

24th XBRL International Conference

"Transparency: with Available, Reliable, Comparable and Re-usable Data"

March 20-22, 2012 Abu Dhabi, UAE

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

IPHIX and Salisbury/Perdue



- 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

Current Initiatives

- 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 their 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

Highlights

- 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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