

International Communication Association 2007-2008 Annual Report



ICA Headquarters
Washington, DC, USA

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Welcome **2007-2008** from the President

ICA's first Annual Report!

Initiating an annual report – for the benefit of both members and interested others - provides me with the opportunity to announce that it's been a very good year for the association. The institutional basics of great conferences, strong publications, effective organisation, sound finances and growing membership – now over 4000 members worldwide - are all in place and have been for some time. This frees us to ask, what next for ICA and how should we get there?

Many such issues were discussed in division and interest group meetings, at the Board of Directors' meeting, and informally in the corridors during the recent annual conference in Montreal. And of course, as we make positive advances, new issues continue to arise; thus lively conversations about ICA's priorities and future direction are unending!

Now that my presidency is complete, I'll take this occasion to review how ICA has moved forward over the past year, following the priorities I set out in my 2005 candidate statement of internationalisation, transparency, visibility.

Internationalisation

Making ICA more international has been a priority for the association for some years, for it has required some significant structural and cultural changes. I think there are good signs that ICA is, indeed, becoming more international – in its membership, its conferences and publications and, less tangible but not less important, in its awareness of diverse modes of scholarship world wide and its ambition to bring these together constructively. Our new journal just launched, *Communication, Culture, & Critique*, edited by Karen Ross, is an excellent illustration of this ambition.



Sonia Livingstone
ICA President 2007-2008

In the past year, the internationalisation committee has been very active, initiating a Board policy on supporting regional conferences (several of which are to be held this and next year, in Mexico City, Melbourne and Budapest – check out <http://www.icahdq.org/conferences/pastfutureconferences.asp>) and proposing the Board decision that each Member-at-Large should nominate two candidates for ICA awards each year. The board also agreed, in January, that efforts to further internationalise the association would be an agenda item for division and interest group business meetings in Montreal. Further ideas as to how to advance this agenda are most welcome.

The composition of ICA's committees this year was roughly half US scholars and half from a wide range of countries, thus over-representing international scholars when compared with membership. This balance also applied to the awards committees but, notwithstanding the best efforts of the committees and without belying the excellence of this year's recipients, I note that it is still proving difficult to encourage an international spread of award nominations. Nominating excellent scholarship for ICA awards could and should be, I urge, something for all members to undertake every now and again.

Turning to publications, the publications committee this year debated styles for manuscript submission, recognising that conventions vary by country. Although it was agreed that APA would remain the publication style, it was made clear that for those unfamiliar with APA, submission style should not affect publication decisions. ICA's publisher, Wiley-Blackwell, has an author assistance program now in place to provide, for a fee, editorial assistance in meeting language and style requirements. Most exciting, last year's decision to translate all ICA journal abstracts into French, German, Spanish, Mandarin and Korean is now well established. These can be accessed from both the publisher's and the journals' websites.

I've been working to increase our links with other communication associations. The newly formed European association (ECREA) has now joined ICA, as has the Spanish Communication Association, and discussions are underway with the Asian Media and Information Centre (AMIC), among others. Following a request from the International Federation of Communication Associations, the Executive Committee has agreed to provide resources, both financial and in kind, to help its efforts especially to support the formation of new communication associations in developing countries.

Some members have noticed that I work down the corridor from the current president of IAMCR! I have taken this coincidence of presidencies to clarify and extend our friendly working relations with IAMCR by negotiating a formal Memorandum of Understanding (members can see this on the members' only section of the website, under 'governance'). Approved by the January board meeting, this accords IAMCR honorary association status in ICA, meaning for example that all IAMCR members can register for ICA conferences at the members' rate, as well as encouraging more informal collaboration between our two associations.

One long-hoped for task is now coming to fruition, namely that the ICA website should be a resource by which to locate communication associations around the world, whether or not they are formally linked to ICA. The Internationalisation Committee and others have been collecting names and urls for as many associations as possible, and Sam Luna has done a fantastic job of linking them into an interactive world map on the website. The

idea is that, if you are visiting another country, or want to find information about communication scholarship outside your own country, this would be a great place to start. The list of communication associations that we have so far, while growing fast, is nonetheless incomplete and anyone reading this is invited to add to the list if possible.

Transparency

I was partly inspired to stress the importance of transparency in my election statement because, when I first stood for election, so many people asked me – how does ICA work, who does what, how is the money spent and, most important perhaps, I don't know how to get involved. So, working closely with the ICA office, we've put a lot of effort into the website this year to improve transparency, building on the big redesign of the website in the previous year.

The Board of Directors' meeting minutes are now posted on the members' only section of the website (under 'Governance'), along with the association's budget. We hope, too, that the redesigned website makes it easier to find out what all the committees do, what task forces exist, who won previous years' awards, and more.

Since transparency doesn't only mean putting the information online, but also means helping people find it, we've introduced a Frequently Asked Questions feature, both to address questions directly and to provide convenient links to different parts of the website. The FAQs on the ICA home page should aid both members and anyone else wanting to know more about ICA, including those who might join and want to learn more first. Do check these out on the home page and, if you wish to suggest an additional FAQ, let us know and we will add it. soon to be added is a further set of members only FAQs, designed to answer specific questions about governance and participation, such as how is ICA governed, how are divisions and interest groups established, what does the board do, and how are things decided – officers, conferences, budgets, and so forth.

Beyond letting people know what ICA is up to, for example via the FAQs and the production of this Annual Report, the purpose of transparency is to facilitate accountability of officer-holders to the membership and, further, to enable more people to become more involved so as to take

forward improvements and new initiatives. To this end, Sam Luna has created a social networking facility on the website to make it easier to find colleagues according to member profiles and to hold discussions in division/interest group forums. This will be most useful if all members fill out their member profile on the ICA website – so please do so!

Visibility

Although communication is well established in many countries in terms of teaching, scholarship, publication and policy, it is not always as visible as we would hope to the wider public – both the general public and the specialist publics of other academic disciplines, funding organisations and policy makers.

Some of the initiatives noted above, in terms of internationalisation and transparency, will enhance the visibility of the association and, more importantly, communication scholarship – for example, the journal abstracts in multiple languages, the annual report and the links with other communication associations. The recent expansion of ICA awards, to recognise and reward excellent work in urban communication, communication research as a collaborative practice and as an agent of social change, and the award for those outside communication who have significantly contributed to it, should also aid visibility.

Coming soon is a newly enhanced ICA Newsletter, following the appointment as Content Editor of Mohan Dutta. He will be including short articles on, for example, research from all continents, current policy debates, major conferences, ICA award winners, and more – all to promote communication scholarship. Also, ICA continues year on year to expand its range of publications – this past year has seen the first book on the annual conference theme, entitled *Participation and media production: Critical reflections on content creation* and edited by Nico Carpentier and Benjamin De Cleen; and it has seen the long-awaited appearance of the twelve-volume *International Encyclopedia of Communication*, edited by Wolfgang Donsbach.

I know that my successors, now Patrice Buzzanell and, next, Barbie Zelizer, are keen to advance the visibility of communication scholarship over the coming few years. One difficulty is that publicity is

expensive: for example, it would take significant resources to appoint even a part-time press officer to promote our activities and research, though this might be of great value. Another issue – perhaps also an exciting opportunity – is the question of open access publication, for this would make communication research much more widely and easily available but at a cost to the traditional publication business model and, it might be added, to a key source of revenue for ICA. This is a fast moving issue and is now very much on ICA's agenda.

Many of the foregoing, and many other, initiatives and activities are outlined in the pages of this Annual Report. The report includes accounts of the past year's work from all ICA's divisions, interest groups, committees and task forces, as well as reports from the Fellows, the Executive Director, and more. Further information, as always, can be obtained from the website and from the Office in Washington. Don't hesitate to ask.

Finally, I warmly thank all those who have worked with me over the past year or more, and I offer my very best wishes to ICA's new president, Patrice Buzzanell, and to all those who, I know, will continue to work hard to ensure this association offers its members, and the field of communication, its very best energies and ideas in the coming year.

President Sonia Livinstone (London School of Economics and Political Science, United Kingdom) and Fellows Chair Peter Monge (U of Southern California, USA) congratulate newly elected Fellow Sandra J. Ball-Rokeach (U of Southern California, USA). Photo by Michael Vila, 2008



A Message from the President Elect



Patrice M. Buzzanell, President-Elect and 2008 Conference Programmer

2008-2009

Report on the 2008 Conference *Delivered to the ICA Executive Committee and Board of Directors*

In brief, the 2008 ICA Conference in Montréal attracted 2617 submissions* with an unusual submission spike of over 2,000 within the final 24 hours. These final entries into All Academic constituted 85% of total submissions for the 2008 conference in Montreal. With an acceptance rate of 43% guiding the allocation of panel sessions for each division and interest group,** the Montréal conference was the largest conference outside of the United States and the second largest conference in the history of ICA. An overview of this conference can be conveyed through the following points:

- There were 429 sessions based on paper and panel presentation including plenaries, miniplenaries, and theme sessions but excluding additional sessions such as receptions. The All Academic system includes all sessions and reports 474 final total sessions including paper, poster, reception, meeting, panel, and roundtable discussion sessions.
- This year, we programmed two plenary sessions: the Opening Plenary, featuring the National Film Board of Canada's award winning program "*Filmmaker-in-Residence*," and the Interactive Paper/Poster Session renamed Scholar-to-Scholar this year.
- Seven miniplenary sessions were scheduled at noon on Friday and Saturday (see below for list). This new feature of miniplenaries rather than multiple plenary sessions including an inaugural series of ICA Fellows' presentations. Modeled after the "Last Lecture" series that has garnered quite a bit of media coverage, including significant YouTube hits, this Fellows' series was reworked in title and theme, through the assistance of Peter Monge as Fellows' chair, to focus on the Future of our Field. There was some discussion that if this series goes well, there eventually may be an edited book collection of Fellows' presentations.

- Consistent with the theme of **“Communicating for Social Impact”** and following past ICA Conference Planners, there were 13 theme sessions (detailed below).

- Eight preconferences were scheduled and earned sufficient registration to be included in the final program. These preconference lasted anywhere from a half day (Thursday) through two full days (off site at HEC Montréal on Wednesday and Thursday). Some preconferences were oversubscribed.

- This year, we received 89 travel grant applications from 16 faculty and 73 students through our online travel grants submission process. We were able to award some funds to everyone who had an accepted conference paper or presentation. We awarded \$18,275 in cash and \$8925 in conference waivers. These are final award funds allocation figures and do not represent actual expenditures as some awardees may not attend the conference. In these cases, funds allocated to these individuals remain in ICA accounts. In addition, we also provided \$6,000 in matching funds to divisions and interest groups. Some divisions and interest groups set aside a portion of their own funds as awards to defray travel costs. Each unit was reminded that the division or interest group had up to three conference waivers per unit to allocate as its conference planner(s) and/or officers saw fit. In all, the travel grants, unit funds,

and waivers were allocated as great support for the quality work of our students and faculty, especially those residing in developing countries.

- In scheduling panels for a feasible but varied schedule, we had parallel sessions averaging in the mid-20s. There were 25-27 parallel sessions daily (Friday-26, Saturday-27, Sunday-25) with the exception of Monday when 15 or 16 sessions were programmed concurrently.

- The Scholar to Scholar Interactive Paper/Poster Session was renamed after considerable discussion and had 22 poster sessions with 147 papers. In addition to the cash prizes that are awarded to the top papers from every division and interest group that programmed papers into the Scholar to Scholar session, Barbie Zelizer added a new award for posters with visual appeal. The awards and winners are listed below.

- For the 2008 conference, we followed recommendations in the online survey results as much as possible. We retained some features from last year with modifications:

9 am – 6 pm schedule for the most part (survey feedback was positive)

Cybercafé (free wireless, still need to bring their own laptops)

PowerPoint in every conference room

Film series (not on a single day, as was done in the 2007

San Francisco Conference, but interspersed and located within theme, miniplenary, and plenary sessions).

Refreshments at cybercafé and book exhibits-- Refreshments were scheduled for 10 am and 2 pm each day. An informal poll of book and other exhibitors as well as conference attendees indicated that they liked the design of the cybercafé, exhibits, and registration area. The exhibitors thought that the design brought more people to their exhibits and was a pleasant environment.

- We added all-association miniplenary/plenary reception on Friday at 6 pm. This reception was open to all ICA members and their guests, featured Canadian foods (specifically those from Quebec), and honored our miniplenary/plenary speakers. It was well attended and enjoyable.

Prior to the conference when preregistration closed (5/22/08 print outs), the total conference registration was 1778 (compared to 1872 last year for San Francisco at this time). At the conclusion of registration, 2107 were registered for the 2008 conference.

Excursions did not fare well in preregistration. This was anticipated because of the city venue with attractions within walkable distance and/or Metro access. Most of the excursions were cancelled.

Following conference feedback from last year and consistent with our conference theme, we added recycling. There were

recycling locations for the conference bag and for paper at the table at Registration and nearby (recycling bins) if attendees did not want paper inserts from conference bags. Bags could not be recycled but were collected for redistribution).

Some features that seemed worth discussing at the Board meeting were that there doesn't seem to be best practices or sharing among division/interest groups. At the board meeting, it was determined that an online meeting would take place. Some examples of differences that might productively be shared are:

- Some divisions/interest groups have no top paper acknowledgements (Political Communication), others have spread the top papers throughout the program (CAT)
- One division (PR) has an “unplugged” session for discussion (no technology)
- Some divisions/interest groups are using the high density format with apparent good results. Others are focusing on discussion among audience members and panelists rather than having respondents.
- Unit planners also had a discussion this year about late possible attendees (Simon Ellis from UNESCO) and several suggestions about how to accommodate people and associations we would really like to attract to ICA conferences were described.

Opening Plenary, Miniplenary, and Reception for Speakers

Opening Plenary

The Opening Plenary is Filmmaker-in-Residence, the National Film Board production (see <http://www.nfb.ca/filmmakerinresidence>), was scheduled for Thursday evening, May 22, and featured Tom Perlmutter, the Government Film Commissioner and President of the National Film Board of Canada, and Filmmaker-in-Residence producer Gerry Flahive (facilitated by André Caron). Filmmaker-in-Residence website recently won the prestigious Webby Award which was presented in New York City in June 2008. Other entrants for the 'Documentary Series' category were the M.I.T. Media Lab, PBS, and the National Public Radio.

Miniplenary Sessions

Seven Miniplenary sessions were scheduled at noon on Friday and Saturday:

- Arthur Frank talked about healing, health, and narratives in the panel, **“Narrating Our Health: A Discussion with Arthur Frank”** (program #3441).
- Maria do Carmo de Souza Reis, Adriana Machado Casali, and Claudio Cardoso from Brazil; Olga Leontovich and Irina N. Rozina from Russia; and Guoliang Zhang from Shanghai Jiao Tong U in the People's Republic of China discussed **“Regional Communication Scholarship for Social Change”** (program #3442). We regretted that Zhengrong Hu from the Communication U of China in Beijing could not attend.
- Annie Lang, Jim Taylor, and M. Scott Poole (facilitated by Peter Monge and Patrice Buzzanell) shared their reflections about our field in **“Projections for the Future from Reflections on the Past: A New ICA Fellows Forum on Communication, I”** (program #3440). We regretted that Jennings Bryant was unable to participate in this ICA Fellows session.
- John Daly, Cindy Gallois, and Larry Gross (facilitated by Peter Monge) continued the discussion about the future of our field in **“Projections for the Future from Reflections on the Past: A New ICA Fellows Forum on Communication, II”** (program #4440).
- Emily Russo and Sean Farnel (with Christian Christensen and Jeffrey P. Jones as respondents) shared their insights about the status of documentary films in **“Beyond Moore: Considering the Resurgence of Political Documentary Films”** (program #4442).
- Michael X. Delli Carpini, Hope Cummings, Russell Newman, and U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders addressed issues in current media debates in **“Linking Scholars to Communication Policymaking: The COMPASS Experience”** (program #4441).
- Susan Nosov, Daniel Cross, and Reisa

Levine (facilitated by Katherine Baulu) discussed the work of the National Film Board of Canada in creating and distributing community-driven projects, documentaries, and other media materials in **“Engaged, Digital, Unique—Models for Community Media Initiatives”** (program #4450)

Theme Sessions

There were 13 Theme Sessions scattered throughout the program:

Friday, May 23, 2008, we had 4 Theme sessions:

- **Preparing Students to Communicate for Social Impact in Jesuit Education**
- **Leading Communication Associations for Social Impact: CCA (Council of Communication Associations) Address the Future of the Field**
- **Re-Envisioning Research Methods to Communicate for Social Impact**
- **When the Internet Reaches the Villages**
- **Communications Scholars as Public Intellectuals: Challenges and Responsibilities**
- **Communication Innovation in Conflict, Collaboration, Deliberation, and Dialogue**
- **Top Papers Related to the ICA Conference Theme: Communicating for Social Impact**

Saturday, May 24, 2008, we had programmed another 4 sessions:

- **Documenting and Disrupting (Dis)ability Through Film: Communicating for Social Impact**

Theme Sessions

5 Theme Session panels were scheduled for Sunday, May 25, 2008:

Communication in Action: Scholarly Intervention at Local and National Levels

Convergence and Collaboration: Communication Research, Activism, and Education for the Common Good

The Social Impact of Networking the Poor for Development

Communicating for Social and Occupational Change: Girls and Women in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)

Communicating for Social Impact in Public Discourse

Scholar to Scholar Interactive Paper/Poster Session Awards

The **top papers** from divisions and interest groups received cash awards. Three members of the Executive Committee from ICA participated on this award committee (Sonia Livingstone, Ron Rice, and Wolfgang Donsbach). Barbie Zelizer coordinated this award committee.

The criteria for this award included significance for the field strength of conceptualization and method, data analysis (or equivalent) and interpretation, and finally, style and presentation. The first three of these criteria were assessed

ahead of time because the committee read all of the top ranked papers that had been submitted from divisions/ interest groups for the Scholar to Scholar session. The fourth criteria, style and presentation, was assessed during the poster session. The 1st place award recipient receives \$500, the 2nd place award recipient receives \$250 and the 3rd place award recipient receives \$100. The recipients of these awards were:

1st Place: “Experimental Evidence of the Knowledge Gap: Message Arousal, Motivation, and Time Delay,” Maria Elizabeth Grabe (*Indiana U, USA*), Narine S. Yeghayan, (*Indiana U, USA*), Rasha Kamhawi, (*U of Florida, USA*)

2nd Place: “Defoe’s London: The Emerging Bourgeois Public Sphere and the Changing World of an English Merchant,” Juraj Kittler, (*Pennsylvania State U, USA*)

3rd Place: “Leni-Riefenstahlization of US Politics? The Visual Legacy of the Bush Administration - A View From Abroad,” Marion G. Mueller (*Jacobs U – Bremen, Germany*), Carola Betzold, (*Jacobs U Bremen, Germany*), Friedrich Kauder (*Jacobs U Bremen, Germany*), Johannes Loh (*Jacobs U Bremen, Germany*)

In addition, we introduced a new award this year, the **Best Visual Display Award**, which was designed by our 2008 President-Elect-Select Barbie Zelizer (*U of Pennsylvania, USA*). This award was designed to look at all of the posters in the Scholar to Scholar session with regard to aesthetic appeal and display of research. The committee was composed of Patrice Buzzanell (*Purdue U,*



USA), Karin Becker (*Stockholm U, Sweden*), and Gianpietro Mazzoleni (*U of Milan, Italy*).

The criteria for this award included clarity, flow between sections, relationship of text to image, and visual appeal. The recipient of this award receives \$100. The recipient of this award for the 2008 ICA Conference was:

“I Didn’t Do Anything Important”: A Pragmatist Analysis of the Oral History Interview, Kathleen M. Ryan (*U of Oregon, USA*).

Additional Notes

The final submission statistics are as follows:

Numbers and Submission Type	Accepted Submissions
120 abstracts	48
2465 papers	1255
3 session paper	1
31 works in progress	7
Total 2617	Total 1313

**This acceptance rate was calculated using the ICA equation for fair distribution among divisions and interest groups based on unit size and other factors. Although the acceptance rate is standardized across ICA units, there still is variation among divisions and interest groups as particular unit planners find creative ways to include more quality submissions as, for example, through high density sessions that might have up to 8 or 10 presentations in contrast to the panel size of four presentations noted in the session allocation formula

Executive Director's Report

Report prepared by Michael Haley

ICA, as an organization ends the year as a very healthy association. ICA's membership is strong with approximately 4,300 members per year. The last fiscal year's finances are good and we are in our second full year of owning and operating the new office building. The ICA staff continue to work with the Executive Committee to add new features to the website and to make it more interactive. Several things have been added to the website, including a list of links to other international organizations, a forum for divisions to interact with their members, and an enhanced "My ICA" area. Sam Luna facilitated a special training for division officers on Friday at the conference to help them utilize the tools better.

ICA is cosponsoring a conference in Mexico City with the American Communication Association in October, 2008. We are working with the Center for Media and Communication Studies (CMCS) in Budapest to cosponsor a program in June, 2009. Additionally, we are looking at a regional conference in Melbourne, Australia in 2009.

The launch of the new journal, *Communication, Culture & Critique* has gone well and the feedback has been tremendous. All the journals and language translation of abstracts were "rolled out" by Wiley-Blackwell at the conference. The International Encyclopedia was also highlighted at the conference.

ICA began the process of allowing members to choose fewer journals to receive by mail. Most members who have renewed have elected to limit their mail subscriptions. This has the potential of increasing revenue to ICA in the future. There have been some difficulties, but we are working them out on a person by person basis.

The interior remodel of the ICA office building was finished in December 2006. The exterior will be

completed in the fall of 2008. ICA members are encouraged to visit the offices whenever they are in the Washington DC area.

Active Members, May 2008

▪ Association	13
▪ Emeritus	38
▪ Family	12
▪ Family - Additional	9
▪ Institution	43
▪ Institutional Member	30
▪ Life	172
▪ Regular	2403
▪ Student	1456
▪ Sustaining	100
Total	4277



Michael L. Haley
ICA Executive Director

Children, Adolescents and the Media	111
Communication and Technology	850
Communication History	179
Communication Law and Policy	312
Ethnicity and Race in Communication	278
Feminist Scholarship	292
Game Studies	194
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Studies	112
Global Communication & Social Change	308
Health Communication	592
Information Systems	343
Instructional/Developmental Communication	225
Intercultural Communication	589
Intergroup Communication	133
Interpersonal Communication	523
Journalism Studies	500
Language and Social Interaction	281
Mass Communication	1309
Organizational Communication	654
Philosophy of Communication	430
Political Communication	689
Popular Communication	371
Public Relations	416
Visual Communication Studies	288

The 2009 Annual Conference

ICA's 59th annual conference will be meeting May 21-25, 2009 in Chicago

Prepared by Barbie Zelizer

Taking place at the Marriott Downtown Chicago in the middle of Miraculous Mile, the conference venue puts us in walking distance of many of Chicago's central charms - shopping, great restaurants, museums, the pier - at an affordable hotel rate of \$109 per day.

The hope is that next year's conference will coax people to venture beyond their comfort zone - both conceptually and pragmatically.

Conceptually, the conference theme is "**Keywords in Communication.**" Drawing from the British cultural critic Raymond Williams, who argued that groups build key terms of reference by which they collectively make sense of things around them, the theme affords us the opportunity to begin dialogue about what we value as a field - the central ideas, frames of reference and shared terms that have remained relevant over time as well as those that have disappeared from use.



Barbie Zelizer
President Elect Select
and 2009 Conference
Planner

In addition to the regular theme panels, all program chairs and program planners will have additional programming slots available to accommodate sessions that bring together members of at least four different divisions and interest groups to discuss a shared issue, problem or term of reference that they view differently. The hope is that these initiatives will facilitate conversation on topics across divisions and interest groups not only about what we think but about how and why we think in the ways we do. This affords us the opportunity to take stock of where we are as a field and perhaps think about where we'd like to go next. The theme chair is Stuart Allan (*Bournemouth U, United Kingdom*) (sallan@bournemouth.ac.uk).

Pragmatically, we are planning an initiative to help members acquaint themselves with one of Chicago's key attributes - its neighborhoods. These neighborhoods - Italian, Greek, Swedish, South Asian,



Mexican, among others – boast their own vibrant museums, restaurants, stores and sites of interest, and many are either walking distance or a short L ride from the hotel. There will be an orientation session early in the conference to explain how to reach some of them and what there is to see, and graduate students from the greater Chicago area will be on hand throughout the conference to help lead members in their direction. The Local Arrangements Committee Co-chairs are James Ettema (*Northwestern U*) (j-ettema@northwestern.edu) and Kevin Barnhurst (*U of Illinois at Chicago, USA*) (kqbcomm@uic.edu).

All signs indicate that next year's conference may well be one of the larger gatherings in our association's history. So plan early for what we hope will be a fantastic and fruitful time in Chicago.

Water Tower, Chicago

ICA Annual Awards 2007-2008

Research Awards Committee Chair
Christina Slade (*Macquarie U, Australia*)

ICA's annual awards exist to recognize and reward excellence in communication scholarship worldwide. The awards are presented at the annual conference each year. For 2007-8, award recipients, and the basis for the award decision, are presented below.

B. Aubrey Fisher Mentorship Award

2007 - 2008 Committee
Chaired by Franklin Boster,
Peter Monge, Patricia Moy,
Elizabeth Toth, Howie Giles,
Elena Pernia

2008 Recipient: Sandi Smith (Michigan State U, USA)

This award is bestowed for devotion to the scholarly development of graduate students and junior faculty. Sandi's enthusiastic mentorship has impacted the field of communication through her students' achievements. Her advisees have gone on to academic positions and continue to produce and publish high quality research. In turn, her advisees have taken Sandi's model of mentorship and applied it to their own advising relationships. Additionally, two of her students worked for the

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to lead national health campaigns. Therefore, Sandi's influence as a mentor has impacted both the academy and the nation's public health through her students. Sandi reaches out far beyond the call of duty and sees the health, happiness, and the scholarship of all students in her department as her cause. She is truly selfless.

Stephen H Chaffee Career Productivity Award

2007 - 2008 Committee
Chaired by Judee Burgoon
Stan Deetz, Donal Carbaugh,
Cindy Gallois, Peter Dahlgren

2008 Recipient: Marshall Scott Poole (U of Illinois, USA)

Scott Poole has a productive and distinguished record, with very strong publications in top journals in communication and management. His books focus on group processes, management communication, and related areas. He has a record of extramural funding. He has an exceptional record of funding for programmatic research, influence beyond communication to management, important leadership positions in communication, effective liaison with other organizations

and his work is widely cited in other disciplines. He is an ICA Fellow and has other awards. His service to ICA and NCA is very strong. His influence on the field of organisational communication is massive, at both the theoretical and methodological level.

Outstanding Book Award

2007 - 2008 Committee
Chaired by Ling Chen
Valeria Manusov, Paolo Mancini,
Clifford Nass, Ted Zorn

2008 Recipient: Philip N Howard (U of Washington, Seattle, USA)

Philip N. Howard's (2006) *New Media Campaigns and the Managed Citizen* (New York: Cambridge U) stands out in the literature on the impact of technology on the U.S. political culture. It synthesizes a series of studies, providing extensive empirical and critical analysis with innovative methodology. It presents compelling arguments of the institutional significance of technology in organization of political campaigns and its culture and makes important theoretical contributions. Drawing upon a wide range of literature and scholarly traditions, the book is refreshing for its substantive relevance to many

areas represented in the ICA and to its members as scholars and citizens.

Outstanding Article Award

2007 - 2008 Committee
Chaired by Nurit Guttman
Bruce Bimber, Albert Gunther,
Debashish Munshi, Don Ellis

2008 Recipients: Cynthia and Michael Stohl (U of California, Santa Barbara, USA)

Cynthia and Michael Stohl's article, "**Networks of Terror: Theoretical Assumptions and Pragmatic Consequences,**" *Communication Theory*, 17(2), is timely, conceptually sophisticated and yet lucidly-written, and provides fresh understandings of networks. It transcends sub-disciplinary boundaries by providing clear insights into what is a broad communication issue and by being international in its scope. This article really represents communication scholarship at its best. It is theoretically sound, empirically substantiated, but also practically oriented. In other words, it really demonstrates how communication studies can be concretely relevant to address vital and urgent questions like terrorism in our contemporary world.

Applied/Public Policy Research Award

2007 - 2008 Committee
Chaired by Jan van Dijk
Pat Aufderheide, Kirsten Drotner,
Michael McDevitt,
Cees Hamelink

2008 Recipient: Dale Kunkel (U of California Santa Barbara, USA)

Over a 25-year span, Professor Kunkel's research concerning media and children has had real impact, ranging from empirical assessments of media content that have informed federal policy through direct contributions to legislation such as the Children and Media Research Act. His work has also been influential in reports to federal agencies, corporations, and foundations. Prof. Kunkel has substantially promoted public awareness of media issues implicated in human development while advancing policy and regulatory structures in the best interests of children.

Young Scholar Award

2007 - 2008 Committee
Chaired by Tamara Afifi
Claes de Vreese, Nadia Caidi, Lidwien van de Wijngaert,
Laura Guerrero

2008 Recipient: Hee Sun Park (Michigan State U, USA)

Hee Sun Park has firmly established herself as one of the top young scholars in the discipline, having won major research awards for her articles and publishing in our top journals. She has a total of 45 refereed publications early in her career; 16 articles are in the flagship journals *Communication Monographs* and *Human Communication Research*, and three have won article awards from NCA and ICA. She has also become well known for her knowledge and use of advanced statistical techniques, which further contributes to the quality of her work.

James Carey Urban Communication Award

2007 - 2008 Committee
Chaired by Lana Rakow:
Bella Mody, Paschal Preston, Leo Jeffres, Casey Lum,
Harvey Jassem

2008 Recipient: Yong Jun Shin (U of Wisconsin Madison, USA)

Yong Jun Shin is a doctoral candidate in mass communication at the U of Wisconsin-Madison. His research project, "**Interaction Between Urban Politics and Communication Ecology: With the Case of a Local Low-Income Housing Policy,**" investigates the impact of mass media and Internet-driven alternative media on low-income housing policy, programming, and civic participation in a U.S. local urban community. This work in progress is innovative and ambitious, and is based on a strong theoretical and historical foundation in both communication and urban studies.

Communication as Agent of Change

2007 - 2008 Committee
Chaired by Ingrid Volkmer
Monroe Price, Joe Karaganis,
Sandra Braman, Myria Georgiou

2008 Recipient: Arvind Singhal (U of Texas at El Paso, USA)

Singhal's work reflects a model of how communication concepts can be used for delivering important societal issues to those publics which do not have access to scientific knowledge and its meaning in everyday life. This work is a model for knowledge transfer from academia to a wider public. He has advocated the use of communication theories and research to promote social changes globally. As well, he has played a pivotal role in applying theories to real world contexts, producing significant social changes, and he has played an important role in the diffusion of innovative ways to assess media effects in developing countries. He additionally represents our discipline in important national and international agencies. His advancement of theory and research in social influence processes, his commitment to high standards, and his collegiality – toward students, colleagues in our discipline, colleagues outside our discipline, and working professionals in other countries, attest to why he was selected by the committee.

Communication Research as Open Field

2007 - 2008 Committee
Chaired by Ingrid Volkmer
Monroe Price, Joe Karaganis,
Sandra Braman, Myria Georgiou

2008 Recipient Barry Wellman (U of Toronto, Canada)

Barry Wellman's work has been very influential in media and communication research and his work on networks is becoming increasingly relevant to communication scholarship across a range of sub-disciplines. The contribution of Wellman to media and communication

scholarship is reflected in the numerous references to his work across a range of media and communication studies. Social network analysis has been used in media and communication research and has inspired numerous established and younger scholars. He has contributed to the field of communication by bringing his sociological sensibilities to the study of communication and information technology.

Report from ICA Fellows

Report prepared by Peter Monge

People sometimes ask what it is that Fellows do. Fellows do what almost all ICA members do. We teach classes, conduct research, write books and journal articles, give lectures, and mentor students. Fellow status in ICA is primarily an honorific, a recognition of distinguished scholarly contributions to the broad field of communication based on a documented record of scholarly achievement. Fellows seek to recognize and promote distinguished scholarship by electing new Fellows and by the Annual ICA Fellows Book Award.



Peter Monge (U of Southern California, USA) and ICA Fellows Chair

This year the ICA Fellows felt that it was important to increase the number of scholars who were being elected as Fellows each year. Consequently, they submitted to the Board of Directors a Bylaws amendment that changed the criteria for electing new Fellows from two-thirds to a majority of all voting Fellows. The Board of Directors endorsed the Bylaws amendment, placed it on the annual election ballot, and the members of the association approved it.

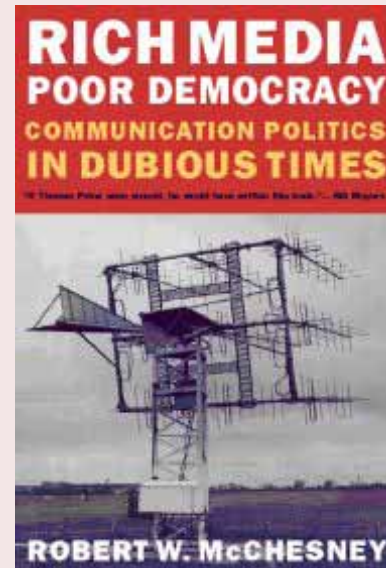
List of current Fellows

The Fellows Book Award “recognizes those books that have made a substantial contribution to the scholarship of the communication field as well as the broader rubric of the social sciences and have stood some test of time.” The members of the Fellows Book Award Committee this year were Jim Anderson, Jennings Bryant, Mary Anne Fitzpatrick, Rod Hart, and Scott Poole (Chair).

The recipient of this year’s award was Robert McChesney (*U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA*) for ***Rich Media, Poor Democracy: Communication Politics in Dubious Times***, published by the *University of Illinois Press* in 1999.

Every year ICA honors its new fellows (elected the previous year) with a conference program focused on their work. This year six new fellows were honored in two mini-plenary sessions organized by ICA president-elect, Patrice Buzzanell. New Fellows John Daly, Cindy Gallois, Larry Gross, Annie Lang, Marshall Scott Poole, and James R. Taylor made presentations.

Peter Monge served as Chair of the Fellows this year. Howie Giles was elected Chair of the Fellows for 2008-2009. Mary Anne Fitzpatrick has agreed to chair the Fellows Book Award Committee for the coming year.



Six new Fellows elected this year

Sandra J. Ball-Rokeach, Professor of Communication, Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs (*The Annenberg School for Communication, U of Southern California, USA*)

Brant R. Bureson, Professor of Communication (*Purdue U, USA*)

Jesse G. Delia, Professor of Communication, Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs (*U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA*)

Jon F. Nussbaum, Professor of Communication (*Pennsylvania State U, USA*)

Patti M. Valkenburg, Professor of Child and Media Research (*U of Amsterdam, The Netherlands*)

Barbara J. Wilson, Professor of Communication and Head of the *Communication Department (U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA)*

James A. Anderson, U of Utah
Charles Atkin, Michigan State U
Sandra J. Ball-Rokeach, U of Southern California
Janet Bavelas, U of Victoria
Samuel L. Becker, U of Iowa
Charles R. Berger, U of California - Davis
Jay Blumler, U of Leeds
James Bradac (Deceased), U of California - Santa Barbara
Jennings Bryant, U of Alabama
Judee K. Burgoon, U of Arizona
Michael Burgoon, U of Arizona
Brant R. Bureson, Purdue U
Joanne Cantor, U of Wisconsin - Madison
Joseph N. Cappella, U of Pennsylvania
James W. Carey (Deceased), Columbia U
Steve Chaffee (Deceased), U of California - Santa Barbara
Akiba A. Cohen, Tel Aviv U
John Daly, U of Texas - Austin
Frank E. X. Dance, U of Denver
Stanley A. Deetz, U of Colorado - Boulder
Jesse G. Delia, U of Illinois - Urbana-Champaign
Brenda Dervin, Ohio State U
Steve Duck, U of Iowa
Mary Anne Fitzpatrick, U of South Carolina
Cindy Gallois, U of Queensland
George Gerbner (Deceased), U of Pennsylvania
Howard Giles, U of California - Santa Barbara
Robert S. Goyer, Ohio U/Arizona State U
Doris Graber, U of Illinois - Chicago
Bradley S. Greenberg, Michigan State U
Larry Gross, U of Southern California
Lawrence Grossberg, U of North Carolina

William B. Gudykunst (Deceased), California State U - Fullerton
Randall Harrison, U of California - San Francisco
Roderick P. Hart, U of Texas - Austin
Kathleen Hall Jamieson, U of Pennsylvania
Elihu Katz, U of Pennsylvania
Young Yun Kim, U of Oklahoma
Mark L. Knapp, U of Texas - Austin
Klaus Krippendorff, U of Pennsylvania
Annie Lang, Indiana U
Nathan Maccoby (Deceased), Stanford U
Maxwell McCombs, U of Texas - Austin
James C. McCroskey, U of Alabama - Birmingham
Jack M. McLeod, U of Wisconsin
Gerald R. Miller (Deceased), Michigan State U
Peter Monge, U of Southern California
Elwood Murray (Deceased), U of Denver
Jon F. Nussbaum, Pennsylvania State U
Marshall Scott Poole, U of Illinois
Linda L. Putnam, U of California
W. Charles Redding (Deceased), Purdue U
Byron Reeves, Stanford U
Everett M. Rogers (Deceased), U of New Mexico
Karl Erik Rosengren, U of Lund
Alan M. Rubin, Kent State U
James R. Taylor, U de Montreal
Phillip K. Tompkins, U of Colorado
Patti M. Valkenburg, U of Amsterdam
Ellen Wartella, U of California - Riverside
David H. Weaver, Indiana U
Osmo A. Wiio, U of Helsinki
Frederick D. Williams, U of Texas - Austin
Barbara J. Wilson, U of Illinois - Urbana-Champaign

Division and Interest Group Reports

Children, Adolescents, and the Media (CAM) Interest Group

Chair: Patti Valkenburg (*U of Amsterdam, ASCoR, The Netherlands*)
Vice Chair: Moniek Buijzen (*U of Amsterdam, ASCoR, The Netherlands*)

Report prepared by Patti Valkenburg

The Special Interest Group Children, Adolescents and the Media (CAM), which was established in the fall of 2007, held its first business meeting in Montreal. The meeting attracted well over 120 researchers. CAM has now (June 2008) 106 members from a variety of nations and continents. It is expected that this number will further increase in the fall of 2008 when membership renewal takes place.



Patti Valkenburg, Chair Children, Adolescents, and the Media

At the meeting, Dafna Lemish from *Tel Aviv U*, the founding editor of **JOCAM**, (*Journal of Children and the Media*) gave an enthusiastic talk on the possible collaborations between CAM and **JOCAM**. Two founding mothers of our discipline, Ellen Wartella and Joanne Cantor, gave their view on the future of the field and the importance of CAM for the discipline.

Alison Bryant (*Nickelodeon/MTV Kids & Family Group, USA*) and Amy Jordan (*Annenberg Public Policy Center, U of Pennsylvania, USA*), were nominated as future chair and/or Vice-chair. Melissa Yang (*Endicott College, USA*), Susannah Stern (*U of San Diego, USA*), and Ariel Chernin (*Center on Media and Child Health, Boston, USA*) were nominated for the position of Secretary.

We decided to organize a yearly Round Table Discussion on topics of interest to CAM researchers and policy makers. Alison Bryant will form and chair this committee.

We also decided to form: (a) an Internal Awards Committee, (b) an External Awards Committee,

and (c) a Media and Strategy Committee. The aims of the Internal Awards Committee is to organize CAM's internal awards (e.g., dissertation award, Young scholar award, and a life-time achievement award). Chair: Amy Jordan. The aim of the External Award Committee to find and nominate CAM members for ICA-wide awards, such as the young scholar award and the career awards. Chair: Rebecca Hains (*Salem State College, USA*).

Finally, the Media and Strategy Committee will be formed to promote CAM and CAM research, for example by writing press releases and/or by establishing contacts with the local researchers and media during ICA conferences. Chair: Kathryn Montgomery (*American U, USA*).

Communication and Technology Division

Chair: Jan A.G.M van Dijk (*U of Twente, The Netherlands*)
Vice Chair: Shyam Sundar (*Pennsylvania State U, USA*)

Report prepared by Jan A.G.M van Dijk

The Communication and Technology Division continues to grow despite the 'competition' of related divisions and interest groups. In 2008 it has passed the 800 members hurdle. The division also continues to attract a large number of submissions for regular sessions and panels on the annual conference.

At the 2008 conference in Montreal 233 papers & 14 panels were submitted and 113 papers accepted and 6 panels were accepted (respectively 49 and 42% acceptance rate) leading to 30 sessions. This time a luxury amount of 4 reviewers per submission were available, a sign of growing membership participation. At the last conferences CAT has decided to accept preferably only 4 presentations in sessions of approximately 10 minutes and to cancel all respondents to promote more discussion in the sessions. The division is experimenting with new formats to activate the audience. This policy has

proved to be successful listening to the many positive reactions from membership and business meetings.

The CAT division awards three top faculty and three top student papers every year. The 2007 Business Meeting decided to extend the **H.S. Dordick Dissertation Prize** (every two years) to an annual prize. This has proved to be a right decision as in 2008 15 quality dissertations in the field covered by CAT were nominated. The 2008 winner was Nick Yee, **The Proteus Effect: Behavioral Modification via Transformations of Digital Self-Representation**.

In 2008 a new elected vice-chair took office, James Katz (*Rutgers U, USA*), and in the autumn a new secretary will be elected.

Following the advice of the ICA Task Force on Divisional Structure to encourage divisions to conduct reviews of their charter, their membership and their functioning the 2008 CAT Business Meeting has decided to immediately organize a large-scale and extended CAT member survey. This will empirically and democratically determine the CAT fields of interest and network analyses of links of interest among members of the division.



Jan A.G.M van Dijk, Chair Communication and Technology

Communication History Interest Group

Chair: David W. Park (*Lake Forest College, USA*)
Vice Chair: Jefferson Pooley (*Muhlenberg College, USA*)

Report prepared by David W. Park

The Communication History Interest Group was icially 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. Because this was our first year of existence, any information regarding trends in membership would be meaningless.

After the paper submission and review process was completed, the Communication History Interest Group recognized two papers with awards. Philip Lodge (*Napier U, United Kingdom*) was awarded the top paper award, and Victor W. Pickard (*U of Illinois, USA*) was awarded the top student paper award.



David W. Park, Chair Communication History

The next year will find the Communication History Interest Group looking to grow. We have done this, so far, largely through pursuit of vigorous programming and self-promotion at ICA in Montreal in May of 2008.

For a new interest group, the Communication History Interest Group promises to make a lot of noise at this year's conference (our first).

One challenge that will be particularly important in the coming year will be the effort to grow the Communication History Interest Group outside of the U.S. Attempts to promote the group to non-U.S. scholars have been plentiful in the last few months, though it will be unclear until the next membership cycle whether these efforts have borne fruit.

Communication Law and Policy Division

Chair: Sharon Strover (*U of Texas at Austin, USA*)
Vice Chair: Stephen McDowell (*Florida State U, USA*)

Report prepared by Sharon Strover

The Communication Law and Policy division hosts research scholarship regarding contemporary and historical issues of importance on legal, regulatory and policy developments in the field of communication. The Division maintains a membership of approximately 280 (up from last year's 240) individuals, many of them residing outside the U.S. In our last election, Pat Aufderheide (*American U, USA*) was elected to be the incoming Vice Chair of the Division.

Preconferences:

We were asked to co-sponsor several preconferences this year and therefore did not

organize one, uniquely targeted preconference for our membership.

Conference Awards:

Our top paper awards this year went to:

Tarleton Gillespie (*Cornell U, USA*) for **Characterizing Copyright in the Classroom;**

Ahran Park (*U of Oregon, USA*) **Fruit of the Poisonous Tree: A Comparative Analysis of Reporting Illegal Wiretapping in South Korea and the United States;** Eun-A Park (*Pennsylvania State U, USA*) for the paper **Good Practices in Digital TV Development: Exploring Digital Programming Strategies of Broadcasters.**

This year our division made two travel grant awards, one to Mirjam Gollmitzer (*Simon Fraser U, Canada*) and one to Ahran Park (*U of Oregon, USA*).



Sharon Strover, Chair
Communication Law
and Policy

Individual paper submissions in the Communication Policy division numbered 87, including four session proposals. Many members volunteered to help with the reviewing (approximately 50), which kept the reviewing load down to a reasonable number. We programmed nine sessions (competitive paper sessions plus one panel proposal), and five papers in the Scholar-to-Scholar Interactive Paper Session. This represents an overall allocation that is down from last year's 14 sessions (plus four interactive session papers).

This year the division held a joint reception on Sunday evening with the Communication Technology division.

Ethnicity and Race in Communication Division

Chair: Kumarini Silva (*Northeastern U, USA*)
Vice chair: Myria Georgiou (*U of Leeds, UK*)

Report prepared by Kumarini Silva

This past year ERIC has continued to grow, with

current membership now at 293. Acting on this growth and general enthusiasm for the interest group, ERIC made a successful bid for division status in January.

Reflecting this interest and general expansion of the interest group, at the 2008 conference ERIC will sponsor and co-sponsor 21 panels. We have been particularly successful in raising funds through the executive committee, and this has directly translated into travel grants for ERIC student members. This year, we are giving out three travel grants of \$200 each, along with conference waivers.

The hope is that these travel grants will act as incentives for ERIC student members to attend ICA conferences. In addition, we have also allocated funds amounting to \$225 for the three top paper awards.



Kumarini Silva, Chair
Ethnicity and Race
in Communication

In the coming year, ERIC hopes to continue its membership and fundraising drive. In addition, we are planning to organize a pre-conference at the 2009 ICA conference. While the group has been able to increase internationalization through the reviewer process (approximately 30% of our reviewers for this past year were located at institutions outside North America), we remain challenged in finding ways to increase participation of non-North American and European based members at the annual conference.

Feminist Scholarship Division

Vicki Mayer, Chair (*Tulane U, USA*)
Diana Rios, Vice-chair (*U of Connecticut, USA*)

Submitted by Vicki Mayer, Chair

FSD had a productive year. Our membership is up due to the combined efforts of affiliated divisions and interest groups (we especially thank Isabel Molina for her ideas and efforts). Our submissions to the conference were not up, however, particularly among graduate students. We believe this is due to the international location and will make a push for more submissions in Chicago.

This year we have established an endowed fund that will eventually be used to award scholars who have advanced feminist studies in the discipline. Professor Emeritus Yoo Jae Song began the fund in honor of her mother. It will take more fundraising to make the Teresa Fund a reality. Next year, we will begin a fundraising drive.



Vicki Mayer, Chair
Feminist Scholarship

Next year, we will also continue to organize to suggest ICA award recipients. Neither of our candidates were selected this year and it has been some time since a feminist scholar was chosen for our association's highest honors.

Game Studies Interest Group

Report prepared by John Sherry

Chair: John Sherry (*Michigan State U, USA*)
Vice Chair: Katherine Isbister (*IT U of Copenhagen, Denmark*)

The Game Studies Interest Group continues to grow in both membership numbers and diversity. We are just short of the required number of members to become a division (n = ~170) and hope to reach that goal this year.

Our group benefits from a diverse international membership with nearly a third of our members from outside of the United States. Our three-member board continues to have international representation, as does our paper reviewers and award winners.

We will present four top paper awards this year, including a top student paper award. We were represented on the ICA Task Force on Interest



John Sherry, Chair
Games Studies

Groups where we shared our experiences forming as a new academic area. Much of our current growth is from graduate students and international members.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies Interest Group

Report prepared by Lynn Comella

Co-Chairs: Lynn Comella, (*U Nevada - Las Vegas, USA*)
David Phillips (*U of Toronto, Canada*)

The GLBT Studies Interest Group received thirty-one paper submissions and two panel proposals for the 2008 Conference. Twelve papers were accepted and programmed into three panel sessions and another three papers were programmed into the scholar-to-scholar interactive poster session. Our three panels were co-sponsored by Mass Communication, Philosophy of Communication, and Popular Communication respectively, in an effort to further integrate GLBT Studies into ICA. Our acceptance rate for the 2008 Conference was 41%.

Our current membership is 112, up from 104 a year ago. This upward trend is one that we would like to continue as we explore ways to increase the size and visibility of GLBT Studies within ICA. Two travel grants were awarded this year to the top two student papers. GLBT Studies will be electing a male-identified co-chair this year to replace David Phillips who will be stepping down as co-chair after the Chicago Conference.



Lynn Comella, Co-Chair
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual,
and Transgender Studies



David Phillips, Co-Chair
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual,
and Transgender Studies

Global Communication and Social Change Division

Report prepared by Oliver Boyd-Barrett

Chair: Oliver Boyd-Barrett (Bowling Green State U, USA)

Vice chair: Robert Huesca (Trinity U, USA)

2007-08 was the year in which the previous sub-division (Development/International Communication) of Division 5 (Intercultural and Development Communication) became an independent division, following a divisional vote in 2006-07.

Following debate at its inaugural business meeting in San Francisco, 2007, membership of the new division formally voted in June on a new name, Global Communication and Social Change. Also in San Francisco, the membership voted Dr. Oliver Boyd-Barrett (Bowling Green State U and previously vice-chair, Division 5) as its Chair for the first two year period. Additionally, following the fall elections for new divisional officers, the division voted Dr. Robert Huesca (Trinity U) as its first vice-chair, and Dr. Veena Raman (UC Berkeley) as its first secretary. Drs. Huesca and Raman formally assume their positions upon conclusion of the association's conference in Montreal, 2008.

In its first year the division had a total membership of 185. This number may increase when members are prompted to declare divisional memberships from 2008-09 onwards. For the Montreal Conference, 139 papers and 29 panel proposals were submitted for competitive review. In terms of paper equivalents, the division ranked fifth of 23 divisions in the number of papers submitted. The division's acceptance rate was 36%.

The new division started with a budget of \$985. The chair's policy has been to minimize expenditure in the division's first year, in order to build up reserves and pending agreement on a permanent set of bye-laws that will determine future annual activities and budget lines. The Chair will table a new set of bye-laws for the consideration of members at the business meeting in Montreal.



Oliver Boyd-Barrett, Chair
Global Communication and
Social Change

By definition, this division promises to be highly international. More quantitative measures of internationalization may be considered for subsequent years. In 2005, 2007 and 2008 the division (and its predecessor) has partnered with others in organizing highly international pre-conferences: Articulating the Media/Globalization Nexus (2005), Methodologies for Comparative Media Research (2007) and Mediating Global Citizenship (2008).

Health Communication Division

Report prepared by David B. Buller

Chair: Doug Storey (Klein Buendel, Inc., USA)

Vice chair: David B. Buller (U of Illinois, USA)

This past year was very successful. The membership was very active, submitting 218 papers for the 2008 conference – up from 191 in 2007. We accepted 108 papers for the conference (acceptance rate = 50%). Three panels (out of 13 submitted) were accepted for presentation. The division also tried a new “high density” format in 2008. Based upon very positive feedback at the conference, we are planning to use this format again next year.

Awards given out at the 2008 conference included top student-authored paper, top student-led paper, and 4 travel awards for highly-ranked student papers. The ICA/NCA dissertation and thesis of the year awards were presented at the annual business meeting.

Approximately 10% of reviewers were non-US members from Europe, the Middle East, Asia, the Caribbean, and Asia. The Top Paper for the 2008 conference was authored by Arul Chib, (Nanyang Technical U, Singapore). A non-US member was appointed to the self-review committee.

David Buller (Klein-Buendel, Inc., USA) became Chair. Dale Brashers (U of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, USA) has been elected as Vice-Chair and will plan the 2009-10 conferences.



Doug Storey, Chair
Health Communication

The division formed a committee to conduct a self-review and a second committee to make nominations for secretary of the division.

Information Systems Division

Report prepared by Paul Bolls

Chair: Paul Bolls (U of Missouri, USA)

Vice-Chair: Robert Potter (Indiana U, USA)

Programming Vice Chair, Rob Potter has organized an outstanding program that reflects the intellectual diversity of Information Systems membership. Our members continue to produce rigorous scholarship on message processing across a wide range of contexts. Information Systems continues to make use of high-density sessions. Seven out of 12 programmed paper sessions are high-density. This reflects our programming philosophy of trying to make sessions more engaging and to strive to only program traditional panels when there is a strong unifying theme. This also allows us to program more papers in line with the traditional philosophy of Information Systems to strive to provide a welcoming forum for the presentation of data.



Paul Bolls, Chair
Information Systems

International Involvement

Information Systems continues to be invigorated by the involvement of international colleagues. The Best of Information Systems session features two papers authored by colleagues at international universities (Free U Amsterdam, U of Twente, and Seoul National U). International colleagues authored 18 out of 85 programmed papers.

John Hunter Meta-analysis award

One of the highlights of the Information Systems business meeting this year will be recognizing an outstanding meta-analysis manuscript. Glenn Hansen (U of Oklahoma) and William Benoit (U of Missouri) will be recognized for “Communication forms as predictors of issue knowledge in presidential campaigns: A meta-analytic assessment” published in Mass Communication & Society. The John Hunter award committee is chaired by Mike Allen.

Initiatives for 2008-2009

- Membership recruitment effort focusing internationally and on graduate students.
- Website development.
- Conference programming ideas (pursuing idea of mini “conference” within a conference).

Instructional/Developmental Communication Division

Report prepared by Amy Nathanson

Chair: Amy Nathanson (Ohio State U, USA)

Vice-Chair: Kristen Harrison (U of Illinois, USA)

Activities in the Past Year

The Instructional and Developmental Communication Division nominated two individuals for our secretary position. Laramie Taylor (U of California - Davis, USA) was elected in Autumn 2007. In addition, we elected Moniek Buijzen (U of Amsterdam, The Netherlands) as Vice-Chair. Moniek has since resigned and Rebecca Chory-Assad (West Virginia U, USA) has agreed to replace her as Vice-Chair.

Due to low membership numbers and reports of member dissatisfaction, Patti Valkenburg (U of Amsterdam, The Netherlands) administered an online survey of members. Overall, the results suggested that two new interest groups are both appealing to division members and viable: one in instructional communication and one in children, adolescents, and the media.

In light of these results, Patti Valkenburg led an effort to form a new interest group on children, adolescents, and the media. After receiving endorsements from 46 ICA members, ICA formally approved a new special interest group called “Children, Adolescents, and the Media.” The group's first organizational meeting occurred at the 2008 conference in Montreal.

Awards offered in the Past Year

Our division has continued to offer awards for outstanding teaching by a graduate student. This year, we received 41 nominations. We are currently debating whether we need to re-frame this award. In addition, we offer a dissertation award for completed dissertations dealing with a topic related to instructional or developmental communication. The winner receives a cash prize and a plaque and becomes a member of the subcommittee for the following year's competition.

Planning the Montreal Conference

The planning for the Montreal conference was successful. We received 74 paper submissions and 9 panel submissions for the Montreal conference. We had 49 reviewers and we could accept 48 of the papers (65%) and 2 (22%) of the panels. We will give a cash prize to the top student paper.

Activities and Goals for the Coming Year

In the coming year, our division will think about its future direction. At the business meeting in Montreal, we will discuss the division survey results, the possible effects of the new interest group in Children, Adolescents, and the Media, and how the current division wants to proceed. Input from the leaders in the instructional area of the division will be of particular interest.

Intercultural Communication Division

Report prepared by Jim Neuliep

Chair: Jim Neuliep (St. Norbert College, USA)
Vice chair: Jim Neuliep

The Intercultural Communication Division (ICD) is in its initial year following the split from Development Communication. During this transitional year, Jim Neuliep served as both Chair and Vice-Chair. In November of 07, Ling Chen (Hong Kong Baptist U, PRC), was elected Vice-Chair and will begin her duties following the Montreal conference. Leeva Chung (U of San Diego, USA) was re-elected Secretary.

This year the ICD received 75 papers submissions and four panel proposals. Thirty-four papers were accepted and programmed, for an acceptance rate



Amy Nathanson, Chair
Instructional/Developmental
Communication

of 45 percent. Based on paper submissions, as a stand alone division, the ICD remains healthy. Moreover, the papers' authors represent a broad international audience. Programmed papers include presenters from Canada, Germany, Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, and the United States. Although the membership of ICD is culturally and nationally diverse, most ICD members are affiliated with US universities.

An important agenda item for the 08 conference is the passage of a new set of ICD By-laws. Included in the proposed bylaws will be a tightening of the criterion to serve as an ICD paper reviewer.

Three travel grants were awarded to the top three student paper presenters.

Jim Neuliep is currently working on the creation of an ICD Web page.

Intergroup Communication Interest Group

Report prepared by Bernadette Watson

Chair: Bernadette Watson (U of Queensland, Australia)
Vice-Chair: Maggie Pitts (Old Dominion U, USA)

Current members (132)

Mission Statement for Intergroup Interest Group

Activity: Clarification of the scope of our Interest Group. This year we clearly defined the scope of our papers to ensure an intergroup focus. However, not all papers tried to match our definition. At the business meeting we will talk about making the exact type of acceptable papers absolutely clear for 2009.

Change in format for paper submission

Activity: Appraisal of our submission changes. We received a total of 35 submissions. Of these 19 were full papers, 4 were panel submission and the remainder (12) were extended abstracts. We accepted 11 full papers and 2 panels. We also accepted one extended abstract.

Reviewers

Activity: Increase in the number of reviews. Compared to 2006 when we only had 23 reviewers, this year we obtained 28 reviewers. Papers were sent out to three reviewers rather

than two as in previous years. We will aim for more reviewers again this year and keep the reviewer ratio of three to every one paper.

Scope of our Interest Group above: Intergroup Interest Group Website

Activity: Upgrade of Website. Our website needs updating but can be accessed at <http://www.icahdq.org/divisions/intergroup/index.htm>.

Membership Drive Program

Activity: Membership promotion. We are considering our position as a small but distinct interest group. We will discuss enlarging our membership at the Business Meeting in Montreal. However, our membership has increased in the last year.

Finance

Activity: Assessment of expenditure since Interest Group commenced. This year we made excellent use of our small funding. We contributed \$300 towards travel for our top student paper. ICA matched this and the top student received a total of \$600.

Bylaws

Activity: Development of Bylaws. We are currently developing bylaws to assist us with the official procedures within ICA. This is ongoing work which will be discussed at the Business Meeting. We may look to other Divisions to assist us here.

Interpersonal Communication Division

Report prepared by Pamela Kalbfleisch, Chair.

Chair: Pamela Kalbfleisch (U of North Dakota, USA)
Vice Chair: Walid Afifi (U of California, USA)

The Interpersonal Communication division received many great papers this year.

Recruitment

This year the Interpersonal Communication division endeavored to promote ourselves. We are one of the original divisions of ICA, the second one admitted to the association, and we once one of the largest divisions. Now we find our members



Bernadette Watson, Chair
Intergroup Communication

splintering into other divisions and presenting what is interpersonal research in other contexts.

Top Student Paper Award: Kathleen Ryan (U of Oregon, USA). Ryan had iPods at her poster presentation where people could listen to oral histories of women who participated in the US military during World War II. She also had a video presentation and brochures of her poster. Ryan received the ICA award for best poster display.

Top Papers:

"The Message Design Logics of Responses to HIV Disclosures," John P. Caughlin, Dale E. Brashers, Mary E. Ramey, Kama Allyn Kosenko, Erin Donovan-Kicken (U of Illinois – Urbana-Champaign, USA), Jennifer J. Bute (Ohio U, USA).

"The 'Cycle of Concealment' in Families and Strategies for Revealing Secrets" Tamara D. Afifi (U of California – Santa Barbara, USA), Keli Ryan Steuber (Pennsylvania State U, USA).

"Relationship Quality and Compulsive Internet Use: A Study Among Newlywed Couples,"

Peter Kerkhof, Catrin Finkenauer (Vrije U - Amsterdam, The Netherlands).

"Comparing Private and Secret Information in Disclosure Decisions,"

Maria Koskan Venetis, Kathryn Green, (Rutgers U, USA), Smita C. Banerjee, U of Lincoln, Zhanna Bagdasarov, (Rutgers U, USA).



Pamela Kalbfleisch, Chair
Interpersonal Communication

Top Dissertation Award: Zuoming Wang, Advised by Joe Walther, degree from Cornell.

"Social Identification and Interpersonal Perception in Computer-Mediated Communication: What You Do Versus Who You Are in Virtual Groups."

Research Methods Pre-Conference

The Interpersonal Communication Division first talked about having a pre-conference focusing on new research methods being used to study Interpersonal Communication at the ICA conference in Berlin. We focused on the specific

research methods that people were interested in at the San Francisco and Montreal Conferences.

Announcements of individuals from division who won ICA-wide awards: Brant Burleson (*Purdue U, USA*) was elected as a new ICA fellow. Sandi Smith (*Michigan State U, USA*) won ICA Aubrey Fisher Mentorship Award.

Journalism Studies Division

Report prepared by John Newhagen

Chair: John Newhagen (*U of Maryland, USA*)

Vice-Chair: Betsi Grabe (*Indiana U, USA*)

The Journalism Studies program of 2008 reflected healthy diversity within the division in terms of research methods, area of study, as well as the international composition of presenters. We scheduled two high-density sessions (each with 8 papers) for the first time to accommodate more papers and encourage more interactivity between presenters and conference goers.

The acceptance rate for the paper competition was about 48 percent with 162 submissions and 77 programmed papers. North Americans authored around 74 percent of accepted papers, while scholars from other parts of the globe presented 45 percent of papers. In terms of author gender, 76 percent of papers were first or solo authored by men--43 percent by women.

A record number of 15 panel proposals were submitted and 5 were accepted for presentation, making the acceptance rate quite low, at 33 percent. The Journalism Studies Division's philosophy is to favor paper submissions over panel proposals. In selecting panels, the international composition of panel members enjoys high priority. Thus, of the 34 panel members, 28 were from outside North America and only 6 were North Americans. Moreover, 20 panel members were male; 14 were female.

The Division awarded three top student and three top faculty paper awards and would like to thank Ted Glasser and Jane Singer for their help in selecting the top papers. Journalism Studies is also grateful for the service of more than 180 paper reviewers in selecting the papers we programmed this year.

Language and Social Interaction Division

Report prepared by Mark Aakhus

Chair: Mark Aakhus (*Rutgers U, USA*)

Vice-Chair: Richard Buttny (*Syracuse U, USA*)

The LSI division programmed 10 panels and co-sponsored the **"What is an organization?"** preconference in honor of James Taylor (*U of Montreal, Canada*) along with the organizational communication and public relations divisions. There were 86 submissions of which 36 were accepted for an overall acceptance rate of 42%.

Awards and honors were given for top papers. The top 3 competitively ranked papers:

Elaine Hsieh (*U of Oklahoma, USA*); Eric Kramer (*U of Oklahoma, USA*): **"The Clashes of Expert and Laymen Talk: Constructing Meanings in Interpreter-Mediated Medical Encounters."**

Gene Lerner (*U of California - Santa Barbara, USA*); Kevin Whitehead (*U of California - Santa Barbara, USA*): **"When Are Persons 'White'? The Organization of Racial Categories in Talk-in-Interaction."**

Timothy Halkowski (*U of Albany - State U of New York, USA*): **"Occasional' Drinking: Some uses of a non-standard temporal metric."**

The student award for the highest ranked competitive paper authored solely by a student:

James McDonald (*U of Montreal, Canada*), **The Generative Power of Issue Framing in a Socio-Technical Controversy: How Framing Practices Contributed to Hydro-Québec's New Green Energy Policy.**

Cash awards and conference fee waivers were



Mark Aakhus, Chair
Language and Social Interaction

given to support graduate student travel to the conference.

The reviewers for 2008 were as follows. Their service is greatly appreciated.

Agne, Robert
Benjamin, Jim
Brooks, Jo Ann
Buttny, Richard
Chang, Yanrong
Cheung, Ming
Cody, Susan
Haspell, Kathleen
Heinz, Bettina
Kendrick, William
Kline, Susan
Lagerwerf, Luuk
Lee, Ee Lin
Markman, Kris
Mokros, Harty
Moore, Jessica
Morrison, Jody
Pollach, Irene
Ray, George
Rossman, Liliana
Sanders, Robert
Stapleton, Karyn
Steele, Godfrey
Stewart, Craig
Swieringa, Robert
Witteborn, Saskia

Mass Communication Division

Report prepared by Robin Nabi

Chair: Robin Nabi (*U of California, USA*)

Vice chair: David Roskos-Ewoldsen (*U of Alabama, USA*)

The Mass Communication Division continues to have high membership at over 1300 members. For the 2008 Annual conference, the Mass Communication Division received 257 papers and 13 panel proposals. To process these submissions, we received input from 161 reviewers – a necessity as many reviewers will only agree to review if their number of reviews is kept to under 10. Thus, our reviewer pool was quite diverse and inclusive.

In response to discussion from our Business Meeting last year, at this year's conference, most panels will include either 4 or 5 papers and a

Chair, but no respondent, to see if this structure allows for greater audience participation and involvement. At present, the one award (besides Top Paper awards) given by the Division is the **Kyoon Hur Dissertation Award**, which is awarded every 2 years. That competition will take place in the 2008-2009 academic year.



Robin Nabi, Chair
Mass Communication

Given there is little documentation of past procedures, one of the goals for the upcoming year is to create a set of documents that lays out the Officers' responsibilities and procedures for the paper and award competitions. Once this is complete, future goals include investigating ways to build members' involvement and investment with the Division.

Organizational Communication Division

Report prepared by Cynthia Stohl

Chair: Cynthia Stohl (*U of California, USA*)

Vice Chair: Dennis Mumby (*U of North Carolina, USA*)

The state of the Division is excellent. We have a vibrant and active membership that is committed to the values and goals of ICA. Our business meeting was very well attended; over 120 people were present in a very packed room. The Montreal Conference was also well attended. We had 119 submissions and 64 acceptances for a 54% acceptance rate. The 33 paper readers all completed their reviews on time and the awards' committees did an excellent job. The preconference we helped support in honor of James Taylor was a great success. The Division greatly appreciated the efforts of Francois Cooren and the Department of Communication at the U of Montreal. The officers for the 2007-2008 included Chair: Cynthia Stohl (*U of California - Santa Barbara, USA*), Vice-chair: Dennis Mumby (*U of North Carolina - Chapel Hill, USA*) who

programmed the conference, Secretary: Stacey Connaughton (*Purdue U, USA*), and Vice Chair elect: Janet Fulk (*U of Southern California, USA*). The nominees for secretary are Shiv Ganesh (*U of Waikato, New Zealand*) and Clifton Scott (*U of North Carolina - Charlotte, USA*). The division is in good financial condition.

Over the last year the Division has worked on several initiatives.

Membership Growth

Our division membership increased by approximately 100 people over the past year. In March, working with the Chair of NCA's Organizational Communication Division, we sent out a joint e-mail urging members of each organization to join the other. We received many positive responses to the e-mail, and the Division is pleased with our increased size.



Cynthia Stohl, Chair
Organizational Communication

Division Website

At the 2006 -2007 Business Meeting a committee was formed to develop a new division website. The Website Redesign Committee consisted of Scott C. D'Urso (*Marquette U, USA*) (Webmaster), Janet Fulk (*U of Southern California, USA*), and Edward Palazzolo (*Arizona State U, USA*). They did an outstanding job and the new website was unveiled, to much applause, at the Business Meeting in Montreal.

Divisional Funds for student awards

At the 2006 -2007 Business Meeting a committee was formed to address concerns related to travel and student funding. The ICA Funding Committee (Shiv Ganesh, Juliet Roper, and Ted Zorn, all *U of Waikato*) developed a detailed proposal that was approved, with minor revisions, at our Montreal Business Meeting.

Internationalization

We are continuing to find ways to internationalize

our membership and conference participation. Incoming Chair Dennis Mumby has received several excellent suggestions as well as potential committee members as the Division works on this important issue.

Overall, it was an excellent year for the Organizational Communication Division.

Philosophy of Communication Division

Report prepared by Ingrid Volkmer

Chair: Ingrid Volkmer (*U of Melbourne, Australia*)
Vice chair: Nick Couldry (*Goldsmiths College, London, United Kingdom*)

Over the course of the last three years, memberships in Phil Comm have continuously increased. In 2005, the division had 264 members, in 2008 (status in March, 2008) we have 379. This is an increase of 105 members over three years.

Of 267 members in 2005, 105 resided outside of the US, in 2008, of 379 members, 175 are non US based.

From 2005 to 2008, the geographical diversity has also increased: from 36 to 42 countries. It seems that Phil Comm is already internationalized in the sense that members originate in a large number of geographically diverse countries. What should be developed is a strategy of increasing the number in particular regions. We will discuss internalization strategies on the upcoming business meeting in Montreal.

For some years, Phil Comm has been led by an international group. John Erni (*Lingnan U - Hong Kong, PRC*), Christina Slade (*Macquari U, Australia*) have chaired Phil Comm from 2004 – 2007. Currently Ingrid Volkmer (*U of Melbourne, Australia*) chairs the Division (from 2008-2010), joined by co-Chair Nick Couldry (*Goldsmiths College, London U, United Kingdom*).

It seems that Phil Comm's members have increased due to Phil Comm's increased visibility



Ingrid Volkmer, Chair
Philosophy of Communication

within the ICA. Phil Comm has organized the plenary sessions in Dresden with speakers Juergen Habermas and Manuel Castells. Phil Comm has also been actively involved in preconferences for three years, during the ICA in Dresden, Phil Comm co-organized a preconference in Budapest (with CEU) and has organized two preconferences, one in 2007 and in 2008. These preconferences help members to engage in discussions for two days. The feedback of last year's preconference has been very positive and participants have suggested to organize another preconference in 2008.

Some of these activities have led to a great number of panel submissions of international senior colleagues for Montreal. Based on this, we have successfully requested an additional panel session slot for the Montreal event.

Political Communication Division

Report prepared by Patricia Moy

Chair: Patricia Moy (*U of Washington, USA*)
Vice-Chair: Kevin Barnhurst (*U of Illinois, USA*)

Activities in the 2007-08 include moves toward value-added benefits for division members:

Online subscription to Political Communication

In a joint effort with the Political Communication Section of the *American Political Science Association*, we began this year with the implementation of an automatic online subscription to *Political Communication*. This online subscription costs each member \$5, significantly less than the hard-copy subscriptions when discounted with organizational membership.



Patricia Moy, Chair
Political Communication

Continued improvement of division's website

The division purchased its own domain, politicalcommunication.org, in a move away from hosting its website at various universities. Talia Stroud (*U of Texas at Austin, USA*) is the webmaster, and our division is coordinating

with APSA's Political Communication Section to determine the extent to which this website should serve as a portal to both divisions.

Research debates in Political Communication Report

Richard Stanton (*U of Sydney, Australia*) takes over the helm of *Political Communication Report*, continuing the intellectual innovations of the newsletter issued jointly by APSA and ICA's Political Communication Divisions. The newsletter highlights current debates and issues in the field, and we would like to bring it into the 21st century by incorporating/building on sections of pedagogy, as well as "conversation cafes" and blogs on salient issues.

Annual conference

With respect to the annual conference, Kevin Barnhurst's planning for the Montreal meeting encourages interdisciplinary conversations. We have co-sponsored a number of pre-conferences and research sessions with numerous other divisions. Equally importantly, we are maintaining the standards of previous years, accepting the strongest 44% of 201 papers submitted and 42% of panels submitted.

David Swanson Award for Exceptional Service to Political Communication

In 2005, the division created an award in memory of David Swanson, a former editor of *Political Communication*. This award was designed to recognize exceptional contributions – in terms of scholarship and service – to the field of political communication. The 2008 David Swanson Award will be given to Wolfgang Donsbach at the division's business meeting.

Popular Communication Division

Report prepared by Lynn Schofield Clark

Chair: Lynn Schofield Clark (*U of Denver, USA*)
Vice-Chair: Cornel Sandvoss (*U of Surrey, United Kingdom*)

The Popular Communication Division has experienced steady growth in its numbers in the past few years, with its current membership close to 380. The number of papers submitted to the Division has outpaced growth in Divisional membership, however, leaving the Division with some of the lowest acceptance rates over the course of the past two years (36% in 2008). The

division officers are making efforts to translate presenters and supporters into members to increase acceptance rates.

This year Programme Planner Cornel Sandvoss (*U of Surrey, United Kingdom*) initiated a Keynote Roundtable titled, “**New Concepts, New Methods: The Challenges of Popular Communication Research in the 21st century,**” which was quite well attended. The Division announced its new website at <http://popularcommunication.org>. It features information



Lynn Schofield Clark, Chair
Popular Communication

on the Division and its awards, history, officers, bylaws, and newsletters, links to scholarly resources by Division members (including a Blogroll).

The Division hosted a co-sponsored reception with the Philosophy of Communication, Feminist Scholarship, and Ethnicity and Race in Communication Divisions and the GLBT Interest Groups. The Division also served as Co-sponsor, along with the Philosophy of Communication Division, for the **Preconference on Media Production**. In the Fall of 2007, the Popular Communication Division had also lent its support and co-sponsorship to the **Transforming Audiences Conference** in the U.K.

The Division plans to put an initiative on the Fall ballot that asks members whether or not they are willing to allocate \$1,000 from the budget to help underwrite translation costs that will make the work of Latin American scholars accessible in the Division's journal, **Popular Communication: International Journal of Media and Culture**.

The Division will also put forward two names of graduate students interested in serving the Division in the new capacity of Graduate Student Representative.

At the conclusion of the 2008 meeting, the Division welcomed the following new officers into their positions: Cornel Sandvoss (*U of Surrey, United Kingdom*), Chair and Program Planner; Paul Frosh, (*Hebrew U, Israel*) Vice Chair; Katalin Lustyik (*Ithaca College, USA*), Secretary; Jason Shim, Webmaster.

Public Relations Division

Report prepared by Craig E. Carroll

Chair: Craig E. Carroll (*U of North Carolina, USA*)
Vice chair: Øyvind Ihlen (*U of Oslo, Norway*)

The division made a concerted effort to include international representation in the following ways:

The program planner sought wider international representation in paper readers, chairs, and moderators of panels.

The norm of our division is to elect a chair from outside the United States at least every other election. Currently, our vice chair and incoming secretary are both outside the U.S.

We devoted one ICA conference panel to international and intercultural public relations.

During the 2007-2008 year, the division launched a website devoted to cross-national PR 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. Along with the opportunity for division members to publish their own research profiles, this interactive database features information on Conferences and Events, Calls for Papers, Projects and Collaboration Calls, Working Examples of Cross-National Research, Funding Opportunities, Faculty Exchange Programs, and Open Positions. There are moderators for different sections of the website, but by and large, you will be the providers of the content.

We co-sponsored panels and pre-conferences with four other divisions: the Organizational Communication, Political Communication, Philosophy of Communication, and Language and Social Interaction.



Craig Carroll, Chair
Public Relations

Top Student Paper: Brian Smith (*U of Maryland, USA*), “**Creating Recognition for Employee Recognition: A Case Study on Marketing Persuasion, Public Relations and Branding.**”

2008 Grunig & Grunig Outstanding Thesis and Dissertation Awards

Dissertation Award Winner: Dr. Jangyul Robert Kim. Assistant Professor (*Colorado State U, USA*) Dissertation title: **An Experimental Test of Effects of Message Sidedness, Organizational Trustworthiness, and Goodwill in the Public Discussion in Weblogs**. Dissertation Director: Dr. Mary Ann Ferguson (*U of Florida, USA*).

Thesis Award Winners (tie): (1) Ms. Hye Kyung Kim (*Syracuse U*) (Adviser: Dennis Kinsey) and (2) Andrea Schuch (*U of South Florida*) (Adviser: Kelly Werder).

Visual Communication Studies Division

Report prepared by Marion G. Müller

Chair: Marion G. Müller (*Jacobs U, Germany*)
Vice chair: Luc Pauwels (*U of Antwerp, Belgium*)

2007 was a good year for the Visual Communication Studies Division. At our business meeting in San Francisco, members voted to extend our name from Visual Studies Division, to Visual Communication Studies Division. The major reason for the name change was to signal that this division is welcoming all strands of visual research, social scientific, empirical, psychological as well as visual research grounded in the humanities with a more theoretical or a more educationally applied approach.

Institutionally, the Visual Communication Studies Division was able to consolidate, with all positions filled in 2007/2008. The Chair being German, the Vice-Chair being Belgian and the Secretary being American, also taking into consideration that the preceding Chair was South-Korean, at least with respect to division leadership, the Visual Communication Studies Division has quite a high level of diversity.

Being among the smaller ICA divisions, Visual Communication Studies has shown a remarkable increase in membership from 149 in March 2006, to 187 in March 2007, to the highest membership

rate (compared to rates measured in March) in our division history: 264 members in March 2008. Thus, several membership drives that were conducted before and after the San Francisco conference were successful and we hope to continue this way, aiming at passing the threshold of 300 in 2008/09.

The absolute number of submissions to the Montreal conference (96) was a little bit lower than the peak submission for San Francisco. Acceptance rate for Montreal was 41%. More than 50% of submissions were student papers. The Division honoured this by increasing the number of student travel grants from previously two to five for Montreal, three of which are awarded to non-US presenters.



Marion G. Müller, Chair
Visual Communication Studies

Committee and Task Force Reports



Old Courthouse, Montreal , photo courtesy of Michael Villa

Finance Committee

Chair: Wolfgang Donsbach
(Dresden U of Technology,
Germany)

Members:
Jon Nussbaum (Pennsylvania
State U, USA)
Ron Rice (U of California - Santa
Barbara, USA)

ICA is in a sound financial situation and its finances and its business are well managed by its administrators. The future prospective is even more promising due to expected long-term advantages of the real estate that ICA now owns in Washington, D.C. There are, however, some imponderabilities due to the unknown future of the business of academic publishing. The ICA budget is transparent to every member as the approved budget and the year-to-date income and expenses are published on the ICA website.

ICA has an annual budget of roughly \$1.4 million. Almost half of its income is revenues from the contract with the publisher of the ICA journals, Wiley-Blackwell. Almost two thirds of the income originates from

membership dues. The rest is income from the conferences.

On the expense side, between 50 to 60 percent go to payroll and administration expenses needed to run the association and to fulfill its services for the members. Conferences usually



Report prepared by Wolfgang Donsbach

cost as much as they generate in terms of registration fees. Conferences in the U.S. or Canada would generally yield a little surplus that is on the long-run balanced by minor losses of conferences in other areas of the world. This is due to the geographical membership structure within ICA and, as a consequence, the different turnout at conferences in different regions of the world. But on average, conferences are a break-even business for ICA. Publications, on the other side, yield a surplus of between \$500.000 and \$600.000 because expenses for the editors' offices stay far below the income.

ICA's budget requires a close look at developments in the business of academic

publications. The increasing demand for "open access" (particularly for publicly funded research in the life sciences but also as a more general expectation towards published research) would, if put in practice, on the long-run jeopardize ICA's (and most other association's financial grounds).

At the Montreal conference, the Board-of-Directors approved the proposed budget for 2008/9. Income from membership and conferences will be slightly higher (because of the slight dues increase) while publication income will stay stable (due to existing contracts). Expenses for administration and conferences will be slightly up.

As said, the budget offers nothing to worry about except for a close observation of the publication business. Members can get details of income and expenses on the website.

Publication Committee

Chair: Mohan Jyoti Dutta
(Purdue U, USA)

Members:
Sriramesh Krishnamurthy
(Nanyang Technological U,
Singapore)
Ingrid Volkmer (U of Otago,
Australia)

The publication committee issued calls for editorships for Communication Yearbook and Communication Theory, and recommendations were made to the board. In issuing these calls, selecting the editors and communicating about expectations to the editors, the committee highlighted the need to (a) consider internationalizing the journals, and attempt to recruit editors with diverse backgrounds, (b) emphasize the development of international editorial boards, (c) include the internationalizing agenda in the call for editors. After considering the various applicants, the committee recommended Chuck Salmon for the editorship of Communication Yearbook, and Angharad Valdivia for the editorship of Communication Theory.

Increasingly, international constituents of the International Communication Association (ICA) have raised the issue of internationalizing ICA journals such that these journals are more reflective of (a) the goals

of the organization, (b) its international scope and, (b) the international membership. Of particular concern to the international ICA constituents are issues of APA style and the ways in which APA is used to screen out manuscripts from parts of the world where the familiarity with APA is minimal.

The Publications Committee recommended a change to the publications manual to foster internationalization in the publications of ICA. The change proposed reads as follows: the editorial style of all ICA scholarly publications be governed by the latest edition of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association. It is the responsibility of the editorial office to see that each manuscript follows APA style. Manuscripts will not be rejected solely based on issues of style, but will need to adhere to the style guidelines before final publication.

In the upcoming year, the publication committee ought to consider additional strategies for

internationalizing ICA journals and conference, such as (a) providing guidance regarding where to submit manuscripts, (b) actively recruiting regional board members to serve as liaison with the publications committee and journal editors not only in disseminating information to potential authors, but also



Report prepared by Mohan Jyoti Dutta

in providing feedback from the regions to the publication committee, (c) internationalizing the conference, and d) publicizing the Author Assistance Program.



A few of ICA's publications. Clockwise from top, our first conference theme book, Participation and Media Production, the newly published Blackwell's International Encyclopedia of Communication, a mock image of the web-based, Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication, and our four printed quarterly journals.



Internationalization and Membership Committees

Internationalization Committee

Chair: Sherry Lynn Ferguson (U of Ottawa, Canada)
Yu-li Liu (National Chengchi U, Taiwan)
Elena Pernia (U of the Philippines, The Philippines)
Jianxun Chu (U of Science and Technology of China, PRC)
Wim Elving (U of Amsterdam, The Netherlands)
James Anderson (U of Utah, USA)
Juliet Roper (U of Waikato, New Zealand)

Membership Committee

Michael Haley (Chair) (ICA)
Gianpietro Mazzoleni (U of Milan, Italy)
Diana Rios (U of Connecticut, USA)
Hiroshi Ota (Aichi Shukutoku U, Japan)
Jennifer Bartlett (Queensland U of Technology, Australia)

The two committees combined forces in 2007-2008 to work on joint goals for increasing the non-US membership and continuing to address issues of the internationalization of ICA. The central goal of this year was to understand the needs of members in the Asia-Africa-Oceania regions in order:

- To increase the number of memberships
- To maximise attendance from members in this region to the 2010 Singapore conference.

Given the vast economic and social differences between the countries in this region, there was not a blanket approach to dealing with the situation.

ICA is perceived as a reputable organisation dedicated to furthering scholarship in and the interests of the communication discipline. To be considered international and address concerns about being US-centric, ICA must be sensitive to local values, research and needs. This suggests a localised approach that leverages off ICA's strengths and accommodates local needs.

The following opportunities were identified for consideration by the Board:

Use ICA 'ambassadors' to build existing networks

Identify "non-US" members of the various boards/committees and encourage them to be active 'local ambassadors' for ICA in their countries. Their activities could include linking attending local society events, providing info on the Singapore event, acting as the rep to take back concerns questions to committee.



Support international scholars to attend conferences

The existing support programs for scholars to attend ICA could be reviewed and specific programs focused on allowing members from various countries and world regions to attend ICA conferences. This would demonstrate ICA commitment to these regions and past participants could communicate the support of ICA to fellow academics.

Establish international on-line mentoring scheme/blog

Establish an on-line mentoring program to facilitate collaboration and advice between scholars around the world. ICA adds value by providing a valuable international collaboration network that complements conference meeting opportunities for members not able to attend conferences, and opens opportunities for networks for all members.

Develop an international collation and ranking of communication journals

Research quality output is becoming an increasingly important academic agenda. To date there has been little done in collating rankings of communication journals, particularly at an international level. By facilitating its development, ICA adds value by positioning itself as an international leadership body for the Communication community.

Develop an international research collaboration clearing house

ICA is well positioned to take a lead international position on communication research in collaboration with corporate, government and aid organisations around the world. ICA could champion this longer term goal for building and identifying communication research collaboration. There appears to be ample demand for high level communication research to address some important social and economic programs, especially in the Asia and African region where coordination of these schemes is developmental.

2008 Conference attendees take a moment to 'catch up.' --photo by Sam Luna



Student Affairs Committee

Student Representative: Rebecca Hains (*Salem State College, USA*)
Student Representative: Mikaela L. Marlow (*U of Idaho, USA*)

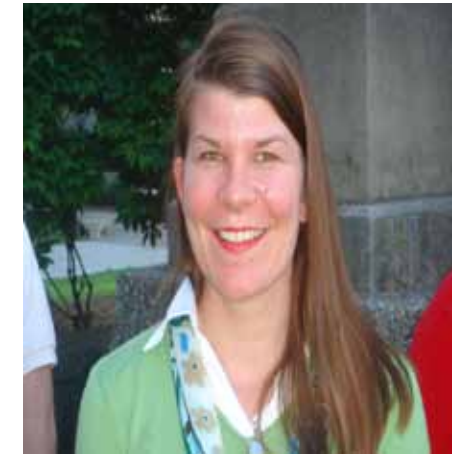
Jianxun Chu (*U of Science and Technology of China, PRC*)
Sabine Fritz (*U of Maryland, USA*)

Bing Han (*U of Maryland, USA*)

Irina Gendelman (*U of Washington, USA*)

Benjamin de Cleen (*Free U of Brussels, Belgium*)

Katja Schwer (*Ludwigs-Maximilian U, Germany*)



Report prepared by Mikaela L. Marlow
Student Representative

This year, the Student Affairs Committee of the International Communication Association (ICA) has continued the tradition of advocating graduate student interests. The Student Column of the monthly newsletter has featured several topics of relevance to graduate students. For instance, columns have discussed tips for getting an academic paper accepted at a conference, ideas on how to pursue research that is personally meaningful, and what to expect when pursuing an academic career position. We have also conducted a survey of graduate student members, in order to determine existing needs and how we may serve constituents more effectively. Members of the Student Affairs Committee are analyzing the results and will present their findings in an upcoming student column.

The Graduate Student Board and Committee members have also organized several events tailored for graduate students at the upcoming ICA conference, including a student lounge area at the conference hotel and a social reception at an off-site nightclub venue. We will also participate again in the New Member and Student Orientation to the conference.

The Student Affairs Committee regrets that we were unable to participate in the online midyear conference discussion, due to a mix-up about Student Representative email addresses. However, we fully intend to participate in the discussion this upcoming year, now that the issue has been resolved. Also, fundraising for the Graduate Student Reception was more challenging this year, than in previous years. We plan to brainstorm about additional fundraising options for future conference receptions.

This upcoming year, we plan to continue our work representing the interests of graduate student members through organizing beneficial professional and social events for the next conference.



Rebecca Hains
Student Representative

Liaison Committee

Chair: Andrea Press (*U of Virginia, USA*)

Members:

Monroe Price (*U of Pennsylvania, USA*)

Andrea Pitasi (*Suor Orsola U, Italy*)

Jolan Roka (*Budapest School of Communication, Hungary*)

Eszter Hargittai (*Northwestern U, USA*)

Michael L. Haley (*ICA*)

This year the ICA Liaison Committee has been working on trying to get presence for the ICA and its members at several of the national granting agencies in the US, in particular the NSF, NIMH, NEH, NIH. This is an ongoing concern and should be matched by efforts in other parts of the world, hopefully next year the focus of the Committee will shift to such efforts outside the US.

It is our hope that next year we will be granted on the ICA schedule a panel or a series of panels on the program in which program officers come to speak about relevant programs to our members, and our committee chair has discussed this with the current president, incoming president, and incoming program chair. This should not be difficult to accomplish though it will require organization by the current Committee.

Also under discussion is a summer seminar, joint with the other communication associations who meet at the collective board meeting in D.C., for members at which program officers come and listen to possible projects we have, and talk about relative initiatives. This would involve an investment by the ICA and some organizing, and probably a charge to participating members.

Awards Committees

Research Awards Committee Chair: Christina Slade (*Macquarie U, Australia*)

The awards process is an onerous one. We thank all those involved in reading material, uploading and downloading documents, and keeping the process on time, including the committee members and chairs, Michael Haley and his team and Sonia Livingstone.

Recommendations for Future Awards

While criteria for awards are in place, there has been a great deal of e-debate about those criteria, and it is important for new award committees to meet during the ICA conference (or electronically well before the call) to confirm criteria.

Nominations are still variable in number, and further efforts are needed, possible from the awards committees themselves, to

ensure sufficient, and sufficiently diverse, nominations for all awards. Various practical possibilities are under consideration.

This year the awards process was largely managed online, which eased matters considerable.

As Research Committee Awards Chair, I would urge much greater publicity for these awards. They are highly prestigious and we could be issuing press releases and short bios of those who win.

Task Force on Media and Communication Policy

Chair: Bruce Williams (*U of Virginia, USA*)

Task Force Members:

Georgina Born, (*Cambridge U, United Kingdom*)

Susan Douglas (*U of Michigan, USA*)

Arne Hintz (*Central European U, Hungary*)

Haksoo Kim (*Sogang U, South Korea*)

Dale Kunkel (*U of Arizona, USA*)

Monroe Price (*U of Pennsylvania, USA*)

Shih-hung Lo (*National Chung Cheng U, Taiwan*)

Amit Schejter (*Pennsylvania State U, USA*)

Sharon Strover (*U of Texas at Austin, USA*)

This task force had an exploratory role, to consider the following and make recommendations to the Board as appropriate:

1. How can ICA support its members in ensuring that their scholarship reaches those actively engaged in media and communications policy making?
2. Which are the key policy making organizations that ICA could or should be in active contact with (nationally, internationally, United Nations, etc)?
3. Are there effective ways in which ICA can liaise with other communication associations to 'speak with one voice' on particular issues?
4. How can ICA ensure that its members are kept informed (or inform each other) of key policy issues and deliberations in the media and communications domain?



Report prepared by
Bruce Williams, Chair

After on-line deliberations and a meeting at the ICA Meetings in Montreal, we have developed a series of recommendations for ICA action in the following general areas (specific action items will be provided in the Task Force formal report):

Actions to improve visibility of policy research (amongst scholars,

policymakers and the general public) and to provide greater opportunities for researchers to share their work. Greater attention needs to be paid to cross-national research in the policy area.

Actions ICA to support and publicize efforts to provide improved training of students in the area of media and communication policy. This involves both existing efforts by a broad range of institutions as well as new initiatives by ICA. Special focus should be placed on non-academic careers in policy.

Developing greater ICA involvement with efforts to create closer cooperation between scholars and both policymakers and the public (e.g., SSRC in the US).

Consideration of the creation of a new journal, perhaps online, to allow the rapid dissemination of research with a possible focus on improving its accessibility and relevance for the public and policymakers.

Creating mechanisms to allow ICA, as a professional organization, to develop "Blue Ribbon" reports on the conclusions of researchers bearing on current and/or significant ongoing public and policy debates about media and communication. As models we discussed the American Political Science Association's task force on inequality and the American Psychological Association's position and report on advertising aimed at children.

ICA Fund Raising/ Development Task Force

Chair: Stewart M. Hoover (*U of Colorado, Boulder, USA*)

Task force members:

John Wieman (*U California, Santa Barbara, USA*)

Ellen Wartella (*U California, Riverside, USA*)

Noshir Contractor (*Northwestern U, USA*)

Jennings Bryant (*U of Alabama, USA*)



Report prepared by
Stewart M. Hoover, Chair

As requested by the ICA Board of Directors (January 2007), this task force had a brief to:

1. Identify ICA's priorities for external funding (including specifying clear targets)
2. Identify likely sources of funds (whether individual or institutional)
3. Identify possible contacts or liaison people to request funding from these sources
4. Raise funds
5. Report to the ICA Board meeting, May 2008

The ICA Development Task Force began its work with a conference call meeting in January, 2008, with

Michael Haley sitting in. That call and subsequent email correspondence has refined the approach to development that the Task Force wishes to recommend to the Association.

The task force identified a number of challenges that the Association faces in its development efforts. Among these: 1) Professional associations in the academy, particularly in the social sciences, have not had a long or deep history in development, though there are some models available; 2) Related to the above, members of such groups do not typically think of development as a major priority, thus some member education is an important early task; 3) Many sources of funding are in fact "targets" of members individually or their home institutions, thus making ICA a direct competitor to its members for such support; 4) Corporate support from the academic publishing industry or from the media industries themselves is shrinking due to the general state of the economy and to the declining fortunes and the consolidation of these industries; 5) In any development effort, external sources (such as foundations) are in the first instance interested in the level of commitment of internal sources (including members in the case of a professional association such as ICA); 6) ICA members are unlikely to be as significant a source of actual income as are the individual major donors to our various institutions, due (among other things) to the relative scales of academic salaries. However, significant involvement of members, including life members and other senior colleagues, will be an important base for any

development efforts we might undertake.

After consideration of the Association's general fiscal picture, the task force came to the recommendation that the best use of ICA's people resources would be in a multi-pronged effort built around a campaign to retire the debt on the Association's headquarters building. This would have several immediate benefits. First, any income that could be diverted from debt service would be available for the Association's other program activities. Second, there are sources of external funding (such as the Kellogg Foundation) that support capital programs such as buildings, but they require significant internal efforts (Kellogg, for example, typically matches funds raised from alumni and other private donors in its grants to buildings at academic institutions). Third, an overall development effort that would begin with such a goal could be extended to other projects and goals, and, if successful, would provide the basis for the development of other sources of income for the Association.

Therefore, the Task Force proposes a set of next steps in relation to this recommendation.

1. There is need for a membership research effort composed of surveys and focus group studies that would develop a clearer picture of members' interests in the Association and its various programs and services. A recent member survey (2005) is very informative, but a more extensive and focused effort is called for. This effort could take place over the next year to eighteen months

and include intentional focus group work during the Chicago meeting.

2. This research effort would have as its major outcome the development of a "Case Statement" for the Association. This statement would serve further development efforts with outside funding sources, providing a timely and credible statement of the Association's members' interests and goals, and also direct fund raising efforts among the membership.

3. These fund raising efforts and the Case Statement would be central to a capital campaign focused on the building debt.

4. This could naturally evolve into an ongoing development program on behalf of the Association directed at more specific and specialized needs.

5. All of these efforts would also support the staff in its work with our traditional sources of support, i.e., publishers and corporate foundations in the media industries.

Should the Board agree with this direction, the task force anticipates the following set of tasks in the near term: 1) beginning to draft a case

statement, 2) work on a member survey and focus group study, 3) research on best practice models elsewhere, 4) feasibility studies of sources such as foundations and corporations, and 5) the initial design of both capital and corporate/foundation campaigns.

Division and Interest Group Formation Review Task Force

Report submitted by Barbie Zelizer (*U of Pennsylvania, USA*)

In response to a discussion at the January 2008 Board of Directors Meeting, this task force examined the rules and processes whereby members may propose new interest groups and divisions in ICA.

In March of this year, ICA President Sonia Livingstone tasked us with addressing the question of how ICA interest groups and divisions are faring. Her request followed the mid-year electronic board meeting, in which a number of board members voiced sentiments about clarifying the divisional and interest group structure.

The focus of our discussions as a task force was threefold (though none of the questions were mutually exclusive):

a) The decision-making process itself: How should decisions be made about new interest groups? Should the organization or the membership make the decision? Should management be tops-down or bottoms-up? Should ICA be involved in mapping a trajectory of institutional change? Should the number of signatories necessary for group formation be changed?

b) Attributes of interest groups/divisions: Should we be rethinking size, direction and distinctions between groups? How do we accommodate change in the organization?

c) Ramifications: Are we comfortable with the organization's growth? Should we be concerned about the impact of growth on ICA's

identity to those outside the organization?

Following online deliberation from March until the end of April, the task force agreed on the following:

Keep structure as is: We do not see the need to overhaul the divisional structure and believe it to be sound in its present form. Divisions and interest groups are flourishing, members feel that there is an address to their areas of interest, and the organization is growing. In like fashion, we do not see a need to alter the managerial input of the organization and suggest continuing with the present practice for forming new units, by which they are formed following the signatory input from ICA members.

Institute future self-reviews: That said, we recognize that the ongoing growth and expansion of the organization create a potential disconnect between the relevance of existing divisions and interest groups and the organization as a whole, and that such a disconnect might impact the unit's functioning, role and salience in the organization. To that effect, we suggest that at some point in the future and as a step toward the periodic "house-cleaning" of the organization, all divisions and interest groups should be encouraged to conduct divisional/interest group reviews of their charter, their membership, and their functioning.

With an eye to the future need for such a review, we suggest three options by which such a review might take place. Each would be organized at the level of the division/interest group, where it would be used to ascertain from within the unit the degree to which it is meeting its members' needs and realizing its charter:

- a) a self-study.
 - b) a self-study followed by an external periodic review by the organization.
 - c) an adjustment of each unit's charter statement.
- The workability of each alternative requires additional consideration before being implemented.

Change signatory requirement for new groups: Given the growth of the organization and its anticipated future expansion, we find that the signatory requirement of 30 signatures has become a dated and insufficient measure of member interest today. At the time it was instituted, membership stood at approximately 1,500 persons, whereas we are now at approximately 4,200 members. We therefore suggest that a proportionate number of 1% of the membership be required to start an interest group. If the current membership is at 4,200 members, 42 signatories would be required to start a new group. Wedding new interest groups to a proportionate rather than an absolute number will better accommodate future growth in membership.

ICA welcomes two new interest groups in 2007-2008

ICA Welcomes New Communication History Interest Group

David Park (*Lake Forest College, USA*)

The recent ICA conference in San Francisco witnessed the formal creation of a new ICA Interest Group: The Communication History Interest Group. In keeping with the bylaws of ICA, and in response to petitions from scholars around the world, the Communication History Interest Group held its first business meeting in San Francisco, and will begin programming sessions and other special events for ICA '08 in Montreal.

This Communication History Interest Group is dedicated to the use of historical methods in the study of communication. Of course, history is one of the most well-established themes in the study of communication.

The notion of 'communication history,' as pursued in this interest group, pulls together no fewer than three major areas of research:

I) The History of Communication, including Media History.

This branch of communication history involves research that concerns itself with issues in the history of communication praxis. What is commonly called media history will be a major component of this area in communication history.

II) The History of the Idea of Communication.

Scholars who address this issue take on one of the fundamental task of understanding how communication has been conceptualized, as well as how and why these conceptualizations have changed over time.

III) The History of the Field of Communication.

This subfield in communication history provides a home to those who ask questions about how the study of communication has developed. Much as other social sciences (including psychology, sociology, anthropology, and economics) benefit from subfields that address their own histories, the history of the field of communication allows us to engage in a dialogue concerning the ideas and structures that have shaped the study of communication.

Membership in the Communication History Interest Group will be available to all members of ICA. Simply look for the relevant box to check when renewing your ICA membership.

Anyone who would like more information concerning the Communication History Interest Group should contact the acting chair of the Interest Group, David Park (*Lake Forest College, USA*) (park@lakeforest.edu). Information about the Interest Group can also be obtained from the Interest Group's website: <http://www.communicationhistory.org/>.

New Special Interest Group - Children, Adolescents, and the Media at ICA!

Patti Valkenburg (*U of Amsterdam, The Netherlands*)

In September 2007, ICA approved the establishment of a new Interest Group: Children, Adolescents, and the Media (CAM). In that month, we presented a petition on behalf of 46 active ICA members who argued that a group of scholars in children and media exists within ICA but has long been scattered among many other Divisions and other associations, and that a new Interest Group will provide this group with many new possibilities for collaboration and growth. In the past decades, children and adolescents have become the defining users of many entertainment media and media technologies. Despite a booming media industry specifically aimed at children and young people, relatively little is known about the contents, uses, and implications of these media productions.

The Special Interest group Children, Adolescents, and the Media (CAM) strives to be a fruitful intellectual forum for academics from all over the world who study the role of media in the lives of children and young people. It aims to facilitate the exchange of ideas among scholars of different backgrounds and disciplinary orientations, informed by a variety of theoretical and empirical approaches. CAM's orientation is interdisciplinary: It attempts to draw on and contribute to communication theory, but also to psychological, sociological, cultural, and critical

theories. CAM's approach is multimethodological: It welcomes all theoretical and empirical studies based on quantitative and qualitative research methods.

It is possible to become a member of CAM now! If you haven't renewed your ICA-membership yet, please do not forget to click on Special Interest Group #24: Children, Adolescents, and the Media! We are in an exciting phase. We will have an organizational meeting in Montreal, where the officers will be elected, some important future plans will be outlined, and, more importantly, the kick-off of CAM will be celebrated! We will keep you posted on the place and date of this organizational meeting. Of course we hope to welcome all children and media researchers at ICA at the kick-off meeting!

CAM will accept papers and panel proposals as from the 2009 Chicago conference. In the coming years, we would like to unite as many researchers focusing on young people as possible - so please come and join ICA's new interest group Children, Adolescents and the Media! If you have any questions, please email me at p.m.valkenburg@uva.nl.

(These two articles, above, were originally published in the ICA Newsletter)

Student Column: Finding Meaningful Research Topics: Advice from Senior Scholars

Rebecca Hains (*Salem State College, USA*), and Mikaela Marlow, (*U of Idaho, USA*)

Graduate students everywhere have a common goal: to find a meaningful research topic. At the last meeting of the International Communication Association in San Francisco, members of the Student Affairs Committee asked us to write a column featuring advice on how students might find and pursue meaningful research topics.

We invited several established scholars who are passionate about their work to give us their advice. Here are their collected responses.

Michael S. Stohl (*U of California at Santa Barbara, USA*)

The sources of research topics about which people are passionate are many and varied. Some scholars find them in the context of reading a scholarly article and seeing a critical connection that enables a theoretical leap or a methodological transformation. Others are touched by a social problem and realize that they have the theoretical and methodological tools to contribute to better understanding and perhaps the ability to make a contribution. In my own case the discovery of my first area of sustained research arose while I was an undergraduate searching for a book in the library stacks and happened across a book titled

The French Revolution in English History. It stimulated my thinking on how something that happened in another country could have so profound an effect elsewhere. It led to me thinking about what we now call globalization processes and their impact on domestic conflict and state repression. I have studied all three of these areas ever since.

Sharon Mazzarella (*Clemson U, USA*)

If you're anything like me you know the experience of being "jazzed" when you return home from a conference-especially if that conference is ICA. I've been attending ICA for almost 25 years (EEEEK!), and have never failed to leave with a renewed excitement about the discipline in general and about potential research projects in particular. Whether that excitement stems from a dynamic audience Q & A following my own presentation, from things I've learned while attending other panels, or from having my intellectual horizons expanded by meeting cutting-edge scholars at one or another social event, I have found that the best way to reenergize intellectually and generate new project ideas is to immerse myself in the conference experience. In fact, it's not unusual for me to leave a conference with three or four project ideas swirling around in my head or with plans for collaborations with other scholars. Certainly not all of these projects and collaborations come to fruition, but some do, and those are the ones that matter because, invariably, those tend to be the ones that are both the most exciting and the most doable. There is nothing like that feeling of postconference jazz to stoke my intellectual fire and to

keep me passionate about my work.

Robin L. Nabi (*U of California at Santa Barbara, USA*)

How do you discover research topics you're passionate about pursuing? I think it's ultimately about exposing yourself to lots of different ideas and seeing which feel exciting to you. As you begin to pursue those ideas, you might find that you end up going in a direction that's not what you expected. As long as you're enjoying the process, that's just fine. If trying to answer the question doesn't thrill you, it may be time to find a new one. This isn't to say that if you don't enjoy every moment of your research, it's time to move on. Rather, the idea of pursuing that research should be exciting, even if the specific tasks may at times feel tedious, frustrating, overwhelming, or otherwise onerous. By the way, I think the ICA conference is a great venue to embark on this sort of discovery. With hundreds of ideas being presented, you can pick out the panels and papers that sound interesting over the course of the weekend and see which ones you most enjoy and still think about after the conference ends.

Michael Morgan (*U of Massachusetts, USA*)

At the risk of sounding trite, I'm tempted to say that you if you go looking for "meaningful research topics," then you'll never find one - rather, if it's something that's going to ignite and sustain your intellectual passions, it will find you. Something clicks, sets off a spark, and engages you - you just know it when it happens. And to completely contradict myself, you can't just sit around

and wait for cosmic forces to deign to anoint you with their inspiration. You've got to read, talk, ask, listen - so you don't try to reinvent the wheel - and carefully think about the Big Ideas (and their associated nitty-gritty implications) that really excite and fascinate you, and that led you to want to go to a research-oriented grad school in the first place.

In my experience, most grad students have at least a general idea of what they want to focus on (sometimes it's too general, sometimes it's too specific; too often it's driven by method rather than theory). I learned in grad school that the best way to do something "meaningful" is to continually ask yourself, "So what?" Why is this an important topic, why will the world be a better place because of my findings or conclusions? But at the same time, I've seen too many grad students wait, and wait, for the "perfect" dissertation idea to come to them. There's no such thing, and part of the task is to choose something that's workable and feasible - from a wide range of possibilities - and then sink your teeth into it.

And if you do a reasonably good job of studying something, then in the process you will most likely raise more questions than you answer, which can ideally lead to a long-term research program. Think about building a coherent research trajectory - not one that is narrowly and linearly focused but one that can evolve as each step leads to possibilities for developing further inquiries. (I say this while recognizing that one of the most appealing aspects of academic research is that it opens spaces to go off in entirely new

directions at any time.) In my own research, the constant transformations in media technology and policy, and the immense complexity of studying effects, have automatically provided me with an ever-changing landscape that continually raises new questions and issues; in that sense, I have expended no effort whatsoever in trying to sustain my own interest level. I am shocked when I realize that I have been working in this area for over 30 years; it feels like a fraction of that.

Sonia Livingstone, Professor of Social Psychology (London School of Economics & Political Science, United Kingdom)

To be honest, if an academic project doesn't make you excited, you probably shouldn't be working on it. In other words, I don't think anyone can create motivation where it doesn't exist. But what I think is more of a problem is seeing people crush or ignore their genuine motivation in order to work on a project that seems more fundable, topical or valued in the competitive world we live in. What I also see in doctoral students, too often, is a difficulty in recognizing what does, really, excite them about their projects. Over and again, in supervising, I find myself asking - what's your burning question? What do you really want to know? What do you hope, in an ideal world, your project might be able to conclude?

In my own work, I have been fortunate enough to be able to follow my enthusiasm, managing to find a way either to get a project funded and recognized, or to 'package it' in a way that makes sense to others. Still, there's often some explaining to do, to link the project I really want to do with the one that people expect, or approve of, or wish to fund. That's not always an easy part of the work, but it's better than working on something I'm not committed to! I enjoy working on things that excite other people too - then their enthusiasm is catching, and they are ready to contribute to events too.

So, I worked on audience reception of soap opera when lots of others did too. And I worked on talk shows when they seemed to be on the increase and the subject of public discussion. Since I began working on children and the Internet, I've been overwhelmed with how much interest others have in the subject, and that really helps. As my own children grow into teenagers, I find the age group that absorbs me has also got older - so there's a

personal interest too. I don't mean to say, follow the fashion, as that's incoherent and may not result in a sustained body of work. Indeed, I spend quite a lot of my time writing about the consistent themes threaded through my various projects over the years, so as to identify the development of my own voice. So, if you want to be part of wider debates, it makes sense to figure out where the excitement is. If you prefer to plough your own quiet furrow, then recognizing your own intrinsic motivation is all the more crucial.

Ron Rice, Professor of Communication (U of California at Santa Barbara, USA)

That's a hard question. Several things come to mind... Meaningful research seems suited to your experience and expertise and has the potential for stimulating new areas to study. It should be an avenue that resonates with something personally relevant to you, though, in my mind, trying to avoid something so closely aligned with your personal interests that you then become unable to respond to any comments, critiques or feedback about it without taking it personally. Be cautious not to analyze, interpret, and come to conclusions that essentially reinforce your own personal beliefs and interests. Stimulating research may also be something that other people you know find interesting and/or are open to collaboration. The issue of feasibility comes into play, too -- some things maybe just aren't all that feasible given one's expertise, resources, location, etc. Identifying future research suggestions and reviews of the general area may also assist in guiding scholars to successful research projects. Looking into articles or chapters about the potential topic may provide leads on interesting or motivating ideas that others contribute about a given topic. A few thoughts on the topic!

Wolfgang Donsbach, Professor of Communication, (Dresden U of Technology, Germany)

Not an easy question! But certainly an important one and I congratulate you on having found such an interesting topic for your column. Here's a blurb, whatever it might be worth.

I believe that too many, particularly young, scholars run after the leading paradigms and theories in the field. This is, of course, understandable, because they think that probabilities to get their research published are higher if they work in

already established thematic areas. The research questions then become smaller and also more remote and irrelevant. Young scholars should look for the research questions that lie off the beaten tracks and mainstream paradigms. And what could guide this search? As I wrote in my presidential address (*JoC 56, 200*) empirical research without normative goals can easily become arbitrary, random, and irrelevant. We need research that looks into the reality of accepted norms and values such as freedom, independence and equal opportunities. In short, communication research should be in the public interest. So, I would always start with "Where might we have a problem? In journalism, media use and effects, personal communication etc.?" I would not start with the question "what are the "hottest theories" according to citation rankings?"

But such a search for topics outside the mainstream must be stipulated and must get rewarded. So it is also a task for the more senior scholars, the advisors, reviewers, and deans to give gratitude to those who are going in a new direction - that might sometimes be a dead-end-street but very often an eye-opener.

Scott Reid, Associate Professor of Communication (U of California at Santa Barbara, USA)

I'm not sure about the 'passionate' part, but I've reached the conclusion that there are only three paths to discovering new research topics. 1. demonstrate that someone else is wrong; 2. expand some previous research into new territory (i.e., add a moderating variable(s)); 3. discover a phenomenon that no one else has/no one else has bothered to study.

The rest strikes me as motivational. . . for that there are lots of individual differences; culture has an affect (places with cultural vitality produce scientific knowledge as well as great art); and biology plays a role. For men at least. Scientific discoveries are predominantly made by men who are in their 20s and early 30s.

(This article, above, was originally published in the ICA Newsletter)

International, Global, or Transnational?

Sonia Livingstone

No, I'm not proposing a name change for ICA. "International, Global, or Transnational" was the theme of the joint ICA/IAMCR session I organized at the IAMCR conference, held in Paris in July 2007. Since IAMCR was celebrating its 50th anniversary*, it seemed a good moment to demonstrate collegiality with our "friendly rivals." The panel asked some universally crucial questions - for, whether we conduct our work on a local, national, regional or international basis, we all work within context of globalisation. We are also encouraged to collaborate across borders, to employ comparative methods, and to respond to work from around the world. So, does it matter if we call this a transnational, global, or international lens? And do these concepts relate differently to communication research, practice, and policy?

The panel was chaired by Cees Hamelink (*U Amsterdam, The Netherlands*) a previous president of IAMCR and an active ICA member. Speakers were ICA member Oliver Boyd-Barrett (*Bowling Green State U, USA*), IAMCR member Claudia Padovani (*U Padova, Italy*), and two speakers who represented both organisations - Toshie Takahashi (*Rikkyo U, Tokyo, Japan*) and Indrajit Banerjee (*Nanyang Technological U, Singapore* and chair of the *Asian Media and Information Centre (AMIC)*). Robin Mansell, IAMCR President, and I acted as respondents, and since the audience was both intrigued and lively, the dialogue proved stimulating.

Although for many, the "global" has replaced the "international," it seems there is a growing wariness of the grandiosity of claiming a "global" perspective, given the continued unevenness in both ICA's and IAMCR's inclusion of scholarship around the world. Takahashi quoted from cultural critic Ulf Hannerz, who noted:

"I am also somewhat uncomfortable with the rather prodigious use of the term globalisation to describe just about any process or relationship that somehow crosses state boundaries.... The term 'transnational' is in a way more humble... it also makes the point that many of the linkages in question are not 'international'

in the strict sense of involving nations... In the transnational arena, the actors may now be individuals, groups, governments, business enterprises, and in no small part it is this diversity ... we need to consider”.

While we can readily concur with this agenda, different speakers reported varying connotations of the key terms, depending on their linguistic, cultural, and political contexts. Each is defined, partly, by that which it opposes - international vs. national, global vs. local, transnational vs. that which is static within a nation. Thus, each term has value, depending on our research questions. What unifies all three terms is, I suggest, a prioritization of the comparative.

Jim Beniger wrote that “all social science research is comparative,” indeed that “all analysis is comparative.” The article that apparently avoids comparative claims by focusing on a phenomenon in just one context or country is, nonetheless, comparative insofar as it implies either universalistic claims (i.e., by assuming commonality with others, by refusing to contextualize the phenomenon in a specific locale) or particularistic claims (i.e., by contextualizing thoroughly and so implying that matters are different elsewhere). And even if the author avoids explicit comparisons, the reader - whether in the same country or elsewhere - will undoubtedly make them on his or her behalf.

Being myself influenced by Lakoff and Johnson's brilliant book, *Metaphors We Live By*, I suggested in my response to the panel that we embrace the modest impulse to avoid totalizing statements, and focus instead on metaphors of connection and comparison. Four metaphors seem to me to capture the ways in which we work comparatively, and they guide the activities of our professional association also:

- The coffee house. Despite critiques of the ideal and reality of Habermas' public sphere, communication scholars worldwide seek out places to meet and discuss their ideas face to face, and devote much attention to establishing inclusive, fair, and open conditions in which to do this. Conferences remain central, though online forums are also valuable, and the quality of the symbolic space (and its coffee) is crucial.

- The patchwork quilt. Although each scholar selects and works their own square, we establish some degree of patterning in our journals, literature reviews, and conference programs. Still, a degree of mutual contrast and disorder can be peacefully accommodated. The emerging pattern, often pleasing precisely because it integrates such diversity, is better perceived at a distance, in the eye of the beholder, than by the individual contributor.
- The twisted rope. For theory development, particularly across disciplines, epistemologies, or cultural contexts, uniformity is not the object. Rather, the hope is to twist together diverse strands to achieve a meaningful whole, thus recognizing continuities while allowing new themes to emerge from those that preceded them. In our intellectual dialogue with each other, whether in conferences, journals, teaching, or any other forum, this, surely, is our aim.
- The gestalt image (e.g. of two faces or one vase). In our research methods, especially when working across different contexts, or in collaborative teams, there is occasionally a moment of insight when one's perspective shifts and everything is transformed. Whether the perspectival shift is from insider to outsider, outsider to insider, or something else, a project without such insights remains lifeless, failing to generate a flash of understanding or recognition in the reader. Our aim is not only to ensure these “gestalt” moments, but also to keep both perspectives simultaneously in view.

There may be other, equally productive metaphors that guide our work - I'd love to hear of them. I was delighted on this occasion to represent ICA at a major conference with over 900 communication scholars from over 150 countries and to take part in so lively a dialogue of comparison and connection.

*For those who are wondering, ICA was first formed as the National Society for the Study of Communication in 1950. It changed its name to the International Communication Association in 1969.

(This article, above, was originally published in the ICA Newsletter)



How ICA works

ICA is a member organisation run by a Board of Directors in accordance with its Bylaws.

The Board of Directors consists of the President, President-Elect, President-Elect Select, Immediate Past President, the Chairpersons of Divisions enrolling 200 active members in the previous year, two Student Board Members-at-Large, and five Regional Board Members-at-Large.

A subcommittee of the Board of Directors consisting of the President, President-Elect, President Elect-Select, Immediate Past President, Past President, Finance Chair and the Executive Director is formed as the Executive Committee. The Executive Director serves as a nonvoting member of the Executive Committee and the Board, and also manages the ICA office in Washington, DC.

ICA maintains a series of standing and awards committees to conduct its business in relation to membership, internationalisation, publications, liaison with other agencies, etc, annual awards, and ad hoc task forces.

ICA's Past Presidents

2007 - 2008 Sonia Livingstone
 2006 - 2007 Ronald E. Rice
 2005 - 2006 Jon F. Nussbaum
 2004 - 2005 Wolfgang Donsbach
 2003 - 2004 Robert T. Craig
 2002 - 2003 Jennings Bryant
 2001 - 2002 Cindy Gallois
 2000 - 2001 Joseph N. Cappella
 1999 - 2000 Linda L. Putnam
 1998 - 1999 Howard Giles
 1997 - 1998 Peter Monge
 1996 - 1997 Stanley A. Deetz
 1995 - 1996 Charles R. Berger
 1994 - 1995 Bradley S. Greenberg
 1993 - 1994 Akiba A. Cohen
 1992 - 1993 Ellen Wartella
 1991 - 1992 Mary Anne Fitzpatrick
 1990 - 1991 Margaret L. McLaughlin
 1989 - 1990 Jay Blumler
 1988 - 1989 Phillip K. Tompkins
 1987 - 1988 L. Edna Rogers
 1986 - 1987 B. Aubrey Fisher (Deceased)
 1985 - 1986 Brenda Dervin
 1984 - 1985 Klaus Krippendorff
 1983 - 1984 James A. Anderson
 1982 - 1983 Erwin P. Bettinghaus
 1981 - 1982 Steve Chaffee (Deceased)
 1980 - 1981 Everett M. Rogers (Deceased)
 1979 - 1980 Gerald R. Miller (Deceased)

1978 - 1979 Frederick D. Williams
 1977 - 1978 Robert J. Kibler (Deceased)
 1976 - 1977 Richard W. Budd
 1975 - 1976 Mark L. Knapp
 1974 - 1975 Nathan Maccoby (Deceased)
 1973 - 1974 Alfred G. Smith (Deceased)
 1972 - 1973 Malcolm S. MacLean (Deceased)
 1971 - 1972 Ronald L. Smith
 1970 - 1971 R. Wayne Pace
 1969 - 1970 Robert S. Goyer
 1968 - 1969 Darrell T. Piersol
 1967 - 1968 Lee Thayer
 1966 - 1967 Frank E. X. Dance
 1965 - 1966 Harold P. Zelko (Deceased)
 1964 - 1965 Clarence J. Dover (Deceased)
 1963 - 1964 James I. Brown
 1962 - 1963 W. Charles Redding (Deceased)
 1961 - 1962 John B. Haney
 1960 - 1961 Thorrel Fest (Deceased)
 1959 - 1960 Wesley Wiksell
 1958 - 1959 F. A. Cartier
 1957 - 1958 Donald E. Bird
 1956 - 1957 Thomas R. Lewis
 1955 - 1956 Kenneth A. Harwood
 1954 - 1955 Burton H. Byers (Deceased)
 1953 - 1954 Kenneth Clark
 1952 - 1953 Herold Lillywhite
 1951 - 1952 Elwood Murray (Deceased)
 1950 - 1951 Ralph G. Nichols
 1949 - 1950 Paul D. Bagwell (Deceased)

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