

Extended Deadline for Call for Papers: 22 of June 2017

The 2017 International Workshop

“Maintaining the Facts Infrastructure in the Era of Post-Truth Politics”

Date: 19-20 September, 2017

Host: Archival Science, Department of History and Contemporary Studies in collaboration with The Centre for Baltic and East European Studies (CBEES) and the National Swedish Heritage Board

Venue: Södertörn University College

Call for papers

You are cordially invited to submit an abstract to the 2017 International Workshop to be held from 19–20 September, 2017 at Södertörn University College in Huddinge, Stockholm. The theme of the workshop is “*Maintaining the Facts Infrastructure in the Era of Post-Truth Politics*”.

Today, it appears easier than ever to get away with not telling the truth. Societies need to maintain stringent regulation to provide for evidence-based information. Post-modernism has challenged power and given rise to alternative narratives, giving the voiceless a voice. However, this does not mean that societies should abandon evidence-based policy making. The maintenance of the provenance and context of evidence based information is key to promoting factual debate underpinned by a functioning facts infrastructure. The facts infrastructure relies upon information institutions such as archives and libraries, the judiciary, media, academia, as well as public administration and an informed citizenry more generally. In the era of post-truth politics, information overload and alternative facts, public information systems need to be robust to deliver trustworthy information and to assist in the verification of authentic information sources.

Arguably, the challenge of post-truth politics rests with those who purposively abuse public information systems rather than the systems in themselves. Yet, it is evident that fact resistance, selection bias, along with active disinformation, fake news and propaganda call for increased efforts of fact checking, education and source criticism. Post-truth politics places new demands upon the facts infrastructure globally, not only in knowledge-based societies of the Global North but also in societies still suffering from information poverty and high illiteracy levels. There is thus a need to address globally and comparatively the question of how the facts infrastructures of various societies are responding and should be responding when post-truth politics enters the scene.

This complex question requires the engagement of scholars from various fields. The workshop will therefore provide an opportunity for researchers, practitioners, academics, information scientists, political scientists, media scholars and journalists to share their experiences. The workshop will further provide an excellent transdisciplinary forum to discuss concerns and practical challenges of the current developments regarding the facts infrastructure.

There are plans to publish selected papers.

Workshop Sub-Themes:

- Disinformation, fake news and propaganda
- Medialization and digitization of news
- Open data and open government
- Openness, transparency and trust
- Public Information Systems
- Digital divides, literacy and information consumption
- Quality of government information
- Access and information security
- Information overload
- Information and knowledge ethics
- Information and records management
- Fact-checking, source criticism and verification
- Selection bias, meta-debate and fact resistance
- Democracy and information (including e-Democracy, e-Government)
- Different societies responding to post-truth politics
- The interplay between cultural institutions and the facts infrastructure
- Other related topics on the theme

Abstracts should be approximately 300 words and should include the following:

- A summary of the author(s) details (name, institution, position) and brief biographical statement.

The abstracts should be sent by the 22 of June 2017 to the following e-mail address: carl.marklund@sh.se.

Questions regarding the workshop should be sent to the following e-mail addresses: proscovia.svard@sh.se, rikard.friberg.von.sydow@sh.se, inger.mattsson@raa.se.

Important dates:

- Submission of Abstract: 22 June 2017
- Acceptance note: 30 June 2017
- Complete papers due: 25 August 2017

Information about the Keynote Speaker follows below:



Dr. Luciana Duranti is a Professor of archival theory, diplomatics, and the preservation of digital records in the master's and doctoral archival studies programs at the School of Library, Archival and Information Studies of the University of British Columbia (UBC), where she has taught since 1987. Previously she was a professor-researcher at the Sapienza University of Roma, and from 1978 to 1982 she was state archivist of Rome. She is the Director of the Centre for the International Study of Contemporary Records and Archives (CISCRA—www.ciscra.org) and of InterPARES, the largest and longest living publicly funded research project on the long-term preservation of authentic electronic records (1998-2018), the fourth phase of which (www.interparestrust.org) focuses on the records created, managed, maintained and/or preserved in a networked online environment. She has also been the Director of the Digital Records Forensics Project and the Records in the Clouds Project, and she is co-Director of the Law of Evidence in the Digital Environment Project. Duranti is the current President of the Association of Canadian Archivists (2016-2018).