

## Communication Policy & Technology (CPT) Newsletter, April, 2019.

Greetings from the CPT chairing team. This is our first newsletter of 2019. It includes:

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### 1. CPT *Special issue with Internet Policy Review*, 2019.

At our business meeting two years ago we discussed publication activities in our section. The open access journal [Internet Policy Review](#) was suggested and discussions were initiated. Last year we offered a CPT and Internet Policy Review [best paper award](#). With this newsletter we are pleased to announce a CPT/ *Internet Policy Review* special issue '[Practicing rights and values in internet policy around the world](#)'.

The aim of this CPT/*Internet Policy Review* initiative is to bring internet policy research at IAMCR to a wider audience, and to open a new publication opportunity for IAMCR members. All relevant papers presented to the CPT section at last year's conference in Eugene were contacted and invited to submit their papers to this joint special issue. Interested authors went through the journal's open peer review process.

Less than one year later we are delighted to announce our special issue '**Practicing rights and values in internet policy around the world**' which includes five papers presented in the CPT section at Eugene, Oregon, 2018, including the recipient of the CPT/*Internet Policy Review* best paper award.

As the introduction states - 'With different theoretical perspectives, methodologies, and geographical scope, the five papers in this issue address how ideal-type rights and values are translated into highly variable rules, regulations, policies and practices in different countries and regions around the world. Drawing from their respective case studies, the papers examine a number of consequences of this gap for internet users, as citizens and consumers.'

The chairing team also authored an editorial to put the [history and current contributions of CPT and IAMCR in relationship to the field of Internet Policy research](#). We argue in this editorial that IAMCR scholars have played an important role in developing a critical rights-based approach to communication policy and later internet policy.

We would like to acknowledge the [generous support of the section and working groups fund](#) of IAMCR for this special issue. We would also like to acknowledge the work of our colleagues who generously and constructively took part in the open peer review process and would like to thank Frédéric Dubois, the *Internet Policy Review's* managing editor for his support and input.

## 2. Planning for IAMCR Madrid, 2019

The conference theme - 'Communication, Technology and Human Dignity: Disputed Rights, Contested Truths' - has proven very popular this year.

Following our peer review process, we have accepted over 100 abstracts for this year's conference – double last year's number. At the same time we rejected many promising abstracts because they were underdeveloped, or not sufficiently relevant to CPT's perimeter and rationale, particularly its emphasis on policy.

We are now moving into the programming stage, working out the key themes and assigning accepted papers to the different sessions. As in the two years, we will have some bilingual sessions. In addition to our general sessions we plan to host a joint session with the Emerging Scholars Network to support current and recently graduated PhD students. We will shortly be looking for chairs for the different sessions. **A full draft programme will go online on the 15th of May.**

Please do get in touch with the Section Chairs as soon as possible if for whatever reasons you have confirmed but cannot attend the conference. Also please note that given the scale of the conference this year we will not be able to manage individual requests for presentations on particular days. Finally, [please register](#) as soon as possible as the capacity of the venue in Madrid is limited.

This year we will be seeking papers for **our best paper awards**. To be eligible you must submit a full paper by the **deadline (7<sup>th</sup> of June)**. We seek papers with a balance of theory, research, and policy engagement. The papers are selected by the session chairs, discussants and chairs of the section.

This year we will offer **two best paper awards**: a general CPT best paper award, and a joint CPT/*Internet Policy Review* award for the best paper in the specific area of internet policy. In the case of the latter the awardee will be highly encouraged to submit the paper to *Internet Policy Review*. All winners receive a certificate and publicity on the IAMCR website. See [information on last year's winners on the website](#).

Once again we will organise a social event in Madrid, in a location near to the conference venue. This is open to all section members and friends to come to informally meet. We cannot offer catering, but we do bring our enthusiasm and sociability!

All members are also strongly encouraged to attend our business meeting – especially this year as we are holding elections (more below). We will also be looking to discuss further publication activities in the section and looking for members to collaborate on editing special issues. We may seek to do another special issue with *Internet Policy Review* but we seek other ideas in other parts of the world also.

We will communicate the time and locations for the business meeting and social events via our **informal mailing list**. [Directions for signing up to our informal mailing list are at the end of this newsletter].

Finally, thank you to all our many reviewers who assisted in the conference review process.

### 3. CPT Elections for Chair and Vice-Chairs.

This year we will hold extraordinary elections in our section. Our chair, Aphra, is stepping down after three years as chair and four years as vice-chair. The current vice-chairs Francesca and Julia are staying on and are both volunteering to run for the position as co-chairs.

We will hold elections for the two positions of co-chair, and we would like to appoint two more vice-chairs. If you would like to find out more about these positions, please do contact the chairs informally. We would especially encourage non-European based scholars to get in touch.

An official call for nominees will be circulated by the **6<sup>th</sup> of May** and candidates will need to submit their statements by **Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> of June** to be eligible for election. Please note these statements will be published on the IAMCR website. The election itself will take place in person at the business meeting in Madrid. The presence of all candidates running for chair or vice-chair at this meeting is not mandatory.

### 4. Other co-sponsored and member activities

CPT is happy to partner and promote conferences and summer schools organised by its section members. Forthcoming in 2019 we will co-sponsor the following events:

\* *Communication Rights in the Digital Age*: An [international conference](#) organized by the Helsinki Media Policy Research Group, the University of Helsinki, the ECREA Communication Law and Policy Section and the Euromedia Research Group, and supported by the IAMCR Communication Policy & Technology Section. 24–25 October 2019, Helsinki, Finland. Conference presenters will be invited to submit to a special issue of the Journal of Information Policy. Abstract submission deadline: 15<sup>th</sup> of May 2019.

\* *Interdisciplinary Summer school on Privacy (ISP 2019)*: Doctoral researchers working on privacy, data protection, security, surveillance and ethics might be interested in the fourth Interdisciplinary Summer school on Privacy (ISP 2019) to be held from September 1 - 6, 2019 in Berg en Dal (The Netherlands), close to Radboud University (Nijmegen). [The theme this year is 'Dark Patterns'](#).

\*Francesca is delighted to officially announce the creation of the *Center for Internet and Society (CIS)* of the French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS), which she has co-founded. At the intersection of disciplines, the CIS intends to build critical research and expertise, able to enlighten the major technical controversies and the definition of contemporary policies related to digital technology, to the internet, and more broadly to informatics. CIS-CNRS now has a website, <http://cis.cnrs.fr>, and a Twitter account @cis\_cnrs.

Please do send on info on other events and/or contact us if you wish for CPT to act as a partner for events you are planning. In addition to publicising events we can also provide other types of support – including mentoring and suggestions for potential speakers.

We are looking forward to seeing many of you in Madrid in July.

- Aphra, Julia and Francesca.

#### **Informal Mailing List:**

To sign up to our informal mailing list, which is maintained by the chairs, please send a request to the following link: [https://groups.google.com/d/forum/cpt\\_iamcr\\_exchange](https://groups.google.com/d/forum/cpt_iamcr_exchange)