Collaboration between academics and XBRL practitioners – a success story
Opportunities

- XBRL Global Ledger has great potential in terms of research and collaboration opportunities, still only partially tapped.
- The “paradigm shift” that XBRL GL enables appeals both to academics and to students.
- Opportunities are both in research and in direct collaboration on specific projects with the appropriate characteristics.
Opportunities

- Traditional business education typically presents information systems as a "bolt on" rather than a deeply embedded framework.
- XBRL and XBRL GL in particular has the potential to be as revolutionary in business academia as it is in the corporate world.
Challenges

- Students are enthusiastic but find it challenging to integrate the two complex domains of XML/XBRL and accounting into their thinking
- Accounting education generally focuses more on external reporting
- Lack of XBRL GL practitioners with whom academia can collaborate
Challenges

- Lack of GL focused academics
- Accounting education programs tend to serve public accounting firms
- Compliance-minded bias
- Stress on external mandates and tendency to overlook accounting technologies that may increase efficiencies (including mandated reporting) manifold
Focus on the use of XBRL within the firewall, with compliance only as a natural consequence

Wanted: eAccountant

Professors Kathie Wright and George Summers

Incorporation of XBRL GL both into IS and accounting courses

Research and awareness in the local business community
Collaboration for building XBRL GL into both Accounting and IS classes started more than one year ago

- Materials and group projects
- Interested students became IPHIX interns
- Interns regularly present about the projects they worked on in Kathie and George’s classes
Current Projects

- DEXT – Deeply Embedded XBRL Toolkit (www.dext.iphix.net)
  - WikiAccounts
  - XBRL Convergence
  - Focus on reporting, internal and external
  - Students projects: creation and use of content – SCOAs, mappings

- Project Nunavut
  - Using Google to search and browse corporate data
  - Focus on internal data accessibility
  - Students mainly active in software development
Upcoming Project Opportunities

- DEXT
  - WikiLogics
  - XBRL Gears
  - Focus on standardized business rules/controls
  - Students projects: creation and use of content

- Software development projects: mobile apps
XBRL GL is about empowering businesses to truly “own” their data, as opposed to software vendors owning their data.

One of the conditions to raise awareness and enable adoption is the availability of free “content” and resources.

This creates unique opportunities for collaboration with academics and their students for hands-on learning.
Questions

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