Conference Theme: Leveraging Big Data Analytics for Societal Benefits
Conference URL: http://www.som.buffalo.edu/isinterface/wits2013/
Electronic Submission System: https://www.easychair.org/account/signin.cgi?conf=wits2013

Accelerated technological change has been implicated as the major cause for societal and cultural transformations. The data deluge we are witnessing today presents yet another opportunity in this context. The billions of e-mails, millions of blogs, multimedia uploads, chatter on the social networks, sensor data from hours of surveillance videos, tapping of conversations and tracking of movements is yielding data at a very high velocity with greater variety and veracity. Large corporations as well as government agencies have access to these unprecedented and ever-increasing masses of data. Ensuring that the data is used for societal *benefits* instead of to its *detriment*, therefore, remains a challenge. From a business perspective, the paramount question of importance is: 'How can we monetize this opportunity with Big Data? Applications, approaches, models, architectures, systems and practices are needed to effectively harness the power of big data analytics. These solutions may take the form of computational models as well as human-computer partnerships to unlock the positive potential of these data stores and streams from a consumer, business and governance perspectives. For example, new systems can benefit from computational techniques to support decisions in real-time, provide policy implications, generate novel correlations that can benefit society and allow individuals access to historical and predictive models that can enrich lives. Application areas where these outcomes can play out include healthcare, big pharma, extreme events, information assurance, energy, sustainability and several others. As we move into these, somewhat non-traditional domains for the IS community, we should also see reconfigurations and repurposing of IT investments that can point to new claims for realizing benefits from these IT investments. Traditional areas such designing IT artifacts, Systems Design and Ontologies for Big Data become increasingly relevant in this new world order. The 2013 WITS is designed to provide researchers a forum to discuss all of these – computational models and methods, empirical analyses of applications, as well as challenges related to economics and policy related to leveraging big data for societal benefits. We look forward to novel approaches and research outcomes that contribute to the base of knowledge related to the design of IT artifacts, particularly in the context of big data analytics, in tomorrow's world. In addition to topics relating to 'big dada', topics that are a traditional part of the WITS workshop, are actively solicited. Papers describing novel research ideas that may be at a relatively early stage of development are also welcome. Research topics of interest include, but are not limited to the following:

Big Data infrastructure and models,	IT Infrastructure
Big Data Monetization and Applications	Knowledge Management Technologies
Collaboration and Negotiation systems	Multi-Media Computing
Conceptual Modeling	Ontology-Driven Information Systems
Database and Information Integration	Recommender Systems
Data, Text and Web Mining	Search Engine design and Optimization
Data Warehousing and OLAP	Semantic Web
Web 2.0 and Social Networking Applications	Social Analytics
Distributed Computing	Systems Analysis and Design
Economics of IT Investments	System Optimization
Information Quality	Wireless Technologies
Information Systems Security and Privacy	Workflow Management Systems
Intelligent Agent-based Systems	Intelligent Systems and Technologies

REGULAR PAPER SUBMISSIONS
Submitted research papers are limited to 10 single-spaced, Times New Roman, 12-point font, 8.5" by 11" pages (including tables, figures, and references and 1" margins on all sides). All submissions will be subject to double blind review. Selection for presentation at the workshop and publication in the proceedings will be based on originality, contribution to the field, and workshop interest.

RESEARCH PROTOTYPE AND INSTRUCTIONAL INNOVATION SUBMISSIONS
Prototypes showcase implementations of innovative IT artifacts (i.e., constructs, models, methods). They provide opportunities to demonstrate and discuss emerging IT artifacts with researchers and practitioners. Research prototype

submissions should include, wherever feasible, links to the associated software or demo (along with screenshot(s) to provide the audience an indication of the functionality). Instructional technology submissions should emphasize innovative use of IT in the classroom and/or innovations related to teaching IS/IT topics. The objective of innovations in instructional technology is to bring together well-developed ideas that can assist the academic community in their quest to deliver information technology curricula. The submitted instructional materials must include technology overview and demonstration, along with an integrated business application context. Instructional technology submissions should follow a similar format as prototype submissions but instead articulate the quest to improve IT curricula, or teaching pedagogy..Prototypes and instructional technology papers should follow the same formatting requirements as regular papers, but should not exceed 6 pages. Accepted prototypes and instructional technology papers will be presented as posters during the workshop.

INFORMATION FOR PANEL ORGANIZATION
Panel discussions are forums that allow researchers to discuss complementary or conflicting perspectives. Typical panel proposals will have the following elements: Introduction, Specific issue and (conflicting) positions from panelists, panel structure (timing, format, etc), commitment to attend from the workshop from panel members, biographical information on the panelists and moderator reflecting their expertise on the subject, and references. Please submit your panel proposals directly to the program co-chairs.

JOURNAL PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITY
Authors of selected workshop papers and research prototypes will be invited to submit complete versions of their research for review and possible publication in a special issue of ACM Transactions on Management Information Systems (ACM TMIS, http://tmis.acm.org/).

SUBMISSIONS
All submissions must be sent in electronic form using the WITS 2013 submission system (https://www.easychair.org/account/signin.cgi?conf=wits2013). The electronic submission system, as well as instructions, will be available in 1 July 2013.

IMPORTANT DATES
Deadline for paper submissions: August 1, 2013
Notification of paper acceptance: September 15, 2013
Prototype and panel submission: October 1, 2013
Notification of prototype and panel: October 15, 2013
Camera-ready copy due: October 15, 2013

Program Chairs
Raj Sharman, Associate Professor, State University of New York at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY
Sandeep Purao, Professor of Information Sciences and Technology, Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA

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Silvana Castano, Professor, University of Milano, Italy

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