The 2010 Australian Federal Election: New Media, New Politics?

Special issue (eds) Peter John Chen and Ariadne Vromen (University of Sydney)

In 2007 the “YouTube election” was called the first “true” Internet election in Australia. Did the 2010 campaign build on this acclaim? Was Julia Gillard's campaign able to recapture her predecessors Internet dominance, or is new media the natural friend of the challenger? Has new media influenced the Australian electoral process, its conduct, sequencing and culture? Have political elites deepened their engagement with social media, or has the love affair with new media ended? How did Australian audiences engage with digital media? Or did their ongoing political disengagement deepen, even in the face of web 2.0 platforms like Twitter and Facebook.

This special issue of Communication, Politics & Culture seeks to provide a broad review and assessment of the role of new media forms in the 2010 Australian federal election. In considering work with descriptive and analytical emphasis, the editors are looking for a range of papers examining the electoral process: party and candidates' use of media, media ecosystem practices during the election, the role of civil society online, new and established forms of produsage from citizen journalists, bloggers and the culture jammers, electoral regulators, and the role of media in shaping voters' participation in this critical democratic process.

**Timing, length, style**

The maximum length of articles is 8,000 words, shorter pieces welcome. Articles will be due to peter.chen@sydney.edu.au by 15 April 2011. They will be evaluated by the editorial committee and anonymously by external referees.
**About the journal**

Communication, Politics & Culture is an A-ranked, refereed journal published twice a year through Informit Library by the School of Media and Communication at RMIT University. Established as an interdisciplinary publication in 1963, the journal focuses on connections between communication and politics. It is interested in communication and cultural technologies and practices, their histories, producers, audiences and users, policies and texts. It welcomes articles connecting these areas to legislative or parliamentary politics, to governance of social organizations and the institutions they constitute, or to broader negotiations of power. A particular interest is work developing governmental and genealogical approaches to communication and politics.