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It is common for the President of the United States to open the annual “State of the Union” address by saying that the state of the union is strong, and it is a pleasure for me to introduce this Annual Report by saying that the state of the association is strong. The strength of ICA can be seen in our continually increasing number of members and the ever growing international diversity of our membership. The strength of ICA can be seen in the quality and reach of our journals and the attendance and quality of participation in our conferences – Phoenix added another success to our string of outstanding conferences. The strength of ICA can be seen in the solidity of our financial standing, which owes a lot to the intelligence and foresight of previous Executive Committees and the continuing skillful and wise leadership of our Executive Director. Our strength can be seen in the quality and dedication of our staff, as well as my colleagues on the Executive Committee and the commitment and effectiveness of Committee and Task Force members, and the leadership of our many divisions and interest groups. There is clearly a lot of credit to go around, and it is a pleasure to be able to express my gratitude and thanks to all of those who continue to assure ICA’s success, and who made my role as president this past year an experience I will remember fondly.

In the past year we have continued, in collaboration with our publishing partners, Wiley-Blackwell, to experiment with the incorporation of new technologies in our conference: the continuing improvements in the virtual component of the annual conference – Now, with Twitter!; and in our journals, where we are actively exploring ways to take advantage of new forms of scholarly publication.

A process begun by Barbie Zelizer during her presidential term reached a successful conclusion – and the start of a new era for ICA – with the appointment of Jean Paul Gutierrez as Communication Director, and we are already seeing the fruits of his labors in increasing media awareness of our members’ accomplishments.

The initiative to encourage and co-sponsor regional conferences, a project close to the heart of my immediate predecessor, Francois Cooren, is bearing fruit. We co-sponsored a conference this Spring in Lille, France, and are co-sponsoring one with the Universidad Catolica in Santiago, Chile, in October. Looking farther ahead, another former president, Patrice Buzzanell, is working with colleagues in China on regional conferences we hope to co-sponsor. In recognition of the importance of this initiative the Board voted in May to double the amount of funding we provide as co-sponsors of regional programs.

As these examples show, the efforts of the ICA leadership reflect a collective process of deliberation, engagement and implementation that stretch over more years than any one presidential term. In this spirit I look forward to several more years of productive collaboration with my fellow Executive Committee members and the outstanding ICA staff. ICA members can rest assured that the organization is in good hands.

From the President....

Larry Gross, ICA President
With 2166 attendees from 50 countries (our third largest conference to date), including 949 students and more than 550 first time conference participants, 452 sessions, 14 preconferences, 3,874 tweets, and about 300 ICA members up from their seats dancing (or at least swaying) during Native American artist Jana Mashonee’s extraordinary plenary performance, our 2012 Phoenix conference captured the very best work, creative efforts, technological savvy, and joyous enthusiasm of our ICA community.

Indeed, this year’s conference was not business as usual. Based on feedback from the Boston conference as well as the many discussions regarding the controversies surrounding Phoenix as a conference site, the Phoenix program brought together communication scholars and community members in a diversity of new convention formats. Community Artists and Activists in the Face of (Im)Migration in Arizona brought an art installation to the exhibition hall. Occupy activists participated in a preconference, as did professional journalists, scholars, and educators who addressed global immigration issues. Documentary film makers were part of an extended session on Latino/a education in Arizona, and a special session was devoted to journalists whose reporting puts them at risk in communities throughout the world. Glenn Weyant’s acoustic workshop on music of the borderlands, Awol Koun and Arok Ding from the Arizona Center for the Lost Boys of Sudan, Shawny Anderson’s remarkable students who have traveled globally to communities in crisis, and Stefan Weitz, the Microsoft Director of Search all challenged and enabled attendees to confront, consider, and address the conference theme “Communication and Community.”

This year, the closing plenary also took on a new form and it was a great session. Joe Walther (Michigan State U) expertly set the stage for the topic, a new form of debate, and audience participation. The debate, “The Internet is the End of Communication Theory as We Know It,” featuring Carolyn Marvin (U of Pennsylvania), Jeremy Bailensen (Stanford U), Jack Qi (Chinese U of Hong Kong), and Steve Jones (U of Illinois – Chicago) represented four unique positions and raised several intriguing questions for communication scholars. About 500 people attended this provocative and entertaining session. For those of you who missed this outstanding plenary, it will soon be archived and available on the ICA website.

Several experimental formats were also developed for 26 extended sessions. The response was terrific. Program planners have already begun sharing best practices (e.g., the Escalator Session where researchers received feedback
from established scholars regarding their submitted work was a favorite; A high density session coupled with the opportunity for in-depth discussions of papers also received rave reviews). It will be exciting to see what new formats are tried in London.

There were several other new conference features. The Mobile App was a huge success and the twitter feed in the exhibition hall created lots of interest. Twitter seemed ubiquitous this year. We added hash tags for each division, and more than 3800 tweets from 704 people (about twice the number of tweeters as last year) reached 460,375 twitter followers. The exposure was 2,656,789! The funniest, most clever, and other exceptional tweets received ICA special rewards (read our new Communication Director JP Gutierrez’s article to get all the specifics). I particularly appreciated being credited on Twitter for the fabulous fireworks display we enjoyed on Friday night (apologies to the Phoenix baseball team the Diamondbacks who may have had something to do with it).

We live streamed sessions throughout the day and made them available to virtual conference participants. Special thanks to Wiley-Blackwell Publishers for supporting this evolving effort. The virtual conference had more than 2,450 visits, 1,336 unique visitors, and 10,447 page views. We had 44 papers available for comments and responses; one paper on social media had 130 visitors! The keynote addresses by Lance Bennett (U of Washington), Hans Henrik Holm (Danish School of Journalism), and Sonia Livingstone (London School of Economics) were very well received as were the special workshop presentations by Marshall Scott Poole (U of Illinois) and Alison Bryant (PlayScience LLC). Their presentations will also be archived for ICA member viewing. Visitors to the virtual conference came predominately from the United States but there was also participation from members in India, Germany, the United Kingdom, Israel, Croatia, Netherlands, Japan, Turkey, and Australia. We will be sending a survey to those who registered for the virtual conference; analyzing usage patterns and responses to this survey will help next year’s conference planner François Heinderyckx continue to refine the virtual conference.

Besides adding new features to the conference, several traditions were continued. A series of Masters Classes, featuring Jack McLeod (U of Wisconsin), Mark Knapp (U of Texas – Austin), CC Lee (City U of Hong Kong), Dafna Lemish (Southern Illinois U), James Curran (U of London – Goldsmiths), and Stan Deetz (U of Colorado – Boulder) provided unique opportunities to interact with some of the best known scholars in the field. We had presentations by four of last year’s named ICA fellows Patrice Buzzanell (Purdue U), James Dillard (Pennsylvania State U), Ron Rice (U of California – Santa Barbara), K. Viswanath (Harvard U). Regional receptions highlighted the vibrant communities within our ICA membership and Friday evening’s tequila tasting, reception and tour of the Heard Museum was an ideal way to experience local art, architecture, indigenous culture, and delicious regional foods. To recognize and celebrate our diverse community as well as service to ICA, we added several new categories of ribbons (including language ribbons, editor ribbons, and first time attendee ribbons) and received a few suggestions for other ribbons including “on the job market.” I look forward to seeing next year’s ribbon offerings.

On Saturday ICA President Larry Gross gave his stimulating presidential address, “Fastening our Seatbelts: Turning Crisis into Opportunity” preceding the annual awards ceremony. Receiving awards in recognition of their accomplishments and service to the field and to the organization were:

• New ICA Fellows: Sandra Calvert (Georgetown U, USA), Donald Ellis (U of Hartford, USA), John Hartley (Curtin U, Australia), Steven Jones (U of Illinois – Chicago, USA), Dennis Mumby (U of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, USA), Sandi Smith (Michigan State U, USA)

• Fellows’ Book Award: Janice Radway (Northwestern U, USA) Reading the Romance: Women, Patriarchy, and Popular Literature, University of North Carolina Press

• Aubrey Fisher Mentorship Award: George Barnett (U of California - Davis, USA)

• Steven Chaffee Career Productivity Award: Peter Monge (U of Southern California, USA)

• Outstanding Book Award: Natalie Jomini Stroud (U of Texas, Austin, USA) Niche News: The Politics of News Choice, Oxford University Press.
• Outstanding Article Award: Keith Hampton (Rutgers U, USA), Lauren Sessions Goulet (U of Pennsylvania, USA), Eun Ja (U of Pennsylvania, USA), “Core Networks, Social Isolation, and New Media” Information, Communication & Society, 14:510-28, 2011

• Applied/Public Policy Award: Ellen Wartella, (Northwestern U, USA)

• Young Scholar Award: Paul Leonardi (Northwestern U, USA)

• James Carey Urban Communication Award: Yong Jin Park (U of Michigan, USA)

• Communication Research as an Agent of Change Award: Cees Hamelink (U of Amsterdam, The Netherlands)

Overall, from the things the ICA planning committee could control to those we couldn’t, the Phoenix conference was a great success. There are always challenges in planning such a large international conference and I want to thank the executive committee: Francois Cooren, Larry Gross, François Heinderyckx, Barbie Zelizer, and Patrice Buzzanell, who just finished her term on the board, for their advice and support and all the division planners for their willingness to try new things and work on a very tight time schedule. I am grateful to Patricia Moy (U of Washington), our conference theme chair, who put together a great set of panels and is currently editing a special volume highlighting the best work and provocative ideas from the conference related to our theme.

The conference hotel staff was superb and certainly mother nature deserves our gratitude. When the ICA staff arrived on Tuesday we were met by temperatures of 44 C/112 F. By the time we had the festive opening reception at The Grotto on Thursday night, the temperature was in the high 20s C/80s F and it remained reasonable throughout the conference. But none of this (except perhaps the weather) would have happened without the amazing leadership of our executive director Michael Haley and the equally exceptional staff including Colleen Brady, JP Gutierrez, Emily Karsnak, Sam Luna, and Mike West. It truly takes a community to plan a conference and make an organization work. ICA is indeed fortunate to have such a dedicated, generous, competent, and delightful staff. My heartfelt thanks to them for everything they did and to all our members who made Phoenix such a successful conference. It truly was a celebration of our ICA community.
Looking Forward: 2013 Conference Update

London is a nearly perfect venue for the next ICA Annual Conference. Not only is it one of the most vibrant cities in the world, it also hosts an exceptionally high density of world-class communication departments. The next ICA conference is being organized with the aim to give participants the best of both the city and the scholarship. An exclusive, top-class local arrangements committee was assembled including representatives from Birbeck College, City University, Goldsmiths, Kings College, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and Westminster University. Members of the committee are bursting with creative ideas to give attendees a true London experience. We are taking for granted that delegates who want to visit the landmark tourist attractions will not require our help. Instead, we are trying to create opportunities to experience a more concealed London, one only known or accessible to the initiates.

The theme “challenging communication research” was knowingly left to be interpreted in many different manners. Theme Chair Leah Lievrouw (U of California – Los Angeles) will make sure that the theme brings us to new, uncharted territories that properly challenge our ways. Plenary sessions are being planned with the aim to feature outstanding personalities whose presentations will resonate with the British context of communication research and its history and will contribute to the development of the field at large.
The conference will take place at Hilton Metropole, in the North of central London, on Edgware Road. If you are into maps, the GPS coordinates are 51.5192°, -0.1697° or 51° 31’ 9.4152” N; 0° 10’ 10.8551” W. It is very conveniently served by four metro lines and is just around the block from Paddington train station with express service to Heathrow, London’s main international airport (Europe’s busiest airport), and also to Oxford. Within a ten minute walk are Hyde Park and Oxford Street, Little Venice and Madame Tussaud’s Museum. The British Library is just four metro stations away, next to St-Pancras station where high-speed trains offer direct service via the Channel tunnel to Brussels (in 2 hours) and Paris (2 hours 20 minutes). The room rate negotiated by ICA Executive Director Michael Haley is 115 GBP (about 180 USD) which, for a Hilton in central London in June is simply incredible, not to mention that it includes full breakfast and, possibly, access to the internet.

The conference venue will be somewhat challenging because we will be using every single conference room in the hotel, and those are distributed in different areas, thus making the task of going from one room to another a little more tedious than usual. Together with the Hilton staff, we are preparing innovative and efficient ways to remedy this. A large part of the conference rooms will have undergone a major refurbishing by then, and many of them have windows. The lobby of the hotel will also be completely overhauled.

Though the overall format of the an ICA conference tends to be fairly stable, new concepts or formats are tried every year, largely based on the feedback received in the postconference evaluation survey. Because the survey is still underway at the time of publishing the current issue of the Newsletter, it is not yet possible to list all changes and innovations that will be implemented in London. It is very likely that the Master Class format will be less limited to research and expanded to teaching and pedagogy.
ICA, as an organization continues to be a very healthy association. ICA’s membership is strong with approximately 4,300 members per year. The last fiscal year’s finances are sound and we are in our third full year of owning and operating the new office building. 2010-2011 saw some recovery over our investment portfolio.

The new ICA website continues to be fine tuned. All input is welcome as we try to make this a useful and essential tool for the ICA membership.

January saw the start of our new Communication Director, John Paul (JP) Gutierrez. We are excited about his arrival and he has incorporated well into the office team. We welcome any suggestions as to how to increase the reach of our members and the exposure of your research. You will notice a number of social networking efforts on our website and at this year’s conference. Most of these are initiated and directed by JP. He has also begun to have success in the more traditional media outlets. I encourage you to discuss with him how members of your division or interest group can use his assistance to further the reach of communication research. Also feel free to invite him to your business meeting in Phoenix!

ICA continues the process of encouraging members to choose fewer journals to receive by mail. Most members who have renewed have elected to limit their mail subscriptions. However, many members remain unaware of this option in spite of this being given to them on several opportunities. We are also “going green” at the ICA board meeting by not producing the board packets and instead, conducting the meeting through visuals from a web link.

ICA’s green effort continues at the Phoenix conference by encouraging people to select non-print items for their conference program. We are launching our first mobile application for the conference and are making this the first choice in how to receive the program. For Phoenix, approximately 55% of attendees chose to have the printed program, 25% selected the flash drive, and 20% selected our new mobile app. Food and beverage choices in Phoenix were made to minimize waste. All members are encouraged to use the recycle bins provided throughout the conference venue. We are continuing to explore options that will increase our green efforts, yet remain cost effective.

The overall health of the association is solid and we will continue to focus on improvements and innovation in the coming year.

All members are encouraged to contact the ICA staff with any questions or suggestions.
The highlight of last year was the first regional reception convened at the annual ICA conference, held in Boston. From personal reports and interactions with those who attended the reception, it is clear that a regional reception has several benefits. First, it allows newcomers to form professional relationships with others from the region, some of whom they may not have met otherwise. Second, it helps ICA newcomers to find allies and friends with whom they can discover and navigate the complex annual conference, and with whom they can practice their English, the dominant language of our conference. Third, the annual regional reception has the potential to further diversify ICA’s membership in that regional members feel more invited to engage directly with ICA staff and leadership. In future conferences, it might be useful to explore hosting not only a reception, but also regional workshops or even panels as a way to bring the work of Americas members to others’ attention.
ICA Fellows

Six New Scholars Selected

The International Communication Association recently named six new Fellows at its 2012 Annual Conference in Phoenix, Ariz., USA. The 2012 Fellows include Sandra Calvert, Georgetown U; Donald Ellis, U of Hartford; John Hartley, Curtin U; Steven Jones, U of Illinois - Chicago; Dennis Mumby, U of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; and Sandi Smith, Michigan State U.

Fellow status in ICA recognizes distinguished scholarly contributions to the broad field of communication. The Fellows Nominating Committee considers applicants based on their documented record of scholarly achievement, service to ICA, and socially or professionally significant service to other publics such as business, government, and education.

Sandra Calvert is Professor of Psychology and Director of the Children's Digital Media Center at Georgetown U. Calvert is prolific, multitalented, and one of the leading scholars of media and children in the world. She is a much-sought-after consultant for media programming. She has published on an extensive range of topics, including children's attention to television, their learning of educational messages, their development as consumers, and their identity and language use in blogs.

Donald Ellis is Professor of Communication at the U of Hartford. Ellis has made and continues to make outstanding contributions to our understanding of the role communication plays in group processes and ethnopolitical conflict, has authored six books, and has received numerous faculty fellowships. He was editor of Communication Theory and served as an ICA Division chair.

John Hartley is Professor of Cultural Science and Director of the Centre for Culture and Technology at Curtin U in Australia. Hartley has had an extraordinary scholarly influence and productivity, he has published 20 books and more than 200 papers and book chapters, including the seminal, coauthored book Reading Television, a master-builder of successful institutions in the UK and in Australia, as well as founding and editing the International Journal of Cultural Studies.

Steven Jones is Distinguished Professor of Communication at U of Illinois - Chicago. Jones has been hugely influential in shaping the academic study of new media and the internet within the ICA and through forming the Association of Internet Researchers and editing New Media and Society. He has authored, edited, or coedited 10 books and 150 chapters, articles and essays. He is grappling intellectually with the huge cultural changes taking place through new communication technologies. Steve Jones has a long record of contribution to ICA, including serving as theme chair for the 2011 conference.
ICA conference attendees enjoy opening reception hors d'oeuvres. Photo, Jake Gillespie
Dennis Mumby is Professor and Chair of the Department of Communication Studies at U of North Carolina - Chapel Hill. Mumby has crafted a body of work that makes a sustained and broadly recognized contribution to communication with emphasis on organizational communication. He turned the field’s functionalist orientation on its head, questioned many of the sacred beliefs about organizational communication, and laid out the power of narratives and of hidden controls in our daily work lives.

Sandi Smith is Professor of Communication and Director of the Health and Risk Communication Center at Michigan State U. Smith is widely known as a leading and prolific scholar blending interpersonal communication, persuasion, and media effects research. Her research is strongly rooted in societal problems, especially in the health domain. A recipient of the B. Aubrey Fisher and the Outstanding Health Communication Scholar awards, Smith is an outstanding mentor and teacher as well as scholar. She has chaired the ICA Interpersonal Division.
Children, Adolescents, & the Media (CAM)

Chair: Amy Jordan (U of Pennsylvania, USA)
Vice Chair: Erica Scharrer (U of Massachusetts – Amherst, USA)

Membership Information

As of May 2012, CAM has more than 250 members representing more than two dozen countries. In addition to having members from academia, CAM includes members from such diverse organizations as the World Health Organization, MediaKidz Research & Consulting, the Joan Ganz Cooney Center, and the Children’s Media Development Foundation. Our membership also reflects a key goal for the CAM Division: providing junior scholars with the opportunity to meet, interact with, and develop collaborative projects with senior scholars. Approximately one third of our members are enrolled in doctoral programs, one third is “new” scholars, and one third is established scholars. They have an opportunity to meet and mingle at the CAM Business Meeting and Reception, which this year will be co-sponsored by Taylor & Francis (publisher of the Journal of Children and Media) and the Annenberg Public Policy Center.

CAM Awards

This year CAM will present its inaugural awards in two categories: Top Dissertation and Senior Scholar. The descriptions of the awards are below:

Top Dissertation Award

The award honors a dissertation in the Children, Adolescents, and Media (CAM) field, completed (defended) in the two calendar years preceding the nomination deadline. The award is open to ICA members. Membership in the CAM division is encouraged but not required.

A cash award will be given in the amount of $500. Dissertations can be nominated twice. (In other words, if a dissertation is nominated in one year and does not receive the award, it can only be nominated again one additional time.)

The review committee judges each nominated dissertation on several criteria including: the importance of the problem/topic it addresses, the strength of evidence it presents, and the significance of its conclusions. The committee also will consider the overall contribution of the research to the field and the relationship of the submission to the mission of the division.

Children, Adolescents and Media
Senior Scholar Award

The Children, Adolescents, and Media (CAM) division is an intellectual forum for academics from all over the world who study the role
of media in the lives of children and young people. The Senior Scholar Award recognizes an established scholar who has made significant contributions to the development and status of such scholarship. A successful nomination will have made clear, coherent, and sustained contributions to the advancement of Children, Adolescents, and Media scholarship over time. The Award is open to scholars from different backgrounds and disciplinary orientations and who are informed by a variety of theoretical and empirical approaches. The Award is open to ICA members. Membership in the CAM division is encouraged but not required.

This year’s awards committee was comprised of the following individuals: Chair Erica Scharrer (U of Massachusetts - Amherst), Sahara Byrne (Cornell U), Sharon Mazzarala (James Madison U), and Amy Nathanson (Ohio State U). Esther Rozendaal (U of Amsterdam) was selected as the 2012 winner of the Top Dissertation Award, and Dafna Lemish (Southern Illinois U – Carbondale) was selected as the 2012 winner of the Senior Scholar Award.

Submissions and Acceptance

The Children, Adolescents, and Media Division had 97 paper and panel submissions for the 2012 conference in Phoenix. We were able to accept roughly half (n=51). At the 2011 CAM Business Meeting, attendees voted to increase the number of papers accepted by CAM by eliminating the respondent role and by having at least one high density session. Other changes to this year’s program included the extended session, which will bring together members of government and non-government institutions with media scholars to discuss the role of media in children’s lives during times of war and crisis. We also selected fewer panel proposals, in part because we had fewer submissions, but also because we wanted to include more competitive papers. The panels were selected by the CAM Panel Selection Committee: Chair Lauren Reichart Smith (U of Alabama), Vikki Katz (Rutgers U), Erynom Osei-Hwere (West Texas A&M U), Keith Roe (Catholic U – Leuven), and Leonie Rutherford (Deakin U). The papers were judged by a pool of 63 reviewers (each paper received 3 reviews, each reviewer received approximately 5 papers to judge).

Future Goals

Our current secretary, Susannah Stern (U of San Diego), has been working on a CAM website that will include information about the division and its members. We hope to finish this in time for the 2012 Phoenix meeting, so that it can be unveiled to the CAM membership.

Additionally, we hope to increase the CAM endowment by encouraging members to make one-time or yearly donations directly through this site. The endowment will be used for the Dissertation Award, and, if funding allows, will underwrite a new award (to be determined by the membership).

Communication & Technology

Chair: James Katz (Rutgers U, USA)
Vice Chair: Kwan Min Lee (U of Southern California, USA)

The Communication and Technology (CAT) division of ICA continues to grow in numbers as well as vitality, both in the US and abroad. We had great attendance in our division’s sessions as we introduced and publicized a strong discussion orientation. In our business meeting in Boston, we awarded top paper prizes to the three highest scoring papers involving a faculty member and three highest scoring papers authored exclusively by students. The second Top Faculty paper came from outside of the United States (Israel), while the first and third Top Faculty papers were from the United States.

We received 249 paper submissions and 11 panel proposals for the Phoenix conference. We accepted 133 papers (53%) and four panels (36%) for programming at ICA 2012. We had two reviewers (at least one faculty reviewer) for each submission. The final accepted papers were decided based on the quantitative review results. We had a total of 244 reviewers, with 78 directly and indirectly being identified as graduate students or non-PhDs. Based on their e-mail
addresses and job affiliation, we identified 77 out of the 244 reviewers as being from outside the United States, i.e., a total of 32%. We created 27 sessions based on the 124 accepted papers and a poster session accommodating another 9 accepted papers. Among the sessions having a moderator, 9 were chaired by scholars from outside the United States.

CAT also held the annual competition for the best dissertation in communication technology. We received 17 nominations for the prestigious Herbert S. Dordick Prize award. The candidate pool was concentrated in North America and all 17 nominees had been awarded PhD degrees in the United States. Each of the nominees was carefully reviewed by two reviewers. Reviewers included a past winner of the Dordick award and other researchers representing diverse backgrounds academically and geographically. We had four judges from the US, and three from the Netherlands. Care was taken to minimize potential conflicts of interest. Judges were given general instructions to assign scores (0-100, with descriptors of the level of excellence required for 100, 90, 80, and so forth) to each nominee; reviewers were entitled to exercise their own judgment about how to apply the criteria in performing their evaluations. In addition to the scoring system, judges were also given the option of recommending the final winner (1 = winner, 2 = no). Each nominee’s scores from two judges as well as their status of being recommended as the winner (or not) were considered. The nominee who received the two recommendations as the winner was chosen as the final winner of Dordick Prize award. The winner was awarded her PhD degree in the United States.

As evident from our activities this year, CAT is not only active but also truly international in scope. We expect a greater international presence after Singapore and due to the prospect of London’s meeting next year. Our current self-studies based on keywords of interest to CAT members and analysis of their affiliations with other ICA units continue to give us a better idea of our membership, including its internationalization, shaping our future work in important ways.

Communication History

Chair: Jefferson Pooley (Muhlenberg College, USA)
Philip Lodge (Edinburgh Napier U, UK)

The Communication History Interest Group was officially created as of the annual ICA meeting in San Francisco in May of 2007, after the requisite petitioning and approval processes. As of November 1 of 2007, the Communication History Interest Group had 116 members. Our number of members grew steadily until the fall of 2009, when it peaked at 236 members. After the ‘purge’ of non-renewing members in February of 2010, our number of members went down to 164. As of April 2011, the Interest Group’s membership stands at 217. As of May 2012 our membership is 225.

The Interest Group elected a new incoming Vice-Chair in the fall of 2011. Richard Popp (U of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, USA) will begin his service as Vice Chair at the conclusion of the 2012 ICA meeting in Phoenix, when Philip Lodge will become Chair.

The Interest Group created a new website in the spring of 2011: http://communicationhistory.org/

After the paper submission and review process was completed, the Communication History Interest Group recognized two papers with awards in 2012.

Maureen Ryan (Northwestern U, USA) was awarded the top paper (“Recipe for Failure: Gender and the Creation of the Home Computer Market”) and Annie Rudd (Columbia U) was awarded the top student paper (“Likeness made public: on cartes de visite, circulation, and the oldness of “new media”).

The Interest Group sponsored a preconference for
Phoenix 2012: Historiography as Intervention.

The next year will find the Communication History Interest Group looking to grow. Since Singapore 2010, our membership has steadily increased. We continue to work on expanding our membership outside of North American and Western Europe, and will be planning an international outreach campaign in our Business Meeting in Phoenix. Internationalizing the group continues to be a challenge, though CHIG is making progress. Annual Report to the International Communication Association. For the ICA Board Meeting,

Communication Law & Policy

Chair: Peter Humphreys (U of Manchester, UK)
Vice Chair: Laura Stein (U of Texas – Austin, USA)

In early December 2011, 82 papers and five panels were submitted for competitive review to the Communication Law and Policy division for the May 2012 conference in Phoenix. For individual submissions this represents a slight drop on last year’s (Boston’s) 94 – which was exceptional (see table below) - but it still represents a 16% increase on the average for the four years preceding that, and it is about 24% higher than the average for the four US conferences prior to the Boston one. The number of session proposals has remained constant over the last five years (five).

Forty-two papers were accepted for presentation in panels and the interactive poster session at the May 2012 ICA conference, along with two panels of the five submitted. We had strong panel submissions again this year, as well as a rich range of paper topics.

Of the 82 papers submitted, 25 (30%) were student papers. Of the 42 papers accepted, 14 (33.3% - exactly one third) were student papers.

Two Top Student Paper Award

“The Development of Community Radio in Britain Under New Labour” By Salvatore Scifo (U of Westminster, UK) and,

“Diffusion of the New Video Delivery Technology: Is There Redlining in the IPTV Service Market” by Sung Wook Ji (Indiana U, USA)

Runner Up Student Papers

“Exploring Privacy on Online Social Networks in Civil Cases” by Emily Dolan, (Syracuse U, USA); and, “Citizens United, Issue Adds and Radio...An Analysis Fortified with Data!” by Christopher Terry (U of Wisconsin – Madison, USA) and Mitchell Bard (U of Wisconsin – Madison, USA)

The Top Faculty Paper

“Access to Information in the European Court of Human Rights” by Cheryl Bishop (Quinnipiac U, USA)

Runner Ups

“Digitality: How a Sea Change in Technology Has Led to Obsolescence in Current Copyright Law” By J. Patrick McGrail (Jacksonville State U, USA) By and Ewa McGrail (Georgia State U, USA)

“Network Control: US Radio Policy in Latin America 1912-1917” By Rita Zajacz (U of Iowa, USA)”


Overview of Paper and Panel Submissions to the CL&P Division

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Papers submitted</th>
<th>Panel Proposals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003 (San Diego)</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004 (New Orleans)</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005 (New York)</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>2006 (Dresden)</td>
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<td>2007 (San Francisco)</td>
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<td>2010 (Singapore)</td>
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<td>2011 (Boston)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011 (Phoenix)</td>
<td>82</td>
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Internationalization

Compared to last year’s conference in Boston, the CL&P division had a disappointing level of participation from outside the United States, as reflected in the number of authors of paper submissions, the authors of papers, and the paper topics.

Of the 82 papers submitted, only 18 had authors at institutions from outside the US. Of the 18 non-US submitters, only six were from Asia/South-East Asia, none of which were ranked high enough by reviewers for acceptance. Of the 42 papers accepted, only 8 had authors at institutions outside the US (4 were from the UK, one from Canada, one from Australia, one from Germany, and one from Poland).

Against this, however, one of the two panel proposals accepted was from outside the United States and it had a markedly international composition. One of the two best student paper winners this year was an Italian doctoral student at the University of Westminster, UK (this was purely on merit). The pool of 55 volunteer paper and panel reviewers included 16 scholars from outside the U.S.

There is a degree of internationalisation of the officers of the division. Peter Humphreys of Manchester University, UK, who served as vice-chair during 2009-2010 and chair during 2010-2011, continued to serve as division chair during 2011-2012. At Phoenix, Vice Chair Laura Stein will take over chairing the division, but her successor as vice chair will be another non-US scholar, namely Seamus Simpson of the University of Salford, the winning candidate (of two) in this year’s elections.

Nonetheless, the verdict on internationalisation would appear to be that there is a long way to go. There is a need to encourage more submissions from beyond the ‘Anglo-Saxon sphere’, and more competitive submissions from Asia/South East Asia. Although the division’s officers continue to display a degree of internationalisation, the dominance of the ‘Anglo-Saxon sphere’ is quite evident here too.

The C. Edwin Baker Award

During 2011-12, the Chair of the Communication Law and Policy Division was responsible for the 2012 C. Edwin Baker Award for the Advancement of Scholarship on Media, Markets and Democracy (this responsibility is rotated annually between Communication Law and Policy and Philosophy of Communication, whose Chair performed the function in 2010-2011). The 2011-2012 selection committee was composed of Professors James Curran (U of London, UK), Dan Hallin (U of California - San Diego, USA), David Hesmondhalgh (U of Leeds, UK), and Monroe Price (U of Pennsylvania, USA), Laurie Ouellette (Chairs of the Philosophy of Communication Division) Peter Humphreys (Chair of the Communication Law and Policy Divisions), and Dr. Nancy Baker. From a field of strong candidates, the committee chose Professor Robert W. McChesney, Gutgsell Endowed Professor, Department of Communication, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, in recognition of his major scholarship in this area. The Baker Award was established in 2010 through an endowed fund created, with the assistance of Professor Baker’s sister Dr Nancy Baker, from the estate of Professor C Edwin Baker (1947-2009), who was the Nicholas F. Gallichio Professor of Law and Communication at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, and is intended to honor the enormous contribution made by Professor Baker to communications scholarship.

The Law and Policy Website

During 2011-12, Vice Chair Laura Stein developed the Communication Law and Policy website.

Environmental Communication

Chair: Richard J. Doherty (U of Illinois – Chicago, USA)

The new Environmental Communication Interest Group began with its first meeting in 2011 at ICA, Boston, where 40 people attended to
Ethnicity & Race in Communication

Chair: Roopali Mukherjee (U of California – Santa Barbara, USA)
Vice Chair: Miyase Christensen (Karlstad U, SWEDEN)

Trends in membership numbers: ERIC remains one of the younger and smaller divisions in ICA. At last count, the Division has 189 members but with the registration deadline for the 2012 Phoenix conference approaching, we expect this number to increase some as returning members renew their membership and new members with papers accepted for the Phoenix conference join the Division. Soon after the 2011 Boston conference, ERIC’s new Board (2011-2013) initiated a membership drive, publicizing the Division through discipline-specific list-serves and social media networks, and by circulating announcements, calls, and reminders via professional email networks and virtual notice boards. The new Board also decided that the Division’s online profile deserved a thorough overhaul. Thus, we designed a new website [http://www.icahdq.org/divisions/eric/index.html], redesigned and extended our weblog [http://ericdivision.wordpress.com/], and established Facebook and Twitter accounts for the Division. ERIC’s new co-secretaries, Aymar Jean Christian (U of Pennsylvania, USA) and Khadijah White (U of Pennsylvania, USA) provided technical savvy and creative input in the design, execution, and launch of these online platforms. Their work has helped to enhance the virtual profile and presence of the Division. While we have not yet seen a satisfactory uptick in membership numbers, these efforts were a necessary step toward those goals.

Trends in membership diversity: ERIC remains one of the most ethnically diverse Divisions of ICA, its members representing a variety of underrepresented US minorities as well as international scholars based in Europe, Asia, and Latin America. Among its successes this year, the Division’s program includes a number of ‘firsts’ highlighting the diversity among our members. For example, among the Division’s ‘top paper’ winners, we were able to invite and subsidize travel and registration costs for a South African student scholar who will attend ICA for the first time this year. And the Division’s extended session entitled “Battleground Arizona” brings together an international roster of scholars working on both sides of the US/Mexico border.

Since its inception, the Division has straddled twin constituencies – US scholars working on race and ethnicity in communication on the one hand, and European diaspora and migration scholars on the other. These constituencies have worked well together but, as the Division continues to grow, the membership may demand – and deserve – deeper introspection into the intellectual and
political dynamics of the current somewhat bifurcated scholarly configuration of the Division. The current Board is committed to pursuing a variety of ways to addressing these cleavages among the membership, with a strategic emphasis on nominating members of underrepresented groups within the US as well as non-white scholars from outside the US to the Division’s leadership.

Past year’s activities (including the annual conference): At the Division’s last Business Meeting in Boston, members expressed grave concerns about the political implications of the 2012 conference location in Phoenix, Arizona. Citing the dangers of racial profiling faced by non-whites in Arizona, and expressing chagrin at having to support local businesses that may benefit from new regressive immigration laws, some members proposed a general boycott of the 2012 conference. Other argued, in contrast, for a range of programming initiatives that would address the immigration climate in Arizona head-on and offer opportunities for dialogue with local activists and academics working in the trenches of current immigration battles in Arizona.

The Division’s 2012 program features a number of events reflecting these concerns. ERIC’s extended session entitled “Battleground Arizona” features work by US and Mexican communication scholars and focuses on issues of migrant rights, border cultures, xenophobia and ethnic violence. In addition, as one of ICA’s extended theme sessions in Phoenix, the Division will host a screening and discussion of the new film, “Precious Knowledge,” which tells the story of recent attacks on the Mexican American Studies curriculum within the Tucson public school system. The Division, working with five other ICA Divisions, also took the lead in organizing a daylong preconference entitled, “Borders, Migration, Community: Arizona and Beyond,” helping to invite an international roster of immigration scholars, independent filmmakers, and border activists to participate.

Prizes awarded: The Division will award six top paper awards at the Phoenix conference – three for the highest-ranked student papers and three for the highest-ranked faculty submissions. Two of our six winners this year – Shepherd Mpofu (U of the Witwatersrand, SOUTH AFRICA) and Christine Lohmeier (U of Munich, GERMANY) – are non-US scholars. All winners will be awarded travel grants of varying denominations, and in addition, the three student winners receive conference registration waivers.

Plans for the year ahead: ERIC’s plans for the year ahead will focus on growing the membership, and pursuing efforts to include members of underrepresented groups within the US as well as non-white scholars from outside the US within the Division’s leadership.

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Feminist Scholarship

Chair: Radhika Gajjala
(Bowling Green State U, USA)
Vice Chair: Paula Gardner (OCAD U, CANADA)

The planner for Feminist studies division this year is Paula Gardner and she has put together an excellent agenda for us. Below I list the various details and numbers regarding paper and panel acceptances and sessions being offered through the division.

The Teresa Award Winner this year is Dr. Patrice Buzzanell (Purdue U, USA). We are extremely pleased to announce that the 2012 recipient of the Teresa Award for the Advancement of Feminist Scholarship is Patrice Buzzanell. She is internationally recognized as a pioneer in the field of organizational communication, where she introduced and developed feminist theory and research concerning gender and career and work-life processes. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including, but certainly not limited to, the ICA Fellow Award in 2011, the NCA Francine Meritt Award for scholarship that contributes to the lives of women in the field of communication, and OSCLG’s Teacher-Mentor award. She also has applied feminist values to the key leadership positions she has held in several professional organizations, including as president of ICA and OSCLG in the past, and currently as president of the Council of Communication Associations and chair of ICA’s finance committee.

We received a total number of 75 paper submissions and 15 panel submissions. We accepted 13 panels and 24 papers allowing for the programming of. Paula and I thank all the reviewers for their invaluable work with
The games special interest group is hovering on the edge of 200 members, nearly enough to get to regular division status. Our membership is more comprised of junior faculty and students than most, with a healthy dose of international scholars. Games research is highly international, with the strongest bases being in North America and Europe (especially Northern Europe).

During the past year, we have worked to enhance the services we provide to our members, particularly our international members. Efforts to this end have included cooperation with the ICA central staff and Blackwell to provide live “streaming” online broadcasts of selected conference sessions (first implemented at the 2011 conference in Boston and to be repeated at the 2012 conference in Phoenix), the creation of an information “Trans-Atlantic Game Talks” series hosted via Google’s “hangout” teleconference tool in cooperation with the European Communication Research and Education Association’s Digital Games Temporary Working Group, and the development of a new and regularly updated web site (http://icagames.org), Facebook site (http://www.facebook.com/icagames), and Twitter account (@icagames). We hope to continue to expand these and other activities in the coming year to add to the value that the group provides its members, particularly in the traditionally less active time between conferences and paper competitions.

Vice chair James D. Ivory managed the group’s paper competition for the 2012 conference with direction from chair Dmitri Williams. We received 78 paper submissions for the 2012 annual conference, and 45 papers were accepted for an acceptance rate of 57.7%. Most papers received three reviews from a group of 81 volunteer reviewers. In addition to programming the accepted papers, the group’s top four papers by reviewer scores will be recognized formally and have been assigned to a dedicated “top papers” session.

The Top Paper for the division was: “Bold Red Line: Media, Patriarchy and National Identity in Saudi Arabia”; Marwan Kraidy (U of Pennsylvania, USA), and Sara Mourad; (U of Pennsylvania, USA).
Travel Grants

Two travel grants were awarded this year to the authors of the top two papers:

Top Faculty Paper

David Gudelunas, Fairfield U, USA. “Generational Differences Among Gay Men and Lesbians: Social and Media Change.”

Top Student Paper

Elena Martinez, California State U - San Bernardino, USA. “Sperm Stealers! ...And other Representations of Lesbian Parenting across Television.”

Ms. Martinez was also awarded a $250 grant from the Larry Gross Travel Fund.

Global Communication & Social Change

Chair: Antonio La Pastina (Texas A & M U, USA)
Vice Chair: Rashmi Luthra (U of Michigan-Dearborn, USA)

The May 2012 annual conference of the International Communication Association in Phoenix marks the end of the Division’s fifth year.

Divisional membership is 452 (up by 14% from 397 in 2010). The budget for FY 2012 is $1,893 (up by 18% from $1,990 in FY 2010). For the 2012 conference, 16 panel submissions (down 53% from 34 in 2011) and 158 papers (down by 10% from 176 in 2011) were received. Seventytwo papers were programmed for 2012 for an acceptance rate of 46 percent. Four panel sessions were programmed for 2011 for an acceptance rate of 25 percent. Four papers were programmed for the virtual conference for 2012.

At its 2011 Business Meeting, the Division recognized its top paper winners. A nomination’s committee was formed to recruit two members to run for Secretary. Joe Khalil (Northwestern U-Qatar, QATAR) and Yael Warshel (American U, USA) agreed to run for office. In late 2011, the division was notified that Joe Khalil won the election and will assume the role of secretary in 2012.

Awards

The Division recognizes three Top Paper awards, one of which shall be a student, each year. In 2011 Top Paper Awards were given to: Rebeca Pop, U of Oklahoma, USA

“A Theoretical Model for the WikiLeaks Phenomenon,” Itay Gabay, U of Wisconsin-Madison, USA

“The Aggressor as a Witness: The Case of Breaking the Silence,” Sangeet Kumar, U of Iowa, USA


Conference registration waivers and $200 in conference expenses were awarded to three top students: Rebeca Pop (U of Oklahoma, USA), Itay Gabay (U of Wisconsin-Madison, USA), and Raihan Jamil (Purdue U, USA).

Health Communication

Chair: Monique Mitchell Turner (George Washington U, USA)
Vice Chair: Mohan Dutta (Purdue U, USA)

The Division has 462 members representing 32 countries. For the 2012 conference, the Division received 292 papers (154 were accepted) and 12 panel proposals (5 were accepted). The division had 75 reviewers, each reading approximately 12 papers. The
ICA student volunteers help out at conference registration. Photo, Jake Gillespie

Chair: Elly Konijn (VU-University, NETHERLANDS)  
Vice Chair: Prabu David (Washington State U, USA)

The conference in Boston attracted an extremely high submission rate leading to an overall acceptance rate of only about 40% of all work submitted to ICA. To put this in perspective, one should realize that the overall increase of submissions to ICA was 31% (compared to Chicago). The submission increase rate in InfoSys was even larger. For the Boston conference, InfoSys reviewed 166 submissions (84 full paper submissions, 76 extended abstracts, 6 panel proposals), while 83 have been accepted (all included). Thus, the acceptance rate of InfoSys is not that bad given this year’s acceptance rate of ICA in general. Interestingly, the number of accepted papers seems pretty constant throughout the years. In comparison: ICA Chicago: 121 submissions, 80 accepted; ICA Singapore: almost 110 submissions, accepted about 80 papers (all included).

The Information Systems Division continues a commitment to maximizing scholarly interactions between attendees to the annual conference by programming competitive papers in High Density (HD) sessions. The HD format allows for six-eight different pieces of scholarship to be presented in a single session, with the authors delivering brief verbal presentations prior to interacting with interested attendees at poster exhibitions which further explain the research. In addition, we have four top papers (three faculty and one student) programmed in the “Best of Info Systems” panel (one top paper authored by scholars from U of Zurich). Depending on the ratio of submissions and allotted time slots, the division programs (a) panel session(s) on a specific theme. In Boston, we programmed two panel sessions (on “Automatic analysis of affect in online communication” and “Psychophysiology regarding media and mind interaction”). Furthermore, we assigned 9 posters to the general poster session. Finally, we had four papers programmed in the virtual overlay focusing on online communication.

The strong international representation of papers in the division continues, with about one-third of all scholarship presented including authors from outside the United States. As vice chair, being responsible for the division’s Programming for the Boston conference, I have put a lot of effort into recruiting a high number of international, non-US division members for paper reviewers. Furthermore, we attracted a high number of non-US chairs to increase their visibility. I have turned over my database of these reviewers, including all related reports and documents, to the current Vice-Chair Prabu David.

At the business meeting, we have announced official elections for the position of Secretary/Webmaster (which was filled by volunteers thus far). Two candidates offered their nomination. Interestingly, the election favoured the European candidate over the candidate from the USA. This

Elly Konijn, Chair  
Information Systems
may reflect the increasing strength of the international position of our division. Jolanda Veldhuis, VU University Amsterdam, will therefore act as the division’s secretary as of May 2012. Furthermore, it is important to note that the business meeting the Bylaws of the Information Systems Division have been discussed, reworked and finally have been voted for with a positive outcome. Thus, InfoSys now has its own bylaws, finally.

Finally, at next year’s business meeting, we need to recruit candidates for the position of vice chair to be elected next November. After my term, the current vice chair (i.e., Prabu David) will then become the chair. Given our large international membership and a relatively high rate of female scholars in our division, a female non-US candidate would be favoured.

**Instructional & Developmental Communication**

*Chair: Rebecca M. Chory (West Virginia U, USA)*  
*Vice Chair: Brandi N. Frisby (U of Kentucky, USA)*

**Submissions/Acceptances**

4 panels submitted, 1 accepted (25% acceptance rate)  
50 competitive papers submitted, 25 accepted (50% acceptance rate)

**46 Reviewers**

32 faculty (69%), 14 graduate students (31 %)  
35 US reviewers (76%), 11 non-US reviewers (24%)  
8 countries, 3 continents represented

**Awards**

4 Top Paper Awards (certificates only) to 6 scholars (4 US scholars, 2 non-US scholars)

1 Graduate Teaching Assistant Award to 1 student (1 US scholar)  
1 Dissertation Award to 1 faculty (1 US scholar)  
7 travel grants awarded to 7 scholars, 3 students and 4 faculty, 7 US scholars ($700 from IDD plus $300 from ICA + 3 Conference Registration Waivers)

**Internationalization**

**Reviewers**

8 non-US countries, 3 continents represented  
11 non-US reviewers (24% of total)

**Awards**

2 Top Paper Awards (Singapore and the Netherlands)

**Authors**

25 authors from 11 non-US countries, 4 continents

**Other Activities**

Re-designed and administered graduate student teaching and dissertation awards

Created an extended session on media literacy that included our top panel submission and top media literacy papers to appeal to a diverse audience, include multiple scholars at all levels, and to address a timely and relevant topic

**Division plans**

Increase cross-division collaboration  
Reimagine and expand conceptualization of instructional communication (i.e., providing instruction outside of a traditional classroom)  
Increase efforts to get more graduate student involvement.
Intercultural Communication

Chair: Steve Mortenson (Delaware U, USA)
Vice Chair: Hee Sun Park (Michigan State U, USA)

The IC Division voted in the 2011 ICA election to approve changes to bylaws discussed at the business meetings in Singapore 2010 and Boston 2012.

Membership of the division this year represents over 40 countries/territories about the same as last year.

There are 13 sessions programmed for the 2012 annual conference, including one panel and one interactive session. Twenty percent of conference paper reviewers were colleagues from non US universities. Conference presentations represent scholars from universities in Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong, Turkey, Romania, China, Finland, Germany, Vienna, Japan, Denmark, Egypt, Lithuania, Estonia, and Malaysia.

Of the 4 top-papers—two are authored/co-authored by a scholar from non US university at this conference. For the five student papers accepted for presentation all are provided a small travel grant matched by ICA, so at least one presenter may attend the annual conference in Phoenix.

2011 Activities

In the 2010 conference, we awarded 4 top paper awards. Seventeen members were present for the interest group meeting. Recruitment was discussed and it was agreed that we focus on maintaining our international ties and that we would email International Association of Language and Social Psychology (IALSP) members to encourage them to join ICA and ICIG.

We have been working on a new website for the ICIG, as well as how to make use of Facebook and Twitter.

Internationalization

We have continued our efforts to maintain our international membership by associating with IALSP. We will continue to support an IALSP session at ICA conferences.

2012 Plans

This year we had 36 conference submissions and were able to schedule 11 individual papers plus one symposium. We will also award 3 top paper awards (including 1 student papers). We will also be trialing the new extended session conference format, as well as our two top papers being presented virtually as well as face-to-face. We will continue to recruit ICA members to join the ICIG, as well as recruit members of the AASP and the IALSP to join ICA. We will also continue to work on the ICIG website and how we can make more use of social media to maintain connections outside of conferences.

Intergroup Communication

Chair: Liz Jones (Griffith U, AUSTRALIA)
Vice Chair: Howard Giles (U of California - Santa Barbara, USA)

Membership

As of we have a total of 115 members and thus our membership is steady. At least 44 of those members are international members, based on their university or professional affiliation (34% of our membership).

2011 Activities

There were a total of 108 papers submitted to the Interpersonal Division, including two that were reassigned from other divisions. Of the 108 papers submitted, 41 (37.96%) were accepted for regular paper presentations, 14 (12.96%) were accepted for the special extended session, and
3 were accepted (2.77%) as interactive papers (posters). The remaining 50 papers (46.30%) were rejected.

The Interpersonal Division’s special extended session is on the topic of interpersonal communication, connections, and culture. The description of this session is:

This session highlights research on interpersonal communication and culture, defined broadly. The papers include both research that specifically examines interpersonal communication and culture and traditional interpersonal communication topics studied in cultures that have not been historically prominent in the interpersonal division of ICA. One goal of this panel is to facilitate greater connections among interpersonal scholars around the world. The format of the session is a blend between a high density session and mini-addresses. The session will include four distinct but interrelated components: (a) introduction to the session, (b) brief research presentations, (c) poster presentations of the research, and (d) three presentations to the entire group from senior scholars from different regions (Dr. Pekka Isotalus, Dr. Akira Miyahara, and Dr. John Caughlin). The concluding comments will include a discussion of the state of interpersonal research internationally and the directions it should take.

**Journalism Studies**

**Chair: Frank Esser (U of Zurich, SWITZERLAND)**  
**Vice-Chair: Stephanie Craft (U of Missouri, USA)**

**Conference**

For the Phoenix conference we received a record number of 215 full paper submissions of which we were able to accept 118. We had also issued a Special Call for extended abstracts on innovative theories and methods in journalism research to which we received 22 submissions and accepted 8. Finally we received 14 panel proposals of which we programmed 4. The overall acceptance rate across full papers, extended abstracts and panel proposals was 52%. Each submission was rated wherever possible by 3, otherwise at least 2 reviewers. We were fortunate to work with over 150 reviewers and would like to thank them for their service to the division.

**Featured Sessions**

For the extended 2.5 hr session allocated to us this year we organized a mini colloquium on the theme, “Innovating in Journalism Studies: New Theoretical and Methodological Approaches.” It includes eight presentations which are followed by responses from leading journal editors. Additionally, and in response to the high-profile deaths of The Sunday Times’s Marie Colvin and The New York Times’s Anthony Shadid in Syria, we organized a special session on “Contemporary Dangers in Practicing Journalism”. We are grateful to everybody who helped make this event possible at the very last minute and push it into the already packed Phoenix program.

**Top Papers**

At the Phoenix business meeting we are pleased to announce Nicolas Gilewicz (U of Pennsylvania) as winner of the Top 1 student paper for his submission “To Embody and to Embalm: Collective Memory in the Final Editions of Closed Newspapers”. The Top 2 student paper award went to Matthias Revers (U at Albany) and the Top 3 award to Christian von Sikorski (U of Cologne). Three papers were recognized as Top Faculty Papers. Number One was by Thomas Hanitzsch (U of Munich) and Rosa Berganza (U Rey Juan Carlos), Number Two by Christine Lohmeier (U of Munich) and Catalina Barzescu (U of Rotterdam), and Number Three by Matthew A. Carlson (Saint Louis U) and Jason Peifer (Ohio State U).

**Sponsorship**

The Journalism Studies Division sponsored the “International Conference on Media and Journalism in an Evolving Ecosystem” at the
University of Porto and the “International Conference on Matters of Journalism: Understanding Professional Challenges and Dilemmas” at the University of Gdańsk.

**Officers**

In Phoenix Frank Esser steps down as chair and passes the gavel to incoming chair Stephanie Craft. Vice chair duties are taken over by Matthew A. Carlson’s (Saint Louis U) who starts his new tenure together with Erik Albæk (U of Southern Denmark), our new secretary.

**Internationalization**

Since its inauguration our division has been highly international. Half of our members work at U.S. universities, 30% in Europe and Israel, 8% in Asian countries, another 8% in Canada, Australia and New Zealand, and 2% in African and Arabic countries. Of all Journalism papers programed in Phoenix, 49% are from authors with U.S. affiliations and 51% with non-U.S. affiliations.

**Awards**

In Phoenix we award for the third time the “Gene Burd Urban Journalism Research Prize” which is our division’s annual dissertation award. It was presented to Nikki Usher for her dissertation “Making Business News in the Digital Age”. For the first time our new “Outstanding Publication of the Year Award” was presented. Winner is Kevin G. Barnhurst (University of Illinois) for a paper on the pressures of ‘time’ in news reporting.

**Other News**

Last year in Boston the membership approved a vote to increase the annual fee from $3 to $6 to further support young members through travel grants, recognize outstanding scholars through awards, and facilitate networking of members at social events. Our off-site receptions, which for the past two years were organized jointly with Political Communication, have been big successes.

**Language & Social Interaction**

Chair: Evelyn Ho (U of San Francisco, USA)
Vice Chair: Theresa Castor (U of Wisconsin, Parkside, USA)

**Submissions**

51 individual papers and extended abstracts were submitted, 22 were accepted for a 43.1% acceptance rate.

3 panels were submitted and 2 were accepted for a 66.67% acceptance rate.

**Panels**

3 competitive paper panels
1 extended session with 5 competitive papers and 3 invited speakers
1 poster panel
2 proposed panels

LSI continues to refine our submission policy – this year we accepted extended abstracts and full papers. Our acceptance rate last year was much lower than usual so we wonder if this affected the number of submissions we received this year.
The top six full papers were read by a committee to compete for top paper. Because there was only one student paper in the top six abstracts, the next highest ranked student paper was also invited to compete for top paper. A committee has read these papers and determined the awards.

**The Top Papers & Funding Received**

**Top Student paper**

Brion van Over from U of Massachusetts, “Accounting for the inexpressible: Routine accounts employed in verbal reports of inexpressible experience” LSI $150 + ICA $150

**Top paper**

Letizia Caronia from U of Bologna, “Camouflage techniques in social sciences research: Ignoring interactional details in telephone surveys as a certainty-building device” LSI $150

**Student Travel Requests**

Hsin-I Yueh: LSI $50+ICA $50

Melissa Meade: LSI $50+ICA $50

**Travel Requests From Tier C Countries**

Alena Vasilyeva: LSI $100

**Top Student Paper Runner-Up**

Sunny Lie from U of Massachusetts, “‘Evangelism’ as a key terms for Chinese Indonesian evangelical (CIE) discourse of identity”, LSI $50 + ICA $50 *

**Internationalization**

- To increase internationalization, I have been in touch with international scholars to recruit for future officer positions.

- One out of three of our invited speakers for the Extended Session is an international scholar.

- Three out of six of our award/grant recipients are international scholars.

- Two out of six of the top papers are from international scholars.

- We advertised a variety of international LSI related conferences via our LSI listserv.
submissions and acceptances.

We are particularly happy to report that just over 100 of the paper submissions were identified as student-authored papers.

The division will continue discussions that were started a few years ago for a new award for innovative research. The only award that the division currently gives is the Kyoon Hur Dissertation Award. This award is given bi-annually and it will be presented next year.

The Division membership in attendance at the 2011 conference annual Division business meeting voted to adopt a new set of by-laws. We will work with the ICA main office to put these by-laws to a vote by the active members of the Division later in 2012.

Organizational Communication

Chair: Ted Zorn (Massey U, NEW ZEALAND)
Vice Chair: Craig Scott (Rutgers U, USA)

International Considerations

A committee of the division chaired by the Secretary compiles a slate of potential reviewers each year. For the 2012 conference, 72 people were contacted and 41 reviewers agreed (a success rate of 57%). Non-US reviewers were significantly represented in the list, at 44% (our highest non-US representation ever). Overall, non-US reviewers continue to be a bit more willing to review for the division than US reviewers. For the 2013 conference, the initial slate contains a slightly larger portion of non-US members (i.e., 45%). The final set of reviewers for this conference will be available after the 2012 Business Meeting.

All top paper awards and the W. Charles Redding Dissertation Award went to US based scholars. The winner of the Fredric M. Jablin Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Field of Organizational Communication is based outside North America, as is the runner-up for the W. Charles Redding Dissertation Award.

The division Vice-Chair is from outside the US as is the division Secretary. The Vice-Chair elect is based in the US. In addition, the division ensures, as much as possible, that non-US members are included in various committees. The Redding Award committee included one member from outside the US, as did the officer selection committee and the by-laws review committee.

Issues and Plans for the Year Ahead

Two issues will be addressed in the coming year. First, a committee convened to review the by-laws will make recommendations to the business meeting modify both procedures in practice as well as by-laws so that practices and by-laws are consistent with each other. Comments from the meeting will be integrated into a proposal to be voted on by the members as a whole in the Fall election ballot. Second, the officers continue to address the inadequate documentation of the activities required of officers.

Philosophy of Communication
(Philosophy, Theory & Critique)

Chair: Laurie Ouellette (U of Minnesota, USA)
Vice Chair: Amit Pinchevski (Hebrew U, ISRAEL)

Membership Profile

From 267 members in 2005, our division has increased to 358 members today. This remains low compared with 486 members in January 2009 and 456 members in November 2009 (a peak year in our division’s history). However, it is at least good news that since 2010 membership has been stable, despite a temporary loss of members due to dramatically reduced attendance in Singapore.
The Division remains committed to increasing its membership. We are hoping that our name change (see below) will communicate the breadth of our scholarship and help attract new members, including graduate students, to the division.

Our membership is geographically diverse, and we will continue to prioritize this objective. Out of 87 reviewers for the 2012 conference, 27 were non-US based. As for awards, our top paper this year is by a student from Hong Kong.

Preconferences

The Division’s 2011 Boston preconference was The Future of Public Media: Participatory Models, Global Networks organised by the Center for Social Media, American University, Washington DC and co-sponsored by Journalism, Popular Communication and Communication, Law and Policy divisions.

For the 2012 Phoenix conference, we are co-sponsoring (with ERIC, Feminist Studies, Popular Communication, and Global Communication and Social Change Divisions and the GLBT Interest Group) the cross-divisional event Borders, Migration, Community: Arizona and Beyond. To be held at Arizona State University’s Cronkite School of Journalism, the preconference brings together scholars, artists, and political activists working on issues of borders, immigrants, and community with particular and ongoing resonance for political struggles in Arizona, the US, and beyond. The daylong event features a morning plenary followed by roundtable discussions on issues of race/ethnicity, migrancy, and citizenship; on films exploring voice and marginality within border communities; and on activist work in the trenches of these struggles. The preconference ends with field visits to activist organizations working in the Phoenix area.

The preconference is funded in part by a generous donation from the University of Virginia, Department of Media Studies, facilitated by the Philosophy of Communication division.

Phil Comm Sessions in Boston and Phoenix

The division’s Boston program was very successful with many well-attended sessions and a lively and a respectably attended business meeting.

Submissions for the Boston meeting were up (well above the level of Singapore, which represented a significant decline). However, we observed a decrease in the submissions to Phoenix. This is probably due to our memberships discomfort with the State of Arizona’s controversial anti-immigration laws. Nonetheless, we still received many more high quality submissions than we could program with the slots available to us. We received 65 individual paper submissions; 36 were accepted (55%) and 12 panel submissions; 5 were accepted (42%)

C. Edwin Backer Award

With the Communication Law and Policy Division, we awarded the annual C. Edwin Baker Award for the Advancement of Scholarship on Media, Markets and Democracy through an endowed fund created from the estate of Professor C Edwin Baker, Professor of Law and Communication at the University of Pennsylvania Law School. The award is intended to honor the contribution made by Professor Baker to communications scholarship with an annual prize of US$500. The 2012 award was granted to Professor Robert McChesney of the University of Illinois, selected from a very strong field of candidates.

Divisional Name Change

Following the recommendation of a working group comprised of Nick Couldry (chair), Laurie Ouellette (vice-chair), Amit Pinchevski (Vice-chair elect), Christie Slade (past chair), and Tom Streeter, a formal vote was put to the membership regarding a proposed divisional name change. In October, members voted to change the name of the division from Philosophy of Communication to Philosophy, Theory and Critique. The name change will be implemented during our 2012 business meeting.

Officers

Astrid Hasselbach of University of Bremen continues as Webmaster of the division. Andreas Hepp of University of Bremen is Treasurer. Amit Pinchevski (Hebrew University of Jerusalem) took over as Vice Chair after the Boston conference. Laurie Ouellette (University of Minnesota) moved into the Chair position, having served as Vice-chair for the past two years.
Political Communication

Chair: Yariv Tsfati (U of Haifa, ISRAEL)
Vice Chair: Claes de Vreese (U of Amsterdam, NETHERLANDS)

The political communication division had 213 paper submissions for the Phoenix conference. We were able to accept 59% of and schedule them in traditional paper sessions, high density sessions, and an exciting extended session on Online Political Participation. 8 panels were submitted, the acceptance rate for panels was 33%. The division also cosponsored three preconferences: “New Media & Citizenship in Asia: Social Media, Politics & Community-Building”, and “Political Comm in the Online World: Innovation in Theory & Research Designs”. Our third preconference – the Political Communication Graduate Student Workshop – will be held at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

The division also a conference titled “Building Trust through Communication in Times of Crisis” (XVII International Conference of Communication Pamplona Spain, March 22-23) and The3rd International Summer School in Political Communication and Electoral Behavior at the University of Milan (16-20 July 2012).

The division’s joint publications committee (jointly with APSA’s Political Communication Section) has successfully negotiated a new contract with Taylor & Francis, publisher of our journal Political Communication. A taskforce was appointed to consider a new journal for the division. Another taskforce was appointed to consider the division’s budget in light of an increase in revenues due to the new contract. The division also established a new fund “The Keith R Sanders and Lynda Lee Kaid Best Political Communication Article of the Year Fund”, based on contributions from members and from the division’s budget, matched by a generous contribution by Lynda Lee Kaid’s husband Cliff Jones. The fruits of the fund will be used for an annual Sanders-Kaid Best Political Communication Article of the Year Award.

Popular Communication

Chair: Paul Frosh (Hebrew U, ISRAEL)
Vice Chair: Jonathan Gray (U of Wisconsin - Madison, USA)

The Popular Communication Division has had a busy year. The Boston Conference was extremely successful: like most other divisions, Popcom’s programme of panels and events was larger and more crowded than usual. We had 21 sessions, 12 poster presentations, and one virtual panel, as well as a well-attended pre-conference on ‘Aesthetics in Popular Culture’ (held at Emerson College). The level of papers and discussions in our programme was very high, reflecting the fact that our acceptance rate was 37.19%, the third lowest of all ICA divisions: the overall ICA award for Top Poster also went to a Popcom paper. Our ‘off programme’ activities were no less successful: we held a special screening of the Media Education Foundation’s film ‘Codes of Gender’, including discussion with the director, Professor Sut Jhally, while our joint reception with three other divisions - Communication History, Philosophy of Communication, and Ethnicity and Race in Communication – proved to be extremely popular (to say the least). The business meeting attracted more interest than is often the case, focusing on issues of internationalization, the prospects for and problems of Phoenix, and the paucity of Popcom scholars and their ilk among recent ICA Fellows or Awards winners – for which a variety of causes and remedies were suggested, including more concerted and organized efforts to nominate candidates for these awards.

Popcom’s own top paper awards (faculty and student) were given to three US-based scholars and one Australian.

Boston was the scene of a changing of the guard among some of the division officers. Stijn Reijnders (Erasmus University) took over
as Secretary from Kati Lustyik, and Ranjana Das (LSE) as Graduate Student Rep from Jonathan Corpus Ong. Stijn has already edited one division newsletter (in October) and at the time of writing is preparing the next edition. Ranjana initiated a mentorship scheme aimed at bringing together senior and junior scholars around areas of mutual interest, which we hope will bear fruit in the future. Three candidates stood for election for Vice-Chair and Chair-Elect, following the failure of the current chair to have himself declared Lord Protector: Andy Ruddock (Monash University) was elected and will ascend to the position at the end of the Phoenix Conference. We wish him every success.

Interest in the Phoenix conference has been significant even if it is certain to be somewhat smaller than Boston: over all 16 panel proposals were submitted out of which 8 were accepted (a 50% acceptance ratio), while 100 full papers were submitted of which 40 were accepted (an acceptance ratio of...duh.....40%). In total, Popcom's programme consists of 15 regular panels, in addition to posters, the business meeting, and a special extended session – organized thanks to Gina Neff (University of Washington) - on ‘New Directions in Popular Communication Research: Production, Publics and Methods’. Our reception this year is again a gargantuan trans-divisional event, co-organized with Communication History, ERIC, Feminist Communication Studies, GLBT and the division formerly known as Philcom. We are also co-sponsors of the preconference on ‘Borders, Migration, Community: Arizona and Beyond’: thanks to Jennifer Peterson (U of Virginia) for organizing our joint roundtable panel with Philcom on ‘Citizenship, Culture, and Sovereignty’.

Following on from discussions at the last business meeting regarding the relatively few awards and ICA fellowships given to people associated with the division, it was decided to launch a concerted effort this year to nominate appropriate Popcom members. While many members were and still are concerned about bias within the ICA as a whole against critical and qualitative traditions, as well as against non-US candidates, it was felt that at the very least a concerted effort to nominate good candidates should be made. An ad hoc committee was duly assembled to consider candidates for the most relevant awards and put together nomination packages, and the membership as a whole was consulted about potential nominees. In the end nominations were made for Career Productivity Award (joint with Philcom), Fellows Book Award, Outstanding Article Award, and an ICA Fellowship. At the time of writing the first three have been unsuccessful, while the ICA Fellowships are only announced after this report is submitted. We are planning to submit nominations again in the future, and hope that we will be less disappointed in the results. Huge thanks go to our nominees and in particular to our nomination committee members, Jonathan Gray (Popcom Vice-Chair), Matt McAllister (Penn State) and Melissa Click (University of Missouri).

Despite all of this activity, our membership has decreased somewhat this year: we currently have 299 members (of whom 67 are students), compared to 348 last year and 325 during the year of the Singapore conference. This may be because the number of members is generally linked to the attractiveness of the conference location in any given year, and also that Phoenix – always a problematic location for many Popcom members for political reasons (though Singapore was no less controversial) – is sandwiched between Boston and London, two particularly alluring venues. The membership decline may also be a consequence of the continuing financial crisis, and it would be interesting to see how our figures compare to those of other divisions.

In terms of regional and national diversity 133 of our current members are from non-US institutions (around 45% of our membership), which is a slight increase over last year – this is despite the fact that Phoenix is less attractive to international scholars than Boston was. Just under half of our non-US members are from Europe. This (limited) regional diversity is reflected by our current officers, who make a slightly more regionally diverse group than last year’s: one based in Israel (Chair), one in the US (Vice-Chair), one in Holland (Secretary), one in the UK (Graduate Student Representative) and one in Australia (Vice-Chair Elect). Gender diversity among our officers is less impressive however: all but one is male. The upshot of all of this is that we will need to think seriously over the coming years about our membership – both in terms of sheer numbers and in terms of reaching out to new or severely under-represented populations.

Since this is my last report as Chair of Popcom I would like to take up a third of a page to thank
those I have had the great pleasure to work with over the past few years: in particular my immediate predecessor Cornel Sandvoss and my fantastic heir apparent, Jonathan Gray; former secretary Kati Lustyik and her successor Stijn Reijnders, and our current Graduate Student Rep Ranjana Das. A surprisingly big thank you (seriously) goes to former Popcom Chair Lynn Clark, for talking me into running for this position in the first place. Plenty of other officers from other divisions who have been great to work with too: you know who you are. Finally, I’d like to note for the record how enjoyable it has been to work with the ICA staff – Michael, Emily, Sam, Mike, more recently Colleen and (even more recently) JP. They’re not only extremely professional, but perpetually personable and amazingly tolerant of dumb questions. The ICA can certainly improve in lots of ways, but I think it’s exceptionally fortunate in its current staff.

Public Relations
Chair: Juan-Carlos Molleda (U of Florida, USA)
Vice Chair: Jennifer Bartlett (Queensland U of Technology, AUSTRALIA)

Trends in Membership Numbers and Diversity

As of April 2012, the Public Relations Division (PRD) had 338 registered members, which is an average number for this month according to data from the last two years (2011, N = 368; 2010, N = 360). The diversity of the Division, in terms of international members, also remains stable (50 countries in 2011 and 2012, and 52 countries in 2010). These are the April-2012 numbers of our membership by regions: Africa/Oceania (43), Americas (9), Canada (6), East/West Asia (48), Europe (80), United States (150), and unidentified.

International Involvement and Membership

The Division continued its tradition of wide representation from its international membership for paper reviewers, chairs and respondents, and moderators at the annual conference. We will devote two sessions to the international public relations perspective.

Endowments and Sponsorships

The Division continues to promote two endowments: the “Robert L. Heath Top-Paper Award” (for faculty) given each year (US$ 250—funds secured until 2014), and the “James E. Grunig and Larissa A. Grunig Outstanding Thesis and Dissertation Awards in Public Relations” given every two years. Members and supporters can donate directly to these endowments via the ICA web page. This year’s Heath award goes to “Dialectics in Corporate Discourse on CSR in India: Key Themes and Drivers” by Ganga Sasidharan Dhanesh of National University of Singapore.

The Division continues to enjoy the support of the “Betsy Plank Center for Leadership in Public Relations for the Top Student Paper Award” given each year (US$ 500—funds are provided in a continuous basis). This year’s winners are Linjuan Rita Men and Don W. Stacks of University of Miami.

2012 Conference Programming

The PRD received a total of 106 (139 in 2011) paper submissions. Fifty-four papers were accepted (50 papers in regular sessions, two of these papers will also appear in the Virtual Conference, and four papers as Interactive Posters) for an acceptance rate of 51% (50% in 2011). In terms of panel proposals, six submissions were received and three accepted (two in regular sessions and one incorporated into an Extended Session) for an acceptance rate of 50%, which is similar to the acceptance rate of 2011. Incorporating the new session format and the enhanced internationalization perspective of ICA, the Extended Session will focus on “Global issues and opportunities: International and cross-cultural research in public relations” with the participation of leading scholars from Australia, Germany, New Zealand, United Kingdom, and United States.
In summary, the Division will have 14 sessions in the 2012 conference (17 in 2011), including topics such as corporate and strategic public relations; government communication practices or politics to diplomacy; campaigns and media; relationship theory; reputation, responsibility, and regional issues; safety and risk communication; social media; and the practitioner’s experience. The decline of submissions and number of sessions scheduled this year may have been the result of the size of the Division’s membership and the location of the 2012 conference. Last year, Boston may have been a more attractive and accessible venue for national and, especially, international scholars.

Site for International Collaboration

The Division’s website devoted to cross-national public relations research has been up and running since November 2007 (http://icapr-cnrc.org/). The purpose of this database is to be a clearinghouse on all things related to furthering opportunities for international and cross-national public relations research, including collaboration across national boundaries.

Other News

Lively debate has begun on whether the Division should have an official journal, and Friederike Schultz of the VU University Amsterdam, The Netherlands, was elected the incoming secretary. Nominations for Vice Chair will be requested during this year’s business meeting.

In sum, the year for the Public Relations Division has been productive in 2011 and 2012.

Visual Communication Studies

Chair: Michael Griffin (Macalester College, USA) 
Vice chair: Jana Holsanova (Lund U, SWEDEN)

Submissions to the Visual Communication Studies Division for the 2012 Phoenix Conference fell from a record high of 106 for the 2011 Boston Conference, yet with 85 submissions (79 individual papers and 6 conference session proposals) the volume remained above that for the 2010 Conference in Singapore and the 2009 Conference in Chicago, sustaining a steep decade-long climb for the division in conference submissions. With fewer submissions for Phoenix, and the addition of an Extended Session, we were able to raise the conference acceptance rate from 41% in Boston to 49% for Phoenix. Source countries for submissions fell from 23 for the 2011 Boston Conference to 18 for the 2012 Phoenix Conference.

The VCS Division has worked conscientiously for many years to build an increasingly international membership. Three of the past four division chairs were from outside of the U.S. (South Korea, Germany and Belgium); our 2011-2012 Chair-elect, Jana Holsanova, is a Czech national with faculty appointment in Sweden; our current and incoming division secretaries are both from outside of the U.S.; divisional student awards have gone in recent years to several non-US students; and 69% of current VCS division members are from countries other than the U.S. We expect next year’s London conference to further boost non-US membership, perhaps surpassing 75%.

In 2012 the Visual Communication Studies Division plans to use the upcoming London Conference as an opportunity to recruit new members and further boost the diversity of an already very international membership. We will also establish a task force committee to review division by-laws, seek to conform division by-laws with ICA by-laws, clarify the regular election schedule for officers, routinize awards and grants procedures (types of awards and grants and terms of eligibility), and implement a permanent advisory committee of past division presidents. We also plan to review the design and function of the division web site and re-evaluate use of the division Facebook page, created by outgoing Division Secretary Jelle Mast of the University of Antwerp. The current Chair will work to launch these initiatives, with the assistance of the Chair-
select Jana Holsanova (Lund University) and the new Division Secretary, Jaana Simola (University of Helsinki).

The ICA 2012 Phoenix Conference attracted a total of 85 submissions:

Number of panel/paper sessions proposed: 6
Number of panel/paper sessions accepted: 3
Extended Session used to create a Young Scholars Research Workshop. This accommodated additional papers, pushing the acceptance rate up to 49%
Number of papers/presentations accepted as part of these session proposals: 12
Number of individual papers submitted (not part of paper/panel session proposals): 79
Number of individual paper submissions accepted: 39
Individual paper acceptance rate: 49%

The division continues to attract submissions from all over the world (18 countries)

Concern was expressed about the VCS Division only receiving 8 paper sessions and 1 extended session for 79 paper submissions and 6 session proposals. It was necessary for us to both create high-density paper sessions and to assign 12 individual papers to the Extended Session: Young Scholars Workshop in order to raise the division acceptance rate to a level consistent with the overall ICA acceptance rate.
Membership & Internationalization

Chair: Karin Gwinn Wilkins (U of Texas – Austin)

Members: Boris H. J. M. Brummans (U of Montréal), John Hartley (Curtin U), Paula Chakravartty (U of Massachusetts – Amherst), Eun-Ju Lee (Seoul National U)

Internationalization of Conference Paper/Panel Reviewers, Panel Chairs & Respondents

We continue with the commitment articulated by previous committees: to promote conference and organization participation among a broad constituency across global regions, increasing membership and presentations from scholars outside of the North American region.

In previous reports this committee has asked ICA:

- To encourage division chairs to find ways to include non-North-American reviewers, panel chairs, and respondents, without encouraging pre-set quotas;
- To suggest ways that division chairs can find such reviewers, such as through documented lists and citation searches;
- To remind division chairs that clear guidelines for paper assessment, including “advice against trolling and remind reviewers that they do not have to agree with what they read and that the communication discipline is a methodologically diverse field”;
- To request that those who plan panels include “presenters (or, more broadly, “participants,” i.e., presenters, chair, and/or respondent) from at least two countries—currently, only single-institution panels are discouraged, not single-country ones”;
- To create an online “ICA for Newcomers” guide with information about the association and its divisions (see 2011 report for more detail);
- To support regional conferences, “particularly in areas where ICA is not very well known (e.g., South America, Africa, certain parts of Europe like France), ICA can increase its visibility and attract new members” (see 2011 report for more detail).

In addition to supporting the work of the previous committees, we have identified priorities and actions for this year:

- Documenting the nature of participation in ICA events

This year’s committee has considered these issues and expanded our discussion online. Attached you should find a chart we have created summarizing participation in conferences over time. It is no surprise that the conferences held outside of North America demonstrate more diversity of participation. Still, it is worth documenting these trends in annual ICA events, and could be done as well in supported regional conferences. We also suggest finding a way to assess the diversity of people reviewing papers in divisions for future discussion.

- Encouraging new members from non-North-American venues to sustain their participation

One of the priorities established by previous committees was doing more to welcome new participants to ICA. Unfortunately, the focus group work proposed by the previous working group will not be feasible at the 2012 event. Instead, members of this committee intend to participate in the Friday morning reception for all new members, and regional conferences Friday evening. We will make ourselves known and available to answer questions for new members.

- Highlighting the work of participants from diverse regions by supporting

  - a pre-conference at
For the June 2013 conference in London, we propose to host a preconference, including participants across regions, rather than attempt to find space and time that would limit the good work of divisions. The intent would be to promote participation outside of the North American and Western European contexts. The event would combine invited with competitive papers on a specific topic that bridges national and regional differences as well as divisional boundaries. The committee will need to discuss a specific proposal for this event if approved by the ICA Board.

### Regions

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The ICA 2013 event in London, and

- regional events outside of this occasion
We support regional conferences outside of the ICA annual event, to continue the work initiated by previous committee members. We feel this is a good way to promote good scholarship from a variety of participants, while at the same time bringing strong scholars more successfully into future ICA programs. Based on what we can learn from recent regional conferences in France and Chile, we would like to facilitate regional conferences in East Asia and in the Arab world. Based on last year’s report, we would ask that ICA sponsor two regional conferences per year at no more than $5,000 USD per event. Other proposed details were presented in the 2011 report, and would be discussed with those who organized regional conferences this past year.

Nominations Committee

Chair: Bernadette Watson (U of Queensland)

Members: Mike Allen (U of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, USA), Nico Carpentier (Vrije U Brussel), Jim Honeycutt (Louisiana State U), Lisa McLaughlin (Miami U – Ohio), Hiroshi Ota (Aichi Shukutoku U), Bart van den Hooff (VU U Amsterdam)

Committee Process

The committee engaged in a consultation process within the committee and with ICA members worldwide to identify appropriate candidates that we could approach to take up the three future vacant positions. These positions were: an ICA Presidential candidate; an at-large board member for the Americas (non US) candidate; and an at-large student board member candidate.

We corresponded with potential candidates who met the necessary criteria for each of the positions. For all positions, the candidates needed to demonstrate a strong affiliation with ICA. In addition, for the senior positions, we called for scholarly recognition of their work consonant with the specific ICA position. The committee recommends the following candidates for each position.

ICA President Nominees

Michael Slater (Ohio State U, USA)
Peter Vorderer (U of Mannheim, GERMANY)

At-large Board Member for the Americas [Pacific Americas other than USA] Nominees

Boris Brummans (U de Montréal, CANADA)
Sonia Virginia Moreira: (INTERCOM, BRAZIL)

Student Board Member Nominees

Anne Kaun (Södertörn U, SWEDEN)
Sada Reed (U of Minnesota, USA)
Task Forces

Task Force on ICA Awards

Chair: Claes de Vreese (U of Amsterdam, NETHERLANDS)
Task Force Members: Karen Ross (Liverpool U, UK), Bella Mody (U of Colorado - Boulder, USA), Ted Zorn (Massey U, New Zealand), Hiroshi Ota (Aichi Shukutoku U, JAPAN)

Procedure

The task force reviewed current ICA awards in order to make recommendations about future awards and provide input for the policies and procedure surrounding the awards. The task force deliberated by email between January and March 2012. The task force unanimously supports the recommendations.

This is the list of current ICA wide awards (see also the following link for more details: http://www.icahdq.org/about_ica/awards/index.asp):

- Steven H. Chaffee Career Productivity Award
- James W. Carey Urban Communication Grant
- Outstanding Book Award
- Applied/Public Policy Research Award
- Outstanding Article Award
- Young Scholar Award
- B. Aubrey Fisher Mentorship Award
- ICA Fellows Book Award
- Communication Research As Collaborative Practice
- Communication Research As An Agent of Change
- Communication Research As An Open Field

Starting Points

After initial deliberation, the task force took as it starting points for formulating the recommendations:

1. Awards are important. The academy needs these kinds of recognitions, especially to help and encourage young scholars.
2. Awards are also instrumental in getting grants where communication scholars often compete against other disciplines with many awards.
3. The ICA has too many awards that are organization wide.
4. The ICA has too many awards that seem too similar.

Recommendations

The task force advises to reduce the number of association-wide awards and recommends a number of awards that Divisions might want to introduce.

Awards to be made by ICA

- Lifetime achievement (career productivity)
- Outstanding Young Scholar (within 7 years of PhD)
- Mentorship award
- Public Policy

Division awards

- Outstanding article
• Outstanding article led by a doctoral student
• Outstanding book / edited volume
• Outstanding contribution to the (sub)field
• Outstanding dissertation award

Divisions are free to initiate other awards.

The task force also issues the following recommendations with respect to awards:

1) The current ICA awards that may not be continued should be reviewed by a committee charged with making specific recommendations about discontinuation, phasing out, honoring existing commitments etc.

2) Award committees should serve for 2 years, with 50% stepping down in one year and 50% the next. This will ensure continuity.

3) Award committees should honor diversity in terms of gender representation, country, subfield and seniority.

4) Awards should all use the online submission system.

5) The ICA website and newsletter should showcase the most recent awards immediately after the conference.

6) Awards should be guided by explicit criteria (made available to both submitters and the award committees).

7) Resources saved by reducing the number of central awards could be used by divisions for division awards.

Task Force on the Greening of ICA

Chair: Chad Raphael

Members: Richard Doherty (University of Illinois), Bernhard Goodwin (Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich), Lisa Leombruni (University of California, Santa Barbara), Sam Luna, (Membership Director, ICA), Stacey Sowards (University of Texas at El Paso)

This year, the Task Force focused on two issues: developing the virtual conference and creating a means to estimate ICA’s greenhouse gas emissions as part of its larger sustainability policy.

After reviewing member feedback, we recommended that ICA clarify the virtual conference’s primary purpose as extending access to people who do not attend the annual conference in person, which we see as more important than offering an online supplement for those who participate on-site. We made many recommendations for how ICA and Wiley can focus on marketing to and serving off-site participants. Our hope is that this will increase participation in the online conference, especially among members outside the USA, while reducing some travel to the on-site conference.

A subcommittee of the Task Force also worked with ICA staff to devise a feasible and effective plan for estimating ICA’s greenhouse gas emissions annually, which is being implemented now.

Based in part on the results of the emissions estimate, the Task Force will conclude its work this year by making final recommendations for how ICA can operate more sustainably while fulfilling its mission. The recommendations will aim to:

(1) Advance policies and procedures for ICA in order to stabilize and reduce greenhouse gas emissions over time, while allowing ICA to fulfill its mission;

(2) Suggest modifications to ICA’s meetings guidelines and purchasing policies to increase consumption of green products and services, and to encourage vendors to gather and provide information about their impacts, including GHG emissions.

(3) Suggest ways to educate ICA members about how they can make personal decisions to reduce their impacts.
Communication Director Advisory Board

Chair: Barbie Zelizer (U of Pennsylvania, USA)

Members: Risto Kunelius (U of Tampere, FINLAND), May O. Lwin (Nanyang Technological U, SINGAPORE), Silvio Waisbord (George Washington U, USA)

Task

This committee was tasked by ICA President Larry Gross (U of Southern California) as an advisory committee to assess the effectiveness of the Communication Director. The committee is expected to conduct a formal review of the CD position and its impact and to present the findings to the ICA Board, both as interim progress reports as well as a formal report three years after the position is created. The advisory committee’s role is to make sure that the items in the job description are clearly defined in terms of outcomes and to work on an annual assessment of progress towards its goals.

Overview of Action: The committee conducted deliberations by Skype and email in March and April of this year, setting the groundwork for the establishment of performance indicators by which to evaluate the ICA CD position. During our deliberations, we reviewed earlier task committee reports from 2010 and 2011, as well as initial feedback/reports from the CD.

We are proposing here a set of Performance Indicators, by which the CD’s performance will be evaluated. We have decided to remain generic in our indicators so as to allow for the functions of the CD to take shape naturally, following the lead of the earlier task committee reports as well as this committee’s discussions. The expectation is that the CD will develop a border-plate for his/her monthly reports that reflect these indicators. We emphasize that the assessment of the CD is a work in progress, which will evaluate the CD’s performance while recognizing the exploratory and “look-see” nature of the position. We agreed on the need to find indicators that evaluate performance more broadly. We also agreed that it would be useful for us to secure ongoing evaluations from key people in the association, such as conference planners, and that the CD should be aware of these intentions.

Performance Indicators of ICA Communication Director

General Objective of Performance Indicators: To discern the degree to which the CD is enhancing ICA’s visibility in the public eye and among ICA members.

The CD’s performance will be evaluated across four dimensions – externally among traditional media; externally among social media; internally among traditional media; internally among social media. Externally, this involves enhancing ICA’s visibility and recognizability in the media and for the general public. Internally, it involves enhancing ICA’s connectivity and information outreach among the membership as well as with key stakeholders, improving intra-membership interactivity, enhancing outreach through membership and greater integration of traditional and new media platforms. In all four dimensions, success will be measured by the identification of key networks and, over time, the growth of the networks involved.

External Goals, Traditional Media

1. Produce a minimum of four media releases per month and disseminate them to a wide swath of traditional media organizations and consolidators. The goal of such releases, which will reflect the diversity of the ICA membership by division, country, methodology and research interest, is to produce an ongoing and timely record that will enhance ICA’s visibility. Media releases should be frequent enough to signal the breadth, scope and depth of ICA scholarship and in turn to generate interest in ICA from traditional media organizations and consolidators. The CD will be responsible for identifying which media organizations and consolidators s/he intends to target, though such decisions should be taken in consultation with ICA members.

2. Particularize/filter media releases by geographic region, paying particular attention to those regions in which ICA members reside.
3. Develop contact personnel within traditional media organizations and consolidators, so as to facilitate smooth and ongoing two-way interactions between representatives of traditional media organizations, consolidators and ICA members.

4. Develop a set of circulating documents designed to keep ICA in the media's eye. These might include circulating an expert data base, circulating a revolving data base of experts on topical issues/events, and circulating general information about ICA events. It is hoped that these documents will make it easier for traditional media organizations and consolidators to approach ICA for potential interviewees in news stories, for responses to and analyses of topical issues/events, for information about relevant research and for information about ICA events.

5. Contact media organizations and consolidators on an ongoing basis, but no less than bi-weekly, in order to remind them of ICA's relevance. This might include making suggestions for interview topics, suggesting interviewees on topical issues/events and connecting to those media with “academic” beats (such as NPR's Shankar Vedantam or the Chronicle for Higher Education's Carlin Romano). The CD will be responsible for identifying which media organizations and consolidators s/he intends to target, though such decisions should be taken in consultation with ICA members.

**External Goals, New Media**

1. Maintain active Facebook and Twitter updates to promote the activities of ICA and its members. ICA members should be encouraged to inform the CD about their activities/publications if they wish to be tweeted/posted by ICA. The CD should maintain active “following activities” at the yearly conference, perhaps on the ICA website with an invitation to ICA members to respond. The CD will be responsible for identifying which web traffic is most valuable to ICA and set goals in accordance, though such decisions should be taken in consultation with ICA members.

2. Regularly follow trending topics on Twitter to identify opportunities for ICA members to publicize their work/opinions. The CD should have a handy file with names and areas of expertise (such as health, gender, media/information policy, environment, politics, race, ethnicity, religion, new media and war/conflict) prepared on the basis of information sent by members and/or division chairs.

3. Contact journalists in new media who cover issues related to ICA members to make them aware about existing expertise, recent articles and books. Members should be asked to provide suitable names of media, reporters, and organizations. The CD will be responsible for identifying which journalists s/he intends to target, though such decisions should be taken in consultation with ICA members.

4. Follow “social media” updates by key policymakers to identify potential opportunities for ICA contributions. The list of policymakers should be prepared with contributions from selected ICA members working at both national and global levels.

5. Identify and coordinate with members to tweet about specific panel presentations, journal articles and other accomplishments relevant to ICA.

**Internal Goals, Traditional Media**

1. Develop initiatives to enhance intra-group communication and interaction within divisions/interest groups. These might include working closely with division and interest group chairs to plan outreach events, reminding members of the CD's role and resources, facilitating regional conferences, making available more division and interest group-based communication and disseminating relevant division and interest group news externally. Explore a possible role for CD at the yearly conference, such as holding pre-conference training sessions or other initiatives to amplify the number and degree of contacts with non-US members.

2. Initiate and develop member-based outreach programs for ICA members to approach potential new members such as postgraduate students and industry partners. These might include hosting small events by ICA members at universities across the world or identifying ICA ambassadors who would receive a small budget to host receptions/talks yearly so as to promote membership and internal networking.

3. Integrate traditional platforms with new media outreach, such as redesigning the newsletter, disseminating the newsletter via iPad, developing an ICA magazine or developing ICA Apps for the iPhone.
Internal Goals, New Media

1) Develop platforms for members to keep up with all aspects of the association. These might involve canvassing journal editors yearly about what services they need in social media and encouraging website traffic beyond pre-conference time periods.

2) Develop a way to enhance the benefit of regional conferences and symposia for ICA members, perhaps by developing ICA guidelines on how to reach members and promote plans via social media.

3) Develop new services related to the main ICA conference and enhance members’ capacity to keep abreast of its activities, before, during and after the conference.

4) Enhance the capacity of key members of the association to work more effectively together.
Publications

Communication, Culture & Critique
John Downing (Southern Illinois U - Carbondale, USA)

Journal status (e.g., ranking, ISI impact factor, circulation): no ISI rating to date; circulation figure appears nowhere I could find via the Administrative Dashboard.

Average time manuscripts are under review (include first decision, revise and resubmit, final decision) is 109.30 days.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistics and Acceptance Rates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of submissions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desk rejection process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of revise and resubmits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of acceptances</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Topic Areas of submitted and accepted manuscripts
(Topic areas may be based on ICA decisions or other clear criteria)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of Origin for submitted and accepted manuscripts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuwait</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
International Scholars publishing within USA

International representation of editorial board: Out of 81, 26 are US-based, 28 are UK-based, and the remainder are based in Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, South Africa, Spain and Turkey.

Gender of authors (first author) for manuscripts (submitted and accepted) 62 submitted (out of 100).

Number may be higher, but the gender indicated by Asian names, especially East Asian names, is often unclear to me.

Recommendations I can see the value of a series of these questions, but why is the editor expected to generate them her- or himself? Surely they can all, not only some, be programmed to be generated automatically! It seems like busy work, and rather tiresome work at that, for journal editors, if I may be forgiven for saying so.

Communication Theory

Thomas Hanitzsch (U of Munich, GERMANY)

Journal status

Communication Theory has performed somewhat unevenly during the last years. For the subject area of communication, the journal is currently ranked 13th in the 2010 Social Sciences Citation Index (Impact Factor 1.37). This marks a substantial drop from 2005 when it still belonged to the top-three journals in the field (Impact Factor 1.47). It seems that other journals have been more effective in boosting their impact.

Circulation and readership

Wiley informed us that the ICA journals are now available in 3,689 institutions worldwide via the licensed sales program. A total of 1,150 individuals are currently registered to receive automatic content alerts, an increase of seven percent from 2010. Full text downloads for Communication Theory via all online platforms increased from 68,338 to 97,679 in 2011 (an increase of 43% from 2010).

Statistics and acceptance rates

Communication Theory has received a total of 185 submissions during the year 2011. The actual number of submissions is somewhat smaller, however, as several manuscripts that have been rejected for formal reasons (citation, style etc.) were eventually resubmitted as new submissions. (I think that these papers should have been unsubmitted rather than rejected.) Between January 1st and May 2nd, 2012 we already received 71 manuscripts – we therefore expect a somewhat higher submission quota for the current year.

The editors made 237 editorial decisions during 2011: 20 manuscripts were accepted (8.4%), 167 were rejected (70.5%), and on 40 occasions authors were invited to revise and resubmit their papers (16.9%). The acceptance rate for the year 2011 therefore stands at 10.7 percent. Manuscripts were under review for an average time of 63 days until an editorial decision was issued. As of now, there are 45 active manuscripts in the system.

Thomas Hanitzsch, Editor
Communication Theory
Backlog issues

I have inherited a total of 14 manuscripts from the previous editor; at least four additional papers may follow as they are still in the process of revision/review. During the last months we have been quite effective in reducing this backlog to only a few accepted manuscripts. At the moment there are only three papers sitting in the Production Center.

Desk rejection process

When I started receiving manuscripts as the incoming editor in July 2011 I implemented an editorial routine by which articles are rigorously screened for eligibility and quality prior to peer review. About 40 percent of all original submissions are usually returned to authors as a result of this procedure. (Since the second half of 2011 was a transition period between editors, exact numbers are not yet available.) We divide returned manuscripts into two broad categories: “unssubmit” and “reject”. Papers are routinely unsubmitted for formal reasons when they do not comply with author guidelines. Articles are rejected – without peer review – when they do not contribute to theory in some substantial way, when they do not address a communication problem, or when there is a strong indication that a paper actually stands a small chance to “survive” peer review.

Changes in the editorial process

In November 2011 we implemented a modified version of our author guidelines. Authors are now requested to keep their submissions within a word limit of 9000 words – including references, tables, figures, appendices, and endnotes. This change was motivated by the journal’s extremely small page budget. Furthermore, the general policy is now that papers are evaluated by at least three reviewers (instead of two reviewers in the past). The review outcome is routinely anonymized and shared among all referees of the same paper.

Changes in the editorial structure

I decided to solicit the help of six Associate Editors who complement my expertise in a number of relevant areas: Dr. David Boromisza-Habashi from the University of Colorado (United States), Dr. Jonathan Cohen from the University of Haifa (Israel), Dr. Ling Chen from Hong Kong Baptist University (China), Dr. Claudia Mellado from the University of Santiago (Chile), Dr. Daniel Robichaud from the University of Montreal (Canada), and Dr. Karin Wahl-Jorgensen from Cardiff University (Great Britain). Another attempt to give the journal a stronger international appeal was a reorganization and expansion of the Editorial Board. Of the 58 members of the journal’s current Editorial Board, 26 come from outside North America. I believe that this composition better accounts for the ongoing diversification of ICA membership and, consequently, of the journal’s readership.

Special issue

For late 2013 we are preparing a special issue on “Conceptualizing Mediatization,” guest-edited by Nick Couldry (Goldsmiths, U of London) and Andreas Hepp (University of Bremen). One motivation for this special issue was to make Communication Theory more visible and attractive in scholarly communities beyond the journal’s recent core audience. So far we can report that the special issue has been a great success and generated 25 submissions under the thematic framework alone.

Authors

Most manuscripts (n=112; 60.8%) during 2011 were submitted from within the United States, followed by Israel with ten submissions (5.4%). Altogether 36 submissions originated from authors in European countries (19.5%), most notably in German and Great Britain (6 each). All of the 20 accepted papers that year were contributed by authors from the United States, except for two papers with first authors residing in Israel and Spain (see Table). The majority of first authors were male for submitted papers (n=124; 67%), while for accepted papers women equaled men as first authors (n=10; 50%).
### Manuscripts received and decided during 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of first author</th>
<th>Manuscripts received</th>
<th>Accept</th>
<th>Reject</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
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<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russian Federation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taiwan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>185</strong></td>
<td><strong>20</strong></td>
<td><strong>167</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Between May 1, 2011 and April 30, 2012, we received 151 original and 61 revised manuscripts of which 18 (10.1%) have been accepted for publication. The dispositions as reported by the Scholar One system are shown in Tables 1 and 2. Please note that Tables 1a and 2a are based on submission dates, while Tables 1b, 2b and 2c are based on decision dates; this accounts for the varying data reported between the two sets of tables.

-International representation of our editorial board (n= 91): 9 from Europe, 7 from Asia, 75 from the United States

As shown in Table 2a there has been geographical dispersion of manuscript submissions, though the U.S. continues to predominate. One hundred and three submissions have come from the United States, seven from the Australia, six from the Netherlands, and four from Israel, among others.

We have not collected information about submitters’ gender, ethnicity or sexual orientation.

The entire editorial team looks forward to continuing our efforts to increase the quality and significance of the journal while also expanding its international scope in terms of content and participation.

Table 1a. Information based on all manuscripts received between May 1, 2011 and April 30, 2012, grouped by manuscript decision

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Manuscript Decision</th>
<th>Number of Manuscripts</th>
<th>Percentage of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accept</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Revision</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor Revision</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reject</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>64.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total:</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1b. Information based on all manuscripts with a decision date between May 1, 2011 and April 30, 2012, grouped by manuscript decision

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Manuscript Decision</th>
<th>Number of Manuscripts</th>
<th>Percentage of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accept</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Revision</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>16.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor Revision</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reject</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>63.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total:</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 2a. Information based on original submissions received between May 1, 2011 and April 30, 2012, grouped by country of submission

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of Submitting Author</th>
<th># Manuscripts</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4.6 %</td>
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<td>0.7 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.7 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.6 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
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<td>2.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran, Islamic Republic of</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.6 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Korea, Republic of</td>
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<td>1.3 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Serbia</td>
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<td>0.7 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
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<td>0.7 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
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<td>0.7 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
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<td>0.7 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Arab Emirates</td>
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<td>0.7 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>68.2 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summary</strong></td>
<td><strong>151</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0 %</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2b. Information based on all manuscripts with a decision date between May 1, 2011 and April 30, 2012, grouped by country of submission

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author Country</th>
<th>Number of Manuscripts</th>
<th>Percentage of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
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<td>1.4%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
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<td>1.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Count</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran, Islamic Republic of</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea, Republic of</td>
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<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
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<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
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<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
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<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taiwan</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Arab Emirates</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>70.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>219</td>
<td><strong>100.0%</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Table 2c. Information based on all manuscripts with a decision date between May 1, 2011 and April 30, 2012 (manuscripts accepted by country)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Accept</th>
<th>Reject</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Accept Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Australia</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Canada</td>
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</tr>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
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<td>Germany</td>
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<td>4</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Hong Kong</td>
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<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran, Islamic Republic of</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
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<td>100.00%</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Portugal</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
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<td>South Africa</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td>United Arab Emirates</td>
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<td>0.00%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>4</td>
<td>25.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>139</strong></td>
<td><strong>158</strong></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introduction

The Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication (JCMC) is edited by Dr. Maria Bakardjieva (University of Calgary) since January 2011. The managing editor for part of the past year was Delia Dumitrica who had to quit her position due to other pursuits. Aiden Buckland took over from Delia as the managing editor in October 2011. Although some backlog was created during the transition and training period, Aiden is now settled in his role and there have been no delays or other disturbances in the publication process.

Since April 2011, the editorial team has received 534 new submissions (as of April 25, 2012), and updated some letter templates for the correspondence with the authors and reviewers. The team successfully published the last four issues from 16.4 to 17.3, which appeared without any delays.

Journal Status (e.g., ranking, ISI impact factor, circulation)

Impact Factor: 1.958

ISI Journal Citation Reports © Ranking: 2010: 3/67 (Communication); 13/76 (Information Science & Library Science)

Time manuscripts are under review

(include first decision revise and resubmit, final decision)

Average time for Accepted Manuscripts

117 days between original submission and first decision
172 days between original submission and final decision

Average time for Rejected manuscripts:

97 days between original submission and first decision.
75 days between original submission and final decision.

Backlog Issues

As anticipated in last year’s report, the volume of submissions we see puts severe stress on the work-hour allocation for the managing editor as well as on the workload of the editor-in-chief. We try to screen the incoming manuscripts as thoroughly as possible before we send them out for review in order not to overload reviewers and the review process as such. However, this means that we are constantly overwhelmed ourselves and often fall behind schedule at this initial stage of the processing of the manuscripts. (Especially when unexpected problems occurred, such as illness or the need to replace the managing editor, this additionally upset our schedule.) We also have to be very careful in how many reviewers we assign initially and to be patient with late reviews. This further slows down the review process and creates an additional stream of correspondence with authors who are sending

1. A note from the managing editor: I wasn’t happy with the reports that Scholar One compiles. After searching through them all I couldn’t find the information required for this section. So I exported the “manuscript decision” report which has info like first decision and final decision and then calculated the averages myself.
us inquiries about the status of their manuscripts. As suggested in last year’s report, the managing editor needs to be hired for more hours (at least 15 per week) so that he or she could stay on top of the workflow.

**Statistics and Acceptance Rates**

Accept Ratio (Prior 12 Months) 13.27%

Number of submissions 534 (509 Research Papers, 25 Research Briefs)

Desk rejection process: Manuscripts that do not fit with the areas of interest of JCMC are rejected before the review process. Because of the interdisciplinary nature of the journal and the general openness of the notion of a ‘computer’ (e.g., does the mobile phone qualifies as one?) these decisions are not straightforward. Often we find that the submitted manuscripts are more appropriate for a computer/ information science journal (i.e. they focus on ICTs from a technical or mathematical perspective), or for marketing or psychology journals. Due to the extremely high number of submissions, manuscripts are also gauged for quality, for example presence of theoretical perspective and developed methodology. Some desk rejections are made on that basis. Manuscripts that fail to meet our submission guidelines are also rejected before the review process with an invitation to address formatting issues and resubmit. All potential desk rejections are reviewed by the EIC before corresponding with the authors.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Original Submissions</th>
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<tr>
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<td>8 (2.6 % of total submissions)</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revisions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Topic Areas of submitted and accepted manuscripts**

(Topic areas may be based on ICA decisions or other clear criteria)

We don’t have this reporting feature enabled in Scholar One. The JCMC is a journal that publishes research in the area of communication and technology. The current thematic interests of authors are related to social media and their various psychological, sociological, cultural and political aspects. Mobile communication is also a popular topic, and so are questions of new media adoption and use.

**Special Issues**

One special issue has been published since April 2011. Three special issues have been approved. One is in the final stages of decision-making and finalization of manuscripts. The second is at the pre-selection stage, and the third recently issued its “call for papers.”
Country of Origin for submitted manuscripts and accepted manuscripts

Some progress has been made in attracting more international submissions of high quality compared to previous years. This has resulted in the acceptance of a slightly higher number of papers from outside of the US.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Accept</th>
<th>Reject</th>
<th>Submission Total</th>
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<td>0.00%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8.33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Spain 2 6 8 25.00%
Switzerland 1 1 2 50.00%
Taiwan 1 11 12 8.33%
Turkey 1 10 11 9.09%
United Arab Emirates 0 2 2 0.00%
United Kingdom 7 17 24 29.17%
United States 23 148 171 13.45%
Total 53 313 366 14.48%

International Scholars publishing within USA

No data on this. We register nationality of authors based on their stated affiliation. We have no way to know which of them are International Scholars publishing within USA.

International representation of editorial board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Representation by country</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
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<td>Australia</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>1</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Representation by gender</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gender of authors (first author) for manuscripts (submitted and accepted)

We don’t record this information and Manuscript Central does not support its collection or retrieval. As a general impression, the gender distribution of authorship is well balanced in the JCMC.

Recommendations

Administrative workflow: The number of working hours required for the administration of the submissions and reviews is high. I have now worked with two different managing editors, one more experienced than the other, but both equally motivated and committed. Both of them have had difficulty staying on schedule with the processing of manuscripts at all stages. Once again, I would like to strongly urge the ICA to consider providing funding for more working hours for the managing editor. At this rate of submission, if the journal wants to maintain a quality review process and professional communication with authors, the managing editor should be hired ideally for 20 hours per week, but for no less than 15. As the editor-in-chief, I need to get at least one course release per year in order to stay on top of my tasks. Therefore, I have to use the current editorial stipend in order to pay both the managing editor and my university for the release. I believe it would be adequate to increase the editorial stipend (or designate funds within the ICA headquarters) to fully cover a
managing editor’s salary at 20 hours per week. This would also help with the retention of the hired person and would eliminate the need of retraining new people and all the issues associated with such transitions.

Another very important issue to consider is the publication time and page limits. At the current page limit per volume and submission rate, the waiting time between acceptance and publication is already very long. Practically, we are sitting on a pile of accepted papers that are simply waiting for the next issue’s publication date. This puts us out of step with current practices of print journals that publish their accepted articles online (the Online First feature) immediately after they are accepted and copy-edited. Even though the print version of the article may still have to wait for the respective issue’s publication date, it is available to subscribers much earlier. Given that the JCMC is an online only journal, I believe we should design a strategy which allows for an earlier processing and publication of the accepted papers. I am not sure how exactly this would work, but it is certainly worth giving some thought.

Journal of Communication

Malcolm R. Parks, (U of Washington, USA)

Editorial watchwords

Discerning
Timely
Innovative
Mentoring

Journal Status

It is an honor to steward the world’s leading communication journal. The Journal of Communication typically leads all other communication journals in terms of impact, although in 2010 it very slightly trailed Communication Monographs which had an impact of 2.029 (JOC’s was 2.026). Communication Monograph’s lead in 2010 was the result of a single highly cited article and is most likely anomaly that will not be repeated (CM’s 2009 impact factor was 1.180).

Time Under Review

Timeliness is one of my goals as Editor. Toward that goal, I reduced the review window allowed under the previous editor from 45 days to 30 days. This step brought JOC in line with the 30-35 day period that appears to be the norm among first-line social science journals published by Wiley. Reviewers tend to be driven by deadlines and have uniformly accepted the quicker 30-day pace. This change not only better service to authors, but is also consistent with the quickening pace implied by the Journal’s shift from four to six issues per volume.

One index of timeliness is the number of days until the first decision on a manuscript. Time-to-first-decision reflects the time needed to conduct initial screening, to locate and assign reviewers, to gain an adequate number of reviewers, and, of course, the time needed for reviewers to complete their
reviewers and for me to read the manuscript and render a decision. Initial decisions fall into two broad categories: desk rejects and review decisions. I will discuss the desk rejection process separately. ScholarOne’s data on decision times is not particularly useful, so in mid-2011 I began to keep a separate set of records to track the total time from initial submission to first decision. For 176 manuscripts submitted between June 39, 2011 and December 31, 2011, the average time to first decision was 55 days. Last year, the previous editor reported an average of 54 days to first decision. During the second half of 2011, the gains created by the shorter review window were offset by delays on my side that stemmed from the significant investment of time required to bring many of the manuscripts for the special issue to JOC’s standards. Preliminary data from the two months of 2012 reveal an average of 32 days from submission to first decision.

My editorship began officially on January 1, 2011. In his final report to the Publication Board last year, the previous Editor estimated that his backlog would fill my first issue. In fact the backlog from the previously Editor filled my entire first year and the first issue of my second year. Volume 62.2, a special issue, was the first issue that was entirely free of the backlog. The large backlog, however, has not proven to be a problem, in part because it allowed me to be more selective and in part because the addition of two more issues per volume beginning with the 2011 volume provided leeway to use it up.

Statistics and Acceptance Rates

A total of 436 new submissions were received in 2011. This was a significant increase over the previous three years in which an average of 307 new manuscripts had been submitted annually. I attribute this increase to the growth in international submissions and, most especially, to the interest generated by our special issue on social media and political change in the developing world. In the wake of the “Arab Spring,” this issue alone generated approximately 70 submissions.

The disposition of the manuscripts received during 2011 is shown in the figure to the right. Once duplicates, withdrawals, and desk rejections are removed, the remaining pool falls into three categories: rejections (80.6%), acceptances (12%), and manuscripts still under revision (7.4%). The acceptance rate may be estimated either from the final manuscript pool (12%) or from the total number of new manuscripts received (8%).

Approximately 33% of all new manuscripts in 2011 were desk rejected. Over half had been submitted to JOC in error (JOC’s title is extremely close to the engineering-oriented Journal of Communications). Many of the remaining cases involved manuscripts that focused on journalistic practices or on very specific aspects of media structure, policy, or content that did
not, in my view, touch on issues of broader disciplinary concern. I also desk rejected manuscripts that grossly exceeded JOC’s page limits as well as those that clearly did not meet the Journal’s standards for scholarship.

Before going on, let me make three more points about the desk rejection process. First, it is fast. Most desk rejections occurred 2-3 days of submission. Second, the desk rejection process has been well received by authors. No one likes being rejected, but authors have appreciated the immediate response as well as the suggestions for alternative journals that I typically provide. Finally, a relatively high desk rejection rate is essential if we are to avoid unnecessary burdens on reviewers in a time of growing submissions.

In addition to new submissions, of course, we also receive revisions of previously submitted manuscripts. During 2011, we received 96 revisions. This figure was comparable to the 96 received the previous year.

Author Characteristics: Gender and Country of Origin

Female and authors were equally represented in the final manuscript pool. Of the 284 manuscripts sent out for review, lead authors were 50.7% male and 49.3% female. There were no strong gender differences in the outcome of the review process. Of the 229 manuscripts that were ultimately rejected, for instance, 50.7% had female lead authors and 49.3% had male lead authors.

Manuscripts were received from lead authors in 30 different countries during 2011 (more if desk rejects are considered). As the table below illustrates, however, submissions still come predominantly from the United States. Just over 69% of lead authors who submitted manuscripts that were sent out for review were based in the U.S. Because last year’s report did not include comparison data, it is difficult to evaluate this figure, although we clearly would like to see more submissions from outside the U.S.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Total Submissions</th>
<th>Reject</th>
<th>Still in process</th>
<th>Accept</th>
<th>Acceptance Rate</th>
<th>Percentage of Total submissions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
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Manuscripts were accepted from lead authors based in eight different countries in 2011. Once again, most of these authors were based in the U.S. I do not track international scholars who submit from within the U.S., but many U.S. submissions involve such scholars as lead or co-authors. To explore this, I examined a random sample of 20 manuscripts submitted from the U.S. (10% of total U.S. submissions). Out of these 20, six manuscripts (30%) featured either co-authors from countries outside the U.S. or lead authors whose citizenship was in a country other than the U.S.

International Participation in Review Process

I have continued the previous editor’s effort to add members to the Editorial Board from outside the United States. I estimate that approximately 9% of Dr. Cody’s Board was outside the U.S. By moving underperforming U.S. Board members and adding international members, I have been able to almost double that figure, so that today approximately 17% come from outside the U.S. That is an improvement, but I am not yet satisfied and continue to look for new international members.

I have also sought to enhance international participation in the review process more generally. It has been my practice to invite at least one reviewer outside the U.S. for every manuscript originating within the U.S. It is not always possible to do so, but in the great majority of cases it has.

**Topic Areas: A Sample of Titles Currently in the Production Queue**

One of the joys of being Editor of JOC is the opportunity to survey the very best research our discipline has to offer. In order to provide a sense of the work we are accepting, I offer this list titles currently in the production queue:

- Exploring How We Enjoy Antihero Narratives
- Partisan Stereotypes and Policy Attitudes
• America in Black and White: Locating Race in the Modern Presidency, 1933-2011
• Why are Tailored Messages More Effective? A Multiple Mediation Analysis of a Breast Cancer Screening Intervention
• Counterarguing: Simple Elaboration, Complex Integration and Counter-Elaboration in Response to Variations in Narrative Focus and Sidedness
• Effects of Post-Inoculation Talk on Resistance to Influence
• Understanding Sexual Objectification: A Comprehensive Approach toward Media Exposure and Girls’ Internalization of Beauty Ideals, Self-Objectification and Body Surveillance
• The Influence of the News Media on Stereotypic Attitudes toward Immigrants in a Political Campaign
• Positive Female Role-Models Eliminate Negative Effects of Sexually Violent Media
• The Impact of Parents “Friending” their Young Adult Child on Facebook on Perceptions of Parental Privacy Invasions and Parent-Child Relationship Quality
• Is there a visual dominance in political communication? How verbal, visual, and vocal communication shape viewers’ impressions of political candidates
• Explaining Journalists’ Trust in Public Institutions across 20 Countries: Media Freedom, Corruption and Ownership Matter Most
• Public Intimacy: Disclosure Interpretation and Social Judgments on Facebook
• The Effect of Prenatal Sex Hormones on the Development of Verbal Aggression
• As Time Goes By. What Changes and What Remains the Same in Entertainment Experience Over the Life Span?
• Framing scandals: Cognitive and emotional media effects
• Causes of State Hostility and Enjoyment in Player vs. Player and Player vs. Environment Video Games
• Selective Exposure and Reinforcement of Attitudes and Partisanship before a Presidential Election
• Effects of Post-Debate Coverage on Spontaneous Policy Reasoning
• Emotion, Motivation, and the Persuasive Effects of Message Framing
• Does Multitasking Increase or Decrease Persuasion? Effects of Multitasking on Comprehension and Counterarguing

As these titles demonstrate, articles in the Journal of Communication publication cut broadly across the most central aspects of the discipline. These titles include work on political communication, mass media, computer-mediated communication, interpersonal communication, race, gender, and culture as well as many different aspects of persuasion and social influence.
Mentorship

I believe that editors serve authors and the discipline best when they place a strong value on mentorship. The special issue (62.2) on social media and political change in the developing world that was assembled in 2011 illustrates my commitment to mentoring. I decided to do the special issue at the height of the “Arab Spring” in the winter of 2011. My goal was to catch the first wave of research on those events as well as to capture emerging work on social media’s role in political upheavals more generally. Although I brought in a guest co-editor to help solicit and select manuscripts, the bulk of the work of bringing the manuscripts to press fell to me. Our topic attracted many authors with good ideas and data, but who often lacked experience producing academic manuscripts of the quality expected by readers of a first-line journal. Much of my fall was devoted to working directly with inexperienced authors on their manuscripts. Although I am not eager to dig for so many unpolished gems again for a single issue, I remain committed to working directly with authors, particularly with international authors whose work shows promise, but who are disadvantaged by a lack of support and resources in their home environments.

No journal can be better than its reviewers. Yet it is surprising how frequently we receive weak reviews. Chronically poor reviewers are dropped. Beyond that, however, it is my practice to share my decision letter and copies of all reviews with each reviewer. This allows reviewers to see how others viewed the manuscript and provides a useful point of reference for improving their own reviews. This innovation has been well received by reviewers. Here is a representative quote from one author/reviewer:

I really appreciate the thoughtfulness that you put into your role as editor, taking the time to engage with reviewer comments and let the authors know which ones are important and which ones aren’t, and sending that note to the reviewers letting them know about your decision and have access to the other reviews. Not all editors do this, as I am sure you know from your own experiences submitting papers elsewhere. I really enjoy learning what other reviewers have to say about scholarship that I have read too, I think it helps a person to become a better reviewer.

Innovation

I have already noted two changes I have made during my first year as editor: shortening the review window and providing richer feedback to reviewers. In addition to this, we recently transitioned the production process to EarlyView which makes accepted articles available online well ahead of print publication.

Recommendations

1. Increase the page limit for JOC manuscripts from 30 to 35 pages. I have already provided the Chair of the Publication Board with a more extensive rationale for this recommendation, but here is a synopsis. Although the number of submissions has increased, the shift from four to six issues per year has more than enough additional space to accommodate them. If we assume an average acceptance rate of 10%, we would be accepting 35-45 manuscripts per year. A 30-page manuscript (the current limit) yields a manuscript of 17.7 pages in published form. Publishing 35-45 manuscripts per year would require 620-800 pages per year. However, the current page budget for JOC is 1200 pages per year. In short, we have room for someone longer manuscripts as well as at least one special issue per year. In addition, I’m seeing numerous cases in which manuscripts really could be better if the authors had a few more pages to develop their arguments, explore implications, and respond to reviewers. We could do a better job with a little more elbow room. Finally, although the number probably
isn’t large, I do know of cases in which authors have simply decided to submit elsewhere because of JOC’s page limitations. Our 30-page limit is more restrictive than that imposed by many other journals.

2. Work with ScholarOne and editors to develop a common set of reports for our Journals. Almost all of the data presented in this report had to be extracted from the database by hand or from my own “shadow” records. The lack of genuinely useful reporting within the database discourages editors from digging out the information that both they and the Publication Board ultimately requires. The database obviously contains everything we need, but it is difficult to produce the necessary queries. We need templates. I recommend that the Publication Board take this on as a project.

3. Begin planning for the next editor now. My term ends in approximately 18 months and the new editor must be in place and taking submissions well before that. I began taking submissions almost four months before my term officially began.

4. I strongly recommend moving to a shared editorship or an associate editor system of some kind. There are many models to choose from because most high-volume journals have been dropped the single-editor model. With 400 new manuscripts, nearly 100 revised manuscripts, and endless smaller tasks, the job of JOC editor has simply become too large for one person to do. Or, more precisely, it has become too large for one person to do if she or he also hopes to accomplish much else.
Communication Yearbook continues to be an edited volume published as an annual. At this time, there is no publisher support for an electronic manuscript submission and tracking process.

The first submission for CY37 was received 10/24/2011, and the last submission was received by 3/31/2012 (two extensions for full manuscript submission were granted to writers with advanced notice who submitted earlier abstracts to the Editor). Three blind reviewers were selected from the Editorial Board to review each essay. When Editorial Board members were not available, additional ad hoc reviewers were sought to review manuscripts. Three reviewers were utilized in any case where the Editor had an actual or potential conflict of interest with the authors. In some cases, two reviewers were utilized to render a timely editorial decision. The Editorial Staff made as many as 9 contacts with potential reviewers to ensure adequate numbers of reviewers were assigned to each manuscript.

**Time manuscripts are under review**

Approximately 90% of manuscripts with decisions were reviewed within 2.5 months. Some of this time included a delay in re-soliciting and re-contacting reviewers by my Editorial Staff who lacked an automated reminder system. We quickly realized that we would need to expand the number of people on our Editorial Board ready to perform a review. All potential reviewers now receive a ‘nag’ email after 48 hours if they have not confirmed their willingness to perform a review. Similarly, reminders are sent out 1 week before and after reviews are due. Editorial decisions on 2 submissions from 2011 took 5-6 months and represent the extreme cases of a slow editorial turnaround due to review lags. In each case, I was in contact with the authors explaining the reasons for the delay. Now that we have 80+ Editorial Board members, we have been extremely successful assigning reviewers within 2 weeks of their receipt and reassigning manuscripts, as needed. In March and April, there were three cases where I was able to render an editorial decision within 2 weeks. We have had good recent success in improving our turnaround times. When reviewers have dropped out or are delayed, I have replaced them with some reviewers willing to perform “rapid review” services. My most recent editorial decisions have been rendered in less than 40 days. Reviewers are asked to perform reviews within 4 weeks, although more time is given to reviewers who ask for an extension.

**Statistics and Acceptance Rates**

Communication Yearbook received 64 original manuscript submissions for the 2013 volume that were sent out for double-blind peer review. Three desk rejections were issued by the Editor to resolve the disposition of manuscripts that 1) were outside of the communication field or 2) included insufficient communication literature incorporated into the manuscript (and authors were unwilling to revise, when asked) and 9 reviewers were solicited (unsuccessfully, due to lack of interest/perceived relevant in the subject matter) to review a manuscript.

As of 4/20/2012, 3 manuscripts have been accepted with minor revisions, 10 manuscripts have been invited for resubmission with major revisions (3 are unlikely to meet production deadlines for 2013), 3 have been rejected but the authors have been invited to resubmit a re-conceptualized manuscript for 2013 or 2014, and 19 manuscripts have been rejected for further consideration. An additional 28 manuscripts are undergoing their first round of review. The acceptance rate for CY37 will be 19.04%, assuming that 12 manuscripts are accepted for September production.
Topic Areas of submitted and accepted manuscripts

Authors and reviewers submit manuscripts by email, but we are not systematically collecting data from these sources. I roughly examined manuscript titles to see that 13 submissions were “media” related (10 on the topic of media effects, 3 media sociology), 8 organizational communication/networks, 8 interpersonal/intrapersonal/group, 6 persuasion, 5 instructional, 4 methodological, 4 health/science, 4 computer-mediated, 2 political communication, and the remaining 9 were an assortment of “other” submissions. One departure from last year is that no ‘commentaries’ or invited essays are planned for 2013. One manuscript was submitted following a commentary over methods in CY36; however, it has not received favorable reviews and the potential respondent is against continuing the dialogue in CY.

Following Chuck Salmon’s approach, I enlisted Editorial Board members in sending the call for papers to colleagues and solicited manuscripts for review from individuals presenting manuscripts and review essays at ICA on ‘top paper’ panels. I anticipate CY will include range of essays representing outstanding scholarship related to: narrative involvement and media effects on individuals, theorizing about political communication, health care and interpersonal decision-making, organizational and social networks, and research explaining the application of methodological advances (i.e., latent growth modeling in communication research) to communication research among others.

Country of Origin for submitted manuscripts and accepted manuscripts

Roughly 25% of submissions were international in origin. 4 of the 13 manuscripts that have been accepted or invited for resubmission with major revisions are from authors originating outside of the United States. At least 1 is an international scholar publishing within the United States. The international representation on the Editorial Board began at 13%, but we anticipate improving that number to at least 25% by the end of the first year as we continue to identify scholars and authors to include in the process.

Recommendations for 2013:

Continue to add Editorial Board members to further ‘internationalize’ the Board.

Continue to review pieces that received “revise and resubmit” status for CY 37 but do not make the production deadline. These pieces will be automatically reconsidered for CY 38 if the authors are willing for them to continue having them under review for CY.

For 2013-2014 the window to submit new manuscripts for Communication Yearbook 38 will be January 1-February 1, 2013. This will allow us to send manuscripts out to reviewers after the December holidays and semester breaks (avoiding a delay), and expect manuscripts to be returned before many schools have a spring break schedule. [We received 4 manuscript submissions between October 15 and January 1st, 2012, leading us to believe that extending the submission window in the late fall is not useful for authors.]

Editorial Board members will be asked to anticipate receiving 2 manuscripts for review between January 1 and March 1. All reviews will be expected in by April 1.

We will attempt to develop a FilemakerPro database for our internal use to prompt Editorial Board member to return reviews and to track manuscripts and to survey authors for demographic and manuscript topical information. Not having a “Manuscript Central-like” system creates an unnecessary email burden. I will work with a programmer to develop a better system for 2013 during Fall 2012 when we are not under production pressures.
ICA Handbook Series
Robert T. Craig (U of Colorado - Boulder, USA)

The ICA Handbook series is a joint venture between the ICA and Routledge. These handbooks provide benchmark assessments of current scholarship in internationally developing fields of communication research and set the agenda for future work. The series will include handbooks that focus on topical areas, methodological approaches, and theoretical lenses of broad interdisciplinary and international interest.

Series handbooks published as of May, 2012


Handbooks in progress

• Simonson, P., Peck, J., Craig, R. T., & Jackson, J. P. (Eds.). Handbook of Communication History. [publication anticipated early 2013]

• Carbaugh, D. (Ed.). Handbook of Communication in Cross-Cultural Perspective. [publication anticipated 2014]

• Other handbook projects are currently under consideration, with publication of one or two handbooks per year anticipated.

Please announce to your division or interest group: We seek proposals for new ICA Handbook Series volumes and welcome any suggestions or inquiries from ICA members.

Email Robert.Craig@Colorado.edu and/or Linda Bathgate [Senior Editor, Routledge] at Linda.Bathgate@taylorandfrancis.com.