

Knowledge Management
COST May 30 - June 1 2010

Working Group 1:

**The Role of Knowledge creation in a
networked Society**

WG1: Knowledge creation in a networked society

Problems:

1. Human beings, as persons and as citizens, require multiple resources to successfully negotiate the ethical/social/political landscapes of contemporary societies, especially as these are constantly re-shaped by rapidly changing communication technologies (including the co-production of knowledge)
2. How to address differential access to resources (e.g. skills, judgements...) for navigating knowledges (academic, practice-based, tacit, diverse cultural ways of knowing, etc)
3. How to develop compelling alternatives to brand allegiance/corporate domination/convergence towards a single model (ISI, Google...)
4. Little regulation of technology policy for common good
5. Amnesia of the history of knowledge creation in diverse cultural contexts (the dangers of "presentism," ethnocentrism).
6. How new communication technologies change our sense of self and thereby foster and challenge democratic societies

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Recommendations

1. Draw on the full range of humanities disciplines and research to understand and propose solutions to the problems identified.
2. Use our universities, research institutions and professional bodies to promote greater diversity in knowledges creation and diffusion (such as open access and open source), in order to counter brand domination as a problem.
3. Explore strategies for using new media in collaborative knowledge creation (such as peer-reviewed blog).
4. Develop and promote experimentation with new genres of visibility and textuality; foster their recognition as legitimate modes of publishing and diffusing important research and scholarship (i.e., accepted as equivalent to articles in peer-reviewed journals).
5. Recognise the continuing need for skills in crafting and designing the communication of knowledges.
6. Develop new literacies and sustain traditional literacies, where "literacy" includes both creators' and users' skills.
7. Foster research, dialogue, and policy recommendations regarding how new media, in changing our sense of self, foster and challenge foundational assumptions of liberal societies.

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Strategies:

1. Fund interdisciplinary research bringing together scholars and practitioners in IT, Humanities and Social sciences.
2. Insist all data sets created under EC-funding have an API (application program interface) (with appropriate licensing and protection of private and proprietary data).
3. Expand training and education in communication design (both of specialist designers and embedded in higher education)
4. Ideas for COST Actions and EC funding:
 - A. "Developing and diffusing new and traditional literacies (including role of craft and design of knowledge in a networked society)"
 - B. "Media, self, and democratic models in networked societies"
 - C. "Alternative models for production and diffusion of multiple knowledges" (e.g., open source, collaborative/peer-reviewed blogs, etc.)