The World Upside Down:
Information Research in Difficult Terrain

Monday, November 23, 2015
10:45am-12:00pm, IS Building, 3rd floor
135 North Bellefield Ave Pittsburgh, PA

Many are uneasy with the disconnect between changes in information (including information technologies) and research results that seem meager in comparison. Those drawn to the information fields by great changes often face constraints. When choosing between research that "matters" and research that is "safe" many choose safety. Who can blame them? For any given study or paper this choice might make sense. Over the long run it does not. Keeping "big ideas" in mind while doing work that "counts" for short-term rewards (getting promoted, etc.) takes thinking and work, but it is manageable. The talk provides reasons why to do this and some suggestions about how. It is basically optimistic.

John Leslie King

John Leslie King is W.W. Bishop Professor of Information, former Dean of the School of Information and former Vice Provost at the University of Michigan. He joined Michigan in 2000 after twenty years on the faculties of computer science and management at the University of California at Irvine. He has published more than 200 books and papers from his research on the relationship between technical and social change. He was Marvin Bower Fellow at the Harvard Business School, distinguished visiting professor in Singapore, and Fulbright Distinguished Chair in American Studies at the University of Frankfurt. He is currently Visiting Professor at the London School of Economics and Political Science. His PhD is in administration from the University of California, Irvine. He received an honorary doctorate in economics from Copenhagen Business School. He is an elected fellow of the Association for Information Systems and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

This event is co-sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh School of Information Sciences' Visiting Lecture Series & the CS/SIS Collaboration Project.