

COMMUNICATION HISTORY DIVISION

Business Meeting, Prague, Czech Republic

May 27, 2018

(Approximately 35 members in attendance.)

Minutes

1. David Park called meeting to order.
2. Opening remarks: David Park informed division about high numbers of submissions, and high quality of conference papers.
3. Caroline Jack introduced motion to accept the 2017 minutes. Minutes accepted.
4. David Park informed of an ICA member being sexually assaulted on her way between conference hotels, and members being harassed by white supremacists. David asked whether anyone wanted him to bring anything to the ICA leadership.

Caroline Jack suggested ad hoc buddy system, making sure that any member would be able to have company when outside the hotels, and a buddy walking system between conference hotels. Audience member asked whether the incidents were reported to the police, which to David's knowledge they were.

5. David Park informed about division membership.

Division membership has increased again, with 230 members as of May 25, 2018. (Last year this time about 135.)

Overall ICA membership is growing, CHD at an even faster pace than most other divisions.

Conference attendance is also growing, now up to 3.500.

Next year's conference predicted to be even bigger, with the unfortunate consequence of an even lower acceptance rate.

Submissions for CHD at Prague conference: 13 panels and 68 individual papers. A substantial increase in individual paper submissions to the division.

7 panels and 28 papers (5 of which posters) accepted, an acceptance rate of 53,8% and 41,1% respectively.

Still too many graduate student papers rejected for the Prague conference. Senior faculty are encouraged to include graduate students in panel proposals. Both in support of graduate students, and as a means of raising quality and diversity to submissions.

Stephanie Seul asked whether it would be possible to increase the number of posters. David Park responded that there is an allocated number of slots for posters as well.

6. David Park and Lars Lundgren reported from division pre-conference, Network(ed) Histories. 36 papers were presented in 8 panels. Keynote by Lisa Parks. The total attendance were approximately 45 participants from 15 countries.

7. David Park board meeting report.

A motion was proposed to the ICA board as to provide each division/interest group with three waivers for scholars from non-tier A countries. The motion passed.

The ICA board received a proposal to change authorship rules. Currently there is a limitation to five proposals by any one author. Proposal to allow for five first author submissions, and unlimited number of co-authorships.

Discussion followed.

Derek Vaillant: Is there not a 0-sum game to be taken into account? Why have unlimited numbers of papers?

David Park explained the slot system used in order to allocate slots to divisions.

David Park asked whether the members thought this could hurt the division?

Stephanie Seul: Would this not result in an even higher rejection rate? Would it not be wiser to limit the number to two submissions, one as a first author and one as a second author?

Samantha Oliver: Reported that the matter had been discussed at a graduate student meeting, and that the meeting had concluded that the proposal would hurt graduate students.

Josh Lauer: This would potentially dramatically increase rejection rate in other divisions, which may result in CHD looking weaker since our numbers of submissions are unlikely to increase at the same pace as in other divisions. Asked whether it is possible to break down the figures in order to understand the process?

Samantha Oliver asked whether anything is being done in order to lower number of submission?

David Park noted that there are few very large divisions, and that in a system of 40+ divisions, interest groups etc. this creates a system of outliers. In some divisions, where co-authorship and large-scale projects are more common, the proposal makes more sense.

Patricia Aufderheide offered a critique of the proposal made to the ICA board to adjust the limit to the number of submissions an author may make to the ICA conference. The new proposal would adjust the '5 submission rule,' so that authors would be allowed to submit only 5 proposals as first author (with no limits for non-lead authorship). At the conference you can in the end only present two papers, and she urged authors to think about our authorship and consider our best work to be submitted.

Manuel Menke noted that the large divisions most likely will become even more dominant.

Audience member seconded Manuel Menke, noting that large scale projects will benefit, and it will hurt the review process. Informed about experience as editor with a similar move at a journal.

David Park concluded by noting that the CHD will communicate our skepticism toward the proposal.

8. David Park presided over award announcements.

Top paper: Derek Vaillant, "'Our Hearts Were Young and Gay': Gender Repair and the Lavender Tinge of Cold War-era U.S.-French Talk Radio".

Top student paper: Bernat Ivancsics, "'Prying Loose the Information Lid': The First Ten Years of FOIA in the United States".

Top poster paper: Kevin Lerner, "Impudent Snobs: The Liebling Counter-Convention and the Rise of the Elite of American Journalism".

Top poster paper (2017): Annie Rudd was presented with her award for 2017 top poster paper.

Top Reviewer award: John Nerone

9. Peter Monge informed division about Washington DC conference.

The conference still has tentative dates, 24-28 May, (Fri-Tue, rather than Thu-Mon). It is explained by a double booking with another major conference, and it will be another 6-8 weeks before a final decision of dates is made, after finalizing negotiations.

Conference theme: "Communication beyond boundaries." Terry Flew, president elect, is organizing the conference. Flew has presented five ideas in relation to the theme – Crossing Boundaries - , encouraging: 1) interdisciplinary papers and panel, 2) communication as post-discipline with, porous boundaries to other academic fields, politics, society, humanities, 3) engagement beyond the academy, papers on activism, policy, NGOs, and industry level

analysis, end users, etc., 4) next generation technological trends, AI, robotics, neuroscience, etc, 5) international panels addressing the issue of crossing boundaries.

There will be two hotels: Washington Hilton and the Omni. All sessions will be in Hilton. The room rate is negotiated to 179 USD per night. ICA is looking for additional, smaller hotels, with affordable rooms. The hotels are located near Dupont circle which is close to the ICA headquarters. The executive committee is considering the possibility of organizing an open house at the headquarters. The executive committee also suggests that divisions try to establish cooperation with the numerous Washington DC universities.

There will be a change in the room booking system. Previously, ICA has opened up the booking system to presenters as soon as accepted. However, presenters do not know when to present and therefore make safety bookings, filling up the hotel quickly and leaving people without rooms. Next year the program will be released first in order to avoid this problem.

Discussion followed:

Gene Allen asked when the programme is released. Peter Monge responded that it is released about six weeks ahead of the conference.

Gene Allen noted that this may be late in order to get affordable air fares.

Stephanie Seul asked if it would be possible to have an earlier release of the program?

Peter Monge responded that the ICA do not have the resources to do that.

Stephanie Seul noted that it would significantly improve the situation for those in need to file applications for funding.

10. David Park announced upcoming elections for the division's secretary. Noted that no candidates were currently identified, and encouraged members to step forward.

11. Internationalization Strategy for 2018-2019.

Still a dominance of North Americans in the division as well as in ICA. The situation has improved in recent years but the association is still dominated by the Global North. The growth in memberships from Latin America and South America is slow. CHD only have 7% members from outside the Global North, which is low in relation to other divisions of the ICA.

12. David Park welcomed Nicole Maurantonio who will assume rank of chair as of Monday, May 28 (two-year term). Derek Vaillant was welcomed as the incoming vice-chair (two-year term), after being elected in the summer of 2017.

13. David Park reported developments with *Communication History* journal.

Noted that *Communication History* (CH) is not formally connected to the division.

Reported that the move from Blackwell to Oxford have left the journal without a publisher since OUP has shown no interest in the journal.

Reported that meetings had been held with other publishers and entities to find a solution to the problem.

Noted that a journal may be important in bringing the Communication history division's of ICA, ECREA and IAMCR closer.

David Park promised to keep the division updated on the matter.

14. David Park and Patricia Aufderheide informed the division of the Fair Use policy of the ICA, and the Fair Use task force.

Members were informed about the ICA Fair Use Task Force.

Members were presented with the Fair Use code, available at the ICA website.

The wide-ranging reach of fair use in relation to communication history was emphasized.

Members were encouraged to set a good example by publishing work including fair use material.

15. Budget.

David Park presented the budget and fiscal situation of the division.

Total budget for 2018 = \$1,994.80

Expenses:

Reception: \$1,100

Top Student Paper Award: \$300 (matched by ICA for total award of \$600)

Support for Radio Preservation Task Force meeting in October, 2017: \$200

Web Hosting: \$35.00

Award Certificates: \$16.41

Total Expenses = \$1651.41

$\$1994.80 - \$1651.41 = \$343.39$

\$343.39 will roll-over to the 2019 budget.

David Park asked whether any member would any one like to oppose support for Radio Preservation Task Force (200 USD).

Eric Rothenbuhler expressed that he thought the money was well worth spent. It makes a mark in a far-flung network, where we are little known.

Derek Vaillant informed the members that he will put a reminder on their FB-page, in order to increase impact further.

16. Conference reviewers

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.

17. David Park announced that the reception would take place in the same room, immediately after the meeting.

18. David Park opened discussion of general issues to the floor. No replies.

19. Eric Rothenbuhler introduced motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Jeff Pooley. Meeting adjourned.

Gene Allen encouraged the division to thank David Park for his duties with an applause.