

Upcoming Event:

THE DIGITAL DIVIDE AND THE USE OF TELECENTRES IN SOUTH AFRICA

From the start South African politicians have understood the centrality of new technologies in development. In almost all policy reforms ICTs have been part of the discussion. Giving people access to telephone and PCs connected to the Internet has been a central goal in telecommunications policy. Telecentres—public places with telephone and Internet access—have been considered as important drivers of social change giving people access to information and services. More than 12 years down the road, the experiences are mixed. In this lecture we focus on South Africa's information society policy and its use of telecentres as a central means to bridge the digital divide.

Dr. Leo Van Audenhove, Senior Researcher
Centre for Studies on Media, Information and Telecommunication (SMIT)
Free University Brussels.

Tuesday, March 28, 2006
4:30 - 7:10 pm BOLTON HALL 289

Leo Van Audenhove holds a Master's Degree in Communication Science from the Free University Brussels. In 2002 he obtained a Phd in the Social Sciences on the subject of The Information Society Policy of the South African Government between 1993 and 1999. Since 1994 he works as a researcher at the Centre for Studies on Media, Information and Telecommunication (SMIT) at the Free University Brussels.

His research interests are broad ranging from e- government and e-democracy, to ICTs and development, and the information society, network economy and globalisation. He has carried out extensive research in these fields in projects and programs financed by the Flemish, Belgian and Dutch Government, the Flemish Parliament, the South African HSRC, the Canadian IDRC and the EU.

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