

Annual Report to the International Communication Association

- (i) For the ICA Board Meeting, May 2014
- (ii) For the ICA Annual Report, June 2014

Division/Interest Group: Communication History.....

Chair: Philip Lodge.....

Vice chair: Rick Popp.....

Report

This is our first report as the Communication History Division, having attained that status at the London 2013 Board meeting. Membership is now at 268, and we hope our new standing will attract yet more members.

The London Conference was also very successful for us in terms of our programming: our panels and paper sessions were well attended and much stimulating debate was held. We organised an outstanding two-day pre-conference, *New Histories of Communication Study*, which attracted over 80 delegates from the USA, South America, Canada, many European countries, Australia, and China, many of whom were scholars of world-leading reputation. Our first Communication History Family Breakfast was also a very pleasant social event for members and their families.

In the autumn of 2013, Dave Park (Lake Forest College, Illinois) was elected unopposed as the new Vice Chair of the Division. Dave served as the first Chair of the Communication History Interest Group, and the Division is very pleased to welcome him back to office. He will assume his new role following the Seattle Conference in May 2014.

We received slightly fewer submissions for the Seattle conference than we did for London last year, with 82 papers and 12 panels being offered. Having one more session than in 2013, we have been able to schedule 6 panels and 5 paper sessions, one of which is a high density session, in addition to our 3 interactive poster presentations. We were greatly assisted by our reviewers who came largely from Europe and the USA, but numbers were smaller this year so we had to ask them to carry higher loads than we would have wished. Rebuilding our pool of reviewers for 2015 is a priority for our Seattle business meeting.

Our Top Paper Awards this year goes to Lars Lundgren, and Bohyeong Kim (University of Massachusetts, Amherst) wins our Top Student Paper Award.

Making Sense of Memory and History is our pre-conference for Seattle 2014.

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(i) For the ICA Board Meeting, June 2014

(ii) For the ICA Annual Report, June 2013/14

Division/Interest Group: Communication Law & Policy

Chair: Laura Stein

Vice chair: Seamus Simpson

Report

The CLP division has 274 members (as of 4/14), down from 289 members this time in 2013. 10 panel submissions and 93 individual paper submissions were made to the 2014 annual conference. 1 individual paper submission was disqualified. 73 of the 93 individual submissions were full papers; 20 were short position papers submitted to the extended session, which was conceptualized as an extended and interactive discussion on the conference theme, “communication law/policy and the good life.” The acceptance rate for 2014 conference was 30% for panel submissions, 50% for the extended session position papers, and 53% for individual papers. Three of the 10 panels submitted were accepted, with a preference given to panels with international participants. 29 of the first authors of accepted individual papers were affiliated with US Universities, and 10 with non-US universities (5 Western Europe, 3 East Asia, and 2 Australia). 9 papers accepted in the extended session are from US based scholars, and 1 scholar in this session is from East Asia. The session moderators are both non-US based scholars (1 Canadian and 1 Indian). All 5 poster sessions are from US scholars. 6 of the regular panel session participants are affiliated with US universities, and 9 with non-US universities (2 Western Europe, 1 Eastern Europe, 1 Brazil, 1 Australia, 1 South Asia, 1 East Asia & 2 Canada). An email call for reviewers was put out to all members of the division. We had 68 conference reviewers, 37 male and 31 female. Of these, 48 were from North America (US/Canada), 12 from Europe (including Israel), and 8 from Asia/Australia.

Our incoming chair, Seamus Simpson, is based at a UK university. Our incoming vice-chair, Katharine Sarikakis, is based at the University of Vienna. In addition, we reached out to non-US scholars to chair the division conference sessions. 10 student papers were accepted in the conference program.

This year CL&P took the lead in administering the C. Edwin Baker Award, along with the Philosophy, Theory and Critique division. A panel of 8 invited experts judged 7 submissions and ultimately gave the award to Yuezhi Zhao of Simon Fraser University, Canada. Dr. Zhao was encouraged to submit a panel to ICA, which would also be the venue for award acceptance. Her panel, on political economy and the good life in China, was accepted as one of the conference theme sessions.

Finally, we gave out 3 conference fee waivers to top student papers, and one financial award of \$120 to one of the top three student papers, based on an expression of need. We used the remainder of our budget to hold a division reception during the annual conference.

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Division/Interest Group:..... Environmental Communication

Chair:.....Richard J. Doherty

Vice chair: Merav Katz-Kimchi

Report

Over the last year the Environmental Communication Interest Group (ECIG) reached 200 members and has maintained it for almost 6 months. Group diversity has been stable, and includes the current vice-chair from Israel. As well, we award travel funds to students from outside the US whenever possible, and those furthest from the conference site.

The annual conference planning for London included 76 submissions (69 papers, 7 panels) and accepted 26 papers in 6 panels, 2 posters, and an extended session. We had an overall acceptance rate of 35%. A joint reception with VisComm, and a business meeting rounded out the ECIG offerings.

At the conference in London, one student and two faculty received Top Paper award certificates, and 4 students received travel awards of \$150 each. Two students and one faculty received registration waivers.

Other activity included assisting the Greening of ICA committee with the Greening web page, and strengthening ties with the International Environmental Communication Association.

Future activity includes maintaining the diverse 200+ membership for another year to gain Division status, election of new vice-chair and secretary, and web site enhancement.

ICA report

Feminist Scholarship Division

Paula Gardner, Chair, May 2014

The Feminist Scholarship Division received 142 paper proposals and 17 proposals for roundtables and panels for the 2014 conference in Seattle. We accepted 35 papers and 6 panels. The FSD acceptance rate, was 24% for papers while and 35% for panels/roundtables. Over the past few years, FSD has enjoyed growing interest and participation, as reflected in the competitive acceptance level. We note, as well, an increase in engaging and well-formed panels that have resulted in a slightly higher acceptance rate over papers.

The FSD budget of \$2567, supported the reception for the annual FSD Teresa Award (\$500); provided \$400 in travel grants to scholars in need; awarded \$100 to the top FSD paper; and provided \$1267 toward our joint conference reception with Philosophy, Theory and Critique.

FSD also provided \$300 to co-sponsor the “Technologies of Sex and Gender Unconference” to be held on May 22, organized by GLBT and cosponsored by FSD, Pop Comm, ERIC, GCSC, Comm History and Games Studies. FSD is proud to co-sponsor this conference, which unites scholars, activists and artists to examine our current efforts in the areas of gender, sexuality, communication, media, and technology.

This year, a subcommittee of members headed by long time Feminist Scholarship Division member Marian Myers, has been working on a report to be brought, when completed, to the ICA Board. The report investigates ongoing inequitable power and salary disparities experienced by female university faculty internationally, with attention to discrimination against women based on race, ethnicity, ability, sexual preference, age and etc. This subcommittee has representation from a diverse group of

scholars from FSD and the work has been vetted across ICA divisions with allied and similar concerns. The subcommittee expects to present its report to the Board in the next year.

We are pleased, again, this year, to offer the Teresa Award, in recognition of career excellence in feminist scholarship. This event will be held in Seattle following our FSD business meeting, on 23 May.

FSD is hosting a joint reception with Philosophy, Theory and Critique on 25 May at the conference hotel, in the Grand Ballroom.