

# So ... Thinking of Retiring?

## Panel

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**ABSTRACT**

Retirement thinking is relevant not only to “baby boomers” but also to many others in the discipline considering a change of lifestyle. Questions include when to retire, where to go and what to do that takes advantage of accumulated information systems experience and desire for quality of life. Opportunities abound in a portfolio approach both within and external to the discipline that can strongly contribute to society. Using sustainability as an example, retired (and willing) academics working virtually can suggest research opportunities for junior faculty, engage in mentoring, and facilitate contacts with other academics and with industry. Degrees of mobility (and income) vary widely. Good health becomes a priority along with staying intellectually active. This panel will explore these and other issues arising from discussion.

**Keywords**

Retirement, retiring, well being, quality of life.

**OBJECTIVES**

The primary objective of this panel is to raise sensitivity and encourage sharing relative to retiring preparation and resultant life changes. Retirement thinking is relevant not only to “baby boomers” but also to many others in the discipline considering a change of lifestyle. Sooner or later, most of us retire – you only get old once. The alternatives are often daunting. However, there are a number of considerations in line with the theme for the conference. Challenges and tradeoffs are many. Opportunities abound in a portfolio approach both within and external to the discipline that can strongly contribute to society e.g., an AIS “Peace Corp” as previously suggested by Carol Saunders. Degrees of mobility (and income) vary widely. Good health becomes a priority along with staying intellectually active. Some institutions are providing programs and plans for gradually easing out senior faculty members but many others are only beginning to address the circumstances.

Questions to the panelists will include when to retire, where to go and what to do that takes advantage of accumulated information systems experience and desire for quality of life as well as what might (and should) institutions do. This panel will explore these and other issues arising from discussion.

**APPROACH**

The approach taken in this panel is traditional in that (following a brief introduction by the moderator) each panelist is expected to give opening remark for approximately 10 minutes which will then be followed by engagement with the audience facilitated by the moderator.

**PANELISTS**

In addition to the moderator, there will be four panelists with a wide range of experience in retirement thinking in addition to being outstanding members of the IS community.

**Doug Vogel (Moderator)**

Doug Vogel is Professor of Information Systems (IS) and an Association for Information Systems (AIS) Fellow as well as AIS Past President and, currently, Director of the eHealth Research Institute for the Harbin Institute of Technology School of

Management in China. He has published widely and been recognized as the most-cited IS author in Asia Pacific. His research interests reflect a concern for encouraging efficient and effective utilization computer systems in an atmosphere conducive to enhancing the quality of life. He is currently engaged in introducing mobile devices and support for integrated collaborative applications in educational and healthcare settings with a focus on well-being. In addition to being a “baby boomer” and part of the “young elderly” demographic, Professor Vogel has moderated panels at major conferences for the past 25 years.

### **Rolf Wigand**

Rolf Wigand is the Maulden-Entergy Chair and Distinguished Professor of Information Science and Business Information Systems at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. His current NSF research grants (2007-2015) continue with standards development research in the mortgage, retail and automotive supply industries; the analysis of virtual organizations, networks in disaster settings as well as the analysis of online blogs and social media as instruments in collective action. Wigand is the author of six books and over 160 articles, book chapters, and monographs. His book, *Information, Organization and Management: Expanding Markets and Corporate Boundaries* (with A. Picot and R. Reichwald), John Wiley & Sons, was listed among the “75 Best Management Books of All Time” in the *HandelsblattManagement Bibliothek*, Campus Verlag, Frankfurt and New York. Wigand has held visiting professor positions at the universities in Munich, Sydney, Helsinki, Mannheim, Stuttgart, Bayreuth, Mexico City and Tempe/Phoenix, Arizona. He was an invited member to the Joint ACM/AIS Task Force for the Master's Curriculum in Information Systems, i.e. MSIS 2000, MSIS 2006 and MSIS 2013. Rolf is a *baby boomer* and has struggled personally with potential retirement issues.

### **Bob Bostrom**

Bob Bostrom is President of Bostrom & Associates, a training and consulting company focusing on facilitation and the effective integration of people and technology. He is also Professor Emeritus at the University of Georgia. He teaches part-time in Management Information Systems (MIS) and Leadership areas. Besides numerous publications in leading academic and practitioner journals, he has extensive consulting and training experience in the areas of MIS management, business process management, organizational development, facilitation, leadership and digital collaboration and learning. His current research interests are focused on business process management, decision modeling, leadership, and effective design of organizations via integrating human and technological dimensions to create a better performing organization and a higher quality of worklife for organizational members. He is also fully enjoying his new blend of retirement and work.

### **Ephraim McLean**

Ephraim R. McLean received his PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1970 and is Regents' Professor and George E. Smith (GRA) Eminent Scholar's Chair in Information Systems as well as Director of the Centers for Research in Information Systems and Health Information Technology at the Robinson College of Business of Georgia State University. Prior to that, he was the founding Director of the Information Systems Research Program and three times Chairman of the Information Systems area, both within the Anderson School at UCLA. For ten years, Professor McLean was the Executive Director of ICIS and the Association for Information Systems (AIS) of which he was one of the founding members. In 1999, he was recognized as one of the first Fellows of AIS, one of only seven in the world so honored at that time, and in December 2007 he was awarded the LEO.

### **EQUIPMENT NEEDS**

The only equipment needed for this panel is projector.