

Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh

National University of Ireland, Galway

SUMMER EXAMINATIONS 2000

B.COMM. DEGREE EXAMINATION

SEMINAR IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Professor R. O'Callaghan

Professor J. F. Collins

Mr. C. Barry

Dr. M.J. Fahy

Dr. W. Golden

Mr. M. Lang

Time allowed: Three Hours

Candidates are required to answer FOUR questions

Question 1.

Electronic data interchange (EDI) does not provide a source of competitive advantage.

Discuss this statement. You should support your arguments with relevant points from the papers and case studies that you have read.

(25 Marks)

Question 2.

The use of networks in the form of Inter organisational systems and the Internet will facilitate the elimination of middlemen in the value chain.

Discuss this statement. You should support your arguments with relevant points from the papers and case studies that you have read.

(25 Marks)

Question 3

Deutsche Bank has recently announced a take over of Dresdner Bank in Germany. A key element in the success or failure of the proposed acquisition will be Deutsche Banks ability to integrate the large Dresdner branch network into the more efficient transaction processing centres, which Deutsche operates. In addition Deutsche has historically used technology to

achieve the lowest cost ratios in the Industry and is hoping to extend this approach to the Dresdner operations. Placing yourself in the role of an external consultant you are required to advice the Director of IS in Deutsche on the following issues;

- The potential areas of difficulty in integrating the IS/IT operations of the two firms
- An appropriate approach to developing an integrated IS/IT strategy for the two banks.

(25 Marks)

Question 4

Relying on relevant research, review the methodologies movement over the past 25 years, outlining the positive and negative contribution that it has made to improvements in the practice of information systems development.

(25 Marks)

Question 5

“One approach used for information requirements determination is to assess the overall level of uncertainty associated with deriving information requirements to satisfy a user need and then the selection of an appropriate requirements determination strategy.”

Drawing on research, discuss this approach, its merits and disadvantages.

(25 Marks)

Question 6

The nature of Web-based information systems is significantly different to that of orthodox, traditional information systems. As a consequence, the development of Web-based information systems poses new and extended challenges.

Discuss these challenges.”

(25 Marks)