

Special Series *Key Thinkers: Past and Present*

Call for Submissions

The *Key Thinkers: Past and Present* Special Series, founded by Christopher May in 2000 and under the editorship of Marianne Franklin since 2006, is a unique forum, (re)introducing ground-breaking individual thinkers and theoretical streams to *Information, Communication and Society* readers.

A key premise of the series is that there is a range of thinkers and theoretical traditions, either from previous generations experiencing their own techno-social upheavals or those overlooked by current trends, that have a lot to offer theory and research into issues about newer media and ICTs, society, and politics. For instance: how these thinkers help us to make historical sense of these interconnections for the technologies and media of their times but also for how these histories inform our own times; how previous generations and contemporaries help us to (re)conceptualize continuity and change at the intersection of technology, society, and culture; how they can provide insights into familiar and new power hierarchies, social spaces, labour relations, and organization of production.

This series takes a circumspect attitude to certain underlying assumptions, the notion of 'newness' in particular, in discourses on the information society and corollary themes; new media, digitalization, postmodernization, virtuality, techno-economic change, machine-human relations, change and continuity in power relations, globalization narratives. The range of thinkers and ideas covered in the series since its inception demonstrate the worth of this project in theoretical recovery that looks to encourage critical reflection on past and present ideas, future thinking, and research programs into information, communication, and society. As empirical knowledge into ICTs in themselves, their sociocultural implications, political dimensions, and economic impacts, the *Key Thinkers* series is even more pertinent for theoretically grounding cutting-edge research into the interrelationship between the 'old' and the 'new'.

With one volume of *Key Thinkers* pieces already published (*Key Thinkers for the Information Society*, edited by Christopher May, 2003. London and New York: Routledge. ISBN 0-415-29673-0), a second volume of selected articles is planned for 2010.

The *Key Thinkers* series now appears twice a year in the eight-issue format of *Information, Communication and Society*; issues 1 and 5 respectively.

Notes for Prospective Authors

The *Key Thinkers: Past and Present* Special Series takes a multidisciplinary, heterodox approach to thinking about the nature of the 'new' when dealing with communication, information, and society. It is committed to historical and reflective approaches by which contributors engage with past and contemporary thinkers, and streams of thought. Hence it aims to bring unfamiliar or overlooked thinkers and traditions to the iCS readership as well as consider future directions for conceptual work. In particular it aims to:

- recover and (re)locate previous generations' contributions to analyzing contemporary issues around information, communication, and society
- critically (re-) examine thinkers, past and present, whose work explicitly engages these themes

- address *clusters* of thought - collaborations, 'paradigms', frameworks: e.g. feminism, science and technology studies, management theories, IT and media practice, non-western ideas, computing, the natural sciences.
- continue to delve into debates about the alleged nature, benefits, or dangers of longstanding, new, and newer ICTs; broadly defined and not exclusive to Internet technologies
- introduce alternative conceptual frameworks and experience from beyond Anglo-American and western-European discourses
- link cutting-edge empirical work with both longstanding and innovative ways of thinking about information technologies, computer-mediated communications, and corollary themes

An overview of Key Thinkers articles already published is below

Submission Criteria

The following elements are common to contributions in this series:

- reasons for introducing chosen thinker/s, body of thought or research cluster to ICS readers
- awareness that readers come from different theoretical backgrounds and research practices
- provide brief and pertinent biographical information about the chosen author/s, background on relevant scholarly or practical frameworks
- (cross-)reference and converse with previous articles in the *Key Thinkers* series where apposite.

Prospective authors can consult the fuller article announcing the change of editorship of the series in the journal: *Change of editorship of the Key Thinkers for the Information Age Series*, M. I. Franklin and Christopher May in *Information, Communication and Society*, Vol. 9, No. 1/February 2006, pp. 105-108 (4). At: <http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/routledg/rics/2006/00000009/00000001/art00007>.

How to Submit

Submissions are submitted online under the 'Key Thinkers' rubric on Manuscript Central. They are first screened by the series editor and then double-blind peer-reviewed following the usual criteria. Revisions may be suggested before and/or on receipt of external reviews. The series editor undertakes to provide a reasonable turnaround time (two months) for review, response and/or revisions.

Inquiries can be addressed to the Series Editor:

Dr Marianne Franklin
 Reader
 Media & Communications Department
 Goldsmiths, University of London
 New Cross SE14 6NW
 United Kingdom
 Email: m.i.franklin@gold.ac.uk
 Tel (direct): # 44 (0)207 919 7072
 Fax: # 44 (0)207 919 7616

Previously Published in *Key Thinkers: Past and Present*

Volume/Number	Author	Thinker/s or Cluster
2000		
3.2	Chris May	Lewis Mumford
3.3	Ken Rogerson	Keohane & Nye
2001		
4.1	Karim Karim	Jacques Ellul
4.1	Edward Comor	Harold Innis
4.3	Andy Chadwick	Murray Edelman
2002		
5.2	Robin Brown	E. E. Schattschneider
5.3	Des Freedman	Raymond Williams
5.4	M. I. Franklin	Walter Benjamin & Donna Haraway
2003		
6.1	Ken Rogerson	Karl Polanyi
6.2	Jos de Mul	Helmuth Plessner
6.3	Nicholas Gane	Jean-François Lyotard
2004		
7.1	Debbie Halbert	Shulamith Firestone
7.2	Jayne Rodgers	Doreen Massey
7.3	Alistair Duff	R.H Tawney
2006		
9.1	Martin Harris	F.W. Taylor
9.4	Alistair Duff	the Fabians
2008		
11.1	Sally Wyatt	Feminist Theorists of Technology
11.5	JP Singh	Paulo Freire
2009		
12.1	Carlos Scolari	Umberto Eco
12.5	Magnus Ramage	Cybernetics: Wiener and Bateson