New Media, Old Money: Digital Technology, Social Media and the New Challenges to Campaigning and Democracy

A by-invitation experts’ workshop to be held at
The Embassy of Switzerland in the United States of America
2900 Cathedral Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20008
Washington, DC, September 27-29, 2015

Program

Sunday, Sept. 27

Welcoming Gathering

Monday, Sept. 28

8:30 Welcome, Orientation and Overview

Part I: Policy Aspects

8:45-9:45 Session 1: “The merits of merit goods: Journalism and social democracy in a time of austerity,” Christopher Ali, University of Virginia
Respondent: Carleen Maitland, Penn State

9:45-10:00 Break

10:00-11:00 Session 2: “The Impact of the Citizens United Decision and the Reaction of Digital Mobilization Groups,” Jarice Hanson, University of Massachusetts – Amherst
Respondent: Sascha Meinrath. Penn State

Part II: Social Media Aspects

11:00-12:00 Session 3: “What Campaigns Become as Social Media Become the Infrastructure of Political Communication,” G. R. Boynton, Padmini Srinivasan and M. Zubair Shafiq, University of Iowa
Respondent: D. Linda Garcia, Georgetown University

12:00-1:00 Lunch
Part III: Access

1:00-2:00 Session 4: “The Gender Bias- Women in the online space with a case study of women online in India,” Upasna Kakroo, Brandanew
Respondent: Shoko Kiyohara, Meiji University, Japan

2:00-3:00 Session 5: “Which Digital Divide? Measuring Broadband Access and Election Outcomes,” Sarah Oh, George Mason University
Respondent: Melissa Aronczyk, Rutgers University

Part IV: Campaigns and Elections

3:00-3:15 Break

3:15-4:15 Session 6: “Transparency of politicians’ actions, representation and the role of the digital media,” Marco Portmann, University of Bayreuth, David Stadelmann, University of Fribourg, and Reiner Eichenberger, CREMA – Center for Research in Economics, Management and the Arts, Switzerland
Respondent: Kathryn Montgomery, American University

4:15-4:45 Summing up day 1

5:00 Keynote Presentation: “Money, US Politics, and Information Technology: from Howard Dean to Donald Trump” Matthew Hindman, George Washington University

Reception

Tuesday, Sept. 29

9:00-10:00 Session 7: “Direct-democratic campaigns in a commercialized media system,” Linards Udris and Mark Eisenegger, Research Institute for the Public Sphere and Society, University of Zurich / University of Salzburg
Respondent: Nicol Turner-Lee, Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council

10:00-10:15 Break

Respondent: Manuel Puppis

11:15-12:00 Concluding Remarks