Department of Media and Communications

The Department undertakes research at the interface between social and technological change. We critically address the key issues in the emerging digital world. Our research encompasses the local, the national, and the global and it develops theory and policy-related insights. It is committed to strengthening interdisciplinary work based upon scholarship within the social science disciplines and upon the development of multi-method approaches to research.

We seek a better understanding of the dynamics of the media and information and communication technologies, including the Internet, in ways that can contribute to public debates and be communicated to academic, industrial, government, and civil society audiences. We give particular attention to the role of media and older and newer technologies in mediating our understanding of the world around us and its changing cultural, economic, political, and social features.

Research on changes in the media and on new forms of communicative interaction using global networks is now being recognised for its significance to globalisation, changing cultural perceptions, new political formations and democracy, and developments in market and non-market production and consumption of content and digital artefacts. The media and a growing variety of communication networks mediate our lives in a rich variety of ways, many of which can be understood through systematic, theoretically informed and empirically grounded research.

The Department offers interdisciplinary graduate education and training to an international body of students through its programmes at Master’s level and through graduate research training for the PhD in Media and Communications.
Introduction

In August 2003 LSE established the Department of Media and Communications. We began five years ago as an interdepartmental programme between the Sociology and Social Psychology Departments.

We have now attained international recognition for our achievements and are continuing the process of building a world-class research and teaching department. Our investigations of the many ways in which our lives are mediated by older and newer modes of communication and the media are addressing some of the most profound issues of our time.

The new Department has eight academic staff and two tutorial fellows. Their research and teaching contributions are highlighted in this review, together with highlights of the work of some of our PhD students and our collaborators in other departments. We benefit substantially from the contributions of our departmental manager and three administrative staff.

The Department is home to Visiting Professors including Professor William H. Melody, several Research Associates, a Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellow, and Research Fellows who are working closely with us on funded projects.

The Media@lse network embraces academics in other departments including Economics, Geography, the Gender Institute, Government, Information Systems, Law, Social Psychology, and Sociology. We also benefit from teaching contributions by a number of guest lecturers who are closely involved in key policy and business areas.

Our Master's programmes include more than 120 students. We offer distinctive MSc programmes in Media and Communications; Gender and the Media (with the Gender Institute); New Media, Information and Society (with Information Systems); Media and Communications Regulation and Policy (with Law and Government); Culture and Society (with Sociology); and a two-year MSc in Global Media and Communications, offered jointly with the Annenberg School for Communications, University of Southern California.

Our PhD programme in 2004 is home to 32 students who come to the Department with varied previous disciplinary training and from a multitude of countries. With an intake of approximately eight students annually, we are creating a vibrant community of scholars, all of whom are helping us to foster a truly interdisciplinary approach to media and communications research.

This Research Review 2004-05 focuses on Media and Communications in an Uncertain World. This emphasises our interest in the ways in which people are engaging with technologies, with the media, and with each other in an increasingly complex world.

Using a variety of methods, our research is providing accounts of the social determinants of ongoing transformations in the media and information and communication technologies in five thematic areas: Democracy, Globalisation, Literacies, Ethics, and Policy.

We welcome collaborations with colleagues in the United Kingdom and overseas as we endeavour to shed new light on the way we understand the symbols, structures and processes, and technologies that give meaning to our lives and those of others.

Full-Time Academic Staff:
Nick Couldry, Gordon Gow, Sonia Livingstone, Robin Mansell, Shani Orgad, Terhi Rantanen, Margaret Scammell, Roger Silverstone.

Department Administration:
Catherine Bennett, Vanessa Cragoe, Kathy Moir, Jean Morris.

Handbook of New Media

‘New Media’ research is a growing international and interdisciplinary field. The Handbook of New Media (Lievrouw and S Livingstone, eds, Sage 2002) lays out the boundaries of new media research and scholarship and provides a definitive statement of the state-of-the-art in the field. This is an indispensable volume for all scholars working in the area, required reading for graduate students, and a reference work for established researchers and newcomers to new media research.
Contents

Introduction ........................................ i
Contents ........................................... ii
Theme 1: Democracy .................................. 1
  Political Communication and Campaigns ........... 1
  Public Connection and Civic Engagement .......... 2
Theme 2: Globalisation .............................. 3
  Media and Globalisation ......................... 3
  Global Media Corporations and Consumerism Culture ......................... 4
  Using the Internet in a Global Context ............ 4
  Global Youth Culture ............................. 4
  Globalisation and Knowledge Societies - Visions and Realities ................. 4
  Global Networks, Flexible Working and the Fluidity of Interaction ............... 5
  Civil Society Strategic Uses of Global Networks .................................. 5
Theme 3: Literacies ................................... 6
  Understanding Mediation and Communication .......... 6
  Minority Media in Europe ........................ 6
  Narratives and the Internet ....................... 6
  New Media User Competencies .................... 6
Theme 4: Ethics ....................................... 8
  Ethical Consequences of Contemporary Media .................. 8
  New Media Rights and Responsibilities ............... 8
Theme 5: Policy ....................................... 9
  Electronic Communication Infrastructure ............... 9
  Equality of Opportunity for Internet Use .............. 9
  Policies for ‘Public Connection’ ........................ 9
  Progressing Towards a European Information Society .................. 10
  Civic Space, Services and Privacy .................... 10
  Growth-nodes in a Knowledge-based Europe .............. 10
  Small Enterprises, Open Software and Regional Policy .................. 10
  Policy, Regulation and Governance .................... 11
Research Resources and Collaboration ................. 12
  Networks of Collaboration .......................... 12
Graduate Taught and Research Programmes ............ 13
  Master’s Programmes ............................... 13
  Doctoral Research .................................. 14
  Entry requirements and how to apply ................. 14
Department of Media and Communications Staff ........ 15
  Full-time Faculty ................................... 15
  Visiting Professors, Research Associates and Fellows .................. 15
  Management and Administrative Staff .................. 16
  LSE Research and Teaching Collaborators .............. 16
PhD Thesis Titles of Current Research Students .......... 17
Recent Publications by Members of the Department .......... 18
  Related Publications by LSE Collaborators .............. 21
Theme 1: Democracy

The start of the new millennium saw the specifically Western models of democracy seemingly snowball to ascendency throughout the globe, following the collapse and self-discrediting of Soviet communist systems, African socialism and bureaucratic authoritarianism. Any illusions of Western triumph, signalled by Fukuyama’s famous ‘end of history’, were quickly shattered by civil wars and ethnic genocide in Eastern Europe and Africa, by anti-capitalist, anti-globalisation social movements and by the rise of religious fundamentalism and intensified terrorist activity. The West itself has been increasingly troubled by signs of voter disaffection, apathy and cynicism, fears of an ‘uncivic’ culture and the success of far-right political parties in Europe.

Research in this area focuses on the roles and significance of the media in the information environments of democratic societies, and the use of both old and new media to enhance democratic participation. Questions about the power of the media as institutions and about the potential of the media to empower people are central to this theme. A key issue is whether older forms of media and communications and the new digital media can be mobilised to enhance democratic participation and a critical discourse about citizenship and social action. At present, the department’s research is focusing mainly on British issues of political communication as described here and on developments in the United States and Australia. Our aim is to expand this work to encompass a wider range of internationally comparative studies and some of the department’s research described under the other themes is contributing to this.

Political Communication and Campaigns

Margaret Scammell’s research focuses on the key political actors and institutions and their interaction with media and journalists. The United Kingdom, propelled by Blair’s New Labour, has become something of a world leader in the marketing of politics, and Labour’s famed ‘spin machine’, the widespread object of fascination and anxiety. A key aim of Scammell’s current research is to examine the impact of marketing in politics, the extent to which it impacts on political practice and policy formulation, and the extent to which it alters relationships between parties, leaders and voters, and damages or enhances public trust.

Political marketing, no less than commercial marketing, is challenged by critical consumers. Party identification and membership are in decline, and of the formal institutions of politics, none is more derided throughout Western democracies than the political party. At the same time, competition for citizens’ political interest, time and money has increased through the rise of single-issue groups, and is intensified by the multiple possibilities of the Internet. Scammell is exploring whether, and in which ways, marketing may provide solutions for the party’s dilemma (see ‘Citizen Consumers’ in The Re-styling of Politics, Sage, 2003 and a forthcoming book, Consumer Democracy, Cambridge University Press).

Other continuing research projects include election campaigning and media coverage of campaigns over successive United Kingdom general elections, including the next General Election (see ‘The Press Disarmed’ in The British General Election of 2001, Palgrave, 2002).

A major contemporary theme of political communications research is the question of convergence, sometimes thought of as ‘Americanisation’ of political campaigning worldwide. One research project involves an examination of advertising during elections in Argentina and the United Kingdom. This research will feed into a multinational comparative project examining the content and styles of political persuasion, and the extent to which emphasis on personality and attacks on opponents – the hallmarks of American political advertising – have become the norm elsewhere.

An underlying theme of all the research in this area is the broad question of the media and their role and

Ana Inés Langer

The thesis examines the phenomenon of the personalisation of politics by using Tony Blair as case study. It focuses on the extent and modes of use of the private life and ‘morality’ of leaders in the construction of their public persona by the media. By investigating the construction of the Prime Minister’s public persona, this research offers insight into the process of selection, performance, and assessment of leaders. It also reflects upon the characteristics of the boundaries between the public and private in politics and upon what is considered ‘the political’. The results show that during the first five years of Blair’s term, there was persistent and routine press coverage of his private life. The results also suggest a routinisation of exposure of Blair’s personal life with no significant differences between tabloids and broadsheets.
significance in democracy. Scammell and Semetko’s *Media Journalism and Democracy* (Dartmouth, 2000) examined the main modern democratic theories and their implications for media obligations. This research is being pursued with a view to more precisely gauging criteria for assessing media performance.

**Public Connection and Civic Engagement**

*Nick Couldry’s* current research investigates the preconditions for political and civic engagement in a shared orientation to a public world. To what, if any, extent are contemporary media sustaining such an orientation or, in other words, some form of ‘public connection’? Many factors including the multiplication of television channels, the huge expansion of online information, and the general increase in the complexity of people’s cultural allegiances and engagements within and across national borders, may be undermining our orientation to a shared public world. Yet, much political science and media and communications research tends to assume that such connection continues. Indeed, without it our view of how democracies might work would be very different.

*Couldry* is working on an ESRC-funded project under the Cultures of Consumption Programme with Sonia Livingstone and Tim Markham entitled *Media Consumption and the Future of Public Connection*. In this three-year project, the researchers will be collecting detailed individual testimony as well as survey data on whether and where people in the United Kingdom retain a sense of public connection and the role of the media in sustaining it. This project seeks to understand how people perceive the opportunities available to them for public belonging, connection or participation, focusing especially on the role of old and new media in facilitating or undermining such opportunities.

This project links to *Couldry’s* other recent research into the ritual dimensions of contemporary media published in 2003 as *Media Rituals: Critical Approach* (Routledge) and into his planned research on the variations in individuals’ narrative resources.

*Sonia Livingstone’s* research on children and teens’ use of new media, funded under the ESRC’s e-society programme, is considering the ways in which new forms of communication may facilitate political engagement. Qualitative findings confirm that young people are generally uninterested in formal political processes. Instead, they are participating in peer networks for reasons of leisure, pleasure and social experimentation. There are also indications of alternative or non-normative forms of participation – hacking, peer-to-peer file-sharing, and networking.

---

**Nancy Thumim**

PhD Thesis: ‘Mediation And Community Spaces: Television, Internet and Museum Display In Contemporary Britain’

Employing a range of old and new media technologies, publicly funded media and cultural institutions are involving the public in the creation of content. This research is investigating the production processes. Early results suggest that projects solicit stories of daily life and memory from ‘ordinary people’ and ‘communities’. These projects set out to ‘give voice’ to groups who are seen as under-represented. Outreach work is carried out, often involving partnerships across diverse organisations. The projects showcase convergence of different media and include some skills training in media technologies. There appears to be recognition on the part of the institutions concerned that to ‘have a voice’, the public must have access to, and the ability to use, a range of media technologies. Project participants find the experience of taking part rewarding as they are benefiting from skills acquisition, increased self-confidence and the pleasure of seeing themselves represented in public settings from which they have felt misrepresented or excluded.
Theme 2: Globalisation

The media and the spread of communication networks play a key role in globalisation. Historical and current developments in this area are being examined with particular attention to the formation of relationships between the global, national and the local. We are studying all kinds of media, ranging from the printed to the digital, from the largest to the smallest producers, and from the dominant to alternative media to investigate the nature of mediated experience, often based on comparative case studies.

Under the globalisation theme we are also undertaking research on the way the uneven spread of global communication networks is both enabling and disabling participation in international markets through the development of electronic commerce. Similarly, the spread of the Internet and a variety of technologies that provide support for computation and interaction have profound implications for the way we work and communicate and for the way we imagine and find meaning in global networks of relationships between social actors and their communities.

Media and Globalisation

Terhi Rantanen’s research is challenging conventional ways of thinking about globalisation and shows that it cannot be fully understood without studying the role of media and communications. She is developing new methodologies for studying media and globalisation. Her work is exploring the relationship between macro- and micro-processes of globalisation and the role of media and communications in these processes.

*The Media and Globalization* (Sage, forthcoming 2004) introduces global mediagraphy as a new methodology for the study of individual experience in different locations across the world, relating one life history to another, within and across four generations of three families in a number of countries. This research seeks to pinpoint the multiplicity and complexity of connections, and the crucial differences and similarities in life experience. These life histories of individuals, generally defined until now only nationally or locally, offer a new starting point for the conceptualisation and understanding of mediated globalisation.

Another project conducted by Rantanen is exploring the development of post-communist media and communications. It is contributing to a better understanding of globalisation’s theoretical base as well as its effects on non-Western countries. It particularly pays attention to the continuing importance of the national dimension to the mass media in post-communist countries.

The Global and the National: Media and Communications in Post-Communist Russia

Rantanen’s book (Rowman & Littlefield, 2002) provides an original analysis of the development of post-Soviet media and communications in Russia – a newly globalised environment following radical social change. Unique empirical research on new communications technologies, news agencies, television and advertising in Russia shows how the experience and effects of globalisation, which initially played a liberating role in the downfall of communism, are being transformed by the reassertion of the national.

Rantanen’s research is also focusing on the relationship between global and national news. This project uses globalisation theories to re-theorise studies of international news flows. Methods are being developed to study the structure, content and sites of global news, paying particular attention to its temporal and spatial features.

STICERD Distinguished Visiting Professor

Professor Ulf Hannerz was based in the Department in October 2003. Professor of Social Anthropology at Stockholm University, he provided seminars and lectures drawing upon his empirical and theoretical work on cosmopolitanism, urban culture, and cultural theory and on the way foreign correspondents in countries as diverse as the United States, Israel, Hong Kong, Germany, Sweden, Japan and South Africa regard this work. He made a major contribution to the launch of the MSc in Culture and Society in 2003-04, which is jointly offered with the Sociology Department.
Global Media Corporations and Consumerism Culture
The globalisation of the media requires a special focus on the transnational capitalist class and on media corporations, particularly their role in spreading the culture-ideology of consumerism. Leslie Sklair (Sociology Department) has been developing the concept of consumerism, which is articulated through the global spread of the media in all its forms. His research on ‘globalisation in and architecture’, is investigating the transformations in architecture from the second half of the twentieth century to the present. This work takes off from media representations of iconic buildings and signature architects and covers a variety of topics including hypotheses about the shift from state to corporate-sponsored iconic buildings, the co-modification of public space, urban boosterism, and celebrity infrastructure. A central feature is the investigation of how and why iconic buildings and their surrounding spaces can become media of mass communication under conditions of capitalist globalisation.

Using the Internet in a Global Context
Shani Orgad’s research on the role of the Internet in the lives of women with breast cancer provides a foundation for the development of future research that will explore the relationship between the Internet and its uses in a global context. This work will focus particularly on the cultural dimension of online communication, exploring the cultural structures that underlie different computer mediated communication contexts. It will question the extent to which the nature of online communication is global, as is often argued.

Global Youth Culture
Sonia Livingstone has undertaken a 12 nation comparison of young people’s media across Europe (Livingstone and Bovill, Children and Their Changing Media Environment, Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, 2001). This study revealed some intriguing differences in the ways in which new media are diffusing and being appropriated across Europe and in the cultures of childhood which contextualise and shape these processes. She is continuing to reflect on the methodological challenges involved in cross-national comparison more generally.

Livingstone’s ESRC e-society project, UK Children Go Online, is finding that while children and young people are, in many ways, ‘ahead’ in their uses of the Internet, including a series of playful, subversive, and skilled uses of new communication and information possibilities, most of this activity is highly local. Notwithstanding the enormous potential for global communication, young people find little to excite them in such potential. One very notable exception is the commercial products that increasingly brand youth culture. Here young people share in a globalised youth culture. Her research is revealing rather little critical awareness of issues of commercialism, cultural difference or privacy.

Globalisation and Knowledge Societies – Visions and Realities
Robin Mansell’s research involves critical assessments of the visions and the realities of building knowledge societies. One key message from her review of the experience of building knowledge societies in the industrialised countries is that various public, private, and civil society organisation coalitions are playing a crucial role in influencing the spread of new media. Similar coalitions within developing countries are essential if there is to be a real chance of using new technologies to help address problems of poverty. Digital divides are a manifestation of much deeper social and economic inequalities between rich and poor people and countries. For example, it can be difficult or impossible for citizens and firms to participate on equal terms in ‘knowledge-driven’ growth. Research by Mansell and Daniel Paré (now University of Ottawa), undertaken jointly with John Humphrey and Hubert Schmitz, Institute of Development Studies, Sussex, indicates the difficulties that are being experienced by firms when they seek to use the new technologies to trade internationally. This work (The Reality of E-commerce with Developing Countries), funded by the Department for International Development, examined the use of Internet-based e-commerce by firms producing garments and horticulture goods in Bangladesh, Kenya, and South Africa. The results of the empirical research departed substantially from the ‘received wisdom’ about the implications of business-to-business e-commerce for developing country exporters. Very little business with new clients was being generated through the use of Internet-based e-commerce. This work reinforced the message that a focus mainly on information and communication technologies will never be sufficient to address deeper problems that hinder national social and economic development.
Global Networks, Flexible Working and the Fluidity of Interaction

Carsten Sørensen (Information Systems Department and contributor to the MSc in New Media, Information and Society) is studying how new technologies employ sophisticated ways of managing information and establishing connections. The mobilisation of interaction among modern professionals is increasingly possible based on the spread of global networks. Distributed and personal support for computation and interaction are available using Personal Digital Assistants, mobile phones, Internet protocols, Bluetooth personal networks, and wireless local area networks. Technological advances offer a utopian vision of fluid interaction, pervasive and persistent contact with people and information services. However, choices of technological configurations vary substantially as do the ways in which the technologies are adopted and appropriated. What for one person is the right time and place for contact may for the recipients be deemed inappropriate, giving rise to the need for new social norms and micro-procedures. Sørensen’s research is examining the establishment of flexible working and trust in the light of promised technological potential.

Civil Society Strategic Uses of Global Networks

Bart Cammaerts is examining the strategic uses of the Internet by international organisations and their efforts to involve civil society actors in their decision making processes. His investigation is aimed at demonstrating the extent to which the use of new forms of communication and information distribution have practical effects in terms of improvements in equity and social change. He is also examining the extent to which various forms of information and communication technology-based networking are contributing to civic dialogue on key issues in Europe and globally. Part of his research focuses on the process of drawing up a draft constitution for Europe. Another part concerns the crisis of legitimacy faced by United Nations institutions and their efforts to involve non-governmental organisations with a focus on the World Summit on the Information Society (December 2003).

Yukie Hori

PhD Thesis: ‘The Transformation of Governance in the Age of Information and Communication Technology: A New Mechanism for the Social Mobilisation among Women’s Organisations in Asia’

This research is examining how information and communication technologies may be changing the character and dynamics of civil society mobilisation in the case of women’s organisations in Asia based on case studies of women’s organisations that have introduced these technologies as a networking tool. This study is focusing mainly on the diffusion of the Internet and its applications, although the use of other media in conjunction with the Internet may also be considered.
Theme 3: Literacies

Mediation and communication are key components, not only of the provision of news and entertainment, but of finding and expressing cultural identity. Our experiences are mediated in multiple ways that create new kinds of literacies and expressions of identity. National broadcast channels and news agencies provide frameworks for national cultures, but the new media may change this. They offer spaces for minorities, they enhance the power of global corporations, and they contribute to changing and fragmenting audience tastes. Our research is investigating these changes in a variety of contexts and is focusing particularly on the significance of the Internet as a space for the expression of identity.

Understanding Mediation and Communication

Roger Silverstone’s work is being developed within a wider framework of understanding mediation and communication, that is, the processes of mediation which entail the social, power, culture and technology. These themes are developed in a seminal contribution on mediation as a key concept for sociology in the *International Handbook of Sociology* (eds Callhoun, Turner and Rojek, Sage forthcoming 2004).

Minority Media in Europe

Roger Silverstone, in conjunction with Myria Georgiou (University of Leeds), has completed a study of Minority Media in Europe. This involved the mapping of the scale and extent of the presence of minority media within the 15 Member States together with a number of specific case studies. This research identified the capacity of minority, diasporic groups within Europe to create and sustain their own media cultures. The range and intensity of ethnically distinct patterns of media production and consumption within Europe, a region of major and significant migrations, especially in recent times, has been uncovered.

There is significant media activity within Europe and great richness and variety in the profiles of certain minority groups and cultures. The results of this work help us to understand the complexities of culture, identity and participation in host societies that emerge in situations of mobility and migration. The first products of this research are being published as part of a special issue of the *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, forthcoming 2004, jointly edited by Silverstone and Georgiou.

Narratives and the Internet

Shani Orgad’s research is focusing on narrativisation and the Internet; the process of, and resources for, storytelling in the use of the Internet. Her work has examined how cancer patients use the Internet to, for example, engage in interactive fora. Her results suggest that patients use the Internet as a way to construct and reformulate their self-narratives following the experience of cancer. The study highlights the significance of the Internet as a space for the expression of identity and the formation of relationships through the process of making a story.

New Media User Competencies

Sonia Livingstone’s work situates emerging findings regarding the skills and competencies of new media users within the history of mass communication, revealing the continuities, as well as identifying the breaks, across the path from print through audiovisual to Internet literacy.

Joëlle Kivits


The Internet is increasingly being used as a source of health information. This research is examining the significance of information practices for individuals’ everyday health. The results suggest that patients’ experience of being gradually more informed about health and medical issues must be considered within a broad informational environment. The results indicate a responsibility shift from medical professionals to individuals who are now in command to maintain good health. While such responsibility is expressed through the search for control over health risks by means of information, it also entails a constant state of uncertainty, even anxiety. The study reveals participants’ complex approaches to the Internet as a health information-gathering tool. The online environment favours a constant negotiation of health expertise where every information-seeker is potentially an expert. While initially undermining trust in medical experts, the uncertainty of the online environment seems to generate the restoration of trust in professionals and in doctor-patient interaction.
Esra Ercan


The changing role of the media is being evaluated from an historical perspective. Initially, it is suggested that in Turkey, before and after the foundation of the Republic in 1923, the mass media played a crucial role in the creation of national identity. However, in contemporary Turkey, especially in the process of integration into the European Union, the role of the media appears to be changing as it contributes to the process of representation of local, ethnic and minority communities.

Drawing on long-standing multidisciplinary debates regarding not only medium-specific but also forms of cultural literacy and critical literacy, Livingstone argues against narrow or restrictive conceptions of literacy in terms of technical skills. Interviews and observations of young Internet users reveal uneven or weak levels of literacy in evaluating online sites and services, in grasping the institutional, commercial or political frameworks for such provision, and in participating – as content producers as well as receivers – in online fora. Based on these insights, Livingstone is mapping an agenda for research on the uses of new media that prioritises both critical literacy and communicative literacy.

Robin Mansell’s work also focuses on Internet competencies or capabilities. Her research on capabilities for action and knowledge sharing acknowledges that the technical arrangements for access to electronic services are entangled with cultural, social and economic factors. It cannot be taken for granted that the openness of the Internet will lead to greater information sharing. One project examined emergency health care services, showing that using the Internet to share information can be hampered by the relatively impermeable boundaries between professional communities. If use of the Internet is to be empowering, much more attention will need to be given to capabilities for information production and consumption.
The media and communication services are often seen as sources of many of society’s ills, undermining cultural values and the social fabric. We are considering whether the new media are encouraging or inhibiting personal freedoms. Is it possible to enable an ethics of responsibility to ‘the other’? We are examining the capabilities needed to live in an intensely mediated world and the implications for human rights, not by specifying ethical norms, but by creating a favourable space for acknowledging difference and variety and for responsible action.

Ethical Consequences of Contemporary Media

Roger Silverstone’s research on the ethics of representation is designed to respond to the question: how is it possible to enable an ethics of responsibility to ‘the other’ in an environment that is increasingly characterised by a politics of indifference? His work is inquiring into how indifference may be countered by the specification of the first principles of a media ethics. This work does not aim to specify ethical norms, but rather to create a favourable environment or space for acknowledging difference and variety and for understanding the way the media themselves can be seen both to enable and disable responsible action.

Nick Couldry’s research is also concerned with developing a theoretical framework within which the ethical consequences and achievements of contemporary media can be more openly and clearly discussed (see Media Rituals: A Critical Approach, Routledge 2003). This draws both on public sphere debate and political theory and on Couldry’s own previous fieldwork and theoretical explorations into the social consequences of the concentration of symbolic resources in media institutions. In this context, Couldry is a founder and active member of Our Media/Nuestros Medios (www.ourmedianet.org), an international network of practitioners and academics concerned with encouraging media production outside mainstream media institutions. This network has been involved in contributing to debates about communication rights linked to the World Summit on the Information Society.

New Media Rights and Responsibilities

Within debates over ethical rights and responsibilities, parents are generally charged with the responsibility for protecting the rights of their children. In relation to the new media, this poses a specific, and in some ways, unique problem, because in this domain children are often more expert than their parents, even teaching their parents how to use the Internet. Sonia Livingstone and Magdalena Bober’s interviews with parents and children, exploring themes of privacy, protection, freedom and personal expression, reveal a series of doubts, dilemmas and, on occasion, conflicts regarding this parental role. Moreover, parental responsibility to protect the rights of their children to freedom of information, freedom of expression and privacy are commonly obscured by the widespread media panics regarding children’s safety online. Without seeking to minimise the seriousness of online risks, this research offers an analysis, and a series of recommendations, to ensure children’s freedoms and privacy are fairly balanced against the risks, replacing the present alternatives of either blind trust in children or heavy restrictions on their Internet use.

The issues of new media rights and responsibilities are very difficult to address because they entail a multitude of different perceptions of safety, security, risk and trust in online environments. Robin Mansell is advising the Department of Trade and Industry’s Office of Science and Technology Foresight Project on cybertrust and crime prevention. This work is addressing the likelihood and social consequences of the spread of new technologies that have the capacity to support measures to prevent crime and to provide those who seek to commit crime with new means of doing so. Developments in technologies such as agent-based computing are raising profoundly important concerns with respect to the rights and responsibilities of citizens, privacy and security (www.foresight.gov.uk).
Theme 5: Policy

Policy and regulation are being buffeted by the uneven spread of telecommunication and computer-based networks, software applications, and traditional and new forms of content. We are examining the social, economic and political significance of these developments nationally and internationally. Our research examines legislative frameworks supporting e-commerce and e-government, changes in intellectual property regimes, and developments in the open source software movement.

Electronic Communication Infrastructure

Gordon Gow is examining the idea of policy and regulation as an active force in the design of electronic communication infrastructures. The aim is to develop a framework for technology assessment that will lead to an expanded public understanding of, and participation in, these important undertakings.

Gow’s ongoing research is also examining long-term planning and management of critical infrastructures. This work includes a study of natural hazard warning systems and emergency services for mobile telephones (wireless E9-1-1). He is also planning a research project that will focus on the development of mobile voice and data systems, especially with respect to regulatory concerns such as radio spectrum policy and management, telecommunication reform, technical standardisation, public safety, and location-based services.

Equality of Opportunity for Internet Use

Policy concerned with young people’s Internet access and use seeks to ensure equality of opportunity, of resources and of online skills, especially those that will facilitate education and employment, and also citizenship, outcomes for this group – who are tomorrow’s adults. Sonia Livingstone’s ‘e-society’ research (see Theme 2 above) addresses the so-called digital divide in relation to Internet use in schools, homes and community.

Noting that since most children use the Internet in more than one location, qualitative findings have explored differences in the quality of use. These suggest that age and socio-economic background, but less so gender or ethnicity, make a difference. These findings were pursued more systematically in a national survey of nine to 19 year old users and non-users in January 2004. This survey aimed to obtain reliable figures for the frequency and distribution of children and young people’s risky uses of the Internet in relation to privacy, commercialism, pornography and contact with strangers. Data in these areas have been unavailable in the past to inform policy debates regarding children’s online safety.

Livingstone is also working with an advisory board that includes representatives from industry, children’s charities and regulators as well as children themselves. Analysis of the results of this survey is expected to provide a guide to future policy initiatives in this field.

Policies for ‘Public Connection’

The idea of connection – according to which people may position themselves as citizens or consumers – is being pursued by Sonia Livingstone in a project that complements research on ‘public connection’ under Theme 1, above. From a policy perspective, with Peter Lunt (University College, London) and funded under the ESRC’s Risk in Social Contexts network, this project is centred on a comparison of the Financial Services Authority (FSA) and the Office of Communications (Ofcom). It is analysing the ways in which these key regulatory authorities conceive of, and so position, people as consumers or citizens through their policy in the fields of financial services and communications, respectively. The regulators’ conceptions are being compared and contrasted with the ways in which members of the public understand themselves to have been considered in the policies advocated by the regulators in these domains.

Anita Howarth


This research seeks to address questions as to what the media and policy debates on GM food have really been about and why the policymakers have found it so difficult to persuade the media that a pro-GM policy is justified. The project is primarily concerned with rival definitions of risk put forward by media and policy elites and the relation and conflict between these definitions. The aim is to identify where and what the policy conflict is, how the parties have defined this conflict through their assessments of risk and what this dialectic says about the respective roles of government and media in a risk society.
Progressing Towards a European Information Society

Robin Mansell played a leading role in the STAR (Socio-Economic Trends Assessment for the Digital Revolution) project that was completed at the end of 2003. Funded by the European Commission’s Information Society Technologies programme (led by Databank, Milan, www.databank.it/star) and based at SPRU, University of Sussex, the research focused on future information society developments, visions and perspectives; aggregate and macro-economic consequences; progress in implementing the e-Europe Action Plan; trends in new ways of working; skill evolution and the digital economy; market developments; and techno-economic and policy developments. A final conference in November 2003 emphasised critical assessments of progress towards broadband take-up in Europe and the feasibility of new measures to address intellectual property protection.

To encourage active participation and information contributions by Internet users, without facing the consequences of copyright infringement, one proposal called for the reinstatement of registration procedures and a variety of copyright licensing conditions to enable re-publication of digital information.

Networking Knowledge for Information Societies: Institutions & Intervention

Edited by R Mansell, R Samarajiva and A Mahan, this volume includes state-of-the-art analyses of the problems of and prospects for information societies. It is about the structures and processes of inquiry and institutional change and their relationship to rapid innovations in information and communication technologies. It contains over 50 contributions by outstanding scholars whose choices of topics cover issues that are of substantial significance (Delft University Press 2002, www.comunica.org/netknowledge/).

Mansell’s recent work with Michèle Javary (University of Brighton), examined the changing, and increasingly concentrated, structure of the Internet Service Provider market in the United Kingdom. Although most industry analysts see few if any arguments for regulation in this area, concentration raises issues for the rate of innovation and for the quality of Internet services.

Mansell with Lynne Nikolychuk (now Judge Institute of Management) undertook a review of the micro-economic evidence on the importance of electronic networks for the Prime Minister’s Strategy Unit. Based on a review of case studies, this work highlighted the importance of the ‘system’ features of information and communication technologies and their applications. If key components of the system are relatively immature, positive economic impacts as a result of investment in new technologies are unlikely to occur or to be as extensive as expected. The report emphasised the need to create learning opportunities to encourage peer-to-peer models of content creation and exchange and to build trust in the use of new media.

Civic Space, Services and Privacy

New technologies are playing a key role in shaping today’s civic spaces especially in contexts where issues of privacy and the representation of identity arise. Edgar Whitley’s (Information Systems Department and contributor to the MSc in New Media, Information and Society) work analyses issues that arise in the context of e-commerce. With Gus Hosein (Information Systems Department) his work has examined policy debates around the United Kingdom’s Regulatory Investigatory Powers Act, 2000 and on the regulation of technology and the features of software implementation. This has highlighted the recalcitrant features of the technology and the way this affects regulatory characteristics, including jurisdictional issues.

Growth-nodes in a Knowledge-based Europe

Robin Mansell participated in a European Commission Information Society Technology Fifth Framework Programme project, led by the Internet Interdisciplinary Institute (IN3), Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain. The objective was to develop a ‘strategic research roadmap’ on the nature of information and communication technology-enabled ‘growth nodes’ and the role of these nodes in social and economic development in Europe. A growth node was defined as ‘a high-performing geographical cluster of organisations and institutions, networked to other clusters, i.e., other nodes, and amplified by information and communication technologies’. The research addressed how the deployment and use of new information and communication technologies might modify our understanding of what constitutes a viable and sustainable regional networking environment.

Small Enterprises, Open Software and Regional Policy

The Digital Business Ecosystem (DBE) is an Integrated Project in the Information Society Technologies thematic priority of the Sixth Framework Programme of the European Commission. It involves twenty industrial and academic partners from nine European countries. From November 2003, the project will run for three years.
As Scientific Coordinator, Paolo Dini is working with partners specialising in evolutionary computation, intelligent systems and optimisation to advance the theory of complex adaptive systems and develop algorithms and architectures that can be applied to distributed software systems. Robin Mansell is providing a critical perspective on the socio-economic context and value systems upon which business models and technology adoption strategies are based. The goal is to develop a strategy for sustainable innovation based on open source software and technology adoption that can influence policy making at regional and European levels. The DBE project aims to provide Europe with a recognised advantage in innovative software application development by its software producing small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and to achieve greater technology adoption by SMEs, in general. The project is using a multidisciplinary approach to develop an open source environment that can support the spontaneous evolution and composition of (not necessarily open source) software services, components, and applications.

**E-merging Media: Communication and the Media Economy of the Future**

Edited by Axel Zerdick, Arnold Picot, Roger Silverstone and Jean-Claude Burgelman, this European Communication Council Report, Berlin, Springer, was published in German in 2004 (an English translation is forthcoming). The book analyses the potential long-term developments for communication systems and the media economy within a framework of discussions of media change, technology change, societal change and changing regulation, all within a principally European context.

**Policy, Regulation and Governance**

Robin Mansell’s research is providing comparative assessments of evolving policy frameworks for the supply of electronic services including those supported by the Internet. She is examining changes in governance processes and in the institutions that play a role in policy coordination nationally, in Europe, and internationally. Assessments of the capacity of these institutions to involve stakeholders with conflicting interests in their efforts to create workable policy frameworks that achieve desirable goals such as strengthened competitiveness and equitable outcomes are central to this work. Her research also focuses on the problems confronted by regulators in the face of convergent technologies and on the issues of the timing and enforceability of policy interventions in the marketplace and their influence on market structures, firms, civil society organisations and citizens.

With the establishment of the new Office of Communications (Ofcom) in the United Kingdom at the end of 2003, there are many opportunities to examine how the new regulatory agency will address issues that are of central interest to the research agenda of the Department of Media and Communications. The way in which Ofcom consults and the nature of public participation and commentary on matters such as the transition from analogue to digital services and from narrowband to broadband networks is of considerable interest. The interests of the ‘citizen-consumer’ are at the heart of the remit of Ofcom and several faculty are addressing the practices and consequences of regulation.

Research undertaken by PhD students contributes to a wide range of media and communications policy issues through studies, for example, of e-government, e-commerce, local participation in technology initiatives in developing countries, the development of open source software projects, people’s experience of Internet search engines, and the role of on and offline information resources in areas such as health management.
Research Resources and Collaboration

Media@lse Electronic Working Papers (EWP)s present high quality research to academics, policy makers and commercial organisations. They set the agenda in the field of media and communications studies and stimulate and inform debate and policy. Papers are peer-reviewed and edited by Nick Couldry, Rosalind Gill, Andy Pratt and Terhi Rantanen and an interdisciplinary editorial board drawn from across LSE (www.lse.ac.uk/collections/media@lse/mediaWorkingPapers/default.htm).

Networks of Collaboration

AMARC (World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters) (www.amarc.org). Peter Lewis is a founding member.

ESF (European Science Foundation) Changing Media, Changing Europe, 2000-5 (www.lboro.ac.uk/research/changing/media/). Sonia Livingstone is a steering committee member of this major research network of 60 European researchers pursuing a range of comparative projects in the field of media and communications.

ENCIP (European Network for Communication and Information Perspectives) (www.encip.org) focuses on transformations in policy and regulation in the light of the convergence of the telecommunication, broadcasting and computing industries. Robin Mansell is a founding member of this network which includes institutes in 11 of the 15 member states of Europe.

IAMCR (International Association for Media and Communication Research) (www.humfak.auc.dk/iamcr/), is the world-wide association of researchers in the field. Terhi Rantanen is past Vice President and President of the History Section (1996-2004), Robin Mansell is past President of the Communication Technology Policy Section, and Peter Lewis is an active member of the Community Communications Section. Media@lse is an institutional member.

ICA (International Communication Association) (www.icahdq.org/about/). Sonia Livingstone is on the Mass Communication Section Advisory Committee.

LIRNE.NET (Learning Initiatives on Reforms for Network Economies (www.lirne.net), led by Professors William Melody, Knud Erik Skouby and Rohan Samarajiva, this network undertakes research and provides expert analysis and commentary on current issues. It is a strategic collaboration between the Center for Tele-Information (CTI), Technical University of Denmark; Economics of Infrastructures, Delft University of Technology; The LINK Centre, University of Witwatersrand; and The Department of Media and Communications, LSE where the main participants are Robin Mansell and Gordon Gow. LIRNE.NET hosts the World Dialogue on Regulation (www.regulateonline.org/).

The Radio Studies Network (http://radiostudiesnetwork.org.uk/) is an association of lecturers and researchers with formal relations with the UK Media, Communication & Cultural Studies Association (MeCCSA) and the radio industry’s main forum, the Radio Academy. Peter Lewis is a founder member and is on the Steering Group of this Network which aims to encourage sustained, lively and critical study on radio and ways to improve its academic and cultural status. The Network collaborates in sponsoring and organising international conferences, e.g. with the University of Madison-Wisconsin in 2003, and with the University of Siena in its Radio Summer School and conference in July 2004. The Network has set up a research database (www.radioresearch.ac.uk) and members are closely involved in the Radio Journal (www.intellectbooks.com/journals/radio.htm).

Research Sponsors

Our research is sponsored by a variety of organisations in the UK and overseas including: The Arts Council of England; AOL; British Telecom; Broadcasting Standards Commission; Childnet-International; Citizens Online; The Department for International Development; The Department of Culture, Media and Sport; Dixons Group plc; European Commission; European Science Foundation; European Audio Visual Observatory; Independent Television Commission; Mellon Foundation; National Children’s Homes; The World Bank; the UK Economic and Social Research Council; The International Telecommunication Union; UNCTAD and UNESCO.
 Graduate Taught and Research Programmes

The Department of Media and Communications offers several graduate programmes. With over 120 Master’s students and 32 PhD students from around the world, our programmes build on world-class, leading-edge research. Our teaching programmes are grounded in interdisciplinary approaches offering students a critical edge in the analysis of the latest and most significant developments in media and information and communication technologies.

We have close links with the media and communications industries in one of the premier capitals of the world. London offers a stimulating environment in which British and international students can rub shoulders with each other and with some of the key players in the global media and communications industry. Our students go on to make major contributions to media and communications management, administration, policy or research when they complete their studies. Further information about our programmes is available at www.lse.ac.uk/collections/media@lse/

Our full and part-time PhD Programme and Research Track Master’s Programmes are recognised by the Economic and Social Research Council’s ‘1+3’ scheme. Applications for studentships can be made by HEU students.

Master’s Programmes

MSc in Media and Communications
(12 months full time) and Research Track
Convenor: Dr Margaret Scammell

This programme provides an advanced analysis of the development and forms of media systems in Britain and elsewhere, and of the theoretical and conceptual developments in research on media and communications. With a strong commitment to methodology in the field, it provides students with a high level of research training, enabling a secure transition to doctoral research.

The programme consists of two compulsory courses: Theories and Concepts in Media and Communications; Methods of Research in Media and Communications, plus a Dissertation. Three optional courses are taken from a wide range of courses including Political Communication; Media, Technology and Everyday Life; The Audience in Mass Communications; Contemporary Issues in Media Policy; The Social Psychology of the Media; Citizenship and the Media; and Audiences and Perspectives on Alternative and Community Media.

MSc in Global Media and Communication
(24 months full time)
Convenor: Dr Terhi Rantanen

An innovative programme taught jointly with the Annenberg School for Communications, University of Southern California (USC). The aim is to provide advanced academic and professionally-oriented training in media and communications within a global context. In Year One, taught at LSE, compulsory courses include: Theories and Concepts in Media and Communications; Methods of Research in Media and Communications; Theories of Globalisation; Globalisation, Communication and the Internet; Europe in a Global Context; and a Dissertation. One optional course is selected from a broad range. In Year Two, taught at USC, students complete six courses to the value of 24 units. The wide choice includes: The Culture of New Technologies; Communication and Global Competition; Political Economy of Global Telecommunications and Information; Global, International and Intercultural Communication in Organisations; The Globalisation of Media and Culture; The Global Entertainment Industry; Global Advertising; and a Dissertation Report.

MSc in Media and Communications Regulation and Policy
(12 months full time) and Research Track
Convenor: Dr Gordon Gow

This programme, taught jointly with the Regulation Group in the Departments of Law and Government, deals with the rapid and complex changes confronting lawyers and policy makers in the face of the converging media and communications industry. These changes are occasioned by the emergence of market liberalisation and by digitalisation. It provides students with an advanced understanding of the politics and law of regulation in the context of media and communications understood both as culture and as industry. Analysis focuses on the regulation of ownership, markets and content at national, European and global levels. Compulsory courses include: Theories and Concepts in Media and Communications; Methods of Research in Media and Communications; Communications Regulation in Theory and Practice; Introduction to Regulation; Media and Communications Regulation; and a Dissertation. One optional course is selected from a broad range including New Media Regulation, Network Regulation and Contemporary Issues in Media Policy.
MSc New Media, Information and Society (12 months full time) and Research Track
Convenor: Professor Robin Mansell

This programme is taught jointly with the Department of Information Systems. It provides an advanced interdisciplinary education and training in the implications of rapid and fundamental changes in media and communications, including the Internet, for all aspects of social, political and economic life. A key theme is the relationship between technological, social and economic change and its consequences for policy and for people’s lives in an increasingly global society. The role of the digital organisation, storage and communication of information in the change process is a central theme. Compulsory courses include: New Media, Information and Knowledge Systems; Theories and Concepts in Media and Communications; Methods of Research in Media and Communications; Information Systems; and Aspects of Information and New Media; and a dissertation. One option is chosen from a wide range of courses.

MSc in Gender and the Media (12 months full time)
Convenor: Dr Rosalind Gill (Gender Institute)

This programme focuses on the role of gender in contemporary media. Taught jointly with the Gender Institute, it offers a rigorous education and training in theories and issues at a crucial interface in the social scientific analysis of culture and communications. Courses examine issues such as how representations in the media reinforce or subvert social roles and ideologies; the differing relations men and women have to the media; how the sexual division of labour impacts on working environments in the different media and influences content; and the role of the media in global and social transformation.

MSc in Culture and Society (12 months full time)
Co-Convenors: Dr Nick Couldry (Media and Communications) and Dr Don Slater (Sociology)

This programme is taught jointly with, and administered by, the Department of Sociology, taking its first students in 2003-4. It offers students an intense grounding in social science approaches to studying cultural processes, focusing on the most significant developments in contemporary cultural theory and new horizons for empirical research into culture. It should be of interest equally to those with study or work experience in the cultural industries wanting to apply social research skills, and those with social science backgrounds wanting to explore further the cultural “turn” in contemporary research. The degree comprises a full-unit core course, Cultural Theory and Cultural Forms, a choice of one further core course (either Theories and Concepts in Media and Communications or Sociological Theory), a course in qualitative methods and a dissertation, plus up to one full unit’s worth of options chosen from an interdisciplinary range of courses taught in Media and Communications, Sociology, Geography, Social Psychology and Information Systems.

All taught programmes require the successful completion of a 10-15,000-word dissertation. All, except the MSc in Global Media and Communications, may be taken on a part-time basis over two years.

Doctoral Research
PhD Programme Director: Professor Sonia Livingstone

A PhD in Media and Communications is offered covering the full range of subjects taught at the Master’s level. We welcome applications for research degrees in aspects of media and communications that closely match our staff’s varied range of research interests. Research topics that are interdisciplinary in approach are particularly encouraged.

Entry requirements and how to apply
Full details of entry requirements and how to apply are available in The Graduate School Prospectus at www.lse.ac.uk/graduateschool/gsprospectus.html or by writing to:
Graduate Admissions,
London School of Economics and Political Science,
PO Box 13420, Houghton Street,
London WC2A 2AE,
Tel: +44 (0)20 7955 7160
www.lse.ac.uk/collections/graduateadmissions/
Department of Media and Communications Staff

**Full-time Faculty**

**Dr Nick Couldry**, n.couldry@lse.ac.uk  
Senior Lecturer and sociologist of media and culture, his interests are in media and citizenship, media and social/cultural exclusion, ritual dimensions of contemporary media, narrative resources and the ethics of mediation.

**Dr Gordon Gow**, g.gow@lse.ac.uk  
Lecturer and specialist in Communication Studies, his interests encompass science and technology studies, music production and the workings of communication media and the co-evolutionary dynamic between technological forms and the production of art and ideas.

**Professor Sonia Livingstone**, s.livingstone@lse.ac.uk  
Professor of Social Psychology, her research is on audience engagement with popular television genres; domestic and educational contexts for information and communication technology use; children and young people’s changing media environment; young people, families and uses of the internet; and comparative audience research.

**Professor Robin Mansell**, r.e.mansell@lse.ac.uk  
Dixons Chair in New Media and the Internet, her research focuses on the social, economic and policy issues arising from innovations in information and communication technologies, the integration of new technologies into society, and sources of regulatory effectiveness and failure.

**Shani Orgad**, s.s.orgad@lse.ac.uk  
Lecturer, her interests are in the media and everyday life, especially in a global context, narrative and media, health and the Internet, and methodological aspects of doing Internet research.

**Dr Terhi Rantanen**, t.rantanen@lse.ac.uk  
Formerly at Helsinki University, she has held visiting positions at several universities including Harvard University and the University of Oxford, and is now Senior Lecturer. Her research focuses on globalisation and the media, with particular reference to global news. She is one of the founding editors of a new journal, *Global Media and Communication*.

**Dr Margaret Scammell**, m.scammell@lse.ac.uk  
Senior Lecturer, her research interests are in political communications, political campaigning and the role of media in democratic countries. She taught previously at Liverpool University, was a research fellow at Harvard University, and a journalist for various media.

**Professor Roger Silverstone**, r.silverstone@lse.ac.uk  
Professor of Media and Communications, he is a sociologist with interests in media, technology and everyday life; media, new media and community; minorities and their media; and media ethics. He is consulting editor of the journal, *New Media & Society*.

**Visiting Professors, Research Associates and Fellows**

**Magdalena Bober**, m.bober@lse.ac.uk  
Research Officer on the ‘UK Children Go Online’ project.  
(www.children-go-online.net)

**Dr Bart Cammaerts**, b.cammaerts@lse.ac.uk  
Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellow, he is a political scientist with research interests in the implementation of information society discourses, alternative media, the transnationalisation of civil society actors, online fora, and the use of the Internet to support direct action and consultation.

**Michael Cockerell**, michael.cockerell@bbc.co.uk  
Visiting Research Associate, he is an acclaimed London-based television documentary maker and political author.

**Professor Stephen Coleman**, stephen.coleman@oii.ox.ac.uk  
Visiting Research Associate, he is Cisco Professor of e-Democracy at the Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford.

**Dr Paolo Dini**, p.dini@lse.ac.uk  
Visiting Research Associate, he has a background in several engineering fields, is interested in self-organising systems and is Scientific Coordinator of the three year European Commission sponsored Sixth Framework Programme Integrated Project, *Digital Business Ecosystem*.

**Professor Philip Gould**, philipg@nopworld.com  
Visiting Professor, he is widely recognised as Europe’s leading strategist working in the field of politics and public affairs.

**Ana Inés Langer**, a.i.langer@lse.ac.uk  
Tutorial Fellow, she is in the final stages of her PhD at LSE. Her research interests are in political communication, particularly in areas that link political science and democratic theory with media studies.

**Giles Lane**, giles@proboscis.org.uk  
Research Associate, he founded Proboscis in 1994 and is collaborating with Media@lse on the development of the location-based wireless services in the project, Urban Tapestries, and undertakes consulting for clients in the fields of art and new media.
Peter Lewis, p.m.lewis@lse.ac.uk
Research Associate, he has worked in educational and community television, taught radio in a number of universities, and written extensively on community and alternative media. Current research interests include radio drama, radio archives and the evaluation of community media projects.

Tim Markham, t.markham@lse.ac.uk
Research Officer on the ‘Media Consumption and the Future of Public Connection’ project in the ESRC Cultures of Consumption research programme.

Dina Matar, d.matar@lse.ac.uk
Tutorial Fellow, her research interests focus on news and everyday life, diasporic identities and news consumption and the globalisation of news and she is in the final stages of her PhD at LSE.

Claire Milne, c.b.milne@lse.ac.uk
Research Associate, she is an independent consultant who works on telecommunication policy and strategy. She has extensive experience, especially in regulatory policy, consumer affairs, universal service, numbering and network strategy and conducts research in both developed and developing countries.

Professor William H. Melody, w.h.melody@lse.ac.uk
Visiting Professor, Department of Media and Communications, is Guest Professor, Center for Information and Communication Technologies, Technical University of Denmark; Visiting Professor at the LINK Center, University of Witswatersrand, South Africa and Managing Director of LRNE.NET and the World Dialogue on Regulation for Network Economies (WDR).

Dr Gerry Power, gerry.power@bbc.co.uk
Research Associate, is Manager, Research and Training, BBC World Service Trust.

Dr Damian Tambini, damian.tambini@csls.ox.ac.uk
Research Associate, he is head of the Programme in Comparative Media Law and Policy, Oxford University.

**Management and Administrative Staff**

Catherine Bennett, c.l.bennett@lse.ac.uk,
Departmental Manager.

Vanessa Cragoe, v.cragoe@lse.ac.uk
Administrator for the Department’s Master’s programmes.

Kathy Moir, k.moir@lse.ac.uk
Assistant to Robin Mansell, general support to Department of Media and Communications.

Jean Morris, jean.morris@lse.ac.uk
Administrator for MSc in Global Media and Communications, administrator for the MPhil/PhD in Media and Communications, general support to the Department of Media and Communications.

**LSE Research and Teaching Collaborators**

Dr Rosalind Gill, Gender Institute, r.c.gill@lse.ac.uk
Lecturer in Gender Studies and Gender Theory, she is a feminist discourse analyst with a research focus on contemporary media and gender identities, and on gender and technology.

Dr Andrew Murray, Law, a.murray@lse.ac.uk
Lecturer in Information Technology Law, his research focuses on Internet governance and the regulatory role of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN); protection of industrial property online, and freedom of expression in cyberspace.

Professor Danny Quah, Economics, dq@econ.lse.ac.uk
Professor of Economics at LSE, he was formerly Assistant Professor at MIT Economics Department. His media related research focuses on the ‘weightless economy’ and on the economics of information and communication technologies.

Dr Colin Scott, Law, colin.scott@lse.ac.uk
Reader in Law and a core member of the Centre for the Analysis of Risk and Regulation (CARR) at LSE, his main area of interest is regulation with particular expertise in communication regulation, and in regulation of the public sector and of consumer markets.

Professor Leslie Sklair, Sociology, l.sklair@lse.ac.uk
Leslie Sklair is Professor of Sociology at LSE.

Dr Don Slater, Sociology, d.slater@lse.ac.uk
Reader, his research includes the sociology of culture and economic life, ethnographies of Internet use, particularly as basis for comparative analysis, and the impact of the Internet on economic life and perceptions of economic processes.

Dr Carsten Sørensen, Information Systems, c.sorensen@lse.ac.uk
Senior Lecturer and Research Director for Laboratorium für Interaktionsteknologi, he investigates how ICT shapes and is shaped by working practices, most recently mobile and wireless technologies.

Dr Edgar A. Whitley, Information Systems, e.a.whitley@lse.ac.uk
Reader, his research focuses on information systems and civic space, particularly the unique features of technology and regulation. He is also interested in theorising the information technology artefact and the application of these ideas to privacy and electronic commerce issues.
PhD Thesis Titles of Current Research Students

Gavin Adams:
The Source of National Knowledge? The role of television news in the dissemination of the national.

Olugbenga Adesida:
Intermediating Institutions and the Diffusion of E-commerce.

Tamar Ashuri:
Money and Meaning: The cultural economy of international co-productions for the making of television documentaries.

Evangelia Berdou:
The Cathedral and Bazaar Revisited: Models of power and organisation, peripheral and central participation in the free/open source community.

Nina Blackett:
Communicating Pain Online.

David Brake:
New Media, New Fields? The practice of personal web publishing.

Colin Cosgrove:
Discourses of Citizenship in the European Union: Communicating political culture.

Esra Ercan:
Media and Nationalism in Turkey: An historical perspective.

Ellen Helsper:
Social Status and Internet Use: Anonymity or identity confirmation.

Yukie Hori:
The Transformation of Governance in the Age of Information and Communication Technology: A new mechanism for the social mobilisation among women’s organisations in Asia.

Anita Howarth:
GM Food – A case study of the conflict between the media’s construction of risk and that of policy elites.

Yasmin Ibrahim:
Internet Regulation an Political Content – How producers of political content interpret, negotiate and practice internet regulations in Singapore with regard to political discourse.

Dorothea Kleine:
(joint with Department of Geography and Environment)
The Potential of Information and Communications Technologies for Participatory Local and Regional Development.

Helene Johansen:
Political Marketing: Organisation, competition and representative democracy, a relationship marketing approach to politics.

Joëlle Kivits:
Health Information on the Internet: Researching information practices and information seekers.

Ana Inés Langer:
Personalisation of Politics. Politicisation of private persona and its impact on leadership: The case of Tony Blair.

Wainer Lusoli:
Voice and E-quality: The modes and dimensions of electronic democracy in Britain.

Dina Matar:
News Consumption and Diasporic Palestinians in Britain.

Patrick McCurdy:
Exploring the Antiglobalisation Movement: Mediated myth or reflexive mediation.

Martin Moloney:
Consumer Citizenship: The impact of consumer activism on corporate discourse and practice.

Esteve Olle:
The Technological Mediation of the Local Network State: Innovation, accountability, authority and ICT in the governance process.

Shani Orgad:
Narrativisation and Storytelling in the Online Communication of Breast Cancer Patients.

Philippe Ross:
Mediation in New Media Production: Representation of, and interaction with, audiences/users at NESTA Futurelab.

Josephine Spiller:
The Relationship Between Spin Doctors and Political Journalists: Who is the political gatekeeper?

Suzanne Stein:
Theorising the Not Yet Arrived: Anticipation of interactive entertainment technologies.

Zoetanya Sujon:
Technological Citizenship and The Cultural Politics of Belonging.

Paraskevi Theodoropoulou:
The Diffusion and Adoption of Digital Television Among the First Generation Digital Audience in the UK.

Nancy Thumim:
Mediation and Community Spaces: Television, internet and museum display in contemporary Britain.

Sebastian Ureta Icaza:
The Possession and Use of ICT’s in Everyday Life and the Transformation of Social Time in a Context of Modernization: The case of Chile.

Elizabeth Van Couvering:
The Power of Search: Strategies for gatekeeping the internet.

Hong Zhang:
Globalization of Chinese Television: Causes and consequences.
Recent Publications by Members of the Department


Kim, B K, Steinmueller, W E and Mansell, R ‘Unbundling the Local Loop in the UK’, ENCIP Case Study Collection, Part V – Interconnection, MEDA Project, supported by the European Commission, December 2002.


Rantanen, T ‘European News Agencies favour European Sources in their Iraq War Coverage’, In S Allan and Rantanen, T ‘European News Agencies favour European Sources in their Iraq War Coverage’, In S Allan and T Rantanen, T forthcoming 2004.


Silverstone, R ‘La Mediatisation de Catastrophe’, Dossiers de l’Audiovisuel, 105 (September): 60-64, 2002.


Related Publications by LSE Collaborators


