

Minitrack – Knowledge Systems Track, 45<sup>th</sup> Hawaiian International Conference on System Sciences

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Paper submissions by June 15, 2011

Indigenous Knowledge and Other Knowledge Systems, an Intersection of beliefs.

This minitrack solicits manuscripts that present research or conceptual frameworks that focus on knowledge systems addressing the contribution of Indigenous Knowledge to the 'scientific' Knowledge Systems of the outsiders. Indigenous knowledge focuses on that knowledge, frequently contained in oral systems, that has evolved over the time that Native Peoples have inhabited their homelands. Indigenous knowledge is a form of tacit knowledge. Thus tacit knowledge is critical and ways to capture this tacit knowledge including but not limited to Nonakas knowledge transformations is an important consideration so this knowledge is not lost over time. For example, Knowledge Systems of outsiders are discussed by indigenous peoples in North America such as Native Americans, First Nations People, and Alaska Natives as 'Western' knowledge.

A growing number of other conferences, specific to indigenous knowledge can be located for those desiring to gain more insight into this topic. A considerable discussion can be located in Anthropology Research, although there is a growing body of knowledge recognizing the contribution to science made by indigenous knowledge.

Such knowledge systems are, in many respects, endangered. Indigenous peoples throughout the world are subject to external events, such as disease and war, which have annihilated certain populations in the past. In addition, efforts by outsiders to have the indigenous population assimilated into their world views frequently resulted in the loss of knowledge. Think of the Library at Alexandria. Now think of populations with only an oral history and retention of knowledge. What is lost when the last member of the population is gone?

Indigenous or traditional knowledge contributes to knowledge that tends to be classified as 'scientific' in a variety of modes. Because the knowledge of Indigenous peoples led them on a path of sustainability, such perspectives are of value in expanding the growing body of knowledge by humans. A series of topics addressing potential areas for combining Indigenous and other forms of knowledge are listed below.

#### Potential Topics

Sustainability  
Healthcare  
Technology  
Water  
Soil  
Agriculture  
Forestry

Culture  
Resource Conservation  
Resource Management  
Education  
Spirituality  
Epistemologies  
Ecology

Communication of Knowledge  
Organizations

Intellectual Property

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