



Action Research Workshop

May 19, 2009 (3:00 – 6:00 PM)

This workshop will introduce participants to an innovative research approach called Action Research (AR). AR aims at building and testing theory within the context of solving an immediate practical problem in a real setting.

Construction Management is by epistemology and axiology, a “proactive” field, in that each construction project is an intervention into what exists and thus creates new reality. Consequently, the field needs to employ “proactive” research approaches. There is a need to conduct applied or field research on real-life problems which are vital for the construction industry in addition to fundamental or basic research.

The workshop will be organized in two sessions. In the first session, participants will be introduced to the fundamentals and principles of AR. Concepts and the process of conducting AR will be illustrated with examples of research that has been carried out by the presenters.

The second session will be devoted to application and use of AR. Participants will develop a proposal and a strategy to conduct an actual AR project in a context they are familiar with (e.g. in their own research situation).

The benefit for the participants will be awareness and familiarity of a research method that is particularly relevant for Construction Management field. Working through the application exercise, will help the participants to realize the possibilities of conducting a research project to address a problem that they may have been planning to examine.

Lead Instructor



Maung K. Sein is Professor of Information Systems at The University of Agder, Norway. He has a Ph.D. and an MBA in Management Information Systems from Indiana University USA, an MBA in Finance from University of Dhaka Bangladesh, and a BSc. in Electrical Engineering from Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology. He has previously served on the faculties of Florida International University, Indiana University and Georgia State University in USA and at The University of Bergen in Norway. He has been a visiting scholar at Claremont Graduate University USA and Helsinki School of Business and Economics Finland. His research interests have moved on from end-user training and cognitive issues in IS to

his current focus on the role of Information and Communication Technology in national development (ICT4D), e-Government, and proactive research approaches. In addition to publishing widely in top journals in Information Systems and Human-Computer Interaction, he has also published in Construction Management and Economics. He regularly presents his research at conferences around the world and has chaired and served on the program committees of several conferences. He has or is currently serving on editorial boards of top journals in IS, e-Government and ICT4D. He has lectured widely around the world and has taught and conducted seminars and workshops on research methods in Europe, North America and Africa. He has conducted workshops on qualitative methods and action research in previous CITC conferences.

Co-Instructor



Dr. Salman Azhar is an Assistant Professor in the McWhorter School of Building Science at Auburn University, Alabama. He earned his doctoral degree in Construction Management from the Florida International University, Miami, Florida in 2005. Dr. Azhar has conducted research on Decision Support Systems, IT Applications in Construction and Organizational Design using Action Research technique. He has published over 50 papers in refereed journals, conference proceedings and edited books and has over 10 years of research, teaching and construction industry experience by working in USA, Hong Kong, Thailand and Pakistan.

Workshop Registration

This workshop is free to all CITC-V participants. However, due to limited number of seats, a separate registration is required. If you are interested to attend this workshop, please complete the registration form (on next page) and send to CITC-V conference secretariat via e-mail or fax. For inquiries, please write to citc@fiu.edu.



Action Research Workshop Registration Form

Name _____ Title (Prof., Dr., Mr., Ms.) _____

Company/University _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____

Zip _____ Country _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____

Please send this registration form to:

CITC Secretariat:

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