, *Management Science*, *Organization Science* and several other journals.

Paul received his PhD in Organization Studies at the University of Michigan; his MA in Organizational Behaviour and BA in Anthropology and Philosophy at Brigham Young University.

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