

# Interests, Ideas, and Suggestions

**Dorothy E. Leidner**

Ferguson Professor of Information Systems  
Department of Information Systems  
Hankamer School of Business  
Baylor University, Waco, TX

11<sup>th</sup> Annual Big XII+ MIS Research Symposium  
Oklahoma State University - Spears School of Business  
Management Science and Information Systems Faculty  
April 5 – 7, 2013

# My Areas of Interest

- **The “I” in IS**
  - Visibility of Information in Social Systems
  - Product Traceability
- **The Impact of New IT on Individuals, Teams, Organizations & Society**
  - Knowledge Management
  - Social technologies
- **The Management of IT**
  - IT Strategy and Planning
  - IT Leadership

# Choosing a Good Topic

- **Good topics are ones you feel passionate about, or at least extreme interest in**
- **Good topics usually have at the core a central issue, not just a technology or management trend**
- **Good topics are based in problems/issues facing practice**

# Some “Good” Topics

## •The Tried & True

- Offshoring/Outsourcing
- IT Development
- IT & Business Impact
- IT Adoption/Diffusion/Innovation
- IT Management

## •The Nouveau

- Social Media
- Social Organizations
- IT and Sustainability
- Cloud Computing
- IT Ambassadors (IT Leadership)
- Big Data
- Mobility/Multitasking

# Suggestions: Idea Window Shopping

- Browse the titles of each issue of MISQ, ISR, JAIS and the rest in the basket– read the interesting ones (to you)
- Browse monthly practitioner sources
  - McKinsey Quarterly; CIO Insight; Computerworld; Business Week
- Browse the most recent year's PhD dissertation titles in IS/IT
- Browse the titles of the AMCIS and ICIS proceedings each year and read the most interesting papers (to you)
- Once a year, browse the titles of Organization Science, JAP, AMR

# Suggestions: Think Out of the Box

- **Look for areas being ignored that are the inverse of areas being widely examined**
  - Who are non-knowledge workers & what non-knowledge work needs IT support
  - Marketers want to gather information about consumers: who wants to get information to consumers
- **Look for new sources of data & data gathering**
  - Comment sections in response to business stories in online journals
  - Blogs, tweets
- **Look for new theories that have not been used in IS**
- **Look to combine theories in new ways**