News from the Center for Global Communication Studies

Volume Two, Number Four, May 2009

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Staff News

Kate Coyer becomes Director of Center for Media and Communication Studies at CEU

Former Annenberg-Central European University post-doc Kate Coyer, Ph.D., has been appointed Director of the Center for Media and Communication Studies (CMCS) at Central European University (CEU) in Budapest, starting in September. Dr. Coyer has spent the past three years working between Budapest and Philadelphia and has taught classes at both the University of Pennsylvania and CEU. Keep reading …

CGCS welcomes two new staff members to the team

Diedra Krieger, a formally-trained artist with international experience, joins CGCS as Project
Coordinator. Diedra brings over 10 years of project management expertise to CGCS. She has been an Assistant Media Buyer for Publication Services at Penn for the past two and a half years. Prior to that, she advised students on career issues at Moore College of Art & Design. Diedra worked for Oxfam Australia on the East Timor Emergency Desk and as an Executive Assistant/Project Coordinator while she pursued her degree in Development Studies. At the Overseas Projects Corporation of Victoria, she helped over 80 fellowship awardees from the former communist states secure business experience placements in Australia. Diedra earned her BA from New York University, and MA from Monash University. E-mail her anytime.

Noa Michaeli-Shachar joins CGCS as a part-time Development Officer. Noa holds a Bachelor’s degree in International Relations and Communications from The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel, and a Master’s degree in European Studies from the University of Siena, Italy. Until the end of 2008, she worked as the head of the European desk in the University of Haifa, where she was involved, among others, with identifying potential sources of science funding in the European Union and matching them with the research fields of the University's faculty. E-mail her anytime.

Media Law Workshop at the Dead Sea

CGCS recently ran a one-day workshop at the Dead Sea, in partnership with the Center for Defending Freedom of Journalists. The workshop was a part of the work CGCS does on the IREX-led, and USAID-funded Jordan Media Strengthening Program (JMSP). Media law experts Richard Winfield, Counsel, Clifford Chance, and Peter Noorlander, Legal Director, Media Legal Defence Initiative, joined Jordanian media law experts for a workshop aimed at lawyers and judges in Jordan. The focus of the workshop was on local and international trends in media cases. Legal defense strategies and how Jordanian courts have handled cases related to its Press and Publications Law were a central part of the workshop. The Dead Sea Media Law Workshop followed the recent launch of Primer on media law and Policy in Jordan – available in English and Arabic.

Grad Student Update

Matthew Blanchard

First-year doctoral student Matthew Blanchard has been closely involved in CGCS activities. He will spend the summer in Oxford at the Programme in Comparative Media Law and Policy. He will be working on a project concerning information flows in Somaliland, including the impact of media on political and ethnic violence. As part of this work, he helped organize a workshop in Kenya for Somali journalists to study the role of Kenya's media in the violent aftermath of that country's disputed 2007 presidential election. Blanchard is also part of a small group, organized by CGCS, looking at patterns of emergence of “environmental communications” as a field of research in US and non-US graduate programs.

Events
India and Communications Studies: CGCS Preconference at the ICA
May 20-21, 2009, Chicago

In an effort to create a new coherence for the field of communication studies in India, CGCS, along with the Center for Culture, Media and Governance at Jamia Millia Islamia University in New Delhi, is organizing a preconference (to be held alongside this year’s Chicago International Communication Association (ICA) conference) that will help map communication and culture studies in India and gather some of the leading and emerging scholars in the field. The preconference, to be held May 20 - 21, is designed to promote greater awareness of the impact of India on global pathways, and to encourage research opportunities and foster partnerships between scholars and practitioners.

The planning committee includes Biswajit Das, Radhika Parameswaran, CGCS Director Monroe E. Price and Aswin Punathambekar. Radhika, an associate professor at the School of Journalism at Indiana University, is spending this semester as a Visiting Scholar with the Annenberg Scholar’s Program in Culture and Communication. The pre-conference is co-sponsored by the Mudra Institute of Communication, Ahmedabad (MICA) and the Mudra Institute of Communication Research (MICORE). Click here for a detailed agenda. Register here.

CIRC 2009: The Chinese Internet and Civil Society: Civic Engagement, Deliberation and Culture
May 27-29, 2009

The theme of the Seventh Chinese Internet Research Conference, "The Chinese Internet and Civil Society: Civic Engagement, Deliberation and Culture," is designed to bring together scholars and professionals to examine the Chinese Internet from socioeconomic, political and cultural perspectives. While there has been significant research on the political implications of the Internet in China, we have yet to fully understand the changes the Internet is fostering in civil society, or on the intersection between the market and the state, as well as the Internet's cultural implications for identity formation, emergent cultural phenomena and social networking. This conference seeks to explore these uncharted areas through sessions on Public Sphere and Deliberation; Censorship, Surveillance, and the State of the Chinese Internet; Civil Society in China - Challenges and Opportunities; Women and Minorities; Civic Engagement and Participation; Panics, Nationalism; and Grassroots Culture, among others.

On May 29, a small post-conference workshop will concentrate on prominent academics, bloggers and policy analysts on Chinese Perspectives on Internet governance. Click here for more information on CIRC 2009

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 Diedra Krieger, Project Coordinator; Noa Michaeli-Shachar, Development Officer; 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 Diedra Kreiger

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