

Inaugural MEDIA@IU Conference

In Fall 2012, Media@IU will host its first annual conference for graduate students and faculty engaged in media production, management, teaching, research, and creative activity. The theme of this boutique-style conference is *Media and Social Change*.

What: A one-day conference that focuses on a wide range of media activism, ranging from the playful to the political. We hope to hear from an interdisciplinary mix of scholars investigating media and social change phenomena. Formats include: two keynote speakers, short research presentations of graduate students and faculty (in a roundtable setting), panel talk, “idea tournament,” Skype or video conversations with global media activists.

When: November 3, 2012

Why: Showcase the multidisciplinary research opportunities and provide unrivaled networking opportunities for media scholars; ground theory and research questions in real-time stories shared by people from regions around the world; connect junior and senior faculty with media activists around the world.

Recent global movements provide ample evidence that activism is enmeshed and carried out in our everyday mediated lives. The conference will explore what this interdependence of activism and media means for research, creative agendas, and everyday life.

Who: Two major keynote speakers: Nick Couldry (professor of media and communications and chair, Department of Media and Communications at Goldsmith’s College, London) and Adrienne Russell (associate professor of Digital Media Studies at the University of Denver and co-director of the Institute for Digital Humanities); invited IU scholars working in media/social change; IU graduate students; Skyped-in activists from around the world; and, possibly, graduate students from other Big Ten schools. The conference will be relatively IU-centric but also open to anyone who wishes to attend.



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About the Speakers

Adrienne Russell is associate professor in the Emergent Digital Practices program and co-director of the Institute for Digital Humanities at the University of Denver. Her research and teaching focus on the digital-age evolution of activist communication and journalism. Her book, *Networked: A Contemporary History of News in Transition* (Polity, 2011), examines the evolving values and practices of journalism. Her research also explores emerging global media activist tools and strategies and their influence on the nature and process of social change. She is co-editor of the book *International Blogging* (Peter Lang, 2009), a volume of case studies exploring the way national and local contexts influence blogging around the world. She has taught at the American University of Paris, University of California at Berkeley, University of Southern California, and IU. She earned a Ph.D. from IU's School of Journalism.

Nick Couldry is professor of media and communication at Goldsmiths College, London. His research and teaching interests are diverse and include: media rituals and anthropological approaches to media; reality TV, celebrity and fandom; media and democracy; alternative and community media; media ethics; social and cultural theory; and the methodology and history of cultural studies. He is the author or editor of ten books, including *The Place of Media Power: Pilgrims and Witnesses of the Media Age* (Routledge, 2000), *Inside Culture* (Sage, 2000), *Media Rituals: A Critical Approach* (Routledge, 2003), *Contesting Media Power: Alternative Media in a Networked World* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2003, coedited with James Curran), *Media Events in a Global Age* (Routledge 2009, co-edited with Andreas Hepp and Friedrich Krotz), *Why Voice Matters: Culture and Politics After Neoliberalism* (Sage, 2010), and, most recently, *Media Society World* (Polity, 2012).

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About MEDIA@IU

Media@IU is a cross-campus collaborative effort of faculty, staff, and graduate students interested and engaged in research, teaching, and creative activity in the broad field of media, communication, and the cultural and creative industries. One of the goals of this project is to provide a portal to resources for joint research and creative activities regarding media and communication at IU. The project originated in 2009, and includes graduate students and faculty from all over IU.

The first phase of the project (2009-2010) consisted of starting, populating, and managing a campus-wide e-mail list server: MEDIAIU-L (<https://list.indiana.edu/sympa/info/mediaiu-l>). This is a faculty and graduate student mailing list for announcements and discussions regarding media and communication-related events, talks, brown bags, exhibitions, performances, and colloquia on the IUB campus.

During the second phase of the project (2010-2012) a group of volunteer graduate students from Telecommunications, Education, Journalism, and Informatics gathered information and build a database of all things 'media and communication' at Indiana University. Under supervision of the Media@IU team this group designed and built a dedicated website: **mediaiu.indiana.edu**. The website intends to provide a portal to all things media at Indiana University.

Currently (2012-2014) the project is in a third phase, where we develop a graduate student and research section for the website (including information on internal and external funding opportunities), and organize an annual Media@IU conference (the first one is scheduled for November 3, 2012) where graduate students and faculty present research and creative activity related to media and communication.

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MEDIA@IU

The MEDIA@IU conference provides a hub for faculty and students interested in sharing research, teaching, and creative work in the interdisciplinary fields of media, communication, arts, technology, and the creative industries. Conference participants will present research and creative activity, with an emphasis on works-in-progress. The inaugural conference spotlights media activism and social change in the global context. Recent global movements provide ample evidence that activism is enmeshed and carried out in our everyday mediated lives. The conference will explore what this interdependence of activism and media means for our research and creative agendas. The conference welcomes faculty and student presenters with any vantage on media and social change phenomena. Additionally, the conference will ask several global media activists to share their stories of communication, representation, and engagement in the media.