Critical Success Factors in Doctoral Programs and Beyond

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11:00 – 12:00
Room 646, Meng Wah Complex, HKU
Chair: Dr Timothy Hew

Abstract:
In this talk, I will discuss two papers that have implications for being successful scholars during graduate programs and afterwards. Both papers are part of a 3-year collaborative project conducted in three Asian countries (Japan, Singapore, and Taiwan) to examine how graduate students in science programs learn to become scientists. The first paper identified the link between research productivity, doctoral mentoring practices, and the doctoral research experiences of mentees in these programs. Based on this research, we recommended reconsidering extant practices and allocating resources toward professional career development for training future scientists. In the second paper, we analyzed ego-centric social networks and investigated the structure of international ties and how they relate to research productivity. The findings address the importance of developing international ties as doctoral students and faculty members.

About the speaker:
Noriko Hara is a professor in the School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering. Her research in Social Informatics emphasizes online knowledge sharing, communities of practice, and collective behaviors in mediated environments. Specifically, she examines the means by which collective behaviors are enabled and/or impeded by information Technology. Noriko is currently completing an U.S. National Science Foundation funded research project looking at tacit knowledge sharing in life science graduate programs. Her current research concerns co-production of scientific knowledge in online communities, such as Wikipedia. She is the author of Communities of Practice: Fostering Peer-to-Peer Learning and Informal Knowledge Sharing in the Work Place from Springer, and a co-editor of Global Wikipedia: International and Cross-Cultural Issues in Online Collaboration from Rowman & Littlefield. Noriko received a Ph.D. in Instructional Systems Technology at Indiana University and was a postdoctoral research fellow in the NSF Science and Technology Center at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Noriko received a Ph.D. in Instructional Systems Technology at Indiana University and was a postdoctoral research fellow in the NSF Science and Technology Center at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.