

AGENDA

**THE INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION REVOLUTION:
Media Outlook, Opportunities, Obsessions
October 4-5, 2001
Joan Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics and Public Policy
Kennedy School of Government
Harvard University**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2001 Wiener Auditorium (ground floor of Taubman Building)

4 pm **“Does the Information Revolution Spell Western Information Imperialism?”
Wiener Auditorium, Taubman Building (access from Eliot Street adjacent to the Charles Hotel)**

The evolution of major western media combined with the largely western market forces and sources that support it suggest that there are fewer editorial voices reaching more of a global audience than ever before. Is this trend inexorable, or are there regionally relevant reverse trends?

Panelists: Moderator: Alex Jones, Joan Shorenstein Center
Iqbal Qadir, GrameenPhone; Kennedy School of Government
Amolo Ng’weno, Africa Online
Geneive Abdo, Nieman Fellow; formerly with *The Guardian*

7:15 pm **RECEPTION -- Faculty Dining Room (immediately adjacent to the ARCO Forum in the Littauer Building of the KSG)**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2001 – Malkin Penthouse (4th floor of Littauer Building at KSG)

9-9:30 am **Continental Breakfast**

9:30-9:35 am **Welcome** – Alex S. Jones, Director of the Joan Shorenstein Center

9:35-10 am **Presentation: “Documenting the Digital Divide”**
The 2001 Information Society Index
Crocker Snow Jr., *The World Paper*

The evolution of major western media combined with the largely western market forces and sources that support it suggest that there are fewer editorial voices reaching more of a global audience than ever before. Is this trend inexorable, or are there regionally relevant reverse trends?

-over-

10:10-
11:45 am

“Does Technology Enable Press Freedom?”

Moderator: Tim Carrington, The World Bank

Pippa Norris, Kennedy School of Government
Ellen Mickiewicz, Kennedy School of Government and Duke University
Rami Khouri, syndicated columnist and TV and radio host (Jordan);
Nieman Fellow
Daniel Wagner, International Literacy Institute, UPenn. and UNESCO

Information technology has the demonstrated capacity to "leapfrog" not only developing countries but also the media itself. What is the relationship with press freedom per se, and can IT serve as cause or effect of press freedoms in individual developing countries?

12-1:15 pm

**Luncheon: “The Economic Ecology of Information Technology”
Malkin Penthouse**

Sergio Sarmiento, TV Azteca, Mexico

Media companies in different developed and developing countries can profit notably from wise investment in and application of information technology -- as can the countries in which they operate. But IT alone doesn't assure a dividend without the application of professional press standards.

1:30-
2:45 pm

“Media Morphing: In Style, Substance and Ownership”

Moderator: Alex Jones, Joan Shorenstein Center

Kavi Chongkittavorn, *The Nation*, Bangkok
Christopher Ma, The Washington Post Company
Yoshisuke Iinuma, Toyo Keizai, Inc.

Lee McKnight, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University

The consolidation of media ownership coupled with the morphing together of media forms seem like an irreversible sign of the times, nationally and internationally. Is this trend inevitable? What is its likely outcome and result?

3-4:15 pm

“Arguing an International Information Bill of Rights and Responsibilities”

Moderator: Charles Firestone, The Aspen Institute

David Greenway, International Press Institute
Mana Ranjan Josse, *Kathmandu Post* and *The Peoples Review*
Stefaan Verhulst, Markle Foundation

The information revolution is ubiquitous, but unevenly applied. As the American people have benefited from a bill of political rights, could humanity benefit from an international, information bill of rights and responsibilities?

4:15-
4:45 pm

Conclusion: Outlook, Opportunities, Obsessions

Adjourn.