

DO&IT Seminar Series

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Speaker: Sanjiv Erat, Assistant Professor
The Rady School of Management
UC San Diego

Date: Wednesday, February 1, 2012

Time: 2-3:30 pm

Location: Room 2505

Title: Innovation Contests

Abstract:

Economic contests, where a focal firm poses a problem and receives solutions from a population of solvers, are often viewed as a fruitful organizing principle for understanding and managing open innovation. Still, such economic contests when applied in the context of innovations present two key features: (A) the solvers search for solutions on a common (or at least overlapping) solution space, and (B) the solution quality and the relative ranking of the solutions, as evaluated by the focal firm, is usually uncertain. The talk shall discuss how these two features determine the induced search dynamics in innovation contests.

Bio:

Sanjiv Erat is an Assistant Professor at the Rady School of Management at UCSD. His research focuses on new product development and the management of technology. His current interests include open innovation, learning within and across projects, and the role of incentives and processes in enabling superior innovation outcomes. His research blends formal mathematical models and data analysis methods, in an ongoing research program that aims to offer richer empirically relevant theories for understanding innovation processes. He currently serves as a Senior Editor for the R&D, New Product Development and Project Management department of Production and Operations Management.