Sotto l’Alto Patronato del Presidente della Repubblica Italiana

International Conference
COMMUNIA 2010

University and Cyberspace
Reshaping Knowledge Institutions for the Networked Age

Torino, 28-30 June 2010

http://university-and-cyberspace.org
Introduction

Universities are entrusted with the increasingly important responsibility of creating, sharing, and fostering use of knowledge on behalf of society, and to that end, are the recipients of tremendous investments of time, money, space, authority and freedom. Universities have embraced this role in diverse fashions, varying by tradition, period, and discipline, but we now ask them to go further. As we progress ever more deeply into a networked age, our knowledge institutions are faced with concomitant opportunities. They are challenged by society to become a driving force to create and disseminate knowledge - using innovative, effective, and dynamic approaches - derived from and for the networked world.

This broad social importance is paralleled within the gates of academe, as the Internet and related technologies are provoking unprecedented changes in the way universities can and must function, responding to the needs of so-called digital natives, the opportunities for information and knowledge sharing, and the demand for physical and virtual spaces that support these populations and activities. Students (and faculty) are increasingly immersed in technology, with different ideas about and expectations for these processes [and just about everything they do]. The core enterprises of the university are shifting massively due to the new capacity to create, process, and share information, scholarship, and knowledge. The importance of place and physical architecture are shifting to accommodate the new modes of university activity, including creation of resources that support interactions that are asynchronous, distributed, and self-organized.

The discussion about open access publishing, the growth of a commons of knowledge, advanced forms of e-learning or platforms of collaboration and education are only the most visible manifestations of these tectonic shifts. While each of these topics is a conference in itself, by bringing them together we aim to develop forward looking approaches to creating a future in which the challenges are opportunities not just in their immediate locus of impact, but form part of an integrated approach to the networked age, offering far reaching positive benefits. More specifically, we will ask: How is the role of universities as knowledge creating, sharing, and applying institutions going to change due to the Internet? How should universities use cyberspace to best implement their mission with respect to society? Taking into account the characteristics of the new generations of students, faculty and staff, how should the informational and the spatial (both physical and virtual) infrastructures of universities be shaped to improve learning, discovery, and engagement? What about the new opportunities to enhance the civic role of universities – who prepare people for citizenship and contribute to the public sphere - in our democratic societies?

The COMMUNIA 2010 International Conference will provide a venue for articulating possible answers to these and other questions, with the twofold objective of defining a shared vision of the future of universities as knowledge institutions and of identifying the main steps leading from vision to reality.
Program
Monday, 28 June 2010

8.30 a.m.  Registration

9.30 a.m.  Welcome Address

10.00 a.m.  Kick-off: COMMUNIA and Universities
            Juan Carlos de Martin, NEXA Center for Internet & Society, in conversation with
            Charles Nesson, Berkman Center for Internet & Society

10.30 a.m.  Keynote: Universities in the Age of the Internet
            Stefano Rodotà, University of Rome

11.15 a.m.  Coffee Break

11.45 a.m.  High Order Bit: “Arduino, Open Source Hardware and Learning by Doing”
            Massimo Banzi, tinker.it, arduino.cc
            The Arduino Project: the shared, bottom-up innovation leads to new global hard-
            ware standard and to new ways of producing and sharing knowledge. Massimo
            Banzi, co-founder of Arduino, will briefly present the project.

12.00 a.m.  Plenary: Digital Natives
            The Digital Natives track will introduce the perspective of a generation of stu-
            dents “born digital.” Key questions for this track will include: How have -- and will
            -- digital technologies affect learning? What are the implications of these shifts
            for the understanding of universities and their activities, including teaching and
            research? How will universities respond to and support new forms of knowledge
            creation and sharing among young people? What are the implications for curri-
            culum building? What is the future of blended learning in light of Digital Natives’
            usage patterns? How will universities deal with varied levels of media literacy
            among students, how can we address new types of participation gaps that emer-
            ge in the digital age?

            •  Keynote: John Palfrey, Berkman Center for Internet & Society
            •  Respondent: Marco de Rossi, Oilproject.org
            •  Track Leader: Urs Gasser, Berkman Center for Internet & Society

            After brief reflections on the history, John Palfrey’s keynote will focus on the
            characteristics of Digital Natives –- how they relate to information, how they com-
            municate with each other, and how they acquire and exchange knowledge -- in
            order to identify the key questions from a university perspective associated with
            the information and communication habits of young people as we transition into
            a fully digitally networked environment. Marco De Rossi, who founded as a tee-
            nager the educational project http://www.oilproject.org, will serve as respond-
            ent and will provide reflections on Professor Palfrey’s keynote.

1.15 p.m.  Lunch

2.30 p.m.  Plenary: Information Infrastructure
            In the Information Infrastructure track we will examine the history of academic
            knowledge dissemination. Until fairly late in the twentieth century universities
            considered that the widest dissemination of knowledge was central to their mis-
            sion. Their presses, and the scholarly societies, endeavored to carry out this dis-
            semination as effectively as possible in the print-on-paper age. Things changed
            in the latter half of that century for two reasons. The Bayh-Dole Act in the US
            helped to set in train a new way of thinking in universities, encouraging them to
            perceive the knowledge created within as a possession that could be exploited,
            upturning centuries of academic values centered around sharing, collegiality
            and mutual dependence. And commercial companies began to dominate the
            scholarly publishing arena, attaching commercial values and behaviors to the
            dissemination of publicly-funded research.  Now, with the development of the
            internet and boosted by a change in general towards the flow of information, the
            concept of the knowledge commons is again on the table.

            Some of the questions that the track will address might be: Can we reshape aca-
            demic thinking and values? How can we reposition the university in the centre
            of the public space? How far has advocacy on Open Access and open licensing
            reached into academic thinking and practice? Will the Netgen be able to change
            things rapidly or can established values and norms still maintain the status quo?

            •  Keynote: Alma Swan, Key Perspectives Ltd.
            •  Respondent: Stuart Shieber, Berkman Center for Internet & Society and
              Office of Scholarly Communication at Harvard University
            •  Respondent: Martin Hall, Salford University, UK
            •  Track Leader: Alma Swan

            Alma Swan’s keynote will provide a ‘state of the art’ synopsis of the current posi-
            tion with respect to knowledge sharing, reflecting on progress over the past two
decades and drawing a picture of things that might come next. The keynote will be
            shaped around three main issues: the sharing and dissemination of knowled-
gea; the ownership of knowledge; and ‘joining things up’ (infrastructural aspects)
development of knowledge creation and sharing (on-campus and between-campus

3.45 p.m.  Coffee Break

4.15 p.m.  High Order Bit: African Universities as Knowledge Centers: Challenges
            and Opportunities
            Boubakar Barry, African Association of Universities
            African universities face many challenges as knowledge centers, both in terms of
            the dissemination of knowledge they create locally and internationally, as well as
            challenges related to accessibility to global information and knowledge sources.
            African universities are still struggling with adequate and affordable access to
            their students and the broader society. The need for access to academic and infor-
            mation resources is clear. There is a growing need for relevant and up-to-date
            information, as well as the need for access to academic and research resources
            that can help to develop and support the teaching and research activities of
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            helped to set in train a new way of thinking in universities, encouraging them to
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4.30 p.m.  **Plenary: Physical/Virtual Spatial Infrastructure**

The Spatial Infrastructure track questions the role of the physical and virtual architecture for knowledge creation and dissemination. Should we assume that with teaching becoming increasingly virtual, physical space will be more and more geared towards interpersonal interaction and establishment of credibility? If so, how are we to rethink the physical university space? What is the value of presence? Conversely, how do we envision universities as shared spaces in cyberspace, blurring distinctions between public and private? Will the university be the new interface for young people between the physical and digital? What does it mean in terms of design? How can architecture contribute to the legibility, both practical and symbolic, of this interface? How should the layout of the physical facilities of a university be reflected in its electronic architecture (e.g., relations between physical and digital boundaries, thresholds, etc.)? What becomes of notions like transparency, opacity, inertia, in the context created by the interaction of the physical and the virtual (augmented reality)?

- **Co-keynote:** Antoine Picon, Harvard University
- **Co-keynote:** Jef Huang, EPFL
- **Track Leader:** Jef Huang

Antoine Picon’s keynote will provide an overview of the brief history, present the forces at work, and discuss the effects of digitalization on contemporary architecture in general, and on information-intensive typologies (such as universities, museums, libraries) in particular. A particular point of discussion will be why design matters in this convergence of physical and digital infrastructure. While thriving academic communities cannot be designed per se – good communities simply happen or emerge, what can be designed and where the locus for action should be, is the underlying spatial infrastructure, now physical and virtual, for fostering thriving communities.

5.45 p.m.  **Reflections and Next Steps**

6.15 p.m.  **End**

8.00 p.m.  **Food for Thought Dinners**

Information and registration regarding Food for Thought Dinners can be found on the main conference wiki: [http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/communia2010/Main_Page](http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/communia2010/Main_Page)

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**Tuesday, 29 June 2010**

9.30 a.m.  **Concurrent Breakout Sessions**

In these breakouts sessions, we will discuss the questions identified by keynoters and respondents on the first day of the conference and seek to map both challenges and opportunities. The breakout session will also be used to get a sense whether there is a shared understanding of the types of challenges and opportunities that universities face – and about their priorities. These breakout sessions serve as a bridge between the present and the future by introducing some case studies and examples from practice that address some of the challenges and opportunities identified on day 1.

- **Track 1: Digital Natives – Challenges and Opportunities**
  - **Moderator:** Colin Maclay, Berkman Center for Internet & Society
  - **Sandra Cortesi**, Berkman Center for Internet & Society
  - **Ximena Lopez**, Università Roma Tre, Italy

- **Track 2: Information Infrastructure**
  - **SJ Klein**, One Laptop per Child
  - **Gian Piero Pescarmona**, University of Turin
  - **Dalit Ken-Dror**, Halifa Center for Law and Technology, Halifa University

10.45 a.m.  **Coffee Break**

11.15 a.m.  **High Order Bit: “Individual and social evolution: through digital gaming, out of the box”**

*Carlo Fabricatore, Initium Studios & University of Worcester*

Play and games can significantly contribute to the expansion and evolution of individuals and societies. So much so that cultures are, in fact, born in and through play. At present, the pervasiveness and richness of digital gaming has enormously amplified the impact of play and games on both individual and societal development, transcending the boundaries, the “boxes” of the “real” world. The presentation will focus on the nature of games, gamers and gaming societies in the digital age, and the importance of understanding them in order to channel game-based evolution towards positive outcomes.

11.30 a.m.  **Plenary: Universities as Civic Actors or Institutions**

In recent years society has been asking universities to do more than simply - albeit crucially - educate young students and produce new academic knowledge. The list of new demands include life-long education, open access to scientific papers and educational resources, and encouragement and support for spin-offs and start-ups. But is that it? Of course not. Public education, at all levels, was born with a clear mandate to educate citizens and to increase social mobility, not simply provide students with marketable skills and bookshelves with new scientific journals. Moreover, in our age the increasingly complex problems that we are facing as society, from global warming to water supplies, from the environment to energy issues, from the challenges (and opportunities) presented by bio-genetics and nanotechnology, don’t call for a renewal of the concept of Uni-
versity as Public Institution? In other words, don’t universities - as institutions as well as through their individual researchers - have a duty to engage more frequently in the public sphere, offering their super partes skills and knowledge at the service of citizens - and their representative - to allow them to properly deliberate? If so, how? What would be appropriate and what would, instead, constitute a deontological breach of professorial decorum and integrity? If it is indeed important, shouldn’t universities allow/favor internal organizational changes to better implement such social role? How is that social role linked to freedom of research? Is the growing need of universities in many countries to court potential private investors (or governments) affecting it? If so, what could the consequences be for our societies? Doesn’t the Internet offer extraordinary tools and should accordingly act - as civic actors in the networked age.

This session - organized in collaboration with Biennale Democrazia - will explore and to help to reduce social and cultural divides?

• Marco Santambrogio, Politecnico di Milano
• Colin Maclay, Berkman Center for Internet & Society
• Maarten Simons, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium
• Jan Masschelein, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium
• Session leader: Juan Carlos de Martin

12.45 p.m. Lunch

2.15 p.m. Plenary: Universities as Platforms for Learning

For centuries, college student were educated by listening to their professor read aloud selected books taken from the university library ("lesson" comes, in fact, from "lectio", Latin for "reading session"). Gutenberg changed that by making books cheaper and therefore more amenable to individual ownership and private reading, but the typical university lesson ended up not changing much anyway. Thanks to technology, we are now experiencing, at least potentially, a Renaissance of learning methods: from ebooks to podcasts, from virtual worlds classrooms to streaming, from computer-assisted learning to videogames, the avenues of learning have increased dramatically. Are we heading towards purely technology-mediated learning strategies? Is the old Socratic professor-student direct approach completely obsolete? Doesn’t the wider spectrum of approaches offer the opportunity to educate those students who have always been uncomfortable with the traditional approach? What about the impact on lifelong learning? This session will explore how the future of learning in the age of the Net will look like.

• Catharina Maracke, Keyo University, Japan
• Marco De Rossi, Oilproject.org
• Carlo Fabricatore, Initium Studios & University of Worcester
• Delia Brown, Peer-2-Peer University
• Stephan Vincent-Lancrin, OECD
• Session Leader: Jean Claude Guedon, University of Montreal

3.30 p.m. Coffee Break

4.00 p.m. High Order Bit

Joi Ito, Creative Commons

4.15 p.m. Plenary: Universities as Knowledge Creators

This session will seek to address questions around trends towards commercialization of knowledge at universities and knowledge institutions, and the impact those trends have on knowledge generation. Additionally, the discussion will address the tension between the growing specialization of research activities and the aspiration towards increased interdisciplinarity.

• Carlo Olmo, Politecnico di Torino
• Philippe Aigrain, Sopinspace
• Janneke Adema, Coventry University
• Mary Lee Kennedy, Harvard Business School
• Session Leader: Terry Fisher, Berkman Center for Internet & Society

5.30 p.m. In search of the public domain

Since late 2007 COMMUNIA, the European thematic network on the digital public domain (http://communia-project.eu), a project funded by the European Union, has been bringing together key stakeholders throughout the Continent (and beyond) to explore and highlight the role of the public domain in our economy, culture and society. Engineers, economists, librarians, activists, law professors, sociologists, policy makers and many others have met approximately every three months in different parts of Europe to collectively produce an impressive amount of knowledge, case studies and facts about the digital public domain, most of it freely available online. Now a few key players are ready to share their experiences and hindsight, offering both a summary of the main results of the project and a well articulated vision of how a healthy public domain - healthy also due to the contribution of universities - could tangibly enrich our lives.

• Lucie Guibault, Institute for Information Law, University of Amsterdam
• Patrick Peiffer, Luxcommons
• Jonathan Gray, Open Knowledge Foundation
• Sirin Tekinay, Sirin Tekinay, Ozyegin University, Istanbul, Turkey
• Ignasi Labastida, University of Barcelona
• Philippe Aigrain, Sopinspace
• Paolo Lanteri, WIPO

6.30 p.m. End

8.00 p.m. Social dinner (Castello del Valentino)
Wednesday, 30 June 2010

9.30 a.m.  High Order Bit: “Why Academia Needs to Rediscover the Commons”
David Bollier, Onthecommmons.org
Academia has long functioned as a commons based on openness, sharing and collaboration. In recent decades, however, universities have expanded their use of copyright and patent law to privatize knowledge; invited corporate partnerships that skew research priorities and impose secrecy; and entered into licensing deals that deliver captive audiences of students to marketers. If universities are truly going to serve the public and reap the benefits of digital technologies, they must rediscover the commons as a moral vision, system of governance and framework for managing knowledge.

9.45 a.m.  High Level Keynote: “Digital Culture, Network Culture, and What Comes Afterward”
Bruce Sterling
A speculation about what happens when the old idea of “media” as a fixed channel goes away and is replaced by cloudy ideas of “ubiquity” and “augmented reality.

11.00 a.m.  Coffee Break

11.30 a.m.  High Order Bit: “From Elites, To Masses: Drivers of Excellence in Communication, And Participation”
David Orban, Humanity+ & Singularity University
Access to the best teachers, the best courses is a given these days of online video, and communities. The silos of specialization have lost their advantage in opposition to interdisciplinary approaches. Breadth first wins over depth first exploration of connections, and opportunities. The combinatorial explosion of interesting possibilities makes it impossible to resist talking, shouting about them in all possible occasions!

11.45 a.m.  Public universities, public education: From the Bologna Process to Cyberspace
How are universities coping with their public function of education and research? What in terms of social dimension, equitable access and completion, lifelong learning, mobility, funding, international openness?
Ten years after the Bologna Process, the boundaries universities ought to be able to bypass have become wider: cyberspaces and not any longer spaces are now the set of connections, mobility, accessibility. Students discuss on the state of art of the public domain and on the right of a free culture, in a manifesto of ideas and perceptions on the public role and responsibility of high academic institutions on that.
Session Chair: Chiara Basile, Politecnico di Torino

12.30 p.m.  Lunch

2.00 p.m.  Concurrent Breakout Sessions
These breakout sessions will re-visit the issues identified on the previous days of the conference. They seek to look into the future and map emerging issues, topics, and options.
- Track 1: Digital Natives
- Track 2: Information Infrastructure
- Track 3: Physical/Spatial Infrastructure – Design of Future Universities

3.15 p.m.  Coffee Break

3.45 p.m.  Final Session: Synthesis and Proposals
- Stephan Vincent-Lancrin, OECD
- Francesco Profumo, Rector Politecnico di Torino
- Mario Calabresi, La Stampa
- Herbert Burkert, University of St. Gallen
- Jafar Javan, UN Staff College
- Charles Nesson, Berkman Center for Internet & Society
- Chiara Basile, Politecnico di Torino
- Sirin Tekinay, Ozyegin University, Istanbul, Turkey
- Moderators: Juan Carlos de Martín & Urs Gasser

5.30 p.m.  End
Conference Location

Aula Magna Hall

Directions from conference hotels to Aula Magna at Politecnico di Torino:

If you are at the Diplomatic Hotel (distance: about 1.4 Km), cross the road (via Cernaia), turn left along via Cernaia for a few meters, then right along Corso Vinzaglio. Walk about two hundred meters along Corso Vinzaglio until you reach tram stop #29 (Questura, corso Vinzaglio / via Grattoni).

Take Tram #10 toward Caio Mario Capolinea and get off at the 3rd stop (# 376, Duca degli Abruzzi – Politecnico), as you get off, you will find the Politecnico di Torino in front of you.

(Alternatively, exiting from the Hotel Diplomatic, you may turn right along via Cernaia and take Tram #10 from the front of Porta Susa railway station, which is about 150 meters from the Hotel Diplomatic.)

If you are at the Boston Art Hotel (distance: about 1 km) you have to turn left along via Massena, cross Corso Sommeiller, turn left and walk along Corso Sommeiller, until you reach Corso Re Umberto and you will find tram stop #615 (corso Sommeiller / corso Re Umberto).

There you get Tram #15 or Tram #16 toward Sabotino. At the 3rd stop (# 616, corso Einaudi / corso Duca degli Abruzzi), you get off and turn right along Corso Duca degli Abruzzi. After about 300 hundred meters, you’ll find the Politecnico di Torino on your left.
Social Program

Food for Thoughts
28 June 2010 at 8.00 p.m
Thematic dinners in restaurants and pizzerie around town.
If interested, please register as early as possible at:
http://communia2010.org/wiki
You can also make your own proposal.

Social Dinner at
Castello del Valentino
(registered participants only)
29 June 2010 at 8.00 p.m
Directions from conference hotels to Castello del Valentino.
If you are at the the NH Ligure Hotel (distance: about 1.9 Km), turn left, walk for a few meters and then turn right along Corso Vittorio Emanuele II (crossing the southern part of Piazza Carlo Felice), until you arrive at the stop of Bus #33 or #33/ (stop # 3126, Stazione Porta Nuova: corso Vittorio Emanuele II / via Arsenale).
Take Bus #33/ toward Partigiani or Bus #33 toward Costituzione Capolinea. You have to get off at the 5th stop (stop # 376, corso Duca degli Abruzzi - Politecnico) and you will be in front of the Politecnico di Torino.

Rooms 13 A -15 A - 21 A
Break Out Sessions
You will find directions inside the Politecnico di Torino.

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Directions from Aula Magna del Politecnico to Castello del Valentino
As you are exiting the Politecnico di Torino, turn right along and walk for one block, until you reach Corso Einaudi. When you reach Corso Einaudi, if you cross the street, you will find a tram stop just a few meters to your right. Get on Tram #16 and get off at the 8th stop. You will see in front of you the Castello del Valentino, Viale Pier Andrea Mattioli, 39, 10125 Torino.

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How To Reach the Airport

By Bus

There is a shuttle bus to the Turin Airport, which you can get on at the Porta Nuova Station or the Porta Susa Station. The hotels are all within walking distance of Porta Nuova or Porta Susa station.

If you are staying at the Diplomatic Hotel you can get the shuttle at Porta Susa Station.

If you are staying at the Boston Art Hotel or the NH Ligure you can get the shuttle at Porta Nuova station last stop.

The Airport is the last stop on the shuttle.

Tickets:
Tourist bureau, ticket office, ticket machine (Arrivals level); and on board, ask the driver (+ Euro 0.50 extra-charge).

Timetable:
Please see on http://www.turin-airport.com or how to get us - by bus.

By Taxi

Reaching the Torino Airport from the city center by taxi is fairly expensive (approximately 30-35 euro, depending on traffic), but quite convenient, since the airport is not too far out of town.

You can find taxis at taxi stops (full list here: http://www.comune.torino.it/trasporti/taxi.htm) or you can ask for one by calling +39 011 5737 or +39 011 5730(you will be asked to specify your exact location, that is, street name and street number).

Program Committee

• Philippe Aigrain is presently CEO of Sopinspace, Society for Public Information Spaces, a company founded by him in 2004. Sopinspace develops free software and provides commercial services for the organisation of public debates and collaborative work over the Internet.

• Derek Bok is the former president of Harvard University and is the 300th Anniversary University Research Professor.

• Herbert Burkert teaches telecommunications law, media law, internet law and public law. He is president of the Research Center for Information Law at the University of St. Gallen.

• Allen Chan is a Managing Partner LGT Hong Kong, Financial Advisor to the President of Fudan University, Professor Fudan School of Management, and specializes in philanthropy and education.

• Robert Darnton is the Carl H. Pforzheimer University Professor and Director of the University Library at Harvard University.

• Juan Carlos de Martin is the Founder and Co-Director of the NEXA Center for Internet & Society and Associate Professor at the Politecnico di Torino’s Information Engineering School.

• William Fisher is the WilmerHale Professor of Intellectual Property Law, Harvard Law School and the Faculty Director of the Berkman Center for Internet & Society.

• Anna Elisabetta Galeotti is a Senior Research Scholar in Ethics, studied moral philosophy at the University of Pavia, and holds the chair in Political Philosophy at the University of Piemonte Orientale in Vercelli, Italy, where she directs the philosophy courses.

• Urs Gasser is the Executive Director of the Berkman Center for Internet & Society.

• Jean-Claude Guedon has been a Professor at the University of Montreal since 1973, first in the Institut d’histoire et de sociopolitique des sciences, and, since 1987, in the Département de littérature comparée. He is a long-time member of the Internet Society serving as co-chair of the program committee in 1996, 1998 and 2000, and member of the committee in 1997, 1999 and 2002.

• Jeffrey Huang is the Director of the Media x Design Lab and Professor of Architecture and Digital Media at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL).

• Hiroshi Komiyama is the former President of University of Tokyo, author of “Vision 2050: Roadmap for a Sustainable Earth”.

• Tadeusz Luty is an EUA Board member.

• Miriam Meckel holds a professorship for Corporate Communication at the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland, and is the Managing Director of the Institute for Media and Communication Management (since 2005).

• Charles Nesson is the William F. Weld Professor of Law at Harvard Law School and Founder and Faculty Co-Director of the Berkman Center for Internet & Society.

• John Palfrey is the Henry N. Ess Professor of Law and Vice Dean for Library and Information Resources at Harvard Law School and Faculty-Co Director of the Berkman Center for Internet & Society.

• Antoine Picon is the Professor of the History of Architecture and Technology and Co-Director of Doctoral Programs (PhD & DDes) at Harvard’s Graduate School of Design. He teaches courses in the history of architecture and technology.

• Francesco Profumo is the Chancellor (“Rettore”) of the Politecnico di Torino.

• Jamil Salmi, a Moroccan education...
economist, is the coordinator of the World Bank’s network of tertiary education professionals. Mr. Salmi is the principal author of the Bank’s new Tertiary Education Strategy entitled “Constructing Knowledge Societies: New Challenges for Tertiary Education.”

• Stuart Shieber is the James O. Welch, Jr. and Virginia B. Welch Professor of Computer Science at Harvard University, where his primary research field is computational linguistics, the study of human languages from the perspective of computer science.

• Bruce Sterling, author, journalist, editor, and critic, was born in 1954 in Brownsville, Texas. He has written eight science fiction novels and three short story collections.

• Alma Swan, in 1996, after more than two decades in medical cell biology research and scholarly publishing cofounded Key Perspectives Ltd., a consultancy in the area of scholarly communication.

• Şirin Tekinay is the Ozyegin University (Istanbul) Vice Rector for Research and Technology and Director, Institute for Natural Sciences and Engineering.

• Paul Uhlir is Director of International Scientific and Technical (S&T) Information Programs at The National Academies in Washington, D.C.

• Sacha Wunsch-Vincent is Senior Economic Officer, Office of the Chief Economist, WIPO.

Organizing Committee

From the NEXA Center for Internet & Society at the Politecnico di Torino:
• Juan Carlos de Martin (Co-Director)
• Philippe Aigrain (CEO of Sopinspace and Board of Trustees of the NEXA Center)
• Federico Morando (Managing Director)
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About the NEXA Center for Internet & Society
The NEXA Center for Internet & Society, founded in 2006, is a multidisciplinary research center of the Politecnico di Torino (DAUIN). Engineers, computer scientists, law professors, economists, journalists and other professionals work together to study the net, to identify opportunities and to shape, whenever possible, its future. More information can be found at: http://nexa.polito.it.

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The Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University is a research program founded to explore cyberspace, share in its study, and help pioneer its development. Founded in 1997, through a generous gift from Jack N. and Lillian R. Berkman, the Center is home to an ever-growing community of faculty, fellows, staff, and affiliates working on projects that span the broad range of intersections between cyberspace, technology, and society. More information can be found at http://cyber.law.harvard.edu.
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