

The 2009 Forum will be held at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) on 19-20 November (Thursday-Friday). Interest areas include ICT, digital media, telecommunications broadcasting, communications culture, Internet and e-commerce.

What the Forum does

With around 70 contributors in 21 sessions, this is the largest annual gathering of communications knowledge in Australia. It gives a springboard to serious thinking and data about the state of media, telecommunications and the Internet. It is also a national meeting-place for people interested in the future of communications. One strength of the Forum is the depth of analysis, criticism and research offered by professional researchers and practitioners.

This is very independent

Nobody owns the Forum, either intellectually or commercially. It is open to all viewpoints; a co-operative effort by policy and research centres around the country. The sessions are based on proposals from a wide range of experts. There are no preferred themes, research methods or schools of thought.

The items on the program are selected on merit from what people propose by an independent panel, consisting of: Adjunct Prof Franco Papandrea, University of Canberra; Prof Trevor Barr, Media and Communications Unit, Swinburne University; Prof Terry Flew, Creative Industries Faculty, QUT; Assoc Prof Andrew Kenyon, CCML, University of Melbourne; Prof Don Lamberton, QUT; Prof Julian Thomas, Institute for Social Research, Swinburne University.

The program is flexible

You can design your own program, because there are three strands throughout. For example, if you are interested in the Internet, but not broadcasting, telecoms, journalism or economics, then one of the sessions at any time should be interesting to you. You can also use the multiple strands as a kind of smorgasbord, to sample what is happening in areas outside your immediate work.

This is a training opportunity for larger organisations

If your organisation is a large one, you might want to compare the cost of the CPRF with two days of expert training for your team members. Yet no trainer, however good, could marshal the same number of experts in the one room.

What the registration fee covers

The fee of \$495 covers all sessions on both days of the Forum, plus lunch and refreshments on each day. The lowest possible fee has been chosen to make the Forum accessible to the widest range of people, including scholars and community groups. Unfortunately, we can't offer a further discount, because it is already built into that low price. This year, we are allowing people to book one day of the Forum, instead of paying for the whole. Registration for one day is \$330.

How you can help

One practical way to help the Forum is to register now. That will really help with the planning and funding. Another way is to tell your colleagues, directing them to the web page or by forwarding the program. The rapid growth of the Forum in the last four years has come from referrals by people who have benefited from it.

The published PDF volume

In mid December shortly after the Forum a PDF volume of all the papers will be downloadable from the Forum web page.

Information and Contact

There is more information on the Forum web page: <http://www.networkinsight.org/events/cprf09.html/group/6>.

For inquiries about registration and attendance, please email c.abad@networkinsight.org or phone 02 9230 4269.

Custodians of the Forum

A group of six people from different places and backgrounds act as Custodians of the Forum, to under-write its independence and diversity: Mark Armstrong, Network Insight Institute; Prof Trevor Barr, Swinburne University; Emeritus Prof Reg Coutts, University of Adelaide; Lesley Osborne, ACMA; Adjunct Prof Franco Papandrea, University of Canberra; Debra Richards; Dr Christina Spurgeon, Queensland University of Technology.

Sponsors

We gratefully acknowledge the support of the IIC Australian Chapter, Gilbert + Tobin and the Smart Services CRC, for their financial support.



Centres and Institutes Supporting the Forum

ARC Centre of Excellence for Creative Industries and Innovation; Australian & New Zealand Communication Association; Centre for Media and Communications Law, University of Melbourne; Centre for Media History, Macquarie University; Communications Law Centre; News Research Centre, University of Canberra; Institute for Social Research, Swinburne University; Network Insight Institute; Smart Services CRC.

