



ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATE
LIBERAL STUDIES PROGRAMS

Annual Conference 2009

IMAGINATION IN AN AGE OF INSTANT INFORMATION

Disney's Coronado Springs Resort
Lake Buena Vista, FL
October 22-24, 2009

Hosted by the Master of Liberal Studies Program, Rollins College

Call for Papers/Presentations

Deadline extended to May 31

Civilization advances when the current body of knowledge can no longer successfully address pressing questions. As traditional answers in science, art, politics, and other areas become less satisfactory, we call upon our imagination and creativity to find new solutions. In fact, history can be studied in terms of specific cultural and scientific breakthroughs, often attributed to one individual.

But the body of human knowledge in the 21st century is different from any time in history. Vast amounts of information are instantly available to anyone who can operate a keyboard. On the one hand, this democratization of knowledge creates unimaginable benefits for people who previously did not have access to knowledge. On the other, the availability of instant information can pose a threat to creativity and imagination. For example, is it really necessary to read Proust or Pynchon when we can spend an hour or so reading online articles *about* them by experts in the field? Do we personally need to view the works of Goya or Georgia O'Keeffe, or can we simply read online art criticism and quickly become educated?

The 2009 AGLSP Annual Conference invites papers exploring the relationships between imagination, knowledge, creativity, and technology. Special consideration will be given to submissions addressing the integration of imagination and creativity into Liberal Studies curricula and classes, imagination applied to society's problems, and the future of creativity in society in general.

Papers should be 20-25 minutes long and presented, rather than read, to conference attendees. To submit, please send a 1-2 page abstract to Tcook@rollins.edu by **May 15**. Be sure to write "AGLSP Submission" in the subject line.