

Call for Papers

eGovernment in a strategic management perspective

Special issue of CAIS

Guest Editors; Åke Grönlund ake.gronlund@esi.oru.se

Kim Viborg Andersen kva.caict@cbs.dk

Understanding how benefits from Electronic Government are realized, or not, requires measurements not only of costs but also of benefits. The dominating paradigm – management model – in public sectors in the industrialized world for the past twenty some years has been “New Public Management” (NPM). To the contrary, traditional models dominate the developing world. While traditional public management operates by detailed instructions, NPM governs by budgets and goals. This makes government institutions behave like businesses. From an eGov perspective, an upside of the NPM model is that both costs and benefits are measured, as opposed to the traditional model, which measured only costs. A problem for eGov development is that neither model is well suited for implementation of the generally agreed goals for eGovernment – efficiency, effectiveness, and openness. In addition to “old” and new public management, new ideas have been proposed which claim to be better suited to today’s trends towards globalization, partnerships, and networking operational modes. Given the large investments in eGov, and the mismatch between eGov goals and the incentives of both NPM and traditional models, the special issue of Communications of the Association for Information Systems (CAIS) invites papers addressing key questions including:

- Which established IS research perspectives or theories, e.g., socio-technical systems, actor-networks, structuration, institutional theories, etc., in design or behavioral science, are able to appreciate the embeddedness of eGovernment in an NPM context?
- Is Information Systems research sufficiently informed of theories of government and strategic public management?
- How can eGovernment research appreciate the strategic management context given by NPM?
- What about the alternatives to NPM that have been proposed – are there viable and realistic ones? Is indeed eGovernment a new strategic management context beyond NPM?
- What are the theoretical and practical implications of NPM for eGovernment?
- How can eGovernment- and NPM-oriented reform approaches inform each other?
- What are the basic values governing NPM and e-government?

Papers can be both conceptual and empirical and should address effects on eGovernment implementation and evaluation of different strategic models for public management.

Submissions are due August 15, 2008. Authors are encouraged to send abstracts and discuss ideas for papers with the special issue editors at any time. Submissions will be handled through the CAIS Manuscript Central site (mc.manuscriptcentral.com/cais) Reviews will be returned by October 2008, final versions of the papers are due in December 2008, and the special section is planned to appear in winter 2009.