

Luis Ramirez

Contact Details:
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Qualifications

- Proven managerial experience in academia and government.
- A well established reputation as one of Chile's leading experts in the social, cultural and political impacts of the Internet and new technologies
- Extensive experience with the media, with over 40 appearances in Chilean newspapers, TV, radio and online
- More than 10 years of teaching experience, both in Spanish and in English.

Education

- **(2010) MPhil in Sociology.** The London School of Economics and Political Science.
- **(2000) MSc in Organisational and Social Psychology.** The London School of Economics and Political Science.
- **(1997) MSc in Political Science.** Institute of Political Science, University of Chile.
- **(1996) Public Administrator.** School of Government and Public Management, University of Chile.
- **(1995) B.A. in Government and Public Management.** School of Government and Public Management, University of Chile.

Recent Work Experience

- **(2008-) Advisor** to the Minister of Public Works. Reports directly to the Minister

Key achievements: Apart from providing key briefings for the Minister's daily activities, I have been responsible for tasks including: Organizing the Presidente Balmaceda National Award for outstanding contributions in public infrastructure; work as a member of the editorial committee of 'Chile 2020', a book published by the ministry; organizing the 'Obras Públicas 2020' contest, aimed at university-level students; designed and implemented two innovative projects in the ICT field (see below)

- **(2003-2009), Lecturer** (tenured) at the Institute of Public Affairs, University of Chile

Key achievements: Served on several academic committees, one of which worked over a year to redesign the Master in Government and Public Management. I served as Academic Director of this program, and became a key part in the alliance we established with the Maxwell School, Syracuse University, the top academic center in the field of public management in the United States.

- **(2001-2002)** appointed as **Instructor** at the Methodology Institute, London School of Economics, teaching qualitative research software QSR-N6 y Atlas-ti,
- **(2001-2002) part-time Teacher** for the Culture and Economy course convened by Dr. Don Slater, Department of Sociology, London School of Economics.
- **(2001)** appointed as **Research Assistant** of Dr. Leslie Sklair, Sociology Department (LSE) working in its latest book on globalisation.
- **(1998-1999) Deputy Head** of the Department of Human Resources, Presidency of the Republic of Chile. In June 1999 designated as **Responsible for the Internal Coordination** of the Institutional Goals in the Administration Division at the Presidency of the Republic.
- **(1996-1998),** part time **Advisor** in the Department of Human Resources of the Presidency of the Republic of Chile.

Relevant ICT Related Experience

(2008-2010) The Minister of Public Works accepted my recommendation to develop a policy document on technological neutrality for the Ministry. This became the Chilean government's first guideline on the use of open source software versus proprietary software. The document, launched in 2009, was the result of 4 months of work by leading experts from Chile's main universities. Also, in my position as Advisor to the Minister of Public Works I was in charge of coordinating a pilot project on wireless Internet use for rural water towers. The pilot project was successful and now there are plans for expansion.

(2009) Keynote speaker, workshop organized by the Chilean Society of Paediatrics on 'Protecting Kids in the Internet', May 2009

(2009) Speaker, conference run by the UTEM University on 'Digital Divide, and Education', September 2009

(2009) Speaker, 'Webprendedor 2009 Conference' on 'Social Entrepreneurship and Cyberactivism', Concepción, May 2009

(2006-2007) Invited to become Member of the Advisory Committee of the Comuna Digital Project in the Municipality of Peñalolén.

(2008) Invited to speak before the Presidential Committee on Social Fairness on the digital divide.

(2006-2007) Appointed as member of the ICT Regional Board of Santiago, Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications

(2007) Invited to speak before the Commission of Science and Technology at the National Congress to discuss an agreement signed between the Chilean government and Microsoft.

(2006) As a faculty member of the University of Chile I led a student team which won an international design contest organized by AMD, with the PROYECTO GOTA, a computer solution focused on rural communities.

Recent Publications

Ramirez, L. (2008) "Cinco preguntas críticas sobre la Estrategia Digital 2007-2012" en AGENDA PÚBLICA AÑO VI, N° 11, Diciembre 2007-Enero 2008, INAP, Universidad de Chile.

Ramirez, L. (2007) "Laptops en Educación: La equidad social como fundamentos para formular políticas públicas en países en desarrollo". XII Taller Internacional en Informática Educativa, Santiago, Chile, DCC-Universidad de Chile.

Ramírez L. y Hernández, C. (2007) "Implementación de Proyectos TICs para el desarrollo local: La importancia de la caracterización sociodemográfica y espacial". Documento de Trabajo N° 10, INAP- Universidad de Chile.

Pliscoff C., Ramírez L. y Vásquez H., (2006) "Brecha Digital y Sociedad de la Infomación: Paradojas y Nuevos Paradigmas". Documento de Trabajo N° 8, INAP- Universidad de Chile.

Additional Information

(2007-2010) Founder and leader of the citizen-led campaign 'One Computer per Child' in Chile (www.ucpn.cl)

(2006-2008) Founder of a web community called Conectando a Chile (www.conectandoachile.org) which was mainly focused on the problem of the digital divide and access to ICTs

(2006-2010) I have been interviewed or consulted more than 40 times in TV, radio, newspapers and digital media. Full list provided upon request

Skills

- Advanced English.
- Advanced knowledge of MS Office package
- Advanced knowledge of Content Management Systems for on-line publishing: Joomla, WordPress and Drupal
- Advanced knowledge of qualitative research software QSR N6 y Atlas-ti.
- Intermediate knowledge of statistics package SPSS
- Intermediate knowledge of graphic design and video edition software

References

Professor Don Slater (d.slater@lse.ac.uk) at the Sociology Department, London School of Economics.