

New director of the Master Degree in Barranquilla



Our colleagues from Universidad del Norte, in Barranquilla (Colombia), have appointed Jesus Arroyave as director of the newly created Master Degree on Communication, with emphasis in communication for social change and culture. Jesus Arroyave's background is predominantly in education (an M.A. at UniNorte, Colombia, 1996-1998, and a post-masters certificate of Enrollment Manager in Higher Education at the School of Education, University of Miami, 2006); however he has moved towards journalism and communication studies (he holds an M.A. on Communication and Information studies, Rutgers University, New York, 2000-2002, and he is a doctoral candidate at the School of Communication of the University of Miami, Coral Gables). His research interests are broad: development communication, edutainment and development, Latin American journalism and media literacy. He has held several positions as lecturer, teaching assistant and assistant professor in Barranquilla, Miami and Rutgers and he has published several chapters and short essays in books and journals, on issues related with journalism, media coverage and audience. He has also worked as a consultant, mainly on health advocacy projects.

Our colleagues Jair Vega and Rafael Obregón will continue supporting the Master Degree and our colleague Arroyave in the tasks ahead.

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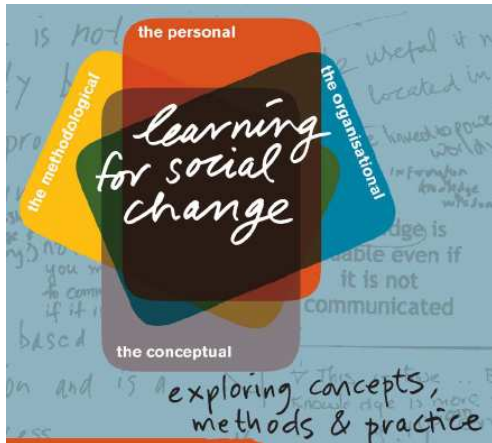
Comunicacion & Sociedad # 6

A new issue of Comunicación & Sociedad, number 6 (July-December 2006), is out. This is an academic bi-annual publication from the University of Guadalajara, Mexico, prepared and published by the Departamento de Estudios de la Comunicación Social, with an impressive Editorial Board which includes communication specialists from various countries. This issue includes contributions on the Mexican "telenovela" (television soap operas), the press in Brazil, indigenous photography and rituals, digital television in Spain, the intellectual production in ALAIC (the Latin American Association of Communication Research), and an analysis of Bush's speeches related to September 11, 2001. Comunicación & Sociedad is one of the important specialised academic communication journals in Latin America.



All of it: <http://www.publicaciones.cucsh.udg.mx/pperiod/comsoc/volumenes/cys6-2006.htm>

Learning for Social Change (FLASC)



Last February 28-March 3 2006, an international workshop and dialogue on “Facilitating Learning for Social Change (FLASC), took place at Dunford House (Midhurst, UK), organised by the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) of Sussex. It was an enormous opportunity to discuss approaches to participatory development and the role of culture, knowledge and communication in the learning process that facilitates social change. Concepts, methods and practices were shared and analysed through presentations, open discussions, group work and participatory activities. The 25 participants (and a baby) came from ten countries and varied backgrounds, both

academic and practitioners, which contributed to the depth of the dialogue. Among them, Robert Chambers who has written several important books on participatory approaches to learning and social change. The Communication for Social Change Consortium was represented by James Deane and Alfonso Gumucio-Dagron.

The report from the workshop came out recently, drafted by Peter Taylor, Andrew Deak, Jethro Pettit and Isabel Vogel, who were the facilitators during the dialogue. It is available in full as a PDF document:

<http://www.pnet.ids.ac.uk/docs/FLASC.pdf#search=%22FLASC%2C%20IDS%22>

Enghel’s IDEA

As from November 1st, Florencia Enghel, who is a member of this network on behalf of Malmö University’s Master in Communication for Development, has been appointed Publications Manager of the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) for a period of 18 months. Before joining IDEA, Florencia was Head Editor of the Latin American Council of Social Sciences (CLACSO) for 10 years. As such, in 2005 she facilitated an agreement between CLACSO in Argentina and NORDICOM in Sweden for the co-publication of the anthology “Media & Glocal Change”, edited by Thomas Tufte & Oscar Hemer.



IDEA is an intergovernmental organization with member states in all continents that aims to support sustainable democracy worldwide. It operates at an interface between academics, policy-makers and practitioners, providing a forum for dialogue. Based in Stockholm, Sweden, it has regional offices in several parts of the world.

For more information about IDEA’s current activities and materials produced by its Publications Office, see www.idea.int

Our Media 6 – Sydney 2007



The Our Media 6 conference at the University of Western Sydney (Australia) April 9-13 2007, is shaping up. The Australian Organizing Committee has been very active, getting sponsorship, drafting the call for proposals, and involving numerous institutions in Asia. The OM6 Conference will bring together international and national experts, researchers, policy makers, activists and local community development practitioners to discuss ways to ensure a sustainable future for building participatory community, alternative and citizen's media.

In line with previous meetings (Washington, Barcelona, Barranquilla, Porto Alegre and Bangalore), OurMedia / Nuestros Medios 6th Conference (OM6) will be aimed at building strategies and collaborations among researchers, non-governmental organizations, practitioners, artists and advocates for the promotion of communication rights, effective access to ICT, community and citizen participation in the media and community engagements that foster social change and cultural revitalisation.

This will be the longest and bigger Our Media conference ever. No less than nine streams for discussion have been defined, including research on community media; participation and social change; policy in community media; media activism, civil society & social movements; local culture & media diversity; new technologies & convergence; community broadcasting; indigenous & aboriginal media; and young people and grassroots communication. Alfonso Gumucio and Jethro Pettit are the convenors for the "*Participation and Social Change*" stream.

The deadline for submission of abstracts is 31 October 2006.

The conference webpage: http://www.ourmedia07.net/?page_id=4

We would like to receive more information on the activities that other universities in the network are conducting: events, publications, agreements, etc. Please send it to: Gumucio@cfsc.org