

The ARC Centre of Excellence for Creative Industries and Innovation is delighted to invite you to a Cultural Science (<http://cultural-science.org/>) seminar series with

Jeremy Hunsinger

co-Founder and co-Director of the Center for Digital Discourse and Culture at Virginia Tech

on

Interpretive methods, Actor-network theory/ies, and Science

Date: Tuesday 21 July 2009
Time: 10.30am – 11.30am
Venue: Queensland University of Technology
Z2 Block, Level 5, Room 502
Creative Industries Precinct
Musk Avenue, Kelvin Grove
RSVP: infocci@gut.edu.au by
Tuesday 14 July 2009

Abstract:

This talk will confront questions surrounding the relations of interpretation and the idea of the scientific through a consideration of interpretive methods and in particular actor-network theory. Within the field of possible interpretations, science centres on questions about the world, but the question that interpretivist methods must confront is what constitutes the world that is interpreted, in other words, what is the ontological status of interpreted objects in the world? Actor-network theory collapses ontological status and recognizes the existence of relations as significant as what are thought of as networks, transforming ontological constructs from essences to relations, and with relations we have a new object of interpretation that then generalized through the sciences along the diverse frameworks of interpretation that in part define each discipline and interdisciplinary science. These parallels highlight the possibilities of rigorous, scientific interpretive methods and why those methods are likely much more traditionally understood as science, than modern formal methods and modelling.

Bio:



Jeremy Hunsinger co-founded and co-directs the Center for Digital Discourse and Culture at Virginia Tech. He attended the Oxford Internet Institutes 2004 Summer Doctoral Programme and was Graduate Fellow of the NSF Workshop on Values in Information Systems Design. He has been Junior Ethics Fellow at the Center for Information Policy Research at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee from 2007-2010. He coedited the International Handbook of Internet Research (2009) and the International Handbook of Virtual Learning Environments (2006). He is co-editor of the journal, Learning Inquiry and the book series Transdisciplinary Studies. Currently, he is co-editing a special issue of the journal Learning, Media, & Technology on the topic of Learning in Virtual Worlds with Aleks Krotoski and is editing a special issue of the journal Learning Inquiry on the topic of Learning Infrastructures in the Humanities and Social Sciences.

Critical Technical Practices: Praxis and knowledge production in hacker labs

Date: Monday 27 July 2009
Time: 10.30am – 11.30am
Venue: Queensland University of Technology
Z2 Block, Level 5, Room 502
Creative Industries Precinct
Musk Avenue, Kelvin Grove
RSVP: infocci@gut.edu.au by
Monday 20 July 2009

Abstract:

This talk looks at the rise of hacker labs and hacker collectives as models of critical technical practice. Critical technical practice is a method of exploring, designing, building, and testing theoretical perspectives, usually social, political, cultural, and ethical theories, as opposed to merely technological designs. By analyzing the rise of these hacker collectives, through their internet presences, I argue that these are the next generation of a series of subcultural systems of technical empowerment and a specific subaltern to the predominant means of knowledge production and dissemination. I conclude by arguing that academia, through investigating the successes of these knowledge production and dissemination forms, could probably remodel areas of mode-2 research into similarly effective learning environments that develop critical technical practices in both faculty and students.