

Session Proposal for the AAG Annual Meeting, San Francisco, April 2007

The Geography of Telecommunications Technologies

Organizer: Lawrence Wood, Ohio University, School of Information and Telecommunication Systems and School of Telecommunications

Sponsored by the Communication Geography Specialty Group

With the understanding that there are geographic dimensions to telecommunications availability and access, this session aims to be organized around issues dealing with the 'geography of telecommunications technologies.' There are concerns in various parts of the world and at various scales regarding issues such as the geographic digital divide, including in terms of broadband availability, cell phone coverage areas, and emergency 911 services. Similarly, there are apparent relationships between economic development and the location of telecommunications infrastructures. On the other hand, issues such as user-constraints can affect the use of telecommunications technologies as well, and such issues can also have geographic dimensions. In short, this session seeks papers that deal with topics such as the digital divide, telecommunications and economic development, or a range of other related issues. It may include papers that address such matters from either an empirical, theoretical, or methodological perspective. It also welcomes papers that consider the technical, socioeconomic, and/or policy aspects of telecommunication technologies, including from historical and contemporary perspectives.

If you are interested in participating in this session, please contact Lawrence Wood at the following email address: WoodL@ohio.edu. Also, please forward this CFP to anyone else who you believe may be interested in participating. Finally, given that the deadline for AAG abstract submission is October 26th, please try to contact the organizer at least a week or two in advance of that time if you are interested in participating in the session.