IT3010-Research Methods in IT, Assignment-1 Magnus L. Kirø, September 30, 2014

Motivation

This is research proposal. We purpose to look into team efficiency and collaboration in regards to system development and IT.

I propose to look into the issue of team collaboration an effectiveness win system development. I want to find out what can improve team collaboration and team self management/ self organization.

The problem is important to the development process of information systems, and other IT-systems.

Relevant articles

Self-Organizing Roles on Agile Software Development Teams Article link: IEEE

The objective of the article is to observe the and identify the roles of self organizing teams. More specifically software development teams that uses the Agile development methodology.

The article identified six roles that manifest in the teams observed. Mentor, coordinator, champion, translator, promoter, and terminator are the six roles observed.

The relevance of the article is the focus on how teams organize themselves and how people take roles upon themselves to improve the performance of the team.

Task Environment Complexity, Global Team Dispersion, Process Capabilities, and Coordination in Software Development Article link: IEEE

The article focuses on key aspects of software development in teams and study their effects. Some important aspects are: rigor, standardization, agility, and customizability.

Distance and strictness of the team organization is found to have a negative effect of the effectiveness of the team. Increased coordination is also a negative factor.

The relevance of this article lies in the aspects of interest. Are the different aspects important, or are they not too relevant for self organizing teams?

Coordination of Software Development Teams across Organizational Boundary – An Exploratory Study Article link: IEEE

Look into the organization of teams across organization and geographical barriers.

Distance matters, even small ones. Project managers need to be aware of differences in process between organizations. Formal processes and guidelines should be established.

Team collaboration across organizations is more of less the definition of how IT consultants work today. Therefore this research, into how cross organization teams work together, is relevant.

Software team processes: A taxonomy Article link: IEEE

The objective is to define the language, or set of words, able to describe team interactions correctly. And to define a way of appropriately report team collaborations.

The vocabulary can accurately describe team interactions, and help solve communication breakdowns.

The relevance of this article lies in the communications aspect. Where it describes useful insight into how communication can be improved, and solved.

Objectives

The objective of the research is to enlighten the area of system development and the state of team organization and effectiveness. In detail, looking at how best to organize and empower development teams in the IT-sector.

Research Questions

The following questions would be appropriate:

- 1: What is the state of team organization today?
- 2: How can effectiveness be improved in teams today?
- 3: Can empowerment of development teams help efficiency of the development process and product delivery?