



YouTube, Blogs, Texting, the Web...How is New Media Changing Politics?

April 18 | 3p.m. | 105 Stanley Hall

Professors Henry Brady, Bruce Cain and Geoffrey Nunberg will discuss New Media's influence on elections and political governance, and how it has shaped the language of civic engagement.

Sponsored by the Goldman School of Public Policy's
Class of '68 Center on Civility and Democratic Engagement



Henry E. Brady is Class of 1941 Monroe Deutsch Professor of Political Science and Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley. He received his PhD in Economics and Political Science from MIT in 1980, and has worked for the federal Office of Management and Budget and other organizations in Washington, D.C. He has written on electoral politics and political participation, social welfare policy, political polling, and statistical methodology. He has co-authored and co-edited many books, several of which have won awards, including *Letting the People Decide: Dynamics of a Canadian Election* (1992), *Voice and Equality: Civic Voluntarism in America* (1995), and *Rethinking Social Inquiry* (2004). He is president-elect of the American Political Science Association and past president of its Political Methodology Society. He was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences in 2003 and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2006. Currently director of the University of California, Berkeley Survey Research Center, he will become Dean of the Goldman School of Public Policy in July 2009.



Bruce E. Cain is Heller Professor of Political Science at the University of California, Berkeley and Director of the University of California Washington Center. A *summa cum laude* graduate of Bowdoin College he studied as a Rhodes Scholar at Trinity College, Oxford, received his Ph.D. in political science from Harvard University in 1976 and taught at California Institute of Technology from 1976 to 1989. He has authored and co-authored numerous books, including *Congressional Redistricting*, with David Butler. Professor Cain has served as a polling consultant, a redistricting consultant, and an expert witness. He has been a consultant to the *Los Angeles Times* and serves as a political commentator for numerous radio and television stations the Bay Area. Among other distinguished awards, he has received the Zale Award for Outstanding Achievement in Policy Research and Public Service from Stanford University, and he is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.



Geoffrey Nunberg is a professor at University of California, Berkeley's School of Information, where he teaches courses on the history and social implications of information technologies. Trained as a linguist, his scholarly work has centered on semantics, sociolinguistics and language policy, and the structure of written language. His general-interest articles and commentaries on language, technology, and culture have regularly appeared in the *New York Times*, on NPR's "Fresh Air," and in numerous other publications. He has served as chair of the usage panel of the American Heritage Dictionary. Professor Nunberg's most recent book is *Talking Right* (PublicAffairs, 2006); a new book, *The Years of Talking Dangerously*, will appear from Public Affairs in May 2009. He is currently working on a book about the paradoxes of civility in American public discourse.



The Cal Class of '68 Center on Civility & Democratic Engagement

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The Cal Class of '68 has experienced two eras marked by political and social polarization—the 1960s and the present. In the early '60s, the norm of mutual respect evident during the Free Speech Movement gave way to the strong polarization of the late '60s. In the current era, blogs, talk radio and television commentary increasingly promote partisan confrontation as opposed to debate of issues. Public dialogue often lacks civility and efforts toward policy consensus rarely enjoy broad democratic engagement. Today's hardened lines of political division threaten to aggravate and perpetuate social problems.

To address these issues, the Class of '68 has chosen a unique course and established the Center on Civility & Democratic Engagement at UC Berkeley's Goldman School of Public Policy to explore the legacy and advance the aspirations that characterize the spirit of the Class of '68. The Center will focus on understanding conflict and the institutional, cultural and political conditions that advance constructive dialogue, policy consensus and greater democratic participation.

The Center on Civility & Democratic Engagement will sponsor activities on the UC Berkeley campus and beyond, including:

- Public events featuring prominent speakers on topics related to civility and democratic engagement;
- Small faculty and student grants for research on the sources of conflict and ways to overcome divisions and achieve democratic engagement;
- Internships in public and nonprofit agencies that enable students to learn firsthand how to lead collaboratively and craft policy solutions in the face of partisan divisions; and
- Classes that equip students with skills in collaborative leadership and consensus building.

The Class of '68 Center on Civility & Democratic Engagement is an exciting innovation in UC Berkeley alumni relations. With your financial gift to the Center, you will become part of an academic endeavor devoted to sustaining time-honored ideals.

*** To get involved with Class of '68 ongoing events: Cal68@blueconnect.org**

Please make your generous gift as a first step towards active involvement the new Center.

*** For more information and to make a gift to the Class of '68 Center on Civility & Democratic Engagement: <http://gspp.berkeley.edu/giving/classof68.html>**