Publishing Updates

Monroe Price’s Huffington Blog

The mood on the streets in Mubai, India, after the terrorist attacks, a call for a live public broadcast in movie theatres of Barack Obama’s inauguration, and Sarah Palin’s future as a reality TV contestant are all topics covered recently by Monroe Price, Director of CGCS in his recent blogs at the Huffington Post.

Final Report on Sudan Public Opinion Research (Feb 07-Nov 08)

People most affected by the civil war in Darfur, like those in refugee camps, have little faith in current peace initiatives. Additionally, there is insufficient focus by the international media on the Darfur conflict overall.

Those are but two of the findings in a report released in November 2008 by CGCS and the Stanhope Centre. The report, “Researching Attitudes towards Peace and Conflict in Darfur: An analysis of a research initiative from February 2007 – October 2008,” contains our preliminary findings, lessons learned and recommendations for future research. Read the Report. To overcome the challenges of conducting public opinion research in a conflict environment, where physical danger was combined with governmental obstacles, the CGCS-Stanhope team employed a multi-methodological approach, consisting of both direct methods (oral
histories and focused semi-structured interviews) and indirect methods (monitoring of online forums and content analysis of opinion pieces relating to Darfur in Sudanese and international newspapers). Click here for more information on our Sudan project.

CGCS Occasional Paper on Conducting Research in Conflict Zones

CGCS and the Stanhope Centre have also released an occasional paper, “Public Opinion Research in a Conflict Zone: Grassroots Diplomacy in Darfur.” This paper outlines a research framework to assess attitudes toward peace and conflict and support greater understanding of the opinions of those affected in conflict and post-conflict societies. Based on research in Darfur conducted in 2007-2008, the framework can be implemented by others interested in research in conflict areas. Grassroots diplomacy is a way to include a wider variety of voices in negotiation processes and in building consensual ideas. Modern wars and related peace processes are increasingly affected by problems that cannot be easily resolved through the habitual channels of traditional diplomacy, and need creative solutions. In this context, knowledge of the attitudes and opinions of the population on the ground – in refugee camps, towns and villages – represents a fundamental check on those groups which claim to speak on behalf of large constituencies but often manipulate their depth of local support to further their own economic and political interests. Click here for more information on our Sudan project.

Visiting Scholar Altug Akin

CGCS is hosting Altug Akin for the month of December. Altug is a doctoral student at the Faculty of Communication & Advertising at Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain, and a member of the university’s research group GRISS (Grupo de Investigación en Imagen, Sonido y Síntesis - Image, Sound and Synthesis Research Group). He is interested in the historical interplay between national, ethnic, class or gender-related identities and TV. National identity is a particularly compelling subject of interest, not only because of global, regional and local pressures, but also because it has been the most dominant mode of subjectivity throughout the birth and expansion of TV culture. Altug is analyzing TV productions as valuable "media spaces" where national and other imaginations (global, regional and local) tend to conflict. In particular, using TV as a frame, he is observing the tensions between a Pan-European identity and various national imaginations such as Turkishness, Swedishness and Spanishness. Altug completed his Masters studies in Engineering Management Information Systems at the Royal Institute of Technology, and in Journalism Studies at Stockholm University, both in Sweden. Prior to his studies in Barcelona, he taught at Izmir University of Economics, Turkey. You can e-mail Altug by clicking on his name.
Summer Schools: Annenberg-Oxford, CEU, OII

**July 5-18, 2009: Annenberg-Oxford Summer Institute on Global Media Policy**

The annual Institute brings together young scholars and regulators from around the world to discuss important recent trends in technology and its influence on information policy. The sessions deal with recent problems in internet regulation and net neutrality, satellite delivery of information, and emerging issues in the structuring of the mobile industry and its delivery of video. Much of the time is devoted to new developments in comparative approaches to regulation, looking at Ofcom in the UK as well as other agencies, possibly including Hungary, Germany, the Middle East and China. Previous institutes have included sessions on freedom of information statutes, public diplomacy, media and economic and social development and the history of information transitions in the former Soviet Union. The richness of the experience comes from exposure to a variety of speakers and from the discussions among participants. Last year, there were 28 participants from 20 different countries. [Click here](#) for more information about the program.

**June 21-July 11, 2009: CEU Summer School 2009 on "Media, Democratization and International Development"**

CGCS and its partner institution, the Center for Media and Communication Studies at CEU, are preparing a summer school program on "Media, Democratization and International Development: Foundations for a More Robust Research Agenda." The program, held from June 21-July 11, 2009, will be based at CEU in Budapest.

The program will bring together renowned faculty from several institutions, including Annenberg, CEU, Oxford and the University of Georgia, and is being developed in partnership with international NGOs. Students will learn how to investigate the impact of media in a development context and will discuss development theories, governance assistance practices, research methods and case studies. In addition, they will embark on mentored field trips in Hungary, Romania and Serbia, involving practical work on media development projects. The course is open to graduate students, media practitioners, members of policy and development institutions, and others interested in issues of media development. [Click here](#) for more information.

**July 6-17,2009: Oxford Internet Institute Summer Doctoral Program**

The seventh [Oxford Internet Institute](#) (OII) Summer Doctoral Programme will be conducted and organized in partnership with the [Creative Industries Faculty](#) at Queensland University of Technology (QUT), Brisbane, Australia from July 6-17, 2009. The thematic focus this year will be on 'Creativity, Innovation and the Internet.'

The aim of the program is to bring together advanced doctoral students engaged in
dissertation research on diverse aspects of creativity and innovation relating to the Internet and other ICTs. By sharing their work and learning from leading academics in the field, students can enhance the quality and significance of their thesis research and create a peer network of excellent early-stage researchers. Click here for more information.

**Events**

**January 23, 2009, Annenberg workshop on Iran Media Research - Annenberg School (9am-5pm), Room 500**

Free but RSVP to Sylvie Beauvais.

As the Iranian Revolution comes upon its 30th anniversary in 2009, spaces within Iranian media are challenging the core ideology of that Islamic Republic. Evolving from a "revolutionary media" to a "reform period" in the late 1990s and early 2000s, Iranian media have grown from a few publications and broadcast outlets to a wide array of print, satellite, Internet and mobile telephone operations, later to be curtailed under the Presidency of Mahmod Ahmadinejad. Despite renewed efforts at censorship, the proliferation of technology and easy access to that technology has empowered audiences, civil society organizations, and marginalized political groups.

This day-long workshop will explore the state's attempt to reign in technologies and the ways in which spaces of opposition have formed in popular culture despite these controls.

**Newton Fellowships**

The [Programme in Comparative Media Law and Policy](https://www.compmedlaw.org/) (PCMLP) at the University of Oxford will sponsor applicants for the Newton Fellowship – a two-year program of study open to early-stage post-doctoral researchers from anywhere in the world. Applicants in the final stages of their doctoral studies will be considered, provided their degree will be completed by the start of the fellowship in September 2009. Click here for more information. If you are interested in putting forward a research proposal, contact Louise Scott with your CV and a brief outline of your research interests. Please note that the closing date for applications to Newton International Fellowship programme is January 12, 2009. However, you should contact PCMLP as soon as possible in order to develop your proposal and research agenda in collaboration with them.

**About CGCS**

The director of CGCS is Professor Monroe E. Price, a leading authority on issues relating to media and civil society, media law and policy advocacy, and the
intersection between communication, development, and globalization. The associate
director of CGCS is Susan Abbott. Abbott works with Prof. Price on increasing
international and comparative research and activities. She helps to identify and
develop capacity with international partners such as CMCS in Budapest and
manages international development projects. CGCS staff includes Sylvie Beauvais,
Project Coordinator; Libby Morgan, Research and Editorial Coordinator; and Kate
Coyer, Annenberg-CEU Post-Doc. More information on CGCS Staff.

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Comments and suggestions for the newsletter may be forwarded to Sylvie Beauvais.