

DEPAUL HUMANITIES CENTER DIGITAL HUMANITIES SERIES

FEBRUARY

WEDNESDAY

06

6:00 P.M.
DEPAUL STUDENT CENTER
ROOM 314
2250 N. SHEFFIELD AVE.

STEVE INGEMAN

"Frequently the Messages Have Meaning"

What Claude Shannon and Neil Postman Can Tell Us about the Digital Humanities

Advances in the Digital Humanities—the “semantic web,” high-throughput computing, affective computation, etc.—hold out the promise of exciting new avenues of research and scholarly activity. But they also call into question what it is that we do when we do humanities scholarship. New technologies generally have an effect on their culture which is not additive but rather ecological, as they reorder power relationships, import hidden assumptions, and change the questions we ask. Drawing from Walter Benjamin, Michel Serres, Neil Postman and others, we find that the Digital Humanities’ emphasis on collaboration and on the processing of large volumes of data changes—for better or worse—not only what we think the humanities are or should be, but also what we think information is. This change is dramatic enough to unhinge information from human meaning and the human life world, with wide-ranging repercussions.

This event is free and open to the public.



DEPAUL UNIVERSITY

For more info contact:
DePaul Humanities Center
773-325-4580
aperson@depaul.edu

www.las.depaul.edu/humanitiescenter