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Section VII. Critical Issues

This section contains over 20 chapters giving a wide variety of perspectives on knowledge management and its implications. Such perspectives include reading in economics, cross-cultural exchange, humanism, technology, and several more. The chapter also discusses new ethical considerations within knowledge management and organizational learning. Within the chapters, the reader is presented with an in-depth analysis of the most current and relevant issues within this growing field of study. Crucial questions are addressed and alternatives offered, such as the role of emotional capital in knowledge and human resource management. Rounding out this section is a look at "pedagogical sustainability" of interoperable formal and informal learning environments.

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Section VIII. Emerging Trends

This section highlights research potential within the field of organizational learning and knowledge while exploring uncharted areas of study for the advancement of the discipline. Introducing this section are chapters that set the stage for future research directions and topical suggestions for continued debate, centering on the new venues and forums for discussion (The New Company Water Cooler and Towards a new Episteme are the chapters that begin the section). Discussions assessing the potential of new technologies in social software and transfer knowledge are offered. Another debate which currently finds itself at the forefront of research is the potential of using knowledge management as both a desirable and undesirable process within your company. Found in these chapters, concluding this exhaustive multi-volume set are areas of emerging trends and suggestions for future research within this rapidly expanding discipline.

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