

JITTA



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Editorial: Cyber-Slacking and NASA's Semantic Web—Two Papers

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THE CURRENT ISSUE

In this issue of JITTA we are pleased to publish two papers in the domain of Web usage that address very different issues. The first paper “To Slack or Not to Slack: Internet Usage in the Classroom” by Gerow, Galluch, and Thatcher (2010) examines the negative side of Web-based education: cyber-slacking. The authors note that Internet access in the classroom can have some negative effects, such as not paying attention to lectures and classroom activities. They develop and test a model which shows that social norms, awareness of instructor monitoring, cognitive absorption, multitasking, and distraction explain 65.7 percent of the variance of intent to cyber-slack.

The second paper “The Semantic Web in Federated Information Systems: a Space Physics Case Study” by Narock, Yoon, Merka, and Szabo (2010) utilizes a case-study approach. The authors examine a framework for the search and retrieval of disparate data sources in NASA's space physics domain. The authors first develop a new framework for applying the semantic web within the NASA domain, which is then evaluated. They also compare the semantic Web technologies to traditional relational database technologies.

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Gerow, J., P. Galluch, and J. Thatcher, “To slack or not to slack: Internet usage in the classroom,” *Journal of Information Technology Theory and Application (JITTA)*, 2010, 11:4, pp. 5-24.

Narock, T., V. Yoon, J. Merka, and A. Szabo, “The Semantic Web in Federated Information Systems: A space physics case study,” *Journal of Information Technology Theory and Application (JITTA)*, 2010, 11:4, pp. 25-41.



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