
Preface

The present volume, *Online Deliberation: Design, Research, and Practice*, grew out of the Second Conference on Online Deliberation: Design, Research, and Practice (OD2005/DIAC-2005), which was held at Stanford University May 20-22, 2005. After the conference, participants were offered the opportunity to submit draft manuscripts for publication. Beth Simone Noveck assisted in the selection, and we secured an agreement with CSLI Publications to publish the book simultaneously in print and in a free version online. Seeta Gangadharan joined the project as a coeditor in 2008, and contributed a concluding chapter.

In the age of the Internet, and especially in a field tied to evolving technology, it would be difficult to justify the time required to carefully edit a book whose purpose was to capture the latest technology. Instead, we sought to put together a collection that will have lasting value, capturing some of the most important lessons learned during the formative years of this field. The result, we hope, is a volume that will serve as a useful record and guide to the development of the field as we move forward in the years to come.

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—Todd Davies and Seeta Peña Gangadharan, Stanford, August 29, 2009

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