

ICA Communication History Division Business Meeting
May 24, 2015

Approximately 35 in attendance

Location: San Cristobal Ballroom C, San Juan

La Taberna Lupulo
151 Calle San Sebastian

4:30 PM Meeting called to order by CHD Chair Rick Popp, who thanked everyone for reviewing, participating, and attending panels throughout the conference.

Rick introduced current, outgoing, and incoming officers. Rick thanked Nicole Maurantonio for 2 years of service as division secretary. Following the conference's end in San Juan, Rick announced Josh Lauer as taking Nicole's place to serve a two-year term as secretary. Rick introduced Dave Park as vice chair, who has just begun the first year of his term.

Rick then announced the election for vice chair and solicited interest in the position. Rick said the call for candidates will come out in the mid-late part of the summer. Interested candidates will be required to write a candidate statement.

4:34 PM Dave Park moved to approve the minutes from Seattle. Gene Allen seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Following the approval of the minutes Rick gave an update on the mid-year meeting.

- The first day of the meeting included results of the future of the conference study. The central question asked: what should we do with ICA post 2019? After

2019, should we try to make the conference larger by increasing acceptance rates? The study found that people want to leave the conference as it is with fairly minor changes.

Larry Gross stopped by to discuss ICA news and provide additional information on Fukuoka, Japan.

- Fukuoka is closer to Seoul than Tokyo. Direct flights can be made from Honolulu, Amsterdam, and Hong Kong.
- The conference hotel is a large Hilton owned by the Singapore government. Michael Haley negotiated a deal that will enable room costs to remain low. The rate will be \$110/night including breakfast and lunch.
- Given the exchange rate, food will be less expensive.
- In terms of pre-conference possibility, some pre-conferences will be in Tokyo.
- The theme for ICA 2016 is “Communicating with Power” -- an intentionally ambiguous theme enabling a range of proposals.

After Larry left the meeting (**4:40 PM**), Rick introduced Dominique Trudel (NYU) as Early Year Scholar representative of the Division and Caroline Jack (Cornell) as graduate student representative.

4:41 PM Rick said that after 2019 Mondays will be full conference days. This will add a lot of slots. Realizing that the conference will be longer, there might be more post-conferences to ensure that people presenting late in the conference won't feel short-changed.

Rick next discussed Division numbers, reminding that we have a two-year grace period in terms of membership. Regardless, Rick encouraged members to remain members of CHD, even if unable to make it to Fukuoka. He reminded that this is a good

opportunity to continue to build membership.

4:44 PM JP Gutierrez, Communication Director for ICA stopped by the meeting to discuss media outreach for journals pointing out that Communication History is not especially active in ICA journals.

He reminded that if members have any ideas for increasing the visibility of the division, be in touch jpgutierrez@icahdq.org. Similarly, if you have ideas about things that might be newsworthy, contact JP.

4:46 PM Following JP's departure, Rick continued the discussion of journals. There is a focus on social scientific research, as most communication studies journals are APA focused. Journals with APA style by their very nature steer historians away (i.e. *Journal of Communication*). Rick made the point that *Journal of Communication* no longer really serves as a flagship for the discipline. For a while it looked like *Communication, Culture, and Critique* could fit the bill, but *CCC*, too, does not use Chicago style.

Rick reported on a sense that the journals need to be more representative of the field as a whole.

Rick also pointed to two new divisions of interest to history: Mobile Communications Group and Media Industries Studies Group. Both these new interest groups represent positive developments for our division.

4:49 PM CHD Financial Statement

Rick reported that we spent all our budget. The student travel award was \$300. \$100 went to covering website costs. Jeff Pooley does a great job with the website. Thank you, Jeff.

The Division's remaining budget went to the reception following

the business meeting. Rick organized a post-social social in Old San Juan at La Taberna Lupulo. 151 Calle San Sebastian.

4:52 PM Pre-Conference Report

Rick thanked Gene Allen and Michael Stamm for putting on a fantastic pre-conference titled, "Communication and the State: Toward a New International History." 44 submissions were received; 24 were accepted. Gene and Michael put together a well-programmed day with closing plenary. Thanks to Dave, Jeff, and Rick for support.

Rick then asked members for ideas for pre-conference 2016. Given Larry's comments earlier in the meeting, the location can be flexible. If you have ideas for pre-conference themes, a call will go out this summer.

4:58 PM Statistics for this year

Rick reported 58 submissions for the Division with a few disqualified papers because of pre-published articles. We accepted 25 papers and rejected 27. We had 5 created panels.

The Division received 8 panel proposals; we accepted 4, for an acceptance rate of 50%.

This conference was a bit smaller than Seattle and London.

4 offered panels, 5 created panels, 5 slots for poster session. Rebecca Swanson and Ed Simpson had excellent papers in the poster session. Top posters.

4:58 PM Reviewing

Rick reported that we are not a division struggling with the reviewing process. We had a reviewing pool of 130 people or so.

That said Rick encouraged members to continue to be such good citizens and to please review again! If you would like to review for next year, please let Rick know.

4:59 PM Top Paper Awards

Michael Meyen and Anke Fiedler, “Letters to the Editor and the Public Sphere in the GDR.” Winners from Singapore.

Runner Up Top Paper by Jennifer Peterson, “Film Regulation and The Varieties of Public Opinion: Law as Communication History.”

Top Student Paper went to Eleanor Marchant, “For Want of a Canon to Call Our Own: The Challenge of Herbert Schiller.”

One other award-related matter. Lynn Spigel’s *Make Room for TV*, a canonical work within feminist studies, popular communication, and communication history, received recognition from the ICA Fellows for the impact of the book.

Rick reiterated that the Communication History Division reception would take place in San Cristobal Room C immediately following the business meeting – a site to further celebrate top paper award winners.

Rick then asked members to share information for upcoming conferences. One was a call for a conference on History, Situation, and Perspective. Full papers will be expected for July 2016. Theoretical research.

5:06 PM Ideas for keeping membership up. Rick opened up the meeting to discussion.

We get about 10 slots given the current membership. Rick then asked how desirable it would be to have a journal that accepted Chicago style manuscripts.

David Goodman asked after colleagues in Japan.

Pete Simonson said he has a former student who is a speech/rhetoric scholar who is in Japan. Dave Park said there are a number of rhetoricians in Japan who might not necessarily think of ICA.

Rick pointed out that there are many South Korean colleagues who are part of ICA. Although Communication History does not have a large membership base in Asia, we have colleagues in history departments who might be points of contact.

David Goodman pointed out interest from Australia as another point of contact.

Rick mentioned pre-conferences as a way to connect with folks in the Pacific Rim. If members have ideas for boosting ideas, please be in touch with Rick, as the year after next ICA will be in San Diego (2017).

Returning to the issue of publication/manuscript style, Rick said the conversation seems to be moving in a direction that is positive for us. Journals will be negotiating a new contract with Wiley and other journal publishers soon.

Nick Gilewicz asked if the issue is one of style and receptiveness.

Dave Park was on the task force. From the task force came a resolution for a survey pursuing a sense of ICA journals. There was relatively widespread agreement that journals were not speaking to the entire field (*Journal of Communication* as case in point). With Wiley's contract expiring, there is new opportunity to now potentially expand the offering of journals and reach a broader population of scholars.

In the task force Bob Craig suggested a journal dedicated to the law and policy division and history. In the creation of such a

journal, more humanist oriented work would be encouraged. PTC representatives were on the task force. Consensus was that APA style is pushing people away.

One idea is to have a number of journals accept multiple styles. The issue with this formatting change would directly impact EBSCO and create difficulties.

CCC didn't want to retrain staff working Chicago.

Dave Park said he'd like to see a journal.

In response to a question regarding the journal with closest proximity to Communication History, Rick said it would have to be *Communication, Culture, and Critique*. CCC began as a cultural studies orientated journal that would take on a lot of the work. The other journals publish more social scientific, quantitative research.

Gene Allen pointed out that there's a lot of possible cross-over with journalism studies but also noted citation issues.

Rick mentioned *Journalism History* and *American Journalism* as journals that accept Chicago. *Technology and Culture* accepts Chicago as well – nowhere within the institution of ICA, however. Additionally, these journals are fairly specific in scope.

Katie Montalbano said that she knows someone who has contacts in China who would be worth reaching out to.

Pete Simonson circulated reviewer sign ups.

5:23 PM Meeting adjourned

