英文摘要

Exploring theories that explain the accumulation of National Intellectual Capital, Structural Capital and Relational Capital

Recently, more and more countries began to realize that intangible assets and organizational intellectual capital has become the key to sustainable competitiveness in the hyper competition era. Up to the present, European scholars are in the forefront and invested a lot of time and resources in this field of study. Particularly, they have advanced from organizational level study to the national level study. Inspired by them, I have also devoted my research resources in national level intellectual capital study and proposed a statistically validated national intellectual capital model.

In the first year, I have explored the national intellectual capital of 40 countries, consisting of human capital, market capital, process capital, renewal capital and financial capital. The research results have been published by Springer Publishing Company, please refer to the book introduction in the section "Summary of the Three Years Project" reported hereunder.

In the second year, this research focused on the rarely studied "structural capital" formation process. As a result, a series of theoretical bases was proposed and was applied to three case hospitals to see whether the proposed theories are applicable. In the third year, the research focus is on the "relational capital" formation process. Again, a series of theoretical bases was proposed and was applied to the same three case hospitals to see whether the proposed theories are applicable.

The formation and deepening of a research stream requires a group of scholars' long-term devotion and ongoing publication for a more mature system. With the sponsorship of National Science Council, our intellectual capital research community has been gradually formed.

Key words: intellectual capital, structural capital, relational capital, and research community

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Exploring theories that explain the accumulation of National Intellectual Capital, Structural Capital and Relational Capital

(NSC 2007- 2010 Project Final Report)

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This report contains two parts, the third year research results and a summary of the three-year 2007-2010 project report, entitled "Exploring theories that explain the accumulation of National Intellectual Capital, Structural Capital and Relational Capital". The third year results are presented first, followed by the summary of the three year project report.

The Third Year Report

In year 2009-2010, exploring how organizations build external "relational capital" is the focus. An immediate theory connection is that "networking theory helps create and accumulate relational capital"; yet, other theories should also explain the creation and accumulation of this external capital from different perspectives. The two main purposes of this study include:

- 1. Investigate the relational capital for how to create and accumulate this capital.
- 2. Explore theory connections beyond network theory

Since intellectual capital examines intangible assets, this study targets on the healthcare industry for case studies. Two approaches are employed during this year. Sorting existing theories for rational inferences is a top-down approach. A bottom-up approach of three case hospitals – Wan Fang, Far Eastern, and Tsuchi helps unveil the factors that formalize relational capital. Since the focus of the third year study is "relational capital", the following literature review will be limited to relational capital only.

I. Definition of relational capital

Relational capital (some named it social capital) is an important component of intellectual capital, it has been regarded as a major source of competitive advantage in the "knowledge economy" (Stewart, 1997; Edvinsson & Malone, 1997; Bontis, 1998), and involves the relationships between individuals and organizations that facilitate action and create value (Adler & Kwon, 2002; Prusak & Cohen, 2001). Relational capital can be understood as a component of "social capital" (Nahapiet & Ghoshal,1998) specially focused in the network of relations established by the organization and its environmental agents. More specifically, Dirk & Harry (2006) define relational capital as the extent to which exchange involves trust, social interaction and shared norms or goals. In what follows, we first review the concept of social capital and then focus on relational capital.

As with many social science terms, defining social capital is rather problematic. From human relations perspective, Loury (1977) defined social capital as the set of resources that inhere in family relations and in community social organizations that are useful for the cognitive or the social development of a child or a young person. Cohen and Prusak explained that social capital consists of "the stock of active connections among people: the trust, mutual understanding and shared values and behaviours that bind the members of human networks and communities and make co-operative action possible." The definitions highlight that the building block of social capital lies in the dyadic relationship between two individuals.

From organizational relations perspective, Nahapiet and Ghoshal (1998) advocate that social capital is the sum of the actual and potential resources embedded within, available through, and derived from the network of relationships possessed by an individual or a social unit. It refers to the structural, relational and cognitive dimensions of the network of social relationships that comprise a given firm's set of transactions (Nahapiet and Ghoshal, 1998). In addition, Coleman (1990) explained that social capital is created to fulfill a specific function. That is, social capital is the fiber of the process of conversion of human capital into intellectual capital. Coleman (2000) further commented that it is not a single entity but a variety of different entities, with two elements in common: they all consist of some aspect of social structures, and they facilitate certain actions of actors—whether persons or corporate actors—within the structure. Another function of social capital is seen as the context within which a

"sense of belonging" is created. Like other forms of capital, social capital is productive, making possible the achievement of certain ends that in its absence would not be possible. Unlike other forms of capital, social capital inheres in the structure of relations between actors and among actors.

Relational capital can be defined as "the value of the relations that an organization maintains with the different agents of its environment", including interrelations with customers, suppliers, strategic alliances, corporate reputation, or links to other agents (Euroforum, 1998). Table 1 shows, as a summary, some of the theoretical proposals focused on identification and measurement of relational capital.

Kaplan and Norton	Edvinsson and	Brooking (1996)	Sveiby (1997)	Euroforum (1998)
(1992) Customer	Malone (1997)	Market assets	External structure	Relational capital
perspective	Customer capital			
1.Image and	1.Customer type	1.Brands (product)	1.Customer	1. Customer
reputation	2.Customer duration	2.Customers (type,	segmentation	(loyalty,
2.Customer	3.Customer role	loyalty, network	2.Customer base	relationship,
relationship quality	4.Customer support	motivations)	growth	satisfaction, time
3.Services/products'	5.Success with	3.Corporate image	3.Customer	to market, etc.)
attributes	customers	4.Distribution	efficiency	2. Brand name
4.Market share		5.Corporate	4.Customer base	recognition
5.Customer loyalty		collaborative	stability	3.Corporate name
6.Customer		agreements		4.Strategic
satisfaction				alliances
				5.Interrelatedness
				with other agents

Table 1 Relevant studies on relational capital

Relational capital is the quality of human relations within some well-defined social group that enables members of this group to act in cooperation with one another for achieving mutual benefits (Putnam, 1993). More formally, it is the "features of social organization such as networks, norms and social trust that facilitate cooperation and coordination for mutual benefit" (Putnam, 1993). From the statements above, we may understand that the concept of social/relational capital was created to describe social relations of both familiar and non-familiar people, a feature of the social structure rather than the individual actors within the social structure (Lochner et al.,

1999, p. 260). For the World Bank, social capital is the 'glue that holds society together' (World Bank web site). For the ease of description, this study uses social capital and relational capital interchangeably.

II. The importance of social/relational capital

Social/relational capital is composed of three dimensions, namely structural, relational, and cognitive dimensions (Nahapiet and Ghoshal, 1998). According to this view, the structural dimension of social capital includes social interaction. The location of an actor's contacts in a social structure of interactions provides certain advantages for the actor. People can use their personal contacts to get jobs, to obtain information, or to access specific resources. The relational dimension of social capital, in contrast, refers to assets that are rooted in these relationships, such as trust. Trust can act as a governance mechanism for embedded relationships. The third dimension of social capital, which Nahapiet and Ghoshal (1998) called the cognitive dimension, is embodied in attributes like a shared code or a shared paradigm that facilitates a common understanding of collective goals and proper ways of acting in a social system. Such a common understanding is appropriable by the collectivity as a resource.

Besides, some scholars regard social capital as both internal and external (Hitt, Lee & Yucel, 2002). Internal social capital is concerned with the relationships between strategic leaders and those whom they lead as well as relationships across all of an organization's work units. Effectively designed and integrated relationships enable members to collaborate in ways that contribute to creating and using competitive advantages (Cross, Nohria & Parker, 2002). External social capital is concerned with the relationships between strategic leaders and those outside the organization with whom they interact to further the firm's interests. Increasing competition in the twenty-first century's dynamic competitive landscape has caused relationships with parties outside the organization to become important for all types of firms-large and small, new and established, and so forth (Gulati, Nohria & Zaheer, 2000).

Social capital is a valuable asset for managing inter-organizational relationships since it constrains a firm's partners to be more cooperative. Those organizations that possess less social capital are required significantly greater time and efforts to monitor the relationships. In addition, those with less social capital will suffer more difficulties when building an enduring history of effective cooperative behavior (Walker, Kogut& Shan, 1997). Walker et al. (1997) also indicate that if a firm is available to more social capital, it needs fewer resources to manage existing relationships. Thus, the firm can make use of the remained resources to establish new ones. Nahapiet & Ghoshal (1998) and Tsai & Ghoshal (1998) have considered social capital as a broadly defined-dimensional construct that can contribute in many ways to the creation of new value for an organization (Tsai, 2000).

Social capital aids to adaptive efficiency and to the creativity and learning it implies. Moreover, social capital encourage cooperative behavior, thus facilitates the development of new forms of association and innovative organization. It is suggested that social capital helps to expedite the efficiency of information diffusion through minimizing redundancy. Thus, it reduces the costs of transactions. And social capital is one of the most important sources of values that contribute to the growth of an organization. Enabling people to act collectively (Woolcock & Narayan, 2000), social capital reflects the value of relationships (Nahapiet & Ghoshal, 1998) and is the quality among people and organizations. Often, social capital entails a web of relationships that includes norms, values and obligations, but also yields potential opportunities for the holders of the capital (Haley & Haley, 1999).

For the most parts, social capital is like other forms of human capital: its owner will obtain higher wages than someone who does not have social capital and its value is determined by the costs of replacing it (Mortensen & Vishwanath, 1994; Sherer, 1995). Social capital, however, can be *transferred* to others, whereas most forms of human capital can't be transferred.

III. Dynamic of Relational Capital

The concept of dynamic intellectual capital has much to do with a firm's strategy and business environment. That is, the contents and features of intellectual capital differ, depending on the firm's ways and possibilities for creating added values, and also depending on the business environment in which it functions. Thus, dynamic intellectual capital is a strategy-linked concept. What creates value for one company does not necessarily create value for another.

Dynamic IC is both a property and an ability of the organization. The property

produced by the capability to act in all these business environments, the output of which might be patents, trademarks, business applications and other intangible assets. These properties often need to be protected from competitors. On the other hand, dynamic IC is the ability of an organization.

The intellectual capital model describes the firm's intellectual assets in terms of three distinct elements (Bontis, 1998; Edvinsson & Malone, 1997; Johnson, 1999; Saint-Onge, 1996; Stewart, 1997). These include human, structural and relational capital. The basic elements of each of these, and their hypothesized interactions with one another, are illustrated in the following figure (adapted from Johnson, 1999). Leadership and ideas capital represent components of human capital, elements that constitute the intellectual value of human beings in the firm. Because all innovation comes from the intellect or knowledge sets of human beings, it is apparent that all intellectual capital originates first as human capital. Thus, knowledge sets, or ideas, are the basis for all intellectual capital development. Innovation and process capital represent components of structural capital, elements that constitute the legal and process value of the firm. Relational capital is moderated by cultural capital and both of these intellectual capital elements represent the knowledge needed to provide ongoing value-added relations with customers, suppliers and societal stakeholders. To this extent, relational capital is affected by the organization's cognitive lenses, often referred to as frames of reference (March & Simon, 1985) or cognitive maps (Weick & Bougon, 1986).

In the figure, there is no element of intellectual capital by itself creates ongoing value for the firm, but its value creating only when interacting with other elements of the intellectual capital model.

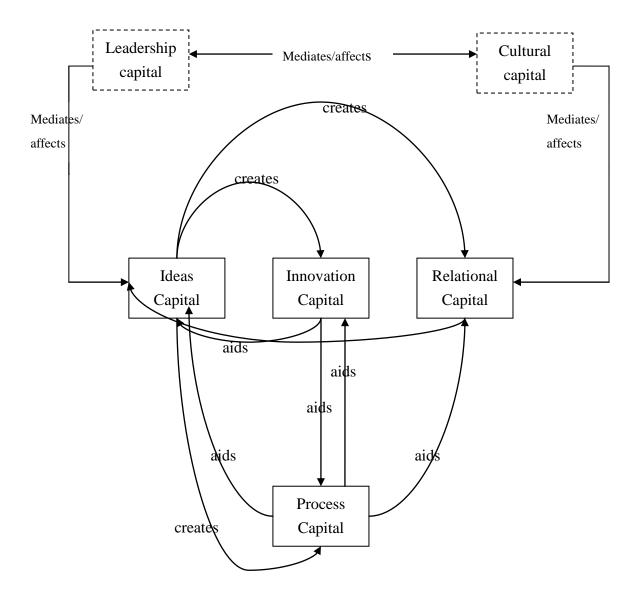


Figure 1 An interactive system of intellectual capital elements

From the above literature review, we know that relational capital can be tackled from various perspectives with various dimensions. As relational capital mainly resides in employees, it is difficult to transfer from the individual relationship to company-kept relationship. This researcher attempts to build a relational capital model that can detect and guide the creation and accumulation of this very important capital. The rationale for focusing on the healthcare industry is hospital management relies a lot on intellectual capital, and a hospital's relationships with the patients, with the communities, and with the professional associations are very complicated that provide an ideal research ground for this type of study.

Basically, the semi-structured in-depth interviews will explore case organization's relational capital from stakeholders' viewpoint including employees'

willingness and commitment to sustain and create relational capital, involvement in professional community, external alliance or partnership, regular external social events, transferring from individual ties to organizational ties, and the preliminary model build through the top-down literature review.

IV. Methods

As described in the project proposal, health care industry is the target of this third year study. Three hospitals, namely Wan Fang Hospital, Far Eastern Memorial Hospital, and Tsuchi Hospital have been selected as the case hospitals. Semi-structured in-depth interviews were conducted to explore their cognitive, structural and relational dimensions of relational capital (Nahapiet and Ghoshal, 1998).

As both top-down and bottom-up approaches were adopted to investigate the accumulation of structural capital, the preliminary results of both approaches are described hereunder.

V. Top-down approach – Extensive literature review

After a comprehensive review of relevant theories, the following theories from cognitive, structural, and relational stage may contribute to the accumulation of relational capital.

Cognitive stage:

Goal-setting theory Social cognition theory Expectancy theory

Structural stage:

Resource dependency theory Social exchange theory

Relational stage: Networking theory Social capital theory

VI. Bottom-up approach – In-depth interview of 3 hospitals

The following table summaries the interview results based on cognitive, structural and relational dimensions of relational capital.

Relational	Wan Fang Hospital	Far Eastern Memorial	Tsuchi Hospital	
Capital components		Hospital		
Cognitive	 Patient-centered and community based medical care WF emphasizes the humanity side of medicine WF aggressively attend relevant award competition for improving operational process and for social recognition 	 FE performs team-based medical service to build up the performance and reputation for patient's satisfaction Customer and stakeholder focused relations management Use innovation for surgery advancement that attracts more patients 	 Tsuchi is volunteer based system that enlarges the connectivity with the mass amount of citizens The top management team aims to serve rather than cure the patients 	
Structural	 The physical setting is very inviting (such as having 9 art exhibition halls), manifesting that WF is a warm hospital that is an integral part of the whole community Build "patient security information system" to help improve 	 Improve medical technology for higher patients' satisfaction Regular external social events Project team design for easier external alliance Join-development program with internal team (such as heart 	 Tsuchi is mainly women-based volunteers, who either donate money or time Initially, Tsuchi hospital was supported by a group of Chang Gung hospital doctors 	

Relational capital	based on the	interview scr	ripts and archive	data of three	hospitals
iterational capital	bused off the	meet view bei	Post und ut chit c	unin or unive	nospitals

		patient care		and kidney transplant	3. Tsuchi group has its
	3.	Develop various kinds		teams) and NTU	own TV channel
		of indicators for self		hospital	
		examination and has	5.	Develop	
		become other's		technological trend	
		benchmark in the		that meets patients'	
		medical industry		needs	
	4.	WF is a teaching			
		hospital commissioned			
		by Taipei City			
		government, therefore			
		we have many			
		stakeholders			
	5.	WF has a community			
		service team			
Relational	1.	Doctor is required to	1.E	Employees' willingness	1.A lot of volunteers are
		call the patient who	anc	l commitment to	doing service in the
		has abnormal health	sus	tain and create	hospital
		check result for proper	rela	ational capital	2.Doctors and
		explanation and	2.T	reat patients as	volunteers do free
		follow up check	par	rents	community service
	2.	Ambulance companies	3.E	Build good internal	3.Tsuchi's volunteers
		and drivers are also	rela	ationship first	comfort the last mile
		stakeholder for	4. <i>A</i>	Apply for a MRT FE	patient with Buddha
		emergency delivery	sta	tion near the hospital	prayer
	3.	WF sends free meals			
		to aged single resident			
		every day in the			
		community			
	4.	WF sends medical			
		consulting team for			
		free community			
		service, which covered			

7 areas with 32 local	
clinics	

From the summary of the above table, Figure 2 was drawn to delineate the formation of relational capital with the theories that apply to its stage development.

1. Stage one – cognitive perspective

Intentional relational capital creation starts with needs for additional relational capital.

stage 1.1 – goal-setting theory

In the creation process, setting the goal regarding what type of relationship with whom is very important. Therefore, *goal-setting theory* initiates the relational capital creation process.

stage 1.2 -social cognition theory

The above goal needs to be socially recognized by the top management team and all the organizational members, that is when <u>social cognition theory</u> comes in. With the cognition, consensus of organizational goal should be reached and the platform for achieving the goals should be built.

stage 1.3 – expectancy theory

The actual relational capital formulation should be processed through people, that is each relevant individual should understand what to achieve, how to achieve it, and what to expect. This is when <u>expectancy theory</u> comes in.

2. Stage two – structural perspective

Once the goal is set, members accept the direction, and there is clear expectation, organizations need to construct the matching environment and policies for goal achievement. That is, the structural perspective of relational capital should build the essential platform.

stage 2.1 -resource dependency theory

With the prospect, what resources are needed and who owns the resources have to be identified and approached. In other words, matching resources need to be ready to build the desirable relational capital. This is when <u>resource dependency theory</u> comes in.

stage 2.2 – social exchange theory

After the resources are identified, social exchanges may be required for building the relationship. This is when *social exchange theory* comes in.

3. Stage three – relational perspective

stage 3.1 –networking theory

With organizational goal, members' cognition and expectation, identified resources, and whom to exchange the resources, organizations need to actually network to obtain relational capital. This is when <u>networking theory</u> comes in.

stage 3.2 – social capital theory

After the above stated processes, organizations should be able to obtain the desirable relational capital. Yet, the approaches advocated by social capital theory have to be attended to. This is when *social capital theory* comes in.

How Figure 2 model works for relational capital creation and accumulation is elaborated hereunder with the evidences from the three hospitals.

1. Stage one – cognitive perspective

stage 1.1 – goal-setting

Wan Fang – to become patient-centered and artistic hospital, to participate relevant award competition for self-renewal and for publicity

Far Eastern – to become patients' best choice for heart surgery, through medical technology advancement, internal medical team co-development, and external alliance

Tsuchi – volunteer based system that enlarges the connectivity with the mass amount of citizens

stage 1.2 -social cognition

All three hospitals have successfully built the image they expect to project to the general public, through the organizational culture and members' manifested behaviours.

stage 1.3 – expectation

All three hospitals have achieved their original expectation to a certain degree:

Wan Fang – its reputation has been firmly established that WF has successfully acquired another 1,300-bed hospital.

Far Eastern – contrary to the discipline-centered and doctor-centered tradition, FE has successfully built the working model of team development that provides better patient service and greatly boosts its business. For example, the kidney doctors are

a team and perform equal quality care following the standard operation procedure; the kidney doctors and heart doctors are working closely together for better kidney and heart transplant surgery.

Tsuchi –Tsuchi has successfully projected an image of a very caring hospital. Its volunteers comfort the last mile patients with Buddha prayer, which is appreciated by the family members.

2. Stage two – structural perspective

stage 2.1 –resource dependency

Wan Fang – Taipei Medical School, Taipei city government, and the local community

Far Eastern – well-trained medical doctors from National Taiwan Hospital and nurses, Far Eastern group

Tsuchi – citizens and volunteers, Tsuchi received huge donation including money and volunteers' time

stage 2.2 – social exchange theory

Wan Fang – Taipei Medical School supports well-trained doctors and WF provides internship opportunities for the medical school resident-students; WF runs the hospitals for Taipei city government in exchange for government resources; WF conducts regular free medical consulting services in local communities to boost its reputation for more patients

Far Eastern – teach doctors of other hospital for the developed advanced surgery technology to obtain recognition and to attract more qualified doctors (FE is a relatively new hospital)

Tsuchi – to attract patients that need more service; the volunteers are ranked into different levels according to their donation of either money or time

3. Stage three – relational perspective

stage 3.1 – networking

Wan Fang – WF uses the following measures to do network for better hospital performance in addition to the required medical care:

- a. art gallery
- b. free community medical service and free meals for the community aged single residents
- c. acquire more resources from Taipei city government

d. acquire qualified doctors from Taipei Medical School

Far Eastern –uses the following measures to do network for better hospital performance in addition to the required medical care:

- a. advanced surgery technology
- b. more comprehensive medical care
- c. external alliance with National Taiwan Medical School
- d. successfully apply for a MRT FE station near the hospital

Tsuchi –uses the following measures to do network for better hospital performance in addition to the required medical care:

- a. own a TV channel
- b. provide the opportunity for the petty citizens to fulfil their wish for doing something good to the society
- c. volunteers invite more volunteers to do the service
- d. comfort the last mile patients with Buddha prayer

stage 3.2 – social capital

Wan Fang - nearby communities are the sources of its social capital

Far Eastern – very qualified internal and external medical teams are the sources of its social capital

Tsuchi – huge amount of volunteers is the most important source of its social capital

VII. Conclusion

This third year study focuses on conducting a comprehensive literature review to identify relevant theories that explain the accumulation of relational capital. As a result, a total of seven theories were identified at the cognitive, structural, and relational dimension for an organization to progressively create and accumulate relational capital. Three hospitals were selected to examine the application of the identified theories. Apparently, events reported in the hospital interviews prove the applicability of the Relational Capital Formation Model proposed by this study.

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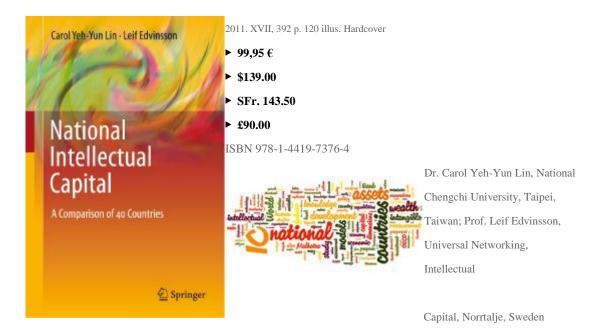
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Summary of the Three Years Project

In reflecting the purpose of this three year project (2007-2010), the expected results have been achieved. For the first year 2007-2008 study, I not only continue and deepen my national intellectual capital research but also publish a book at the third year (November 2010 by Springer New York) using my research results. Please refer to the book cover copied hereunder. In addition, I have also observed some early signs of the 2008 financial crisis from my data set and presented a paper *"What national intellectual capital indices can tell about the global economic crisis of 2007-2009?"*, in the 2nd European Conference on Intellectual Capital in March 2010 in Lisbon Portugal. I am copying hereunder the introduction of my book:

www.nic40.org



National Intellectual Capital

A Comparison of 40 Countries

Over the past decade a new economic landscape is emerging based on intangibles, or an evolution toward Knowledge. Knowledge assets and intellectual capital are attracting the attention of all aspects of governance in the public and private sectors. To date, most studies of intellectual capital have focused at the organizational level, with an emphasis on explaining the role of "intangible assets" as a differentiator between accounting value and market value as a possible source of corporate competitive advantage. More recently, pioneers in the field, including the authors of this book, have begun to apply these methodologies to a broader scope, with the objective of comparing the intellectual capital indices at the national or regional level. As a result, an increasing number of world organizations and researchers are commissioned to investigate this future-oriented crucial national issue. Yet, the linkage between the value of intangible assets and how to quantify or benchmark it is still tenuous, not to mention easily misunderstood by a layman for guiding better decision making.

With the belief that numbers talk and statistics hide valuable information, this book serves to present the authors' research findings, covering 14 years (1995-2008) of intellectual capital information.

National Intellectual Capital:

- Gives statistically validated reports on intellectual capital indicators for 40 countries, over a 14 year period.
- ► Identifies three major types of intellectual growth patterns.

• Details the impact and implications of three major types of intellectual capital growth patterns for innovation, business creation, competitiveness, growth, and development

In the second year 2008-2009, I studied the less-examined structural capital and explored the theories beyond "institutional theory." Utilizing both top-down literature review and bottom-up case studies approach, I have developed a "structural capital formation model" as shown in Figure 3 and delineated the six stages development as follows. Its application on the three hospitals was also reported in the second year mid-term report.

1. Stage one – institutional theory

Initial structural capital is formulated through *institutionalization*, such as basic infrastructure is similar in the same industry.

2. Stage two – structural contingency theory

As time goes by and conditions change, existing structural capital may erode or decrease. New structural capital building is required for companies to survive and thrive; *structural contingency theory* plays a role in the reformulation of structural capital. The contingency may result from the interactions of *prospect theory*, *resource dependency theory*, *and environment-organization fit theory*.

stage 2.1 – prospect theory

In the reformulation process, the prospect held by the organizational members is very important.

stage 2.2 – resource dependency theory

With the prospect, matching resources need to be ready to build the desirable structural capital

stage 2.3 - environment-organization fit theory

The prospect and resources have to be examined through the lenses of environment-organization fit to come up with the desirable culture, strategy, structure, and system.

3. Stage three – social cognition theory

The above structural contingency stage needs to be socially recognized by the top management team and all the organizational members, that is when <u>social</u> <u>cognition theory</u> comes in. With the cognition, consensus of organizational goals should be reached and the platform for achieving the goals should be built.

4. Stage four – expectancy theory

The actual structural capital formulation should be processed through people, that is each relevant individual should understand what to achieve, how to achieve it, and what to expect. This is when <u>expectancy theory</u> comes in.

5. Stage five – organization development theory

When all the above stated elements are ready, a period of time is required to promote, formulate, and develop the planned structural capital. <u>Organization</u> <u>development theory</u> applies at this stage.

6. Stage six – institutional theory again

When the desirable structural capital is well developed, it has to be *institutionalized* for company-wide implementation.

In the third year 2009-2010, the focus is on relational capital and the theories beyond "networking theory." Again, utilizing both top-down literature review and bottom-up case studies approach, I have developed a "relational capital formation model" as shown in Figure 2 and its application on the three hospitals is reported in the first part of this report.

With my years of devotion on the research of intellectual capital from both macro and micro perspective, I have the honor to be invited as one of the international advisory board members for a Finland project - Intellectual Capital as a Driver of National Economy in Finland (please refer to the attached invitation letter).

As I have started another round of 3-year intellectual capital research from August 2010, the structural capital formation model and relational capital formation model described in this report will be tested and verified in the field. In other words, to examine whether the developed two models can actually be applied to the real organizations, new literature review, case interviews, and focus group evaluation on theories will be conducted in the following three years. Hopefully, the research results of the intellectual capital research community in Taiwan under the sponsorship of National Science Council will have better international exposure through our continuous studies and on-going paper or book publishing.



Helsinki 20.10.2010

Professor Carol Yeh-Yun Lin Taiwan Intellectual Capital Research Center National Chenachi University.

Dear Professor Carol Lin,

I thank you cordially that you have accepted our invitation as an international advisory board member of the research project SAIKA (Intellectual Capital as a Driver of National Economy in Finland). The other members of the scientific advisory board are professor Leif Edvinsson from Sweden, professor Ahmed Bounfour from France and professor Giovanny Schiuma from Italy.

The first international SAIKA board meeting will be held in Helsinki, Finland November 22nd (from 9 am) and 23rd (until 4 pm). Your travel expenses will be fully covered by Finland Futures Research Centre, University of Turku.

You are warmly welcome!

Best regards

The Pirio Ståhle

Professor Finland Futures Research Centre

University of Turku

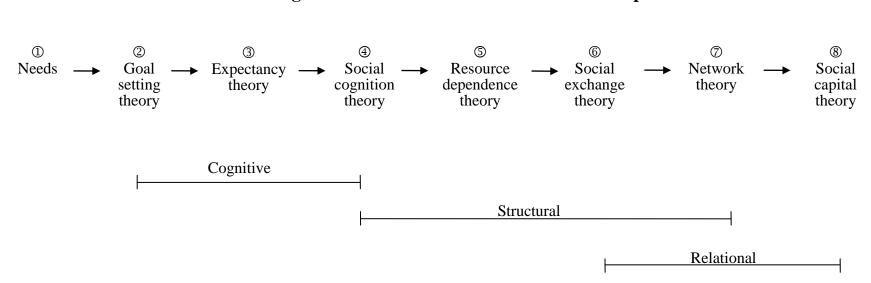


Figure 2 Process of Intentional Relational Capital Formation

