ASJ Virtual Conference
An event for agenda setting researchers to share their work

Organizers

Friday, October 30th, 2020

One interactive, informal day programmed for multiple time zones. Let’s take advantage of the fact we can schedule one day across the world. 1-day, single stream starting around 8 EST and going until approximately 3 EST.

Why would you want to do this?

- geo-friendly time slots
  - 8 AM EST (Europe and Asia)
  - 1:00 EST (US)
- free for all faculty and graduate students who present
  - graduate students and faculty are welcome!
  - $100 faculty attendee.
- this is a cheap (free) way for emerging scholars to get advice *and kudos* from our agenda setting board. We’re all going to run the sessions!
- you’ll have a front row seat to Don Shaw and Max McCombs zooming together for the first time.
- a top young scholar paper award of $500
- Halloween attire will be strongly encouraged
- abstract submissions (see below)
- an expedited full paper review process to those that advance to full papers at the ASJ

Presentation styles

15 minute presentations

Submit an extended abstract of no more than 750 words (not including references) detailing your work. Works in progress will be considered, but preference will be given to abstracts with a clear path to completion (e.g., data, clear research questions, initial analyses). Abstracts should include background information on the author(s), and an abbreviated bio that describes research that relates to agenda setting.

Each presentation will follow with a 15 minute discussion led by an agenda-setting board member. We are especially excited to see work in the following areas:
Contemporary Issues

Right now there’s good cause to study agendas and the agenda-setting effect. Has the COVID-19 pandemic captivated media across the ideological spectrum and their audiences alike? Other contemporary issues such as Donald Trump’s Impeachment, Brexit, or the U.S. Democratic Primary are welcomed.

Contemporary Policy Agendas

The current political context underscores the value of scholarship on policy-making and agenda setting across time and between countries. We encourage new perspectives that address the agenda-setting actions governments take in response to the challenges they face. We encourage policy agenda research in many forms, including questions relating to agenda diversity, partisan patterns of agenda setting, and policy change over time.

Contemporary Media

The media landscape is diverse and there is now evidence that contemporary media are agenda setters. Studies that further document the agenda-setting influence of misinformation, disinformation, and partisan media are welcomed. Moreover, work that looks at the agenda setting power of non-media actors such corporations or governments would be timely. Finally contemporary political strategies such as astroturfing are ripe for study.

30-45 minute methodological overviews or technical demonstrations

Because we will all be stuck in front of computers, we are treating this as an opportunity for a methodological workshop. Show us how to collect or analyze data for an agenda setting study using a method you feel is innovative. Particularly:
- new content analysis approaches
- supervised or unsupervised machine learning
- agenda setting with networks
- social media data collection approaches
- large-scale news databases
- statistic talks (e.g., time series analysis on agenda data)
- time series analysis approaches beyond ARIMA (e.g., SARIMAX, neural networks)
- advanced network statistics

30 minute panels

For those that would prefer to use some time to discuss a contemporary issue in agenda setting research, please send us the topic description and your ideal panel members. Any member of the ASJ board is fair game to add to your panel, but note that due to the scheduling undertaking for an all day, multiple time zone event such as this, we may have to substitute panel members. We will do our best to accommodate all requests. Panel proposals will likely be far less than 750 words; instead a short, high-level description with proposed questions will suffice.

Submit here!

Submission deadline for all abstracts, papers, and proposals is Tuesday, September 1st 2020.

Submit your abstract
(or long paper, if you prefer)!
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The agenda-setting journal editorial board

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