22th Conference of the Iberoamerican Society of Digital Graphics 2018 - Technopolitics

"to politize the technology is the answer ... What was the question?"

(from the assertion of Cedric Price in a lecture given in 1966: "technology is the answer ... What was the question?")

Dear SIGraDi Community,

In accordance with the objectives of the Iberoamerican Society of Digital Graphics to contribute to the academic debate on digital media and its applications in the fields of architecture and urbanism, design and arts, and to boost research and education in the current context of technological transformations, our 22nd Conference takes on the theme of **Technopolitics**.

We understand that technologies are engendered within cultural, economic and social contexts, as well as they have political aspects in their conformation and their use. However, we are often confronted with positions that take the technologies as autonomous prefigurers of futures and as unequivocal solutions to problems not yet known.

How not return to the proposal of the sociologist Laymert Garcia dos Santos to "politicize the new technologies"? How not to think about technopolitics in the face of widely held consensus on a positive teleology of technologies, by taking up dissensus positions anchored in the philosophy of Jacques Rancière? Or, how not to consider, with Giorgio Agamben, a horizon of restitution of the devices to their common use? Or even, how not to look at technopolitics, according to Gabrielle Hecht and Paul N. Edwards, as hybrids of technical systems and political practices that produce new forms of power and agency?

In a world facing different crises and challenges, from social to political, from urban to environmental, from imagined spaces to constructed ones, technopolitics have been understood as practices of conception, revision and use of technological artifacts in the sense of their performance as common goods, in contrast to the dominant models of technological application.

Therefore, according to the approach proposed by this conference and based on the specificities and history of SIGraDi, the focus on digital technologies and their uses in architecture, design, the arts and related areas, intends to broaden the debate about access and information sharing, ways of doing, modes of participatory management, processes of decision-making and production of cities, as well as the enhancement of creative practices.

The *Instituto de Arquitetura e Urbanismo da Universidade de São Paulo (IAU-USP)* is honored to host the 2018 SIGraDi Conference strengthening its contribution not only to this debate, but also to this Iberoamerican Society. The IAU-USP, recognized for its excellence in teaching, research and extension activities, has been actively participating in SIGraDi since the early 2000s. Throughout this period, 90 research papers were presented by 11 of the 36 Institute's professors,

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and by 50 postgraduate and undergraduate students, that integrate four research groups (*Núcleo de Estudos das Espacialidades Contemporâneas – NEC; Núcleo de Apoio à Pesquisa em Estudos de Linguagem em Arquitetura e Cidade - N.ELAC; Núcleo de Estudos em Habitares Interativos – Nomads; e Arquitetura, Tecnologia e Habitação - Arquitec*).

This rich partnership has already been expressed in the contribution of the IAU-USP's professors to the various committees of SIGraDi and to the publication, since 2016, of the SIGraDi's annual edition of the Design Management & Technology Journal.

We thank all those who have made a commitment to the organization of this event and those who have accepted our invitation to participate in it. This year, 480 abstracts were sent to the blind peer review process - a record in the history of SIGraDi. In the next stage, 217 full papers were submitted for review, resulting in 154 published articles coming from 21 countries in the Americas, Europe, Asia and Oceania. In this process, a scientific commission of more than 160 researchers was responsible for the revision process and a large team of professors, students and non-teaching staff of the IAU-USP was active throughout this year.

When looking retrospectively, the conceptual hypothesis that we choose at the beginning of conference organization became increasingly clear and urgent in the context of this year events in Brazil, Latin America and the world. We believe that SIGraDi, aware of its scope, plays a relevant role at this time.

Welcome to São Carlos!

David M. Sperling and Simone Vizioli
Chairs of SIGraDi 2018