

2014 SYMPOSIUM

CONNECT: Institute for Social Transformation Research (ISTR)

Joint Sponsors - The Department of Media and Communications, University of Sydney and The Institute for Social Transformation Research (ISTR) present a one-day symposium on:

Internet Histories/Internet Futures

Date: Wednesday 12th February 2014

Time: 9:30am to 4:30pm

Location: The University of Sydney

Symposium Description:

Despite the fact that the Internet is entering its fifth decade, the understanding and formulation of its histories outside of a Euro-American framework is very much in its infancy. In this symposium, which arises from an Australian Research Council discovery grant on Asia-Pacific Internet Histories <http://internethistories.net/>, speakers explore some of the problems, questions, assumptions, methods, biases, narratives, metaphors and logics that underlie the research into the Internet's diverse histories. We also consider the 'future' of Internet histories -- what questions remain to be addressed and issues explored?

The symposium brings together leading researchers working on country-specific and regional histories of the Internet as well as those researching transnational platforms and communities, thus adding to our understanding of the different historical patterns of Internet development and deployment and their possible future directions.

Speakers have been asked to specifically consider:

- What are the challenges of doing Internet histories, and what are the particular issues for concepts, methods, tools, documentation, archives, interpretative strategies, and presentation of research findings? How do these factors differ across societies?
- What are the implications of specific cultural metaphors and ways of thinking about the Internet for the technology's development in specific countries and regions?

The morning session of formal papers will be followed by a 'Fishbowl' session in the afternoon where all participants will have the opportunity to present ideas and issues arising from their own research in conversation with the invited speakers. The symposium is part of a series of events aimed at shaping the *Routledge Handbook of Comparative Internet Histories* currently being developed by the organizers.

Invited Presenters:

Matthew Allen (Deakin)
Jean Burgess (QUT)
Mark McLelland (UOW)

Tom Boellstorff (UC, Irvine)
Gerard Goggin (Sydney)
David Savat (UWA)

Ian Buchanan (UOW)
Tama Leaver (Curtin)
Haiqing Yu (UNSW)

Registration:

The event is free of charge, however spaces are limited and pre-registration is essential. To reserve a place please email Mark McLelland markmc@uow.edu.au by December 20, 2013. Attendees will be advised of location and final program by email closer to the event.



UNIVERSITY OF
WOLLONGONG



<http://lha.uow.edu.au/arts/research/istr/workshops/index.html>