



Abstract

Risks and Strategies for Managing Information Technology in a Changing Environment

Research in Progress

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The purpose of this research is to identify the major risks confronting senior information systems executives in their leadership roles. The second objective is to describe strategies which have been devised by effective IS executives to anticipate and manage these risks. The research project will involve four phases, including: (1) Conducting an assessment to identify four different environments for IS leadership, using technology evolution and organizational structure as factors for depicting these environments; (2) Selecting organizations in each of the four quadrants that emerge; (3) Interviewing IS executives and user managers in each of these environments to determine the major risk factors they confront and to identify effective control strategies for managing these risks; and (4) Providing recommendations on skill sets for IS executives providing leadership in each of these environments.

The paper for the 1996 ACM SIGCPR meeting will include the development and use of the assessment to identify four different environments for IS leadership, the selection of one organization in each of the four quadrants, using technology evolution and organizational structure to depict these environments, and the interviewing of key IS executives and user managers in each of the four environments to determine the risk factors and control strategies.