

COMMUNICATION HISTORY DIVISION

Business Meeting, San Diego, California

May 28, 2017

(Approximately 20 members in attendance.)

Minutes

5:01 PM: Copies of agenda and minutes from 2016 business meeting distributed by Division Chair David Park.

5:04 PM: David Park called meeting to order.

Opening remarks: David Park discussed high quality of conference papers.

5:06 PM: Jeff Pooley introduced motion to accept the 2016 minutes. Minutes accepted.

5:07 PM: David Park discussed division membership.

- Noted dip in division's membership after Asia conferences (Singapore and Japan).
- Noted current division membership at approximately 200.
- Noted that budget numbers are at good levels.
- Reported submission numbers for division at San Diego conference: 9 panels and 51 individual papers.
- Noted decrease in individual paper submissions to the division. Discussion of dip opened to audience. Some possible causes of the dip attributed to ineffective announcements and increase in panel submissions.
- David Park observed that too many graduate student papers were rejected for the San Diego conference.

5:11 PM: Pre-conference report by Christian Schwarzenegger. Success of pre-conference noted, with 46 paper submissions and 28 accepted papers.

5:13 PM: David Park board meeting report.

- Discussed formation of new interest groups.
- Noted emphasis on professional development programming.
- Noted development of fair use task force to raise awareness among ICA members. David Park noted relevance to division members with regard to archival images.
- Future ICA conference sites reported: Gold Coast, Australia (2020); Denver, USA (2021); Paris, France (2022); Toronto, Canada (2023); Bangkok, Thailand (not confirmed, 2024).
- Increase in division budget anticipated, thanks to good ICA financial management. Potential for more division award funding noted.
- Division budget and expenses reported. Surplus of \$1.80 for current year reported.

5:20 PM: David Park presided over award announcements.

- Top paper award: Maira Vaca-Baquiero (not present to receive award).

- Top poster award: Annie Rudd (not present to receive award).
- Top student paper award: Gal Beckerman (present to receive award).

5:22 PM: David Park introduced discussion of future division programming.

- Noted discretion of division officers in mediating reviewer ratings in selection of accepted panels and papers.
- Commented on problem of low number of graduate student submissions and high rate of graduate student rejections.
- Noted that too many poster presentations were needed to accommodate graduate students.

Discussion of how to encourage more graduate student participation opened to the floor.

- Audience member: Asked if current year's numbers were an outlier?
- Caroline Jack: Noted that many graduate students are eager to work on media history topics, but they don't have enough support from media historians in their own departments/programs.
- Audience member: Suggested that calls for division conference papers could be written in a way that signals openness to interdisciplinary scholarship.
- Audience member: Recommended that special graduate student only panels not be organized, as they "ghettoize" graduate students.
- Richard Popp: Suggested that each panel be required to include at least one graduate student, as a matter of policy.

David Park introduced discussion of extended abstracts (250 words) as way to encourage larger numbers of submissions to the division. David Park expressed his reservations about abstracts, but asked for comment.

- Audience member: Noted that historical work is time consuming and suggested that a work-in-progress pre-conference might be helpful to encourage the participation of graduate students, who might be in the early stages of historical projects.
- Caroline Jack: Added that graduate students might also benefit from seeing the work-in-progress of senior scholars.

5:34 PM: David Park announced upcoming elections for the division's Vice Chair. Noted that no candidates were currently identified, and encouraged members to step forward.

5:36 PM: David Park thanked Josh Lauer for his service as division Secretary, and welcomed Lars Lundgren into this role.

5:37 PM: David Park introduced discussion of division's effort to expand its international membership.

- Noted that the division has made positive strides to get Latin American scholars involved. Recommended taking a targeted approach to Latin American universities.
- Noted growth in European membership.

Discussion of issue opened to the floor.

- Audience member: Suggested the appointment of division liaisons or ambassadors for underserved regions.
- Audience member: Suggested the division enlist the assistance of international scholars who trained in the U.S. and returned to work in their home country (e.g., U.S.-educated Chinese scholars who return to China).

- Audience member: Suggested that panel organizers be encouraged to include international participants.

5:42 PM: David Park reported developments with *Communication History* journal.

- Noted that *Communication History* (CH) is not formally connected to the division.
- Reported that ICA journals will move from Blackwell to Oxford, but that CH will not be included in this move.
- Reported that CH will become a section of the International Journal of Communication (IJOC), an open access online journal, for the time being, with the hope of being acquired by Oxford in several years.
- Noted benefits of IJOC association, including possibility of publishing special issues and monographs and developing appealing profile for Oxford acquisition.
- Discussed resistance to publishing model that requires authors pay to have their work published in an open access journal.

Questions from the floor.

- Jeff Pooley: Asked what citation style will be used in CH. David Park confirmed that the journal will use Chicago style.
- Gene Allen: Asked if CH section of IJOC will have its own editorial board. David Park responded that the issue is not settled but that he is advocating for a separate CH editorial board.
- Audience member: Asked if CH section of IJOC will have its own title and volume/issue numbers. David Park confirmed that CH section will look distinct and have its own volume/issue designations.

David Park encouraged division members to submit their work to CH.

5:52 PM: David Park shared request from the *Annals of the International Communication Association* for submissions.

5:53 PM: David Park reported that the division's pool of conference reviewers was very good. Noted that reviews for current conference submissions were thorough. Encouraged members to add their names to the list of reviewers for next year's conference, collected at the conclusion of the meeting.

5:56 PM: David Park announced the location and logistical information for cross-divisional reception, to follow the business meeting. David Park expressed his antipathy for the name of the reception location (Bub's at the Ballpark).

5:58 PM: David Park opened discussion of general issues to the floor. No replies.

5:58 PM: David Park introduced motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Gene Allen. Meeting adjourned.