



Abstracts



Annual CCS Conference: networks and contents

INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF THE 2001-2002 ACADEMIC YEAR

BY MANUEL CASTELLS

The Inaugural Address this year was given by Manuel Castells, PhD, named honorary member of the *Societat Catalana de Comunicació*. Castells speaks of the possible effects of the Internet on communication and how the Internet could effect, for example, communication codes. Given the current trend toward generalized communication, with each person constructing his/her own personal hypertext, communication codes between the diverse individualized hypertexts could be non-existent. Castells, with his characteristic well-documented thoughts, compels his audience to question many of the myths related to the new medium, Internet.

Open section

FACILITATING DISABLED PEOPLE'S ACCESS TO THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

BY MARIA TERESA SOTO SANFIEL

This article is based on studies (including those for her doctoral thesis) which the author carried out on the speech and image of people on television and radio, and on diverse aspects of creation, production and evaluation of interactive products. The article urges not only public administrations but also journalists and theorists in communications to assume their responsibility for integrating the disabled and the elderly into the Information Society, especially concerning available services on the Web. After all, it is often claimed that on-line services will permit the disabled a greater degree personal autonomy.

Open section

THE SYNERGY OF ART AND NTIC

BY ANTONI MERCADER

This article is a version of the author's presentation at the conference on *Art, Societat i Noves Tecnologies*. It is evident that works of art created with the aid of NTIC require a new framework. According to

Mercader, even though disciplinary and thematic technological divisions run the risk of impeding a full understanding of the artistic fact, the term *Media Art* derives from the very close relationship of Art with the globalising phenomenon of telecommunications.

Open section

THE EVOLUTION OF WEB-BASED MULTIMEDIA PRODUCTION: FROM THE OFF-LINE MODEL TO THE ON-LINE MODEL

BY XAVIER RIBES

This article is an overview of the evolution of Web-based multimedia production. The author argues that the technological limitations entailing problems on the Web are similar to the problems which off-line computer methods had to deal with in their day. These problems are related primarily to the way in which the information is displayed on the screen, the speed with which the user can access information, and the elements which are used in the production of messages. In short, the Internet has had to find its own solutions in order to deal with these problems.

Open section

APPROACHING THE WORLD PUBLIC SPACE

BY JUAN JOSÉ BAS PORTERO; JORDI PÉREZ LLAVADOR;
JOSÉ REIG CRUAÑES; JOSEP SOLVES ALMELA

This article, fruit of the reflections of a group of four professors of the Universitat CEU– San Pablo (Valencia), deals with 9/11 and its consequences. Those dramatic events are food for thought about public space since, as we well remember, it was then that all discourse was centered on one single point, leading to the materialization of an abstract reference of the world public space. Not only in the case of the attack itself, viewed in direct around the world, but also in the case of the subsequent attack on Afghanistan, the background media phenomenon was use of a world public space.

The four points of the article are 1) the system of social stratification of the world, 2) the process of globalisation and the structure of communication, 3) the actors on the world stage, and 4) the public space, the public and the media.

Open section

FACTORS OF PROGRESS AND DELAY IN THE EVOLUTION OF JOURNALISM. THE CASE OF SPAIN IN THE CONTEXT OF COMPARATIVE HISTORY

BY JAUME GUILLAMET

The author underscores the fact that an integral vision of the history of journalism requires the help of comparative history to resolve the problems of interpretation related to the evolution of journalism and the specific factors effecting its progress or delay in each country. Without this help, it would be difficult to offer a clear and reasoned explanation of the marked differences among diverse national traditions around the world, and within Europe. The author proposes some concepts from comparative history as the factors of progress and delay common to different traditions. The article ends with a comparison of France and Spain.