

Development of Acta Informatica Pragensia Journal and Acknowledgement to Reviewers

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Abstract

The article summarizes the development of Acta Informatica Pragensia journal which focuses on social and business aspects of informatics. The journal has built an important position in the past six years among informatics-oriented journals in the Czech Republic and in the Slovak Republic. To even strengthen this position, structural changes were made and the mission of the journal was reformulated, emphasizing the importance of informatics-related issues connected with the Central and Eastern European region. The need for such a journal in this region is discussed in detail, with reference to the different methodological approaches used in informatics that are historically associated with the former Western and Eastern Bloc. The article also introduces current members of the editorial board, the abstracting and indexing services in which the journal is registered, and includes an acknowledgement to reviewers.

Keywords: Acta Informatica Pragensia, Editorial board, Editorial material, Reviewers.

1 Development of Acta Informatica Pragensia Journal

Acta Informatica Pragensia journal has been in existence for six years. As editors of this journal, we would like to summarize in this paper the development of this journal during this period and present its further development. The *Acta Informatica Pragensia* journal was established in 2012 at the *University of Economics, Prague* as a platform for publishing scholar articles in the field of applied informatics, including its inter- and transdisciplinary character, with an emphasis on the issue of its management and government in socio-economic environment. The name of the journal follows another journal that the *University of Economics, Prague* has been publishing for two decades in business and management area – *Acta Oeconomica Pragensia*.

The purpose of establishing the *Acta Informatica Pragensia* journal was to contribute to the development of a field that lies, in the Czech and the Slovak Republic, at the boundary of informatics, management and economics. There were very few high-quality publication platforms for this field of study in this region, and scholars and academics thus had to publish

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in journals focusing either on informatics (more technologically oriented) or on economics and management (more oriented on business or economic issues). This journal was to offer them a solution for this dilemma.

Another important reason for establishing the journal was the endeavour to contribute to increasing the culture of PhD students' publications by providing valuable feedback to the manuscripts they send. Initially, the journal was thus designed as a regional medium that encourages scholarly communication and cooperation between universities. Among the main areas of interest were: business informatics, information management, knowledge engineering, systems science, trans- and interdisciplinarity in informatics.

In 2012–2017, 92 original articles were published that had undergone the peer-review process, as well as 19 articles that had not been reviewed (book reviews, interviews, conference reports, reflections). One article was retracted after its publication due to a serious violation of author ethics. Participating in the assessment of received manuscripts in the review process in this period were members of the *Editorial Board*, along with 86 external reviewers – see Sections 1.2 and 2.

During its existence, *Acta Informatica Pragensia* has undergone a number of changes in the focus of the journal, its management, as well as within the *Editorial Board*. A very significant change is the modification of the journal's aims and scope in connection with its new orientation on the region of Central and Eastern Europe. The journal's position in the region has been strengthened mainly by an effort to internationalize both the *Editorial Board* and contributors by the use of promotional activities in the region. The journal explicitly emphasizes a thematic orientation on social and business aspects of informatics.

The journal's ambition is to stimulate the dialogue concerning the role of ICT in the region of Central and Eastern Europe. This geographical area is affected by two main factors: the recent history of the Eastern Bloc, and the pro-Western development in the past few decades. This situation is also reflected in the paradigms of informatics research in the region, e.g. in the strong tradition of informatics research based in cybernetics and other system-oriented disciplines, but also in the effort to create a close connection between research and practice. In contrast with that, there is a growing awareness in the region of the “Western tradition” of informatics research. This means mainly the social research focused on such ICT topics as the behavioural tradition of the study of information systems in organizations.

The journal should contribute to the building of a new tradition in the Eastern region based on social and behavioural research in the field of informatics, and thereby pay a certain debt made by previous generations of academics, as this area did not receive appropriate attention under past social conditions, which also affected academic communities. The journal should also contribute to the development and promotion of design science research, which replaces or mixes with system-oriented approaches to artifact design. Despite the above, it would be appropriate to keep a trace of the formerly applied research approaches and perspectives for future generations.

There have also been changes in the structure of the *Editorial Board*. Since 2018 it has been divided into five thematic sections (Information Systems Development, Knowledge Technology and the WWW, Public Administration Informatics, Social Informatics, Systems Engineering), managed by *Section Editors-in-Chief*. These sections reflect the focus of the journal on social and business aspects of informatics and enable a more flexible review process, as well as splitting the work between several *Editorial Board* members. There have also been changes in the position of *Managing Editor*, which was held from 2012 by Zdeněk Smutný and Václav Řezníček. At the end of 2016, Václav Řezníček terminated his work in this position,

which was then taken over by Michal Doležel in the middle of 2017. Newly contributing to the publication of the journal are, alongside *University of Economics, Prague* (publisher), the journal's two university partners, each managing their own thematic sections: *University of Pardubice*, and *University of Finance and Administration*.

Great emphasis has been put on improving the quality of the review process, thereby improving the feedback given to authors. This, in turn, increases the quality of manuscripts received in the individual stages of the review process. The journal also supports young researches and PhD students, who can receive constructive critical reviews by renowned reviewers. Since mid-2014, the journal has used anti-plagiarism software in Czech and Slovak (*Odevzdej.cz*) and since 2016 also in the English language (*iThenticate*).

Acta Informatica Pragensia journal has been included in a number of abstracting and indexing services or databases – see Section 1.1. These databases are focused mainly on literature from the Central and Eastern European region, e.g. Central and Eastern European Online Library, Russian Science Citation Index. The editors hope that in the years to come the journal will contribute more to international discourse in the field of informatics with an emphasis on issues connected with Central and Eastern Europe region.

In conclusion, we would like to thank the people who supported our endeavour in its beginnings and shared their advice and experience, Ján Pavlík and Miroslav Vacura (*E-LOGOS – Electronic Journal for Philosophy*) to name but a few. We would also like to thank the management of *Faculty of Informatics and Statistics, University of Economics, Prague* and the editors from other university journals who have shared their experience with publishing a peer-reviewed journal, namely Jiřina Bulisová (*Politická ekonomie*), Klára Pavlová (*Prague Economic Papers*), Jindřich Špička (*Acta Oeconomica Pragensia*), and Ondřej Machek (*Central European Business Review*). A big thank you also belongs to Ivo Andrlé from *Solen Software* for his improvements of the review management and the editorial system *Actavia* to suit the journal's needs.

1.1 Journal Abstracting and Indexing

The journal *Acta Informatica Pragensia* is included in the *Government List of Peer-Reviewed Journals Published in the Czech Republic* approved by the *Government Office for Science, Research and Innovations of the Czech Republic*. Articles published in the journal are freely available in a number of national and university libraries around the world (e.g. *National Library of Australia*, *Georgetown University Library*, *Iowa State University Library*). The journal *Acta Informatica Pragensia* is covered by the following main databases and archives:

- Baidu Scholar
- BASE – Bielefeld Academic Search Engine
- CEEOL – Central and Eastern European Online Library
- DOAJ – Directory of Open Access Journals
- Directory of Open Access Scholarly Resources (ROAD – ISSN International Centre)
- Crossref Metadata – DOI prefix 10.18267
- EconPapers (RePEc)
- EZB – Electronic Journals Library / Elektronische Zeitschriftenbibliothek
- ERIH PLUS – European Reference Index for the Humanities and the Social Sciences
- Genamics JournalSeek
- Google Scholar
- IDEAS (RePEc)
- National Library of the Czech Republic

- OCLC WorldCat
- Open Archives Initiative
- Pablikado – Online publishing system of professional literature
- RSCI – Russian Science Citation Index (eLibrary.ru)
- Wilbert (Wildauer Bücher + E-Medien Recherche-Tool)

1.2 Editorial Board as of June 2018

The *Editorial Board* of the journal *Acta Informatica Pragensia* has an international profile from the beginning and is formed by major academics from various universities and professionals from practice. The journal has five main sections, each with its own *Section Editor-in-Chief*. The publisher would like to express thanks to the following members of the *Editorial Board* for their work.

Editor-in-Chief

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 Jan Voráček, *College of Polytechnics Jihlava, Czech Republic*

Past Editorial Board Members (2012-2015)

Prokop Toman, *Czech University of Life Sciences, Prague, Czech Republic*
 Petr Máša, *Partners Financial Services, Prague, Czech Republic*

2 Acknowledgment to Reviewers (2012-2017)

Each manuscript that is considered for publication as Original Article is reviewed in double blind peer review process by at least two independent reviewers. One reviewer should be the *Editorial Board* member and the second has to be outside of the *Editorial Board*. The editors would like to express their sincere gratitude to the following reviewers outside of the *Editorial Board* for their time and dedication:

Babič, František	Janíček, Přemysl
Balata, Jan	Janoščík, Václav
Baláž, Anton	Jašek, Pavel
Bartoška, Jan	Jedlinský, Jakub
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Buzek, Jiří	Klíma, Tomáš
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Tyrychtr, Jan

Urban, Ondřej

Valky, Gabriel

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Vencovský, Filip

Vlčková, Veronika

Vlček, Václav

Vojtř, Stanislav

Vondra, Zdeněk

Zamazal, Ondřej *

Zumr, Jiří

* At the time of writing review report, these scholars were not members of the journal *Editorial Board*.



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