



The Center for Information Technology and Society  
University of California at Santa Barbara

**CITS RESEARCH LECTURE SERIES FALL 2008**



# **The Search Myth: Quality information is not a click away**

**Monica Bulger**

**Education Department**

**Thursday, November 13, 2008 12:00 P.M.**

**Engineering Sciences Building 1001**

This talk challenges the myth of information on the Internet: while information may appear excessively easy to find because of quick search results and increased accessibility to materials, locating relevant, high-quality information requires highly sophisticated literacy skills. Monica Bulger shares results of an empirical study for her dissertation that assessed the ways in which students negotiate potentially overwhelming online information options. Her study of 150 UCSB graduates and undergraduates reveals how college students gauge credibility and usefulness when evaluating online resources and further, how they use this information when composing academic texts.

Monica Bulger studies online literacy as a doctoral candidate in Education at the University of California, Santa Barbara. She is currently a visiting scholar at the Oxford Internet Institute and an NSF IGERT fellow in Digital Multimedia. With work experience in writing instruction and technical communication, Monica holds a B.A. in English and an M.A. in Education.

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