MACHINE POLITICS/POLITICS OF THE MACHINE New Technology in Political Communication Research and Teaching

Call for Participation in a half-day preconference on Wednesday, August 29, 2007, 17 P.M. at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), just prior to the APSA Annual Meeting, Political Science and Beyond.

Organizers: Doris Graber, Kevin Barnhurst & Andrew Rojecki, Departments of Political Science and Communication, UIC

THEME: The preconference theme, Machine Politics/Politics of the Machine, takes political science beyond the older boundaries of machine politics into the realm of new technology for research and teaching in political communication. These new technologies may relate to

(1) Handling content, such as archiving modes, blogs, digital content analysis
(2) Audience research, such as games, RSS & wiki technology, psychophysiology tests
(3) Media systems, such as mapping spatial trends, virtual reality settings, web graphs

FORMAT & FACILITIES

Unlike the typical panels and paper sessions, the preconference will comprise a range of hands-on activities and demonstrations, followed by group discussions about the best uses of new research and teaching tools. There will be exhibits, interactive sessions for small groups, guided tours of sites like the UIC Virtual Reality Cave or the medical imaging facilities at the UIC Medical Center, and much more. The organizers will work with presenters to locate demonstrations in appropriately equipped campus facilities. The conference will conclude with a reception from 5:30 to 7 P.M., serving famous Chicago food and beverages, along with spirited conversation about the afternoons events.

REGISTRATION

Because of space limitations, registration is limited to the first 150 scholars who sign up below as presenters, or participants. Registration will close on January 2, 2007. Prospective presenters should outline their proposed activity in 500 words or less and e-mail it to comm@uic.edu by December 15, 2006. The proposal should include full implementation details.

Presenters are expected to provide their own equipment, including computers, for sound, images, or other interactions. Once the organizers approve a proposal, participants are free to arrange for equipment and software companies to demonstrate technology appropriate for the theme of the panel.
Presenters will be notified by February 1, 2007, about the status of their proposal. If a proposal is not accepted, thesubmitter's registration will move automatically into the Participant category.

Participants and presenters will receive the preliminary pre-conference program in March to sign-up (first come basis) for specific activities and sessions.

PRECONFERENCE REGISTRATION

(Open only to members of the APSA POLCOM section or the Political Communication Division of ICA)

E-mail to comm@uic.edu; or

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Affiliation
Addresses Snail mail
Email
Status (check one)
Participant
Presenter