

THE CENTER FOR HUMAN POTENTIAL AND PUBLIC POLICY

**IN COLLABORATION WITH
THE CHICAGO COUNCIL ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

Second Annual Lecture on Science, Technology & Society

THE DIGITAL DIVIDE: WHY DO WE CARE?

TITLE: **The Educational Consequences of the Digital Divide**

SPEAKER: **Robert W. Fairlie**

Professor, Department of Economics, The University of California, Santa Cruz

PANELISTS: **Hardik Bhatt**

Chief Information Officer and Commissioner, Department of Innovation & Technology, City of Chicago

Eszter Hargittai

Associate Professor of Communication Studies, Northwestern University

DATE: November 20, 2008

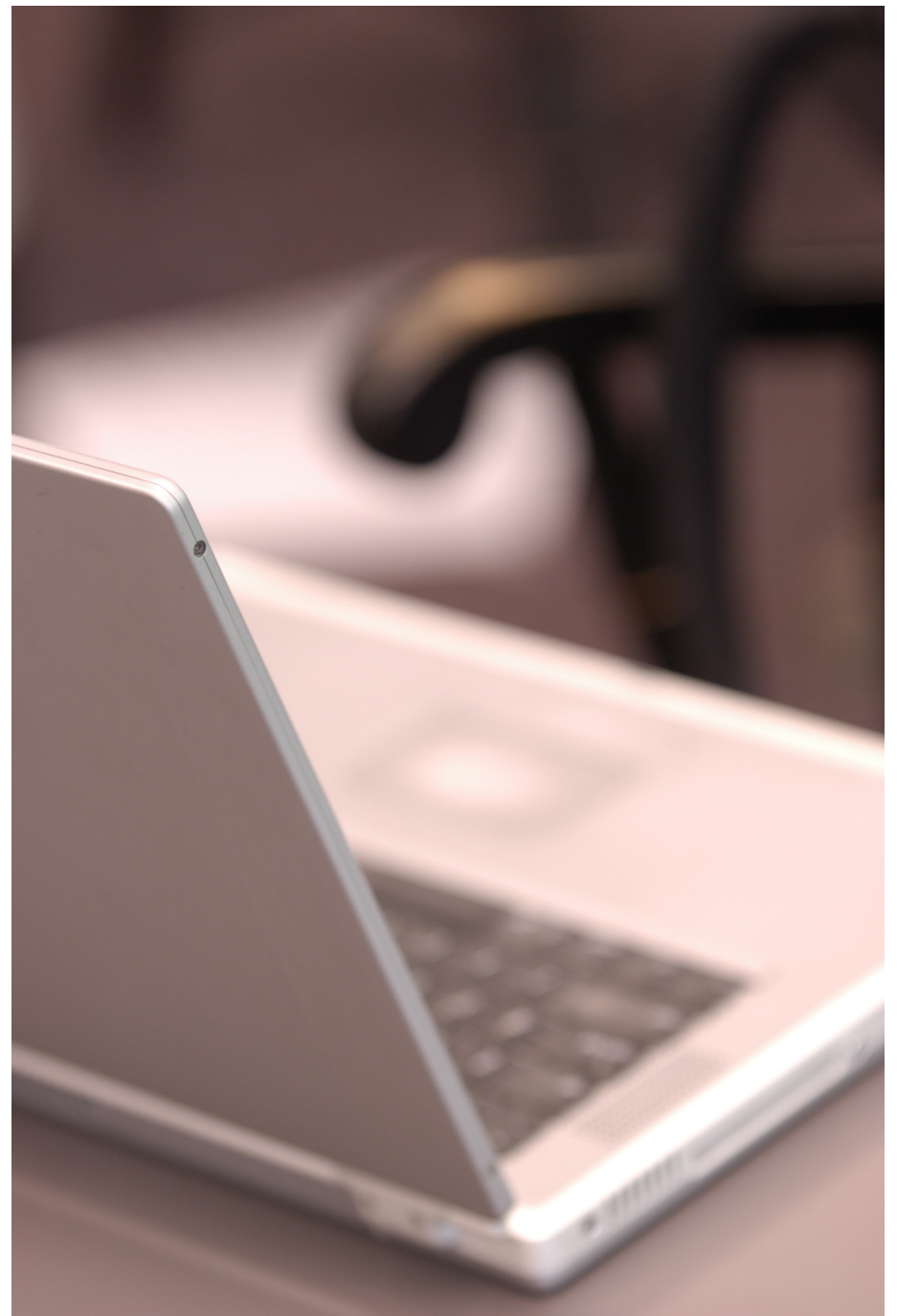
TIME: 5:15–7:30 PM

LOCATION: The Standard Club
320 South Plymouth Court
Chicago, IL 60604

DESCRIPTION:

Nearly 30 percent of children in the United States do not have access to the Internet in their homes. In contrast, computer and Internet use in the nation's schools is ubiquitous with an average of roughly four computers per classroom in nearly all instructional classrooms in U.S. public schools. The federal government has also made the provision of computer and Internet access to school children a top priority. The increasing reliance on computers and the Internet for classroom instruction, delivering educational content, and completing homework assignments suggests that disparities in home access to technology or the so-called digital divide may have implications for educational inequality.

Professor Fairlie will discuss the causes and consequences of the digital divide for educational outcomes globally and in the United States.



The Center for Human Potential and Public Policy

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