Intelligence Studies Section Call for Paper Proposals for the 2012 ISA Conference

This is the ISA/Intelligence Studies Section (ISA/ISS) call for paper/panel proposals with a paper/panel proposal deadline of 1 June 2011 for the 1-4 April 2012 Conference in San Diego, California. Papers on any topic related to intelligence studies will be considered for acceptance.

ISA/ISS, one of twenty-three sections within the International Studies Association (ISA), is the primary venue for presenting new intelligence studies research and scholarship: from evaluations of intelligence analysis methodology to espionage to comparative intelligence systems. If it is research about intelligence, ISS is the venue to present it. For more on ISS, see: http://iss.loyola.edu/

This past year at the March 2011 conference in Montreal, ISA/ISS sponsored approximately 15 panels with about 75 different speakers addressing intelligence studies. Panel topics in 2011 included: Intelligence Analysis and Decision; Intelligence Analysis and the Cold War Era; Intelligence Outreach and Reform in Romania; Intelligence and the Military; The Role of Intelligence Sharing in UN Peacekeeping Operations; Reconceptualizing Politicization; and more. For those panels, see: http://iss.loyola.edu/iss_panels2011.pdf

If you would like to submit a paper or panel proposal, all you have to do is write up a short description/abstract of the paper you intend to submit or panel you put together, and then submit it by following the instructions after logging onto the myISA website, here: http://isanet.ccit.arizona.edu/MyISA

Four additional items to be aware of:

2012 ISA Conference Information: The website for the full 2012 conference, providing much additional information on the broader content and logistical aspects, is here: http://www.isanet.org/annual_convention/

Working Groups and Innovative Panels: Working groups provide a forum for dialogue and interaction around designated issue areas and consist of small group discussion (20-25 participants) of specific subject matter at three points during the conference, with goal being to stimulate new research questions and project ideas, and contribute to development of new communities of scholars. Submission deadline is 16 June 2011. Also, Innovative Panels are unique forums (creative experiments) for participants to dialogue, network, and learn in a forum different than that of a traditional panel. Submission deadline is 15 May 2011. Additional information on both, including processes to apply, are here: http://www.isanet.org/annual_convention/specialty.html#wg

Workshop Grants: These are funded workshops offering new and innovative collaborative research involving scholars drawn from the global international studies community with the goal being some tangible product, like a book proposal, follow-on conference, or other way to capitalize on the meeting. Two categories of grants exist: Venture Research Workshop Grants of up to $25,000 each and Catalytic Research Workshop Grants of up to $5,000 each. Additional information including application process is here: http://www.isanet.org/awards-grants/workshop-grants.html

Travel Grants: If you are a member of the ISS and will be applying for a travel grant from ISA, please let me know directly in addition to making the application with ISA.

If you have any questions, please send them to: spm8p@yahoo.com

Regards,
Stephen Marrin
Intelligence Studies Section Program Chair
Canadian communication theorist Marshall McLuhan famously said, “The medium is the message,” and coined the term “global village.” McLuhan died in 1980, but his insights are even more relevant today. The information environment is drastically different from that of even a decade ago, as new forms of information flows come into existence almost annually. Facebook now has over 500 million users, and Twitter, a service barely in existence three years ago, counts over 175 million users. These tools are not only for finding long-lost school friends or sharing pictures of loved ones; they often are used for political purposes. For instance, both text messages and tweets served as vital communication tools during the 2010 post-election protests in Iran. Indeed, Reuters reported that United States government went so far as to ask Twitter to postpone maintenance and maintain service during this time. Humanitarian groups also use these communications technologies to bring attention to events worldwide: in the wake of Haiti’s 2010 earthquake, the Red Cross collected $30 million in SMS-based donations from US phone users. And the 2010 elections witnessed US political candidates (and their staffs) tweeting and faceooking like never before.

The theme of this year’s conference is inspired by the apparent impact of new information and communication technologies on international and transnational affairs. Information has altered power relations; it has help to globalize norms and principles; it has the potential to bring new participants into political and social processes world-wide. From geographic information systems that bring satellite images to our research to sophisticated form of electronic textual analysis to internet surveys, it is undeniable that a whole range of new technologies is affecting the way we think about and do research in international studies.

How have the rapid and fundamental changes in information and communication technologies influenced the political environment and altered global connections?

The deadline for paper and panel proposals, made through the ISA system, is June 1, 2011.

All proposals should be submitted online using the MyISA Conference Management System at http://isanet.ccit.arizona.edu/MyISA

Inquiries to the program chairs should be directed to isa2012@isanet.org

For the full call for papers, see the ISA 2012 page at: http://www.isanet.org/annual_convention/call-for-papers.html

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