The Digital Government Society Newsletter is a quarterly publication by the communications committee that contains information for the society members and partners. Submissions of newsletter articles, photos, videos, links, announcements and references of your publications are welcome. Please email these communications committee to dgs-info@dgsociety.org.

Spotlight

Thank you for making the 16th Annual International Conference on Digital Government Research (dg.o 2015) a great success, with 34 research and policy paper presentations, 5 tutorials/workshops, 3 panels, 17 posters and 8 doctoral consortium presentations! We thank the local hosts at Arizona State University and the entire conference organization team. Above all, thank all the participants.

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DGS 2015 Conference Highlights

The 16th Annual International Conference on Digital Government Research was hosted by Arizona State University, May 27-30, in Phoenix Arizona. ASU’s School of Public Affairs was pleased to welcome more than 100 conference participants.

The conference theme, *Digital Government and Wicked Problems: Climate Change, Urbanization, and Inequality*, was highlighted by an array of keynote speakers and guests. The welcome reception was held at the Arizona Science Center and featured Wellington "Duke" Reiter, Senior Advisor to the President of ASU, who talked about ASU’s commitment to urban development in Phoenix – a unique partnership with the city. We then enjoyed a presentation by Kris Easton from Google Fiber. Kris Easton discussed the Google American Indian Network and some of the innovative technology projects they have developed in collaboration with native communities.

Thursday’s opening ceremony featured Debbie Cotton, Chief Information Officer, City of Phoenix, and Sascha Meinrath, founder and director of X-lab, a future-focused technology policy and innovation project. On Thursday evening Arizona State Senator Bob Worsley demonstrated the AZ Voices platform, which enables community members to provide online comments and suggestions to Arizona politicians. On Friday, a plenary session featured
a discussion about collaboration between researchers and practitioners, with Bill Travis, Chief Information Officer, Human Services, State of New York, Jonathan Reichental, Chief Information Officer of the City of Palo Alto, and Karen Mossberger of ASU and Theresa Pardo of CTG. Meghan Cook of CTG organized and moderated the panel.

Conference participants listened to panels on topics ranging from Textual Analysis in E-Government Research to Engaging Researchers and Decision Makers to Develop Usable Climate Information; 12 paper sessions on Inequality & Smart Cities, Social Media and Government, and other topics; and 18 research posters.

The conference closed with a formal dinner, awards for best poster (Catherine Dumas) and best paper (Niharika Sachdeva and Ponnurangam Kumaraguru and David Valle-Cruz, Rodrigo Sandoval-Almazan, and J. Ramon Gil-Garcia), and a presentation by Traci Morris, Director of the ASU American Indian Policy Institute. Dr. Morris talked about the digital divide challenges facing native communities and some of the successes they have achieved along the way. The conference closed with a relaxing field trip to Sedona, Arizona.

DG.O 2015 Organizers

Conference Chairs:
Karen Mossberger, Arizona State University
Natalie Helbig, New York State Department of Health

Organizing Chair:
Mary K. Feeney, Arizona State University

Program Chairs:
Yushim Kim, Arizona State University
Jing Zhang, Clark University
PhD Colloquium, Workshop and tutorial at dg.o 2015

- Tutorial 1: Data visualizations for Open Government Data - Alvaro Graves.
- Tutorial 2: Textual Analysis of Government Data: An Introduction - John Wilkerson
- Workshop 1: Open Data to Solve Societal Issues - Adegboyega Ojo Adeboyega, Ines Mergel, Marijn Janssen, Anneke Zuiderwijk
- Workshop 2: Data, Tools, & Innovation: Trending Applications in US Cities - Karen Mossberger, Kellen Gracey, University of Iowa, Kevin DeSouza, Joshua Uebelherr.
- Free Workshop 3: The Smart Cities & Smart Government Research-Practice (SCSGRP) Consortium - Luis Luna Reyes, Theresa Pardo

Best paper awards

Congratulations on the authors of the best paper awards at dg.o 2015!!!!!!!!!!

- Full research track: Niharika Sachdeva and Ponnurangam Kumaraguru, "Social Networks for Police and Residents in India: Exploring Online Communication for Crime Prevention"
- Short papers track: David Valle-Cruz, Rodrigo Sandoval-Almazán, and J. Ramon Gil-Garcia, "The Effects of Technology Use on Efficiency, Transparency, and Corruption in Municipal Governments: Preliminary Results from a Citizen Perspective"

This year’s committee for the best paper award: Marijn Janssen (Delft Institute of Technology), Linda Williams and Yushim Kim (Arizona State University).

BEST PAPER AWARD: N. Sachdeva and P. Kumaraguru explore whether OSN (Online Social Networks) can support police to get actionable information about crime and residents’ opinion about policing activities in urban cities of India. Findings from citizens’ OSN data include: police can use citizens safety concerns and needs to prioritize policing activities; OSN data also indicates that police choose to adopt a very formal communication style while interacting with residents on Facebook; police informs that the resident’s post is forwarded to the concerned authority or contact to a particular station to avoid false reporting, to reduce anxiety and to increase mutual accountability; Facebook page offered opportunity for police to understand citizens’ collective fear s and concerns to perform collective crime response. The paper is available here.

Conference Photos!

Thanks to Mahdi M. Najafabadi, here are some photos of the last two conference!!!!!!!!!

dg.o 2015, ASU, Phoenix: https://goo.gl/5KzD2O

dg.o 2014, CIDE, Aguascalientes: https://goo.gl/0VT45h

Field Trip at Sedona

Sedona Tour at dg.o 2015 Field trip after conference to Red Rock State Park for hiking and enjoying stunning scenery and to internationally renowned Tlaquepaque (pronounced Tla-keh-pah-keh), meaning the “best of everything,” left unforgettable impression for the participants!
Members’ Research Publications


Member News

Congratulations to Iryna Susha for her successful PhD Dissertation Defense on April 27th, 2015.

Her thesis is entitled “Participation in Open Government” under the advisors Prof. Åke Grönlund at Örebro University, Sweden. Her thesis addresses how to achieve participation (and collaboration) in the framework of open government, noting that to date open government has been largely driven by and focused on information provision and the transparency pillar. Its goals include to identify the challenges to implementation of participation in the open government perspective. This problem is investigated on the basis of two participation cases – a European e-participation project and open government data initiatives in two countries (Sweden and the Netherlands). Iryna was a presenter in the PhD colloquium and the poster session at dg.o 2014 conference. Her thesis defense examiners consisted of a faculty examiner Professor J. Rose, and international examining committee members, Prof. S.A. Chun, Prof. T. Sedelius and Prof. T. Tambouris.

More information visit: http://www.oru.se/personal/iryna_susha/


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**Announcements**

**Call for Papers - Special Issue on Electronic Participation (eParticipation)**
Electronic Participation (eParticipation) refers to the use of Information and Communication Technologies to enhance political participation and citizen engagement. eParticipation is by definition a multidisciplinary field of study. Please read our information on preparing and submitting articles (http://www.inderscience.com/info/inauthors/author_submit.php). Please communicate your submission intentions and any inquiries for this special issue to the guest editors. For general inquiries regarding IJEG please contact Dr. Dimitris Gouscos, University of Athens (gouscos@media.uoa.gr) IJEG Editor-in-Chief. Important date: submission of manuscripts: 20 October 2015. This special issue is scheduled for publication during the second semester of 2016.

**Call for Papers -6th International Conference on e-Democracy**
December 10-11, 2015, Athens, Greece www.edemocracy2015.eu http://www.edemocracy2015.eu Information and communication technologies move fast; faster than society, faster than governments, faster than the law. Connectivity is already impressive, but the near future brings about the interconnection of everything, via the Internet of Things.

**Call for Papers -The 14th IFIP Conference on e-Business, e-Services and e-Society (I3E 2015)**
Information economy and openness are the dominating terms over the last couple of years. Data has become widely available and many innovations are based on the utilization of data. The Internet of Things (IoT) enables the availability of large volumes of data, whereas people create data using social media. Conference Theme: "Open and Big Data Management & Innovation” 13-15 October 2015, Delft, The Netherlands: www.i3e2015.net http://www.i3e2015.net> Submission Website: https://www.easychair.org/conferences/?conf=i3e2015. Contact: i3e2015@easychair.org, i3e2015@easychair.org>
Call for Papers - 4th International Symposium on Modelling and Knowledge Management applications: Systems and Domains.
MokMaSD 2015 aims at bringing together practitioners and researchers from academia, industry and research institutions to present research results and exchange experience, ideas, and solutions for modelling and analysing complex systems and using knowledge management and discovery methodologies in various domain areas such as social systems, ecology, biology, medicine, smart cities, governance, education and social software engineering. Detailed information on the submission procedure are available at the symposium web page: http://www.di.unipi.it/mokmasd/symposium-2015/. Contact: mokmasd2015@easychair.org

Call for Papers - Proposals for Special Issues IJPADA
International Journal of Public Administration in the Digital Age (IJPADA)
The Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Public Administration in the Digital Age (IJPADA) would like to invite you to consider submitting a manuscript for inclusion in this scholarly journal. IJPADA would also like to encourage authors to edit a special issue on a topical area in public administration and information technology. The following describes the mission, coverage, and guidelines for submission to IJPADA. http://www.igi-global.com/journal/international-journal-public-administration-digital/70583
Prospective authors should note that only original and previously unpublished articles will be considered. All inquiries and special issue proposals should be directed to the attention of: Dr. Christopher G. Reddick, Editor-in-Chief, chris.reddick@utsa.edu
All manuscript submissions to IJPADA must be sent through the online submission system: http://www.igi-global.com/authorseditors/titlesubmission/newproject.aspx

Other Related Events/Conference Corners

Digital Preservation Metadata and Improvements to PREMIS in Version 3.0
The PREMIS Data Dictionary for Preservation Metadata is the international standard for metadata to support the preservation of digital objects and ensure their long-term usability.
For more information and to register, visit the event webpage: http://dublincore.org/resources/training/#2015dappert

Implementing Linked Data in Low-Resource Conditions.
Opening up and linking data is becoming a priority for many data producers because of institutional requirements, or to consume data in newer applications, or simply to keep pace with current development. Since 2014, this priority has gaining momentum with the Global Open Data in Agriculture and Nutrition initiative (GODAN).
Website: http://wiki.dublincore.org/index.php/DCMI_Handbook/webinars#keizer
FREE Registration: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4753836746115031554

Computational Intelligence in Cyber Security (IEEE CIS’15).
The 2015 IEEE Symposium Series on Computational Intelligence (SSCI 2015, http://ieee-ssci.org.za:8080/) is being held December 7-10, 2015 in Cape Town, South Africa. IEEE SSCI is sponsored by the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society promoting all aspects of Computational Intelligence (CI). The IEEE SSCI 2015 co-locates multiple symposiums at one single location, providing a unique opportunity to encourage cross fertilization and collaborations in all areas of CI. This year’s IEEE SSCI 2015 features a large number of keynotes, tutorials, special sessions, and currently 29 confirmed symposiums and workshops.

Big, Open, Linked Data (BOLD), Analytics, and Interoperability Infrastructures in Government
Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS) 49, January 5-8, 2016
Kauai, Hawaii, USA http://www.hicss.hawaii.edu/
The HICSS e-Government track has been a hotbed for groundbreaking studies and new ideas in this particular research domain. Many studies first presented here were developed further and then turned into publications at top journals. Eleven minitracks cover the full spectrum of research avenues of electronic government including minitracks dedicated to emerging topics, open government, and social media and social networking, or most recently, insider threats.
More info: http://faculty.washington.edu/jscholl/hicss49/BOLD.php

Calls for Journal Special Issues

International Journal of Electronic Government Research
The latest issue of International Journal of Electronic Government Research (IJERG) http://www.igi-global.com/journal/international-journal-electronic-government-research/1091> Vol 11, Special Issues 1 and 2. Details can be found by following the links below:
Abstract Announcement for International Journal of Electronic Government Research (IJERG) 11(1)>http://www.igi-global.com/journals/abstract-announcement/118455>

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Abstract Announcement for International Journal of Electronic Government Research (IJEGR) 11(2)<http://www.igi-global.com/journals/abstract-announcement/118456>

PAIT Book Series Call for Book Proposals
Public Administration and Information Technology (PAIT), the book series, is now accepting proposals for editors or authors of books in the series. If you are interested in submitting a book proposal, for either an authored or edited book, please do so by July 1, 2015. Be sure to make an initial contact with me to let me know of your topic idea before submitting a full proposal by the deadline. chris.reddick@utsa.edu. The proposal development form can be found at http://www.springer.com/series/10796 (go to the “Additional Information” tab). Notifications of the acceptance of book proposals will be given by August 15, 2015.

The book series has a strong emphasis on manuscripts that have significant international content. Therefore, any books proposed must have an international dimension to them, rather than focusing on a specific country. There is also strong interest in publishing books that deal with important emerging topics and issues in the PAIT field.

Details on the book series can be found at the website (http://www.springer.com/series/10796). The current books published (or forthcoming) in the series are shown at http://www.springer.com/series/10796?detailsPage=titles.

General e-gov news

#SocialGov Round Up 2015
The #SocialGov Community is coming up on three years of hard work and pushing the boundaries on using social tools across the federal government. I’d like to start this round up by taking a look at the event we hosted last year, State of the #SocialGov 2014: 2 Years of Smashing Silos + Elevating Citizen […]

Monthly Theme: Building, Evaluating, and Improving Government Services Through Social Media
While examples of government social media content may initially seem like mere fun—the YouTube video of President Obama on Between Two Ferns or the Transportation Security Administration’s “good catch” pics of lipstick stun guns and batarangs—the potential of applied social data to build, evaluate and improve diverse citizen services is only increasing. As we recently […]

Visualizing BLS Data to Improve Understanding
If a picture is worth a thousand words, what’s the value of a striking, cool chart or map of some BLS data? At the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), we’re always thinking of better ways to help our users understand the information we produce. The global economy is complex, and the statistics to explain […]

New Coast Guard App Streamlines Boating Safety to Maximize Summer Fun
Just in time for the summer season, the U.S. Coast Guard launched a brand new app to give smartphone users easy, on-demand access to critical boating safety information and resources. With this new app, called United States Coast Guard, users can ensure they have proper equipment, check the weather, file a float plan, and so much […]

Taking the Pulse of the Federal Government’s Web Presence
The U.S. federal government is launching a new project to monitor how it’s doing at best practices on the Web. A sort of health monitor for the U.S. government’s websites, it’s called Pulse and you can find it at pulse.cio.gov. Pulse is a lightweight dashboard that uses the official .gov domain list to measure two things: Analytics: […]

The API Briefing: Make It an API – the Census Bureau’s Census of Governments
Serendipity can be a wonderful tool for discovery. I was looking through the Census Bureau site for some business census data when I came upon the 2012 Census of Governments. According to the official description: “[t]he Census of Governments identifies the scope and nature of the nation’s state and local government sector; provides authoritative benchmark […]

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DigitalGov Summit: Live From the Comfort of Your Desk
The DigitalGov platform helps federal agencies meet 21st century digital expectations, and we’ve planned our second DigitalGov Summit with this mission and your needs in mind. The theme is open and the agenda is packed with presentations about how “opening” data, content, contracts and talent makes digital citizen services better, more effective and even cheaper. […] 

Government Services Through a Life Events Approach
The federal government is increasingly focused on designing and delivering citizen-centered services with enhanced experiences that deliver value to customers. These ideals are established in the Presidential Management Agenda Customer Service Cross-Agency Priority Goal, the Digital Government Strategy, and various open government activities. Designing services to be responsive to be life events that drive public […] 

Three Ways to Evolve Your Agency’s Customer Mindset
Customer experience (CX) improvement projects come in many forms, but evolving an agency’s entire mindset to be customer-focused requires far more in the way of commitment, time, staff and organizational patience. As the senior CX lead for a U.S. government agency and an advisory committee member to the President’s Cross-Agency Priority (CAP) goal on customer […] 

Monthly Theme: Customer Service in the Federal Digital Space
“The customer is king.” “The customer is always right.” Regardless of your feelings on these age-old customer service adages, the fact remains: we’re all serving someone. No matter what corner of the federal digital space you occupy, you are connecting with people, and the outcome of those connections matters. To recognize the importance of these […] 

Spoiler Alert: USDA’s FoodKeeper App Helps Americans Avoid Wasting Good Food
Spoiler Alert: Every year, billions of pounds of good food go to waste in the U.S. because Americans are not sure if the food is spoiled. The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates that retailers and consumers waste 36 pounds of food per person each month. The USDA’s FoodKeeper app helps Americans avoid this problem by offering […] 

The API Briefing: Be Prepared with the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Mobile App
Before coming to DC in late 2008, I lived in Louisville, Kentucky. Louisville is in the Ohio Valley Region, which meteorologists euphemistically call “weather-rich.” With spring came the beautiful flowers and the Kentucky Derby. Spring also brought flooding, tornados, severe thunderstorms, and windstorms. This is why I had several emergency weather radios that also doubled […] 

dg.o 2016 in Shanghai, China!!
June 8-10, 2016
Fudan University
Shanghai, PR China