

CALL FOR PAPERS

Convergence, Citizen Journalism & Social Change: Building Capacity

LOCATION: University of Queensland, BRISBANE

DATES: March 25-27, 2008

SPONSORS: *Asian Media Information and Communication Centre (AMIC)/ School of Journalism & Communication, University of Queensland/ Journalism, Media & Communication, Queensland University of Technology*

The era of the digital has led to the problematisation of a number of issues once taken for granted: for example, understandings of the nature, practices and objectives of journalism. While traditional journalism remains a significant institution in the Asia-Pacific region, new forms of journalism – from blogs to online news services - have begun to offer audiences new sources for news and new opportunities for self-expression. This raises questions about what is journalism in the context of an era in which traditional notions and practices of journalism are continually challenged/matched/complemented by an explosion of digital practices, insurrections and resistances both within and outside mainstream media organisations. It also questions what it means to be a citizen in a digital era characterised by trans-national multiple flows of images, people, resources, in which our sense of place and time is being radically restructured by rapid technological innovations and consequent cultural and social dislocations. The Asia-Pacific region certainly provides a number of opportunities to explore these issues.

As well as providing the space to interrogate theory, this theme offers us an opportunity to interrogate the practices and pedagogies of the analogue and digital eras which inform our ways of thinking and doing – for example teaching and research into journalism and communication practice and their relation to social change, as well as broader media policy and practice which enables diverse social groups to gain a voice and stake in the social change process. While there is, for instance, evidence of the changes that are directly and indirectly impacting on the scope and practice of journalism as a result of a variety of public/citizen communication practices, we are less sure of the sustainability of such practices, and of the relationship these practices have to mainstream journalism and media policy. In this context of change, it makes sense to explore the capacities required for the next generation of media, communication and journalism students, and the pedagogies that are needed to nurture citizen journalism and other forms of community media.

This conference will be structured around the exploration of three distinct but related streams – theory, practice and capacities.

Theory

- Problematizing Journalism Education in the Context of Convergence
- Citizen Journalism & Social Change
- Revisiting Resistance in an Era of the Digital
- Rethinking Media Politics, Democracy, and Social Movement Communication in the Digital Age.
- Theorising power in an era of the Digital

Practice

- Media Education, New Media & Citizenship
- Community Radio, New Media and Social Change
- Indymedia as the Practice of Citizenship
- E-governance, the Right to Information and Citizenship
- Media Industries and Citizen Journalism

Capacities

- Building Capacities for Citizen Journalists: Case Studies from the Asia-Pacific Region
- *Indigenous*: Capacity Building for Substantive Citizenship
- Journalism for Smart States: Creating Capacities in the Asia-Pacific Region
- Media Making Change: Building Capacities in Civil Society
- Capacity Building and the Role of Inter-governmental Agencies

Submitting Abstracts & Full Papers

Send abstracts of no more than 500 words to:

Dr. Shuang Liu,
sjcamic2008@uq.edu.au

Please save your abstract with the filename:

Example: Joe_Blog_AMIC_Brisbane.08.doc

Do use the attached template.

The deadline for submission of abstracts is: ***October 15***

Full papers will be required by ***January 7, 2008***

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Asian Media Information and Communication Centre (AMIC), University of Queensland,
Queensland University of Technology

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Last name:	First name:
Organisation:	
Mailing address:	
Telephone:	Fax:
Email:	
Title of Abstract:	
<i>Please type your abstract here (no more than 500 words in length, 12 point New Times Roman)</i>	
Facility requested for presentation: Data projector OHP Laptop	

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