

Call For Papers

40th Annual International Jean Gebser Society Conference – 2010 – Brigham Young University

Conference Theme

Technology and Consciousness

How media shape and transform cultures is at the heart of the study of many areas of the academy. The assumption that technologies received and used by social systems affect those systems has drawn a great deal of attention from technology innovators, content producers, and cultural commentators. For decades, radio studies produced simple early models explaining the human relationship to mediated messages. Those models changed as television supplanted radio as our dominant medium for nearly 50 years. Today, cell phones, palm devices, iPods, laptops, kindles, FLO TV, HD radio, satellite radio, streaming radio, online realities, on demand entertainment, DVRs, YouTube and other media are forcing observers to reevaluate older understandings and models. The introduction and popularity of new media require a reevaluation of any fixed media effects. The focus of this conference is the state of consciousness in this multi-media environment.

The theme for this conference is *Technology and Consciousness*. How are ever-present structures of consciousness manifested or carried along with/through technological innovations? We hope to receive submissions detailing the intersection between technological innovation and cultural consciousness, including the social impacts of differing media forms. We expect that this conference and theme will be attractive to communication, cultural, philosophical, and media scholars. Much of Gebser's thought fits nicely with the research in culture, psychology, philosophy, art, theatre, film, and media ecology.

For a more complete reference of the work of Jean Gebser, please visit gebser.org.

If you have a question about how your research might fit into the conference theme or Gebser's approach, please contact clark_callahan@byu.edu or call 801-422-1493.

Research Presentation

As a more focused conference, scholars will have an opportunity to describe their research in greater detail. Each presentation will last approximately 25 minutes with a 10-minute question and answer session. The research discussions are conducted with an air of scholarship and collegiality.

The Society invites submissions that address the conference theme, though we welcome papers unrelated to the theme that demonstrate a clear relevance to the works of Jean Gebser.

Most importantly, submissions are not limited to papers only. Poetry, films, paintings, and performances that explain, extend, or demonstrate a Gebserian theme are welcome.

Conference Information

This year's conference will be held at Aspen Grove Conference Center, located above Sundance Resort in the Northern Utah Uinta Mountains. More information about accommodations will be forthcoming.

The closest airport is the Salt Lake City Airport. Shuttles services run directly from the SLC airport to Aspen Grove Conference Center, making transportation rather easy.

Submissions

Scholars are invited to submit abstracts of roughly 500 words or completed paper for consideration for presentation by June 14, 2010 to:

Dr. Clark Callahan
Communications Department
360 BRMB
Provo, UT 84602

Electronic submission may be sent to clark_callahan@byu.edu