

Second  
Announcement and Call for Papers  
**Mobile communication and social policy**  
*An international conference*  
October 9-11, 2009  
Center for Mobile Communication Studies  
Rutgers University  
New Brunswick, New Jersey, USA

In the decade that has passed since the seminal workshop *Perpetual Contact* was held at Rutgers University, the world of mobile communication has changed dramatically. The number of mobile phone users has skyrocketed from a few hundred million to more than four billion, a growth rate easily surpassing any other technology. All aspects of social life have been touched by mobile technology, and a host of tracking and immersive, health, gaming and commercial applications have become available. For its part, the community of mobile communication scholars has blossomed from a handful of pioneers to a large, vibrant intellectual community that spans the globe. Researchers have gained deep insight into the cultural, symbolic and social-interactive aspects of mobile communication as well as its relevance to commerce. By contrast, far less is known about the social policy implications of mobile technology; this is the case despite their obvious importance to those who seek to understand human societies, not to mention those who live in them.

To address this situation, and with the support of the Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy, a conference is being organized by the Center for Mobile Communication Studies at Rutgers University on the topic of how mobile communication influences social policy. Broad in its conception, the conference aims to produce new insights into the topic. Subjects to be addressed will range from mobiles and social programs (initiation through evaluation) to how mobile technology is used in political campaigns and to influence the social policy environment. There will be both an open call for papers and invited talks. Presenters are being asked to combine empirical data (either qualitative or quantitative) with important theoretical issues to address the mobile communication-social policy nexus.

As with many earlier conferences held by the Rutgers Center for Mobile Communication Studies, this event is interdisciplinary in charter and international in character. Conference proceedings will be available to attendees; selected papers will be published in book form and in special issues of academic journals.

Additional details concerning conference and call for papers:

<http://www.scils.rutgers.edu/conferences/mobile/>

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Rutgers University Department of Communication  
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901-1071    USA

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## **2009 Call for papers and/or extended abstracts timeline:**

July 18	Submissions due; distributed to reviewers
July 25	Peer responses provided to conference committee
July 31	Notification to paper proposers of decision regarding acceptance
Sept 1	Final papers due to conference office

*Body of paper limited to 5000 words. Papers should be formatted consistent with American Psychological Association style guidelines.*

## **Topics**

*Topical sessions are being organized, and more will be developed out of the accepted submissions*

Among the topics being considered include (but not limited to):

- Identity and anonymity in location and communication
- Access and responsiveness of political leaders to mobile-equipped citizens
- Role of mobile communication in political activism
- Policy-making for mobiles
- First responders/crisis management/emergency notification/disaster recovery
- Issues of national integration and diasporas related to use of mobile communication
- Mobile learning
- Wellness, health and the role of the mobile
- Mobile device accessibility and integration/empowerment of handicapped people
- Mobile phone/device crimes and crime prevention
- Religious and spiritual activities and their implications for social practices
- Interpersonal contact services and related commercial activities

Adachi, Motomitsu	Fujitsu Research Labs, Japan
Anyimadu, Amos	University of Ghana-Legon, Ghana
Arminen, Ilka	University of Tampere, Finland
Auh, Taik Sup	Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology, Korea
Banerjee, Indrijit	AMIC, Singapore
Bauer, Johannes	Michigan State University, USA
Bjerede, Marie	Qualcomm, USA
Cardoso, Gustavo	Instituto de Ciencias do Trabalho e da. Empresa, Portugal
Castells, Manuel	University of Southern California, USA
Coleman, Stephen	University of Leeds, UK
Couldry, Nick	Goldsmiths, University of London, UK
de Mul, Jos	Erasmus University, The Netherlands
Dennis, Everette	Fordham University, USA
Döring, Nicola	TU-Ilmenau, Germany
Drotner, Kirsten	University of Southern Denmark, Denmark
Dutton, William	Oxford University, UK
Fomin, Vladislav	Vytautas Magnus University, Lithuania
Frau-Meigs, Divina	University of Paris, Sorbonne, France
Goban-Klas, Tomasz	Akademia Górniczo-Hutnicza, Poland
Grunberg, Gérard	Sciences Po, France
Gumpert, Gary	Queens College, City University of New York, USA
Hansen, John Paulin	IT University of Copenhagen, Denmark
Kim, Choongsoo	Ambassador to the OECD, Korea
Kreps, Gary	George Mason University, USA
Lievrouw, Leah	University of California, Los Angeles, USA
Liu, Yu-li	National Chengchi University, Republic of China, Taiwan
Mansell, Robin	London School of Economics and Political Science, UK
Mesch, Gustavo	University of Haifa, Israel
Milrad, Marcelo	Växjö University, Sweden
Nyamnjoh, Francis	CODESRIA, Senegal
Nyíri, Kristóf	Magyar Tudományos Akadémia, Hungary
Palen, Leysia	University of Colorado, Boulder, USA
Samarajiva, Rohan	LIRNEasia, Sri Lanka
Scheufele, Dietram	University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA
Slade, Christine	City University London, UK
Stewart, Concetta	Temple University, USA
Strover, Sharon	University of Texas, Austin, USA
Tomita, Hidenori	Kansai University, Japan
Valkenburg, Patti	University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Volkmer, Ingrid	University of Melbourne, Australia
Wartella, Ellen	University of California, Riverside, USA
Wheeler, Tom	Core Capital Partners, USA
Yang, Boxu	Peking University, People's Republic of China
Yoon, Dai Won	Chairman, Ilsong Foundation, Korea
Zittrain, Jonathan	Harvard University, USA

\* Institutional affiliation noted for identification purposes only

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## **Mobile communication and social policy** *An international conference*

October 9-11, 2009

### **Conference schedule**

*Plenary and paper sessions will take place at the Heldrich Hotel in New Brunswick, New Jersey. Specific venues for other activities will be announced.*

#### October 9, Friday

- 5:00 PM: Registration opens
- 5:30 PM: Informal discussion of organizational and professional aspects of mobile communication studies
- 6:30 PM: Social hour
- 7:30 PM: Formal dinner, welcoming remarks and framing statement

#### October 10, Saturday

- 9:00 AM: Registration, coffee & continental breakfast
- 9:30 AM: Plenary Session I & followed by breakout for papers
- 12:30 PM: Luncheon
- 1:30 PM: Plenary Session II & followed by breakout for papers
- 6:30 PM: Social period
- 7:00 PM: Dinner

#### October 11, Sunday

- 9:00 AM: Coffee & continental breakfast
- 9:30 AM: Plenary Session III & followed by breakout for papers
- 12:30 PM: Luncheon and informal discussion
- 2:00 PM: Adjourn

#### About the organizer

James E. Katz, Ph.D., is chair of the Department of Communication at Rutgers University where he also directs the Center for Mobile Communication Studies. He has been conducting studies of mobile communication since the early 1990s, and holds two patents in the field of communication. In 2009, he was elected a Fellow of the AAAS, one of America's most important scientific societies, and received a Fulbright Distinguished Chair award in communication history. Katz is the author or co-author of more than 50 refereed journal articles. His books, which include *Magic in the Air: Mobile Communication and the Transformation of Social Life* and *Social Consequences of Internet Use: Access, Involvement, Expression* (with Ron Rice), have been translated into many languages. His latest edited volume, *Handbook of Mobile Communication Studies*, was published in 2008 by MIT Press.