Call for Papers

Smartness in Governance, Government, Urban Spaces,
and the Internet of Things

A Special Issue of Information Polity

Guest Editor:

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Two 21st-century trends appear to feed off each other: the *urbanization of the globe* and the *ubiquitous connectivity of people and things* between and across each other. While in 1960 seventy percent of the world population lived in rural and non-urban environments, in 2050 more than seventy percent of the world population are projected to live in urban centers and metropolitan areas. In other words, in less than a century, the human species has not only more than doubled in numbers, but the much larger global population compared with a century ago will live in urban centers of unprecedented population density. The human experience, which until fairly recently was rural, has become urban and in the very near future will become even more urban.

While this marks a fundamental and rapid change in the human experience, another groundbreaking change co-occurs, which both feeds on and facilitates the former trend. With the advent of the Internet and via its connected computing and communication devices, humans began to connect and directly access information across geographies and time zones in an unprecedented, comprehensive, and immediate fashion.

However, meanwhile not only traditional computers and communication devices are connected via the Internet, but also cars and their individual subsystems, buses, streetcars, trains, airplanes, laundry machines, temperature control systems, traffic lights, street lights, health control systems, surveillance cameras, wrist watches, swimming pools, elevators, sensors of all kinds to name just a few. In other words, an *Internet of Things* has emerged, which powerfully complements the traditional Internet-connected computers and communication devices. Devices of all sorts now communicate and exchange information including steering and control information without human interference or even notice.

As a consequence, ever smarter, more effective, and more efficient infrastructures emerge, which are self-monitored and self-directed within predefined boundaries. The highly sophisticated self-monitoring and self-steering of all kinds of systems by means of and via the Internet (of Things) have been labeled with the summary term of *smartness*, which extends to and encompasses all areas of human activity and transactions such as transportation, education, health care, built infrastructure, natural environment, energy, industry, retail, government, and governance.

In the wake of these developments we see discourses in academia and practice on *Smart Governance*, *Smart Government*, or *Smart Cities*.

With this call for papers we invite original academic contributions on the subject domain, which include but are not limited to:

— Smart governance in the era of global urbanization and the Internet of Things
— Smart government (principles, roles, opportunities, challenges, and limitations)
— Maintaining the democratic system of checks and balances as well as the division of powers in a highly interconnected world (vertically and horizontally)
— Smart cities as modern urban spaces (characteristics, profiles, emerging cases and initiatives)
— Smart infrastructures (smart electric grids, smart traffic grids, etc.)
— Smart education and education systems
— Smart health care and health care systems
— Smart transactions (government-to-business and government-to-citizens)
— Smart local communities
— Smart carbonless and clean individual and public mobility
— Smart devices and their novel use in public management
— Smart (technology-facilitated) practices such as payment systems, identification systems, etc.
— *SMART* as public-sector planning and management principles (Specific, Measurable, Action-oriented, Results-based, Time-bound)
— The potential pitfalls and vulnerabilities of the smart urban world

Contributions
We would like to invite the submission of the following types of contribution:

— Full academic articles, of up to 8,500 words, exploring a theoretical perspective on smartness of governance, government, urban spaces, and the Internet of Things, or presenting new empirical data on the subject matter.
— Short case studies, of up to 5,500 words, presenting a unique smartness-related case study. This could be a country- or city-specific study, an evaluation of a specific scheme, or a detailed description of a smart application or context. The case studies may be more descriptive than the full articles but must be fully referenced.
— Short reviews, of up to 2,000 words, of a recent smartness-related publication. This could be a book, an official policy document or report, or a piece of legislation.

Deadlines
— Submission of full papers: 01 March 2015
— Review results notification: 15 April 2015
— Submission of revised papers: 15 May 2015

— Publication of Special Issue: Fall 2015

Further Information
For further information about the special issue please contact the guest editor:
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Information Polity
The journal Information Polity is an internationally renowned critical e-government journal. It publishes articles on political, economic, legal, managerial, organizational and wider social themes and issues as they relate to policy developments surrounding information & communications technologies (ICT) in government and democracy. More information about the journal can be found at:
http://www.iospress.nl/loadtop/load.php?isbn=15701255.
Editor-in-Chief: Professor John Taylor, Glasgow Caledonian University.

Instructions for Authors
Complete papers should be submitted electronically as 'Word' files directly to the Guest Editor by 01 March 2015. An author's guide for formatting and referencing for IOS Press publications can be found at:
http://www.iospress.nl/html/15701255_ita.html.
All contributions will be peer-reviewed and edited according to the journal's published procedures.