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**ABSTRACT**

We analyze communication as basis of an IS theory. Theoretically we draw on Language Critique, a branch of philosophy known as the Erlangen School to analyze communication and mutual understanding based on linguistic signs. We argue that language limits communication in information systems processes and propose a formalized description of information systems anchored at Language Critique. We then discuss some applications and consequences of our approach.

**SPEAKER**

Roland Holten holds the chair for Information Systems Engineering at the faculty of economics and business administration, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany. He habilitated in Information Systems at the economics faculty, University of Muenster, Germany, and holds two Master degrees in Business Administration (Dipl.-Kfm.) and Computer Science (Dipl.-Inform.), and a Ph.D. in Information Systems (Dr. rer. pol.). His work has been published in peer-reviewed journals like Information Systems, Information Systems and e-Business Management (ISeB), and WIRTSCHAFTSINFORMATIK. Roland is member of the editorial board of the journal ISeB and works in the area of information warehousing, IS modeling, and IS integration.