Effective knowledge sharing mechanism in knowledge communities

Yang XU¹, Shigeo SUGIMOTO²

¹Department of Information Management, Peking University, Beijing, China ²Research Center for Knowledge Communities, University of Tsukuba, Tsukuba, Japan

Knowledge sharing is an important issue of management of knowledge communities. In the recent years, a variety of knowledge communities have emerged, and effective knowledge sharing mechanism can be very helpful to improve the knowledge communities' performance. This paper analyses the features of modern knowledge communities and proposes knowledge sharing mechanism and management strategies. Knowledge sharing processes in knowledge communities are studied quantitatively, considering how different factors can affect knowledge sharing results and how to improve knowledge community performance. Some interesting results are inferred from the quantitative model of knowledge sharing and mathematical simulation: 1) Improving the acceptance ability of individuals can increase the productivity interest; 2) With a fixed learning ability, there exists an optimal team size for the working group so the number of working individual should be controlled to get a maximum productivity interest. Finally, this paper discusses the necessity, effectiveness and possible improvement of knowledge sharing in knowledge communities.