The Digital Information Flows $E-Sim$: Role-play as media democracy education in an era of Gov 2.0 and \textit{wikileaks}

Mary Griffiths  
Associate Professor  
Discipline of Media  
University of Adelaide
‘It is truly difficult to make a democracy’

Paolo FREIRE
**Media Democracies and E-Participation** DIFS E-Sim Enhanced E-Learning Project (eELTP) course, U Adelaide

- **Final year media course synthesizing theory and praxis elements**
  - understanding key facets and impact of contemporary digital information flows
  - combining elements of media, political and civic education
  - preparing students with portable skills for media & communication workplace cultures

- **Key design features included**
  - role play set in a fictional nation, *Incognita*
  - heuristic, negotiated learning outcomes: online and offline
  - a pervasive environment in e-Sim
  - trigger event causing panic
  - ‘authentic’ assessment activities; guest lectures from those in roles to be played
  - ‘real’ power relationships reflected organizationally in group work

- **Learning from the experience**
  - Motivation and ‘readiness’
  - Technology shortfalls
  - Personalizing politics - affect
The aim of the Discovering Democracy Program can be readily stated. We want students to understand the way we govern ourselves and to think of themselves as active citizens. (John Hirst, Chair, Civics Education Group)

Achieving this aim requires a knowledge of the history and operation of Australia's political and legal systems and institutions, and of the principles that underpin Australian democracy.

The Discovering Democracy Program was implemented in two stages.

The first stage (1997–2001) produced the majority of teaching and learning materials, established Discovering Democracy Project Officers in the States and Territories, and introduced the teaching and learning of the Discovering Democracy Program in Australian schools.

The second stage (2001–2004) aims to enhance professional development for teachers and consolidate the program in Australian schools. The program is intended to lay the foundations for ongoing civics and citizenship education across a range of education sectors: schools, higher education, adult and community education, and vocational education and training institutions. (Discovering Democracy website)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Revised ABS est of eligible pop</th>
<th>Actual federal enrolment</th>
<th>Participation rate as % ABS Est.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 year olds</td>
<td>261,927</td>
<td>152,687</td>
<td>58.29</td>
</tr>
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<td>19 year olds</td>
<td>261,373</td>
<td>194,559</td>
<td>74.44</td>
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<td>20 year olds</td>
<td>256,903</td>
<td>209,751</td>
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<td>21 year olds</td>
<td>256,157</td>
<td>220,421</td>
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<td>22 year olds</td>
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<td>213,768</td>
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<td>23 year olds</td>
<td>243,892</td>
<td>212,112</td>
<td>86.97</td>
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<td>24 year olds</td>
<td>236,210</td>
<td>209,773</td>
<td>88.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 year olds</td>
<td>232,427</td>
<td>207,042</td>
<td>89.08</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overall 18-25 year old cohort</td>
<td>1,998,720</td>
<td>1,620,113</td>
<td>81.06</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Source: Hallett (2007)
Mock Council Debate - A Parliamentary Experience

Civic Education Programmes » Mock Council Debate

- Objectives
- The Activity
- Event on an Annual Basis
- Eligibility
- Venue & No. of Participants
- No. of Participants
- Time and Duration
- Application
- Charge
- Facilities Provided
- Insurance
- Cancellation
- Enquiries
- Inclement Weather/Special Circumstances
- Snapshots of Visits

**Objectives**

Mock Council debates aim to provide training opportunities for students and young people to enhance their understanding of the work of the Legislative Council (LegCo) and promote their political awareness.

**The Activity**

The activity includes:

- **Role play on the passage of a bill or a motion debate:**

  You can choose to walk through the 3-reading process in the passage of a bill or hold a motion debate on a specific topic. During the debate on the bill or the motion, participants will have a chance to role play as legislators to express their views on the bill or motion; or as Government officials responsible for the bill or responding to the motion.
Climate Politics Roleplay
by Joel Dignam
5 months ago

Speakers from left to right:
Greg Combet,
Bob Brown
rob oakeshott
tony abbott
julia gillard
christine milne
speaker
tony windsor

Transcript: abc.net.au/insiders/content/2011/s3149979.htm
Maps of MD&EP

2010 Filter and Gov 2.0
Part 1 – 6 weeks
  - Media, Politics, Spin
    - 4 Guests as Key Informants
  - Governing – DIGITAL TIMES
    - Elections, Discourse, Policy, Engagement, F2F consultation, Gov 2.0 Report
    - TEXT: GOV 2.0 Taskforce document
Part 2 – 6 weeks
  - DIFS e-SIM Leading to to Policy Summits
    - ‘Anonymous’ role on line. positioning and power, strategy, interactions
    - Texts: formal, informal, reactive, constructive, (internal organization, public profile), arguments, public addresses.

2011 Wireless City, QR codes, and Identity Cards
Part 1 – 8 weeks
  - Media, Politics, Spin
    - 4 Guests as Key Informants
  - Governing – DIGITAL TIMES
    - CC style QandA Press Club meetings
    - European city and HK examples of ID cards
Part 2 – 4 weeks (tech breakdown)
  - DIFS e-SIM Leading to to Policy Summits
    - Spin documents, speeches, expert opinion. Internal positioning and power, strategy, interactions
    - Texts: formal, informal, reactive, constructive, (internal organization, public profile), arguments, public addresses.
• Part 1 analyses the new online communication practices, which are influencing citizens’ choices, government decisions, and poll-driven policy-making in particular.
• The practices include online journalism media debates, citizen journalism, and the political use of social media like Facebook and Twitter.
• Guest lectures by politicians, press officers and journalists at which students work as reporters enhance the sense of authentic learning.

• Part 2 begins: the e-SIM Digital Information Flows (DIFS) is hosted on a separate MyUni site.
• Online activities are augmented by the students’ reflective use of their own social media sites.
• Offline, tutorials are dedicated to group work to be produced in person when the whole of Incognita meets in real time to discuss the crisis over Internet regulation.
• The course culminates in three off-line policy Summits where the role-players reveal their previously anonymous identities and present government and opposition digital policies, or report on digital policies presented. Votapedia is used for mobile and online polling on government, opposition, stakeholder and media presentations.
Each tutorial group is assigned a public role in *Incognita*, e.g., ‘government’ or ‘Telco’ or ‘blogosphere’

and thus *a level of power*, *authority*, *access to publishing opportunities*, and potential influence.

GOVERNMENT

OPPOSITION

MEDIA RIGHT

MEDIA LEFT

CIVIL SOCIETY ACTORS
2010 Incognito Internet filter scenario
Welcome to MyUni

MyUni is the University of Adelaide's online learning environment. It is used to support traditional face-to-face lectures, tutorials and workshops at the University. MyUni provides access to various features including announcements, course materials, discussion boards and assessments for each online course of study.

Accessing MyUni Help

All students and staff are responsible for complying with University policy including Copyright, Spam and Acceptable Use:

Compliance, Copyright and University Policy

MyUni is unavailable due to maintenance between 12:30am and 1:00am Monday to Saturday and from 12:30am to 7:00am on Sundays (Adelaide, CST)
Introduction

Michael Howard-Rudd was born 12/2/1960. Raised in South Incognita, Michael Howard-Rudd quickly learnt the value of hard work when his father passed away from cancer when Michael was aged only 11. Forced to grow up quickly, Michael helped raise his four brothers with mother Christine until he left to study Law and Economics at Darlingvile University. Passionate about politics and an admirer of United States President John F. Kennedy, Michael Howard-Rudd actively became involved in campus politics. Disillusioned about the prospect of becoming a corporate lawyer, Michael Howard-Rudd upon completion of his degree joined the Incognita Workers Union, providing legal advice to the union eventually becoming a fresh-faced yet fiery spokesperson advocating workers rights for almost a decade. Michael Howard-Rudd was quickly poached by the United Republicans to fill the safe Federal seat of Magill in his home state of South Incognita. Michael’s second term of opposition was spent as shadow workplace relation’s minister. He quickly developed a reputation as a person able to galvanise his party to a single message, yet also savagely attack and shut down anything he saw as against the national interest. The United Republicans narrowly failed to win the 2000 federal elections and Timothy O’Brien the then leader of the United Republicans stood down after his second failed attempt to become Prime Minister. Michael Howard-Rudd won the support of the party and spent the next term building a public image as an advocate for workers rights and a fighter for the blue collar workers of...
DIFS TUTORIAL GUIDE: THE 2010 INCOCGNITAN MORAL PANIC
TUTORIALS Weeks 6-8 inclusive

This part of the exercise is about learning how to map information flows; to wield influence through well-researched argument and the display of rhetorical skills; and how to select and practice the available role-related ways to respond to others’ argument and techniques of persuasion. It’s important to remember the speed at which moral panics happen. Not all roles have equal communicative power.

*Keep a dated record of your work! It will be useful for the final Individual Reflection, and will assist the staff marking your work to assess your overall participation. If the e-Sim moral panic is as chaotic as those in real life, it will be hard to keep track, until journalists write ‘chronologies of events so far’ or a retrospective such as David Marr published after the Henson debate.*
TRIGGER EVENT 2010

Welcome to Part Two of MD&EP, the Scenario.

Remember the ambiguous Chinese saying, ‘May you live in interesting times’?

Interesting times? Nothing is more true for Incognitans at the moment. The country is at a critical point in its history as a digital nation, and the eyes of the world are upon it. Why?

Incognitans’ United Republic Party is the first democratic government seriously to consider sweeping and radical measures to deal with the range of risks to security, privacy, political stability and social harmony associated with aspects of the digital economy. It plans to impose tighter controls on Incognitans’ internet usage.

Yet, what UR sees as prudent ambition and sound strategies for managing digital risk have drawn unexpected, hostile fire. Opposition has come not only from outspoken opponents within Incognitans, but also from a former powerful ally of the country, the US Secretary of State Winona Clifton.

Secretary Clifton recently promulgated a strong defence of freedom of information, and openness in the online world, to the applause of the country’s democratic nations. She was.
Media Right

**The Incognitan**
The Incognitan is a Broadsheet newspaper published in Incognita.

This discussion board is moderated by the editors of The Incognitan. All participants may post articles, that should be in a format ready to publish. The posts will be published at the discretion of the editors.

Editors: L. Steem Ed. The Incog, I. King Chief Media Right, J. Jones OpEd. The Incog.

**The Daily Sword**
The Daily Sword is a Tabloid newspaper published in Incognita.

This discussion board is moderated by the editors of The Daily Sword. All participants may post articles, that should be in a format ready to publish. The posts will be published at the discretion of the editors.

Editors: L. Rothgrew Ed. Daily Sword, GL. Freebush J. (Cons), J. Walters Ed J. (Tab)
Both the government and oppositions’ summits over the past two weeks have generated vast debate over the proposed policies and courses of action regarding the regulation of our Incognitan internet. While the content of these summits has admittedly both troubled and appeased this blogger to certain extents, the responses that I have personally received from members of my readership are what I find to be most relevant in the formation of my opinion on this issue. For what use is it that I spout on about my own views of the current state of our political landscape when there are certainly those with a much more dire need to express their thoughts and concerns to the wider public. Thus I have decided to air some of their viewpoints through this forum in an attempt to highlight as yet un-ventured into public opinions on this issue, which I hope will have an illuminating and thought-provoking effect:

All these fanciful ideas of the government’s about this so-called need for extra internet security is just another distraction from focussing on the real issues, in my opinion. If they want another excuse to hike up our taxes and divert our attention from the dire state of our water system and the not to distant consequences that will make, why don’t they just give themselves another bloody pay rise for the excellent job they are doing. At least then we wouldn’t have to put up with even slower internet and the bloody mess they want to create for us.

B. Williams, South Incognita.

What concerns me with both the URP’s and RBP’s proposals is the fact that nothing they come up with is a new solution. The URP wants to spend millions of dollars on services I do not feel will be at all beneficial to the population and which I do not feel I will ever use despite my 3 young children having unrestricted access to the internet.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Thread</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Unread Posts</th>
<th>Total Posts</th>
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<tr>
<td>5/17/10 10:51 PM</td>
<td><strong>Our online lives</strong></td>
<td>D. Anderson The Incog (LJ)</td>
<td>Published</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/17/10 10:22 PM</td>
<td><strong>Cohesion or Confusion...</strong> the United Republic Party has some answering to do.</td>
<td>J. Jones OpEd. The Incog</td>
<td>Published</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/17/10 10:23 AM</td>
<td><strong>The Incognitan Herald folds</strong></td>
<td>L. Steem Ed. The Incog</td>
<td>Published</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/17/10 9:59 AM</td>
<td><strong>IOU, IIUC, good enough?</strong></td>
<td>J. McAdams BJ The Incog</td>
<td>Published</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>5/13/10 10:55 PM</td>
<td><strong>Ignorance is Bliss...and an Increase in Tax</strong></td>
<td>J. Foster Freelance Col.</td>
<td>Published</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/13/10 2:14 PM</td>
<td><strong>I'll show you something 'sensitive'...</strong></td>
<td>A. Anderson OpEd. The Incog</td>
<td>Published</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/11/10 3:49 PM</td>
<td><strong>The Summit - A View from the Top</strong></td>
<td>I. King Chief Media Right</td>
<td>Published</td>
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<td>5/11/10 3:46 PM</td>
<td><strong>An Open Letter to the People of Incognita</strong></td>
<td>S. Shelton IncogNet ISP Manager</td>
<td>Published</td>
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<td>5/11/10 1:38 PM</td>
<td><strong>McMurphy loses touch with reality</strong></td>
<td>L. Steem Ed. The Incog</td>
<td>Published</td>
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<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/10/10 10:09 PM</td>
<td><strong>Murder accusations running rife as alcohol fuelled revelations come to the fore</strong></td>
<td>I. King Chief Media Right</td>
<td>Published</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/9/10 12:22 PM</td>
<td><strong>Are you sure, Mr Howard-Rudd?</strong></td>
<td>J. McAdams BJ The Incog</td>
<td>Published</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/10/10 11:31 AM</td>
<td><strong>Is The Royal Blue Party a Shoe In?</strong></td>
<td>D. Anderson The Incog (LJ)</td>
<td>Published</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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</table>
ONLINE NEWS Example (instructions) 2011

Fresh News Now
Created By Mark Wittervaan (Not a group member) on Wednesday, 27 April 2011 13:50:33 o'clock CST
last modified by Mark Wittervaan (Not a group member) on Wednesday, 27 April 2011 15:30:42 o'clock CST

To start delete this content and use this page as the introduction to the Fresh News Now.

Here is an example of the main Wiki window. You can create a new page, link to an existing page and edit.

When you edit wiki content, you'll see the usual editing tools you're used to in simple word processors. Add your content and then submit it with the Submit button.
BLOGGER LINKS

polits 2.0  tombospolitics.wordpress.com
outspeakingcognita http://outspeakingcognita.wordpress.com/
Theaveragejoannablog http://theaveragejoannablog.wordpress.com/
attorney general http://attorneygeneralchloethomson.blogspot.com/
Opposition families and communities http://polofamiliesandcommunities.weebly.com/
Adrianna Dita  http://adrianaditapolo.blogspot.com/.

2011 EXAMPLES OF NEWS MEDIA

The Beat

Attached Files:

- Press Club antics leave more questions than answers.docx (119.78 KB)
- The Moon – 110511.pdf (33.58 KB)
- The Government’s Wireless City policy appears to come at huge cost for what.pdf (68.127 KB)
- Opinion Piece – Karma.pdf (63.604 KB)
- PUBLIC SUBMISSION – THE BEAT – Tranquil Rivers Independent MP.pdf (25.128 KB)
- Opinion Piece – The Beat.docx (108.326 KB)

“The Beat” is the IBC’s online community blog and opinion website – featuring the views from our key reporters and correspondents, and members from the wider community. If you would like to have your opinion piece featured, email me (matthew.agius@adelaide.edu.au) and I’d be happy to put it up.

Nb. Please include a by-line at the end of your article with your Sim Name, role and organisation.

United Republic Party

Attached Files:

- URN Education Minister Speech.pdf (17.18 KB)
- MEDIA RELEASE #2 – COMMUNICATIONS ADVISOR – LARS VON TRIER.pdf (15.741 KB)
- MEDIA RELEASE #3 – COMMUNICATIONS ADVISOR – LARS VON TRIER.pdf (15.411 KB)
- MEDIA RELEASE BY COMMUNICATIONS ADVISOR – LARS VON TRIER.pdf (12.611 KB)
- GOVERNMENT BRIEFING PAPER – LARS VON TRIER COMMUNICATIONS ADVISOR.pdf (33.685 KB)
- MEDIA RELEASE #3 – COMMUNICATIONS ADVISOR – LARS VON TRIER.pdf (15.412 KB)
- Minister for the Environment speech.doc (24.5 KB)

Latest updates from the United Republic Party.

Party of Law and Order

Attached Files:

- media release 17 May11 (49.145 KB)
- Private Memo – Russell Jacobson.docx (118.932 KB)
- The Citizen Card – A pointless waste of money.docx (136.098 KB)
- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Opo Leader Statement.pdf (10.392 KB)
- immigration media release.pdf (36.882 KB)
- Media Announcement (46.814 KB)
- Petunia Hunt on Twitter.pdf (53.901 KB)
- opinion column_crowley.pdf (44.123 KB)
- Random 200 Words_crowley.pdf (60.083 KB)
- speech_Environment (70.524 KB)
- PRESS RELEASES.pdf (46.816 KB)
- Adrianna Dita – POLO Bio.docx (37.043 KB)
- IBC Q and A Session.docx (30.309 KB)
- MEMORANDUM.docx (16.12 KB)
- E-Sim (127.671 KB)

Latest releases from THE PARTY OF LAW AND ORDER

THE EON

Attached Files:

- A New Battle Emerges 12 May.docx (448.791 KB)
- Napier Press Club Provides Platform for Public Concern 12 May.docx (15.462 KB)
- So Many Questions, So Few Answers – The Eon Editorial 11 May.doc (1.363 MB)
Votapedia

Votapedia is a free audience response system that uses mobile phones and displays responses via the Internet. Votapedia recognises an incoming call and returns an engaged signal thereby receiving voting information free of cost to the mobile user. Votapedia was used to encouraging student participation and engagement during presentation by the students as [part of the course simulation.

- Created with: Votapedia online
- Viewed with: Standard web browser
- Access: MyUni course web site
Drifting to external and offline

- Fake twitter accounts were set up
- Youtube interviews were posted with the ‘PM’
- Facebook used to organise the Summit once internal leaking was noted
**IIB Bloggers Poll**
Do you think IIB bloggers made a useful contribution to the IPS?

**Incognitan Activist**
Which Incognitan Activist group influenced you most on the regulation issues?

**Media Right Poll**
Are you convinced that Media Right made a useful contribution to the IPS in a time of crisis?

**Agencies Poll**
Are you convinced that the Agencies helped to clarify regulation issues in a time of Incognitan crisis?

**Media Left and The BULB**
Are you convinced that Media Left & The BULB made a useful contribution to the IPS in a time of crisis?

**iTV**
Are you convinced that iTV made a useful contribution to the Incognitan Public Sphere (IPS) in a time of crisis?

**Poll results**
Results for the polls taken during the DIFS summit.

**Summit Poll**
Availability: Item is not available.
Poll for Tuesday 18th May Summit, held by the Royal Blue Party.
Poll May 11

Results for the poll taken on Tuesday 11th May, from the summit help by the Government of Incognia.

Did the Advocates convince you that the policy proposal is necessary for the future digital safety of Incognita?

Number of responses: 91

CONVINCED: 35
NOT CONVINCED: 56

Poll Tuesday 11th May
Around the Papers

PM late- Does she really care?
After claims that the PMs entourage is getting bigger than Vinny Chase’s, she took it one step further and made a not-so-fashionably late appearance to Mondays Napier Press Club.

When asked what he thought of the PM’s growing staff, which includes a hair stylist, the opposition leader responded saying, “it is a waste of taxpayers money”.

If the PM can’t be organized to show up to support a national security project of hers, but she can organize for her ‘minders’ to screen the media which she deals with and make a hair appointment for her to look good, does she really care about the citizens of Incognita, who pay her wage?

Members of the URP party declined to comment on the increased entourage of the PMs.

Will Simmons, Urban Journalist- FNN

Where was Virginia?
Prime Minister shuns event, waste taxpayers’ money.

By Millie Naire
**Fresh News Now**

**Big announcement or big flop...**

The aftermath of the URP’s community cabinet may have the PM thinking if it was such a good idea to go public so soon.

Mondays community cabinet showed how unprepared the URP’s policies are, which leaves me wondering, why have they made them public so soon?

PM, Virginia Fierce, repeatedly spoke of how she wanted Incognita to move forward in this technological age, while at the same time not knowing how to use her microphone, ironic.

The wireless city project was shot down in the public's view, as soon as Virgina Fierce stated that 'birds' would be apart of the technological fame, where you can scan ‘Quick release’ codes to gain information. Please tell me how you will be making this available for different birds Miss Fierce?

Along with the infrastructure question everyone is asking, how will our wireless system cope with all this extra usage, when it doesn't work properly now? Will the government be forking out the funds needed to make the wireless system workable? If so, there is another bullet in the wallet for families.

Now what sounds better bang for your buck? A system where we ‘may’ be able to get some useless information on a building in Slowtown, or a new hospital to help our aging population and a new sports stadium, which has the ability to bring in large numbers to the city center and world events to Incognita?

The second policy announced in not-so-large detail with the IID cards, or ‘citizen cards’ as they have been renamed. The information gained from speeches from the Treasurer, Attorney General, Communications Minister and Arts Minister was less than impressive.
NAPIER PRESS CLUB

AGENDA

10.15-10.45am

INCOGNITIAN GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY CABINET

The Federal Government will present a community cabinet on Monday 16 May 2011 to be hosted by the Editor of The Incognitian, David Melbourne.

Media are advised that an announcement of Slowtown and personal ID cards will be made.

Speakers include:

The Prime Minister of Incognita, Ms. Virginia Fierce MP
The Attorney-General, Ms Chloe Thompson MP
Minister for Communications, Theodore Reginald
Minister for the Arts, Mr. Cheyne Koehler MP
Minister for Education, Ms Sienna Harvey MP
Minister for the Environment and Climate Change, Ms Rosie Green MP
The Treasurer, Mr Remi Bezzler MP

Questions from the audience are welcome

Please note that members of the press will require media cards for entry.

10.45-11.05am

PRESS INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITY

Media are advised that interviews with Government Ministers and other Members of Parliament will be available after the Community Cabinet. For locations of interviews, please see page 2.
By Julia Abbott, Chief Political Reporter

Not content to let *O-Net* hog all of the leaks in Incognitian politics, the IBC has gained possession of an internal memo that provides a deep insight into the internal strife plaguing the Federal Opposition.

Whilst the public awaits the full release of the Government’s expected policy into a government ID card and wireless city project, which were recently shown in a Constellation Research Survey to be grossly unpopular in the electorate. Whilst the URP, under the leadership of Prime Minister Virginia Fierce, is yet to clarify its policies, most survey respondents showed uncertainty at the notion of these new initiatives being introduced:

![Constellation Logo]

**Q. Do you support the introduction of a government ID card?**

- In favour: 59%
- Against: 75%
- Uncommitted: 20%

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**Q. Thinking about the Government’s decision to develop a wireless city project in South Incognita, are you in favour of the Government’s decision to develop Slowtown in this way?**

- In favour: 10%
- Against: 60%
So Many Questions, So Few Answers: Leading Parties Lack Organised Opinion on IID Policy

Written by Della Blakeney, Illustration by Harrison Conway

11 May 2011

During the first Napier Press Club conference concerning the issuing of IID cards to Incognito citizens it was apparent that both leading parties were ignorant of the details of any policy they may propose.
T6
POLO ROLE (PARTY OF LAW AND ORDER)
PLATFORM - **SECURING INCOGNITA**

POLO’s electoral campaign highlights were:

| FAMILY VALUES * TAX CUTS* DEFENCE OF COUNTRY * LAW AND ORDER POLICING * BACK TO BASICS * |

Incognita’s Opposition has to formulate its response to what it knows (or cares to say it knows) about the Government’s two-pronged policy agenda.

Does it agree with either or both policy agenda and project?

Wiring an entire Southern Incognitan city is not popular in the eastern states where POLO has its base, or in the country and remoter areas where it has supporters. The project is very costly. To give a budgetary comparison, it is equivalent to building a new football stadium and a hospital for the ageing. In fact, two Federal projects of the kind have been delayed until the next budget. Are the spending decisions linked?

Ironically, the IID card appeals to the far right supporters of law and order who are the mainstay of POLO. Senior Opposition leaders with backgrounds in, or links to, Defence are in a quandary. Many MPs have lucrative shares in surveillance technologies. Some are part of, or associated with, Incognita’s armed services ‘warrior cult.’

However, collectively, POLO scents a chance to overturn the government. But on which project, and which Minister, should their attack focus? How important is their Law and Order party philosophy when an electoral victory is possible?

They know URP is in difficulties. The Opposition has potential allies within URP on both wireless city and IDD controversies, and potential supporters on both sides of the press, but how should they leverage and mobilize their supporters?
T3
URP ROLE (UNITED REPUBLIC PARTY)
PLATFORM – CONNECTING INCOGNITANS

Incognita's United Republic Party is the first democratic government seriously to consider radical measures to deal with the range of risks to security, privacy, political stability and social harmony associated with aspects of digital technologies.

URP sees its primary role in its first term as managing risk in the digital world.

It has begun its wide-reaching reform program by connecting all citizens who live in urban areas to hi-speed networks.

As a government, it has been persuaded to commit to an expensive development program that ministers first saw working in France and Italy.

Since in office, and now dealing with regular O-NET leaks about both its own ministries and its predecessor in government, it considers the blogosphere and CITIZEN JOURNALISTS as dangerous. The information they circulate has a serious impact on individual reputations, the government particularly, and Incognita in general.

The PM and senior cabinet members can see no other option but to impose much tighter controls on Incognitans, but they have not released the details as yet. These will be announced at the Community Cabinet on Monday, 16/05. The agenda for the day is published in a separate document found on the DIFS front page.
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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC SYMPOSIUM, November 7-8, 2011
U Adelaide

FREEDOMS, CITIZENS and the POLITICS of the INTERNET

Arab spring, civil liberties, tort of privacy, journalism, defence and surveillance, freedom of information, activism, data security, policing.