

saturday, april 28, 2007  
seattle central library

1000 4th avenue, seattle, wa \_ level 4  
howard s. wright family & janet w. ketcham meeting room

### symposium and public poster session

Creating Community Through Blogging is organizing a symposium for Spring 2007 where invited bloggers from the Seattle area will discuss their experiences blogging collaboratively so that the group can learn from their successes, setbacks, and aspirations and discover new strategies for forging university-community collaboration through blogging.

The symposium, titled "Experiencing Communities: Bloggers' Perspectives," will provide the group's advisory committee and other university stakeholders with food for thought when they decide how to sustain the Creating Community Through Blogging project beyond its temporary status as a Simpson Center-sponsored research cluster. A public poster session following the symposium will showcase local blogging initiatives and innovative blogging practices and provoke interdisciplinary discussions on the weblog as a medium.

Seating for the symposium is limited and will be allotted on a first come, first serve basis. Register online at <http://community.uwblogs.org/symposium>. We will treat all registrations as firm commitments to attend the event in its entirety. Registered participants will be our guests for midday luncheon at the Rock Bottom Restaurant in downtown Seattle and will be provided with all-day parking free of charge at the Seattle Public Library's underground garage.

### about the project

The premise of Creating Community Through Blogging is that blogging creates practices and texts that can produce multiple connections within the university and between the university and the wider community. Considering the weblog as a medium with its own techniques, audiences and methods that enable conversations across disciplines, the group will explore how blogs challenge conventional paradigms of research, how blogging relates to pedagogical practices, and how blogging develops sites for public humanities. Through the generous support of the Simpson Center for the Humanities at the University of Washington, the project is moving forward as a cross-disciplinary research cluster for the 2006-2007 academic year.

Creating Community Through Blogging launched an experimental community space to study emergent practices of blogging by hosting multi-authored, interconnected blogs on its own web site, [community.uwblogs.org](http://community.uwblogs.org). This academic year CCTB will also host a series of information sessions, roundtable discussions, workshops and reading groups that will focus on issues related to blogging.

# experiencing communities bloggers' perspectives

a symposium and public poster session

organized by [creating community through blogging](http://community.uwblogs.org)

Senior News Writer for the Seattle newspaper The Stranger \_ [erica barnett](#)

[dylan wilbanks](#) \_ Seattle Metroblogging coauthor

Capitol Hill Seattle neighborhood blog coauthor \_ [justin carder](#) **session panelists:** [derek young](#) \_ author of the Tacoma blog Exit133

Interactivity Editor for the Seattle Post-Intelligencer \_ [don smith](#)

[honni van rijswijk](#) \_ [matthew james vechinski](#) \_ CCTB

## schedule of activities

10:00 - 10:30	Registration and set-up
10:30 - 11:20	Symposium Session #1: <a href="#">blogging as public service</a>
11:30 - 12:20	Symposium Session #2: <a href="#">bringing bloggers together</a>
12:30 - 1:30	Luncheon at Rock Bottom Restaurant in downtown Seattle
1:40 - 2:30	Symposium Session #3: <a href="#">blogging and place</a>
2:30 - 3:00	Wrap-up and preparation for poster session
3:00 - 4:00	Poster session open to public

### creating community through blogging

is a cross-disciplinary research cluster sponsored by  
the Simpson Center for the Humanities  
at the University of Washington

<http://community.uwblogs.org/about>

[info@uwblogs.org](mailto:info@uwblogs.org)

## description of symposium sessions

Each of the three symposium sessions will feature two local bloggers as speakers who will open the discussion by giving a 10-minute talk about their experiences related to the topics described below.

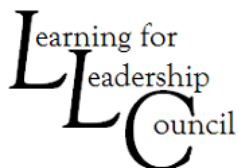
[blogging as public service](#) How do blogs serve communities and foster collaborative practices? Is this achieved through interface design or posting strategies? How can we make sense of more “organic” community formation? Our invited bloggers from local media outlets will talk about how blogs have supplemented how they serve their communities of readers and provided a forum for readers to interact and shape journalistic content.

[bringing bloggers together](#) Blogs were once conceived as online personal journals whereas today blogs are rarely isolated but unified through blogging interfaces, multi-user platforms, aggregators, or simply hyperlinks. How does networked blogging give rise to new potential for the blog as a medium? Coauthors and designers of multi-user blogs will discuss how their sites frame and facilitate communication among and between individuals and communities.

[blogging and place](#) As online forums that describe real-world issues and events, blogs have always had a relation to place. More and more blogs are reflecting how they are geographically situated and not mere figments of nebulous cyberspaces. This session will feature presentations by guests who write for blogs discussing news and events pertaining to specific locations in the Puget Sound region.

For the final poster session, local bloggers will be available to talk with individuals about their blogs and experiences, and answer questions about related issues.

The University of Washington is committed to providing access, equal opportunity and reasonable accommodations in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. To request disability accommodation contact the Disability Services Office at least ten days in advance at: 206.543.6450/V, 206.543.6452/TTY, 206.685.7264 (Fax), or email at [dso@u.washington.edu](mailto:dso@u.washington.edu).



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