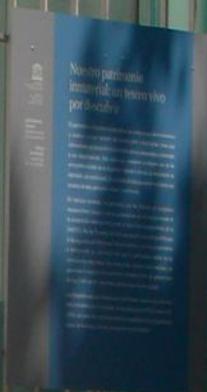


# NEWSLETTER

**IAMCR**  
**AIECS**  
**AIERI**

**International Association for Media and Communication Research**  
**Asociación Internacional de Estudios en Comunicación Social**  
**Association Internationale des Études et Recherches sur l'Information et la Communication**



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## IAMCR at UNESCO



**International Association for Media and Communication Research**  
**Asociación Internacional de Estudios en Comunicación Social**  
**Association Internationale des Études et Recherches sur l'Information et la Communication**

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<b>Immediate Past President:</b>	<b>Frank Morgan (Australia)</b>

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P.18 Stockholm view- courtesy of Karin Becker, Madeleine Kleberg, Göran Leth and Ester Pollack, Organizing committee for the 2008 IAMCR congress.

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To subscribe to the moderated announcements list please visit the IAMCR website and enter your e-mail address at the bottom of the homepage.

### IAMCR SUBSCRIPTION RATES 2007

Please see the membership form on p.28-28 of this newsletter for details of individual and institutional IAMCR membership rates.

### NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

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# IAMCR, Now We Are Fifty

## After the sobriety of our youth

There is an English poet, Jenny Joseph, who's written a much-loved and much quoted poem called "Warning" about growing old disgracefully. This starts:

*"When I am an old woman  
I shall wear purple  
With a red hat which doesn't  
go and doesn't suit me.  
And I shall spend my pension  
on brandy and summer gloves  
And satin sandals, and say  
we've no money for butter."*

Now that IAMCR is past not only the first flush of youth but also an extended adolescence, perhaps it is time to think again about ourselves as a mature organization on the world stage. What and where might our contributions lie in the areas of academic research, policy-making, education and public debate? Perhaps we need to inhabit our position a bit more fully and perhaps we should spend a bit of our "pension" to become more visible?

We have tended to wait until large international organizations invite us in to policy debates or to conduct research. Perhaps we need to be more proactive and start defining the key policy issues as we see them and the research needs that we identify as central? Perhaps we do need to look at the way we divide up the field into our sections and working groups and both try to ensure that there is neither too much overlap but neither are we leaving out swathes of a converging and thus also expanding field. It's good news that we're addressing

explicitly issues around journalism in our newly-named section. As the old and tired divide between theory and practice is challenged once again, and at a time when academics blog, journalists teach and both education and journalism are changing fast, we too need to ensure that our debate and research moves with the times.

It's good news that people are coming forward with an interest in visual cultures and testing out new areas via new working groups (to become visible in Stockholm). While there are many academic organizations with long-standing and highly-developed interests in film and video, for us to ignore issues around image-production and interpretation is to miss out on key global concerns; the research group around the "cartoon crisis" showed in Paris how central

### Editor's Column Annabelle Sreberny

these issues have become in global (mis)understandings.

We remain probably the most international and expansive organization in the field, but others are growing fast and the "internationalizing" imperative is on everyone's lips. We need to encourage a wider and more diverse membership; something that is best done by existing members in their various countries taking on board the responsibility to lobby and publicise our activities; and by build-

ing cooperative bridges to other organizations. The arrangement with ALAIC that Cesar Bolano sets out in this newsletter is a good example of this; perhaps the first of many such liaisons.

Finally, we can perhaps use our new and improved website in more novel ways. Couldn't this become an academic portal for the best and most current work in the field? Can't the important announcements on the IAMCR list about conferences and books be posted there? Couldn't we stage more debate on the website, as a way of engaging us, bringing more traffic to the site and offering more value-added for our members? If we did this, we might not even need a newsletter at all because we would all be regularly logging in to the site to post ideas, resources, chat and link. What do you think?

I think we need more robust debate on many of these issues and also to recognise that there will be a diversity of opinions that need to find either consensus or a mode of operating with mutual respect. As Hannah Arendt before and Chantal Mouffe now suggest, it's not antagonistic but agonistic debate that moves the world along. Perhaps we need a bit more clashing purple and red, a bit more polemic. Perhaps we need a "facebook" for the international academic community in media and communications research? Perhaps we need a bit more growing old not quite so gracefully, a bit more keeping up with the times.

Now we are fifty.

# A Challenging Future for IAMCR

We had a very delightful and big 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in Paris in July 2007 thanks to the hard work of the Local Conference Organising Committee. We marked IAMCR's history and we paid tribute to former IAMCR President, Professor James Halloran, who died on 16 July shortly before the conference. There will be a lecture in his honour during the 2008 conference.

In dozens of ways during the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary plenary sessions and in paper and panel sessions we heard about the challenges we face as the field of media and communication studies grows and our members tackle new research questions. The need to put questions of ethics centrally on our agenda was noted by many presenters as was the need to revisit the histories of media and communication as well as to develop new theoretical frameworks and conceptual models, acknowledging and giving space to distinctive approaches that embrace local as well as global developments.

Questions of gender, human rights, and cultural diversity were very much in evidence, reflecting IAMCR members' strong interest in these areas alongside issues of oligopolisation/globalisation and the need to study the policies of governments, the changing roles of non-governmental organisations, and the ways that transformations in the older and newer media are working themselves out within different regions. In many sessions, including a joint ICA-IAMCR session, there was a strong call for more attention to regional issues.

In particular, and very clearly in the Plenary focusing on the contribution to our field by French scholars, the continuing need to develop socio-political approaches to information, politics and power was stressed especially with respect to different modalities for the production of information, changes in journalism, and different perspectives on media culture and media practice. Especially important was the emphasis on the need to understand editorial freedom and the autonomy of journalists as

a relative concept and to develop stronger links between studies of the 'micro-practices' of media production and consumption and studies of the nature of unequal power relations as they are played out internationally.

During the conference we held a special presentation of the four reports commissioned by Mr. Abdul Waheed Kahn, Unesco Assistant Director General for Communication and Information. These focused on

- Communication Strategies for HIV/AIDS (Natasha Bolognesi and Leslie Swartz, South Africa),
- Communication for Development (Linje Manyozo, South Africa),
- Media, Communication and Literacy (Sheena Johnson Brown and Hopeton Dunn, Jamaica), and
- The Information Society and Ethics (Africanus Diedong, Ghana).

The reports will be finalised in December 2007. I have been invited by

## President's Column

Mr. Kahn to convene a special workshop of seven to ten IAMCR members in December 2007 at Unesco to brainstorm a future and critical research agenda with his staff. Our conference also benefited substantially from Unesco's generosity in making its conference facilities available to us without charge.

Our next conference – or Congress – as we now call the General Assembly year, is hosted by the University of Stockholm in July 2008. In the run up to this Congress, we are reviewing the remits of sections, working groups and our new category of emerging themes. I hope this discussion will generate enthusiasm and lots of creative thinking about how we move through the first decade of our next 50 years!

On the operational side a few highlights that I can report are:

- Thanks to Bruce Gerard and

Alvaro Mailhos and their team based in Uruguay, we launched the new online membership database and membership directory in early July 2007. The new membership directory automatically updates itself every time a member alters the database – magical software!

- With the help of Bruce and Alvaro, we collected membership dues for the 2006 and 2007 more successfully than in the recent past and reported a healthy increase in revenues for 2006 and the first half of 2007. The International Council voted for a modest increase in our budget, but we have a surplus of funds over and above 'normal' running costs. It was agreed that when good ideas emerge that have the support of members and the Council, we may decide to invest in them.
- The International Council agreed to create a new ad hoc group on Cultural Diversity led by Vice-President, Divina Frau-Meigs which will focus particularly on media, ethics and e-learning.
- We made new reciprocal agreements between ALAIC and AMIC in Latin America and initiated further discussions with ECREA and ICA with respect to collaboration.
- We agreed that the IAMCR newsletter will be distributed only online, except for those who explicitly opt for a hardcopy.
- Vice-President Annabelle Sreberny reached agreement with Blackwell-Wiley for a new IAMCR Global Media Handbook series.
- We are continuing with the Hampton book series under the leadership of Marjan De Bruin and Claudia Padovani.
- Our Task Force on Media and Communication Policy is continuing, led by Andrew Calabrese with a particular focus on bilateral agreements, government/industry partnerships and media institutions in the coming months.
- We decided that IAMCR General Assembly year conferences will be 5 days and be called Congresses and that years without a General Assembly will be 4 days and called conferences.

- We renamed the Membership and Participation Committee as the Regionalisation and Membership Committee with a view to emphasising a regionalisation strategy (chaired jointly by Cesar Bolano and Daya Thussu).
- Participation Committee as the Regionalisation and Membership Committee with a view to emphasising a regionalisation strategy (chaired jointly by Cesar Bolano and Daya Thussu).
- We disbanded the Health, Technology and Communication Working Group at the request of its Chair Milton Campos and created a Visual Culture Emerging Theme led by Sunny Yoon.
- Journalism Research and Education Section is the new name for the former Media and Professional Educa-

tion Section, giving journalism a stronger profile in IAMCR.

- The former Junior Scholars Network is now called the Emerging Scholars Network Section.
- The International Council agreed to have a past-president in a non-voting capacity for two years from 2008. 2008 is an election year and I am grateful to Depak De, Cees Hamelink, and Janet Wasko for the work they will do as members of our Election Committee to ensure that all runs smoothly.
- We made some changes in the statutes all of which will be reported in the International Council minutes, but special thanks to Philippe Maarek for preparing an up to date French translation and harmonising the versions. Finally, I announced during the In-

ternational Council that I will not stand for re-election in 2008 despite the 49% of my brain which tells me that I enjoy serving the IAMCR membership and should seek to carry on! The other 51%, however, tells me that from 2008 it will be time for a new President to lead IAMCR into the future. I will be honoured to serve as Past-President and thank all members of the Council for their support and for their rapid move to make this institutional innovation that we have not previously had.

**Professor Robin Mansell  
President, IAMCR**



# Reporting Paris: “We’ve come a long way...”

The IAMCR conference in Paris was a special event in many ways. Our NGO celebrated its 50th anniversary, without appearing too much like an old lady. On the contrary many signs of vitality and prosperity could be seen together with an acknowledgment that 50 years back the path then taken by IAMCR was courageous and innovative. The best symbol of this is probably the final plenary where some of our predecessors reminisced on how they set on to blaze the trail for the creation of such an odd entity. Many in the audience were touched by these witnesses of the past who were brilliant, humorous, and extremely lucid, in their clear assessment of what was at stake in terms of freedom of speech, international dialogue, research needs. The same spirit was echoed in the poignant tribute to James Halloran, recently departed: celebrating his memory was not an occasion for sadness but for inspired story-telling. In spite of pending flights and trains to take, many members of the audience stayed and applauded as commemorative medals were distributed. The historical booklet produced on the occasion by Cees Hamelink and Kaarle Nordenstreng, “IAMCR in retrospect”, was a much welcomed reference, and it has since then been decided to have it freely accessible on-line, on our IAMCR website, for all members, old and new, to peruse.

The final plenary was the climax to three days of intense intellectual exchanges during which about 900 people attended, when 500 were expected. Colleagues from 145 countries came all the way for what was also an off-year European regional conference. More than 220 new members joined IAMCR for the occasion. IAMCR and the local organizing committee offered 40 scholarships (500 euros each) and waived registration fees for about 150 people, according to their status and needs. More than 140 workshops were held and about 750 papers were presented. Even in the late hours, the main hall was never empty, with clusters of old and new friends having lively conversations, confirming the atmosphere that makes IAMCR so special to all of us, —cosmopolitan, friendly and yet exciting, abuzz with projects and ideas. The 12 publishers present in that hall were quite happy with this arrangement that gave them lots of visibility and allowed them to contact many schol-

ars, present books, solicit contributions to collections, — the only regret in that respect being the heavy presence of the English-speaking publishing world, when so many other research cultures and forms of intelligence were represented...

Plenaries were important moments for stock-taking and for looking forward in a truly international and interdisciplinary perspective—as was also emphasized in two semi-plenaries on this specific dimension, one of which was jointly organized with ICA, with the contribution of its current president, Sonia Livingstone. The first two plenaries mapped the state of research in France and in Europe, while the last one offered an international outlook, with guest



speakers examining the fate of old and emerging research themes, from professional journalism to gender studies and cultural diversity—this last theme being also the occasion for an intercultural dialogue in the Grand Amphitheatre, at the Sorbonne University, with Naren Chitty and Fatema Mernissi. It was suggested that such a public examination of our research landscape be continued in Sweden (2008) and maybe Mexico (2009), our two next meeting places.

The local organizing committee benefited from a lot of support, local, regional and international, public and private (the complete list can be found on our Paris website in the sections “partners” and “sponsors”). We would like to seize this opportunity to thank all those who generously provided intellectual and financial

assistance. Within IAMCR, the heads of sections and of working groups all responded to the call for assessing “50 years of theory and practices” and offered a wonderfully tantalizing scientific programme. The Institut National de l’Audiovisuel (Ina) contributed its own perspectives on public research and the technical tools that may facilitate access to sources, archives and audiovisual and digital documents. It also contributed to the trilingual translation of plenaries and to the evening festivities, with a panoptic reception at Museum d’Histoire Naturelle, in the Grande Galerie de l’Evolution. UNESCO, where IAMCR was first created, renewed its support to our association by offering its headquarters for our complete use, including access to its terraced restaurant with a unique view all over the city for the closing reception. It also provided major funding for 4 reports on development issues that were presented in a special session presided by our president, Robin Mansell. Since then Robin Mansell has also been asked to organize a brainstorming session about prospective research themes for UNESCO in the years to come, thus prolonging constructively the reflections started in the plenaries and providing incentives for IAMCR to continue playing its key role as a spearhead for international research.

No doubt all participants have their own stories of this anniversary, which will hopefully cluster in our collective mind with other happy memories of IAMCR events. Those who missed it and those who want to reminisce about it will be able to look for familiar faces and odd places in the 200 photographs that will soon be posted on the Paris website and the IAMCR website, check out for links in main menu.

The audiotape of the commemorative plenary and the tribute to James Halloran will also be available on line at <iamcrparis2007.org>. The current site will be maintained for another year, before it is archived on the IAMCR official website, for future reference... hopefully to be used by those who will organize the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

**Divina Frau-Meigs** for the local organizing committee: Josiane Jouët, Camille Laville, Nathalie Perreur, Michael Palmer and Nathalie Sonnac.

# Section Reports from Paris

## AUDIENCES

The Paris conference was extremely successful for the Audience Section. The 130 abstracts submitted to the Section were externally refereed for the first time and 62 papers were selected for presentation. The Section plans to continue the system of blind refereeing of abstracts for the Stockholm conference in 2008. In general, the Audience Section has been strengthened by its determination to provide a platform for not only empirical studies of audiences, but also for contextual and theoretical exploration of emerging trends in audience research and by exercising greater selectivity in the acceptance of papers for presentation.

The themes chosen for the Paris Conference were:

✦ Digital Media Audiences (two sessions and one panel). This theme was strongly supported by contributors to the Section. Audience researchers are moving quickly to explore and theorise the new audience formations of the digital era and to investigate and theoretically analyse the implications for our research practice of audiences as content creators.

✦ Audience Response/Reception (two sessions and one panel). This theme was also strongly supported by contributors to the Section and the papers presented demonstrated a continuing commitment to the study of the social and cultural impact of traditional media, especially film and television, and with renewed interest in print media. These sessions also provided an opportunity to explore differing national perspectives on the impact of media on national audiences.

✦ Audience Development and Audiences and the Public Sphere – two sessions and one panel. This theme sought to tap into the current interest in the diversity of publics and audience development. Papers presented included both historical studies of audience development alongside current research designed to interrogate the nature of emerging audience formations.

In addition the Section hosted an extremely interesting joint session with the Gender Section where the need to revise theories of response in order to address and critically analyse new forms and genres was asserted, and the national and cultural significance of these media forms for future research was explored.

The Section's final panel, *Sacred Media Cow*, focused on India and the global and national implications of advertising and media promotion that seeks to represent the interests and ideals of a small powerful media elite as national identity. This Panel was convened by postgraduate students from SOAS, and provided an energetic and theoretically sophisticated analysis of the Indian media scene.

The promotion and selection of papers in terms of their thematic relevance has assisted the Section to include more diversity and a better mix of theory and research in the papers offered. The use of blind reviewing for abstracts resulted in an overall improvement in the quality of papers presented.

## Blackwell's Handbook of Audiences

In early 2007 Vice President, Annabelle Sreberny, requested that I develop a proposal for a Handbook on Audiences for the publishing collaboration IAMCR has entered into with Blackwells, Wiley publishers to sponsor a Global Media and Communication Handbook series. This proposal has been accepted and is now in preparation. It is scheduled for publication in 2009.

## The Stockholm Conference – preplanning

In line with the emphasis on Cultural Diversity for the Stockholm conference, the themes we plan to offer in 2008 include Media Ethnography and Audience Research; Digital and Mobile Media Audiences; Reception Studies. Requests for panel sessions will be evaluated on merit.

In accordance with IAMCR policy, an election for Chair and Co-chair of the Section will take place at the Stockholm Conference.

Chair: Virginia Nightingale  
Vice-Chair: Brian O'Neil

## COMMUNITY COMMUNICATION

Thanks to everyone in the Community Communication section for their participation in the 2007 Paris conference. Sessions were lively and well attended. The program for the 2007 Paris conference is available on the division website, which you can reach by going to IAMCR's web site: [www.iamcr.org](http://www.iamcr.org).

The section held elections in Paris for a new Section Head and Deputy Heads. We are pleased to announce that Per Jauert (Department of Information and Media Studies, University of Aarhus, Denmark) is the new active Section Head and Gabriele Hadl (JSPS Postdoctoral Research Fellow, The University of Tokyo, Japan) is the new Co-Deputy Head. In addition, Ellie Rennie (Institute for Social Research, Swinburne University of Technology, Australia) will continue in her role as the other Co-Deputy Head for another 4-year term. As the now former section head (Laura Stein, University of Texas at Austin, USA), I'm thrilled to be leaving the section leadership in such capable and energetic hands.

As the elected Section Head I will like to thank Laura so much for her engagement and committed work for the Community Communication section over the years. And let me draw your attention to an upcoming book: *Making Our Media: Global Initiatives Towards a Democratic Public Sphere* (Hampton Press, 2008), co-edited by Laura Stein, Dorothy Kidd, and Clemencia Rodriguez.

Chair: Per Jauert  
Vice-Chair: Elinor Rennie

## COMMUNICATIONS POLICY AND TECHNOLOGY

The Communications Policy and Technology (CPT) Section received a total of 114 abstracts from interested applicants from all continents. However, the majority came from Europe, the United States and to a lesser extent Asia, with Latin America and Africa presenting relatively fewer requests. We accepted a total of 66 abstracts, representing 58% of those received. For various reasons about 12 persons were unable to take up the offer to present, and so some 54 persons presented, or about 82% of those invited to do so. Of that number, about 44 persons or 81% submitted their full papers in advance.

On this basis, the Section was able to host its planned 11 sessions at the conference, with an average of 5 presenters per session. Although for reasons of accommodation the Paris organizers had to resort to concurrent sessions even within Sections, CPT enjoyed strong attendance and participation at our sessions, with audiences ranging from 55 persons to about 15 in the smallest turnout. The average audience was about 35 persons. Critical and constructive remarks from participants typified the session, which were chaired by CPT Executive Leaders, former Chairs and Senior Advisors to the Section. We were also pleased to co-host a session with the Emerging Scholars network (ESN), and to also have two guest panels, with pre-arranged teams of presenters invited to present on our Section.

### Plenary Presentation

In addition to these Section activities, CPT Section Co-Chair Professor Hopeton Dunn was invited to be one of the Plenary Speakers on one of the Conference's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Plenary Panels held on the closing Day July 25 on future thinking for ICTs and Communication Research. The address was well received by the Plenary and by co-panelists. Hopeton also co-presented an academic paper entitled 'Information Literacies and Digital Empowerment in the Global South', with Jamaican researcher Sheena Johnson Brown, as part of the UNESCO-commissioned special research paper series for the Paris conference.

### Officers and Advisors

The Section's Business meeting was held on Tuesday July 24, attended by over 20 participants. The following persons were elected or returned to the Section's leadership:

#### Section co-Chairs:

Hopeton Dunn – University of the West Indies, Jamaica [hdunn@cwjamaica.com](mailto:hdunn@cwjamaica.com); and Jo Pierson – Free University of Brussels, Belgium [Jo.Pierson@vub.ac.be](mailto:Jo.Pierson@vub.ac.be)

#### Deputy Chairs:

Maria Michalis – University of Westminster, UK [m.michalis@westminster.ac.uk](mailto:m.michalis@westminster.ac.uk) and Bart Cammaerts – London School of Economics, UK [b.cammaerts@lse.ac.uk](mailto:b.cammaerts@lse.ac.uk)

#### Special Responsibilities:

Ruth Tomaselli – Publications  
Gisela Gil-Egui – Website Support  
Jeremy Shtern – International Events  
Rosa Mikeal Martey – Emerging Scholars Liaison

The meeting also confirmed its Panel of Advisors and Reviewers, including the following:

Robin Mansell - UK/Canada; Rohan Samarjiva – Sri Lanka; Pascal Preston - Ireland; Ursula Maier Rabler – Austria; Brian Shoosmith – Bangladesh/US; Pascal Verhoest - Belgium;  
Leah Lievrouw – UK/US; Ruth Tomaselli – South Africa.

### Stockholm 2008 and beyond

The Section's call for papers will be forthcoming shortly. For more information on the IAMCR's 2008 Stockholm Conference, please contact [Pollack@jmk.su.se](mailto:Pollack@jmk.su.se) or visit [http://www.jmk.su.se/contents/sidor/english/info/scientific\\_conference.php](http://www.jmk.su.se/contents/sidor/english/info/scientific_conference.php)

The CPT Business meeting also agreed to take up suggestions for special books and other publications by the Section, to increase collaboration with other Sections and Working Groups, to continue to expand its membership, especially in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and to improve the website and data-base of the Section.

Co-chairs: Hopeton Dunn & Jo Pierson  
Vice-chairs: Maria Michalis & Bart Cammaerts



### EMERGING SCHOLARS NETWORK

The Emerging Scholars Network (formerly JSN) had a magnificent set of panels at the IAMCR conference in Paris. With over 65 submissions, 30 papers in 5 panels, and 14 poster sessions, ESN welcomed over 46 new and several returning members to the Association.

With the high number of submissions and generous panel slots, ESN was able to create some fascinating groupings of papers. One panel, held in the very room in which key international UNESCO media policies were decided decades before, focused on theories and practices in the press throughout history. Respondent Chandrika Kaul helped generated intriguing discussion around the changes in the cultures and traditions of journalism. Another panel, "Relationships and Interaction: The internet as nexus" explored social activities online and brought together research from Singapore, the USA, Thailand and France.

A panel examining identity representation and construction from critical and social perspectives was united by a theme of cross-cultural identities, including Muslim-Australian, Nigerian rural-urban identities, constructions of being Latino in the USA, and blending identities across black/white, rich/poor, and male/female in the USA. That panel even included a captivating paper on the construction of identity as brand and marketing tool in the case of Steve Jobs of Apple. Gender section chair Ellen Riordan provided extremely insightful and illuminating comments as respondent, especially in relation to the papers' implications for power distribution. ESN also held a round table on media in politics and policies that stimulated discussion among scholars from South Africa, Spain, the US, and the UK, among others. Panelists invited us to consider how not only content but also national policies play a role in motivating and facilitating political speech and activism in both encouraging and troubling ways.

My personal favorite panel as ESN chair was an incredible

convergence of perspectives and thoughtful analysis on local content in a global context, generously and meticulously analyzed by panel respondent Nick Couldry. Beginning with an overview of audio-visual trade in Australia, the panel explored the cross-national movement and transformation of *American Idol*, *Ugly Betty*, and other mass media content. From Latin America to Russia, and from Eastern Europe to Singapore, panelists explored how content absorbs and is absorbed by local culture and context. With implications for national identity, local and global culture, as well as policy, panel respondent Couldry noted that, "the papers illustrate the continued relevance of transnational cultural analysis today, [and] build on, and to some extent, move beyond earlier debates in media and communications research." ESN plans to bring these papers together along with respondent comments and to make them available online soon.

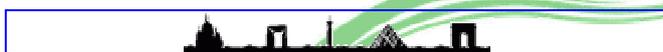
ESN also participated in a joint panel with the Communication Policy and Technology section with a terrific range of papers addressing topics from digital television to cyber culture.

Special thanks to Denize Araujo, Mark A.M. Kramer, Stefania Milan, and Lauren Movius for chairing the ESN panels this year. Thanks, also, to John Downing for generous offers of support and his continued enthusiasm.

The Emerging Scholars Network is looking forward to next year's meeting in Sweden, where we will see big changes in the section: we are electing new officers, plan to enhance our collaboration with other IAMCR sections, and anticipate finalizing our ESN blog, new listserv, and section introduction packet for new members.

New members are always welcome! Membership in ESN is open to anyone who feels 'young' – or emerging! – in academia. Contact Rosa Mikeal Martey ([rosa.marthey AT colostate.edu](mailto:rosa.marthey@colostate.edu)) for details, or go to our website, [esn.colostate.edu](http://esn.colostate.edu).

Chair: Rosa Mikeal Martey



## HISTORY

The development of the sessions during the last IAMCR Conference at Paris was successful in terms of number and quality of the papers. After having received more than 70 proposals, 52 were accepted and 46 were finally presented during the conference. Questions and comments after each one of the seven sessions scheduled helped to increase the exchange of knowledge among the participants in an international comparative perspective.

A large proportion of the papers came from different Western European countries but there were also papers from Eastern Europe (Slovenia and Polonia), North America (US and Canada), Latin America (Brazil, Mexico and Argentina), together with others from Israel, Asia and Australia. Although there was a majority of papers coming from high-income countries, it is also striking that approximately one third of the total figure came from outside the European continent. This variety of geographical origins contributed to reach conclu-

sions beyond the limits of particular borders and discover new perspectives for the immediate future of our research field.

Priority was given to papers related to the central theme: "Media, Communication, Information: Celebrating 50 Years of Theories and Practices". According to the account written by Cees Hamelink and Kaarle Nordenstreng, History Section was the first established within IAMCR, hence our commitment to contribute to the main purpose of this conference (the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary), with appropriate topics to these happy circumstances. Moreover, we also accepted papers concerning issues commonly tackled in other previous conferences.

We divided our program into four thematic groups. The first was devoted to several historical aspects of media research, with comparative studies and critical viewpoints, along with methodological issues about our discipline. The second focused on the theoretical foundations of media history, including new approaches and challenges concerning research sources. Following a suggestive trend in our field, the third group stressed on "Media, History and Globalization", as we are convinced that globalization is not, strictly speaking, a new topic of the present time. A fourth group was centered in the role of media in historical events.

In accordance with a broad perspective from which communication has to be tackled, almost all media were studied and analyzed in the papers presented: press, radio, television, cinema, advertising, public relations, Internet and others like newsreels, videogames, etc.

The Emerging Scholars Network Section, through her chair Rose Mikeal Martey, asked us for collaboration in chairing one of its sessions devoted to the history and the press. Professor Chandrika Kaul. (St. Andrews University, UK), accepted the request of acting as respondent in that session.

History section has a "transversal" nature. Historical aspects are usually present in papers of many other sections, since if we lack references to past events that have conditioned and even explained the world of today, we are losing the entire perspective to describe and judge the actuality with certainty and accuracy. Nevertheless, media history has its own scientific status recognized by the academia and our Section aims to join everyone who can make valuable contributions. We are proud to be open to those who, although not coming from our discipline, deal with topics that enrich our knowledge. Take into account these considerations we will make our call for papers for the next conference at Stockholm in July 2008 that will be announced and published through IAMCR website.

There were no changes in the persons chairing the Section. Peter Putnis and Carlos Barrera will continue to be co-chairs until Stockholm conference. In the next spring newsletter there will be a call for elections to substitute Peter Putnis as co-chair after six years in that position.

Co-Chairs: Carlos Barrera & Peter Putnis



## INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION

Even though space and time were limited, the International Communication Section at IAMCR Paris 2007, which held a 30 percent paper acceptance rate, enjoyed six of seven scheduled sessions. (It should be noted that the first session was adjusted, as well announced, at the business meeting. More information follows.) Attendance through the six sessions ranged from seven to 16, averaging out to 12 persons per session. At least three but no more than five presentations occurred each session.

### General Themes

Topics included:  
Asian Media Regional Issues;  
Case Studies in Media Development;  
Media Hegemony Encounters Media Diversity;  
Global Media Opportunities and Problems; and  
National Profiles of New Media Development.

### Action Items

The first session of the IAMCR Paris 2007 Conference International Communication Section (ICS) served as a business meeting. Dr. Allen Palmer, who has served as the ICS Section Head since 2002, nominated Dr. Sujatha Sosale for the position of section head. He distributed bio information on her and the nomination was seconded. Following the ratified nomination, Dr. Sosale was unanimously elected as the incoming ICS Section Head. Her duties officially began at the conclusion of the IAMCR Paris 2007 Conference.

### Main Themes

Each session enjoyed vigorous discussion. From the many sessions, three main themes emerged: Diverse theoretical media perspectives are needed; politics and media are closely inter-related; and global media influences must be continually monitored.

One of the major pluses of the IAMCR conference is the multiplicity of theoretical perspectives through which similar topics can be addressed and by which session discussions can occur. This transparency was evident throughout all sessions, but primarily during the panel on Global Media Opportunities and Problems. During this session, panel members attempted to delineate reasons for and explanations of international news and other media flows. Discussion carried over through coffee time, as various Eastern and Western minds and traditions wrestled with ideas surrounding "foreign" news production, content and effects.

The connection between international media and consumer effects threaded several sessions. Another recurring theme was the intricate relationship between politics and media. One session extrapolated potential ramifications between news and cultural musings and mergings within and between various Asian societies. The role of persuasion in conjunction with media operations emerged as an important issue. Presentations called to attention the current situation in Korea, Japan, and other Eastern Asian nations, and the need to understand new cultural complexities in light of transitions under globalizing influences.

That third theme – global media influences – was examined from different theoretical/vantage points. ICS scholars wonder what kind of press typologies will best explain and perhaps predict what is occurring at all levels and degrees internationally. Although it is a challenge to measure the scope of cover-

age and content of media at these levels, practitioners and scholars alike are actively engaged in monitoring media in relation to media systems. All section presenters and attendees seem aware of and committed to this issue.

In sum, the IAMCR 2007 Paris ICS enjoyed excellent quality presentations and considerable debate. A call to action for continued awareness on many political, economic, and social levels of and for media globalization connected all sections.

Chair: Sujatha Sosale  
Assistant: Tania Cantrell



## JOURNALISM RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

NB: Following our meetings in Paris, an agreement has been reached to rename the Professional Education Section as the Journalism Research and Education Section. Those with an interest in all this are enthusiastic. Beate continues as section head till 2008, when Ibrahim Saleh will take over. There is an opportunity for a co-chair if someone comes forward, but the section will take that aspect forward as it should.

In IAMCR's anniversary year the Professional Education section has changed its name and scope to become the 'Journalism Research and Education Section'. This resolves the question, which has lingered for a long time, of where to place Journalism in IAMCR. After fruitful and collegial discussions with the Scholarly Review Committee we are now giving journalism and journalism research a firm place in IAMCR.

We had already moved in that direction at the Paris conference where one of the special panels of our section was on 'Paradigms of Journalism Research in an Era of Globalization', a session led by David Weaver and offering presentations by academics from Asia, America, South Africa and Europe.

This was preceded by a panel which celebrated 50 Years of Theories and Practices in Professional Education for Journalists around the world. The session was led by a former chair of the section, Kaarle Nordenstreng. Lee Becker, Hussein Amin, Steve Guo, Stephan Russ-Mohl and Daya Thussu spoke about the enormous transformations journalism education has experienced in the past half century in various parts of the world.

The Professional Education section held a further five sessions, almost all featuring with seven presenters. It was very pleasing to note that nearly all the scholars whose papers had been accepted were present in Paris. One session was formed around the current book project of the section, titled *Journalism Education in Challenging Environments*, to be published by Hampton Press. This volume is edited by section head Beate Josephi, and inquires into journalism education in countries which are partly or not free with regard to press freedom, such as Egypt, Oman, Romania, Tanzania, China and Cambodia.

The section will be chaired by Beate Josephi until the 2008 Stockholm Conference, when her deputy, Ibrahim Saleh, will take over. The section's new mission statement reads:

"The Journalism Research & Education section is

IAMCR's new home for critical engagement with journalism. Its principal task is to promote the conduct and dissemination of research into all facets of journalism and journalism education. This ranges from journalism theories to journalism practice as it shapes and is shaped by emerging technologies, markets, and industries. In journalism education the emphasis of inquiry continues to be on teaching, professionalism, journalistic ethics and changes imposed on professional education through changes in technology.

This section endeavours to approach journalism research and education from a global perspective. It wants to probe paradigms born out of the western dominated discourse which no longer adequately capture the many transitional media systems around the globe."

The emphasis for the 2008 conference is on a number of collaborative panels as well as sessions on a wide range of journalism research. Papers with reference to the conference theme are particularly welcome, as are reports on any other current research work. The abstracts should be sent to [b.josephi@ecu.edu.au](mailto:b.josephi@ecu.edu.au) and [librasma@gmail.com](mailto:librasma@gmail.com) by 31 January, 2008.

Chair: Beate Josephi  
Vice-Chair: Ibrahim Saleh



## MEDIA EDUCATION RESEARCH

The Section held five lively discussions during the Paris Conference. There was a marked improvement on the last conference. We had more abstracts submitted and these were translated into good quality of the papers. There was also an increased participation both in the number of papers presented and other non-presenting participants.

Papers focussed on theory and practice of media education in several countries and continents. Among the many subjects of the twenty six papers discussed one can note the following: attitudes of media education teachers in Malta and England; media education experiments in a museum in Brazil; education in Swiss Children's TV; educational news in India; health education in Thai magazines; initiatives of the Flemish schools and government to increase newspaper readership and media education experiments in Portuguese municipalities.

This year the Paris conference provided a launching pad for initiatives between members. One such initiative is a research project that will study attitudes of media education teachers in a number of countries. Those who are interested in this project can contact Dr Mary Anne Lauri on [mary-anne.lauri@um.edu.mt](mailto:mary-anne.lauri@um.edu.mt)

Chair: Joseph Borg  
Vice-Chair: Tania Ribeiro

## PARTICIPATORY COMMUNICATION RESEARCH

The IAMCR Paris conference has been very successful for the PCR Section. During the three days of activity, the Section coordinated nine one-and-a-half hour sessions, with four till six papers presented in each one. People from 25 different countries participated and the panels and the sessions were well attended. Six poster presentations were added to the sessions. Moreover, Section's members initiated and participated in two special panels. In the first panel all the previous Section Heads discussed the history and future of participatory communication research. In celebrating IAMCR's 50th anniversary, the panelists reflected on the history of participatory communication research and its theoretical and practical developments inside and outside IAMCR. The second special event that took place was a panel session on assessing participation in communication interventions. The event was co-sponsored by the Task Force on Media and Communication Policy of IAMCR. The panel explored methods for assessing participation in social change efforts ranging from health communication projects to media development programs. In doing so various methods were presented and evaluated. Although the focus of the work of the presenters varied, all the presenters and other participants in the different events shared a commitment to communication and participation. The sharing of their work is valued and appreciated.

One of the themes that ran through many of the PCR Section presentations was that in theorizing the field of participatory communication we need to put power issues in the center. Change occurs in interaction and in networks, and these inter-human relations are never power-free. There is a need to incorporate political theories in theories of participatory communication. How to include 'the local voice' in decision-making processes is a question that connects not only to logistics, but also to processes of democratic representation, hierarchical power structures and economic dependencies. It is in this area that future work of the Section could make itself of relevance to participatory change and development.

Another theme that was touched upon in different sessions and needs to be on the future agenda is the 'new' role of the communication researcher who is doing participatory communication research. The role of the researcher seems to be evolving towards having an integral part, not only in the research process, but also in the change process. The field of research on the one hand, and processes of transformation on the other hand seem to become inseparable when doing participatory research. The field of participatory communication often deals with complex problems, and the active involvement of the researcher in dealing with such problems is under discussion. The scientist is thus an active participant in both, the process of research and the process of change, and considering that these problems are stakeholder bound, the role of the scientist can never be neutral. S/he is an active stakeholder and also often a facilitator of change. As an active participant in the analysis of changing situations, s/he is also a creator of reality. The scientist is one stakeholder in the participatory process and the image of the scientist as an 'external expert' is under attack as s/he is not an objective outsider, but an engaged insider.

Besides taking up these two themes, the Participatory Com-

munication Research Section of the IAMCR continues to work with a broad definition of participation applied in a variety of fields. The Section still underwrites its original three basic aims, which were formulated as follows:

- To work towards theoretical and methodological clarification;
- To share perspectives of participatory approaches focusing specifically on the communication processes in contexts of social change, including development communication, and;
- To discuss case studies across the spectrum of social change processes focusing on the (often integrated) use of communication and media at different levels of society.

The next issue of *the Glocal Times* ([www.glocaltimes.k3.mah.se](http://www.glocaltimes.k3.mah.se)) is going to be devoted to reflections on the PCR Section's activities in Paris.

Chair: Rico Lie  
Vice chair: Pradip Thomas

## PSYCHOLOGY AND PUBLIC OPINION

The Paris conference was very successful for the Psychology and Public Opinion Section. More than 70 abstracts were submitted to the Section and 40 were presented in 6 panels and one poster session. In general the quality of the abstracts was good and we look forward to improve it in the future. We continued to initiate new issues and issues that were found of interest for the section members.

In the tradition we established in Brazil we started with a panel around the work of a prominent scholar as related to media studies – thus we had an insightful and crowded panel on the work of Pierre Bourdieu about various aspects of communication in culture and society.

In the search for new issues we held a panel on comparative methodologies that got much attention and requests for continuation as an issue of future conferences. The digital media and the new forms of mediated communication was another panel that combined the socio-psychological tradition of the section with the new media.

We of course also held panels on the standing issue of the section on research and theory related to the interrelations between public opinion and the democratic public sphere as well as other issues related to psychology and public opinion. All in all we believe that the section redirection to incorporate theory and empirical questions and qualitative as well as quantitative research methods and the deliberations on them, keeps the tradition of the section on one hand and gives the members of the section and the members of the organization in general a focused and innovative platform for to present their work on the other hand.

The Section plans to continue this direction and look also for new one towards the Stockholm conference in 2008. In accordance with IAMCR policy, an election for Chair and Co-chair of the Section will take place at the Stockholm Conference.

Co-Chairs: Friedrich Krotz & Hillel Nosssek



## POLITICAL ECONOMY

The Political Economy section organized 10 panels for the Paris conference, with approximately 50 paper presentations.

The panel topics included:

- From Watchdogs to Mouse-Minders?: Reframing Journalism Practices and News Cultures in Contemporary Europe
- The Political Economy of Communication Labour
- Case Studies in Film, Entertainment and Spectacle
- The Political Economy of Culture and Cultural Industries
- Theories of the Political Economy of Communication: Issues and Debates
- Studying in Media Ownership and Concentration
- New Developments in the Study of Political Economy of Communications in France
- Information Society and the Information Economy
- Issues in Media Restructuring
- Developments in Media Globalization

The full program and many of the papers are available at the section website ([jcomm.uoregon.edu/~IAMCR-PolEcon](http://jcomm.uoregon.edu/~IAMCR-PolEcon)).

The section is in the process of moving the website to the main IAMCR site soon. Members will be notified of the move when it takes place. It is hoped that the website can become a more dynamic and active part of the section's activities. Ideas for invigorating the site should be sent to Randy Nichols ([rnichols@niagara.edu](mailto:rnichols@niagara.edu)), who has agreed to coordinate the website relocation and reorganization.

The section is making plans for the 26<sup>th</sup> Congress of the IAMCR in Stockholm, July 20-25, 2008, and looks forward to receiving paper proposals, especially addressing the conference theme, *Media and Global Divides*. Political economic analysis is especially relevant for this theme and we hope to be able to organize several panels addressing "relationships between media and contemporary global divides" (see the conference site for more details about the theme and other details: [http://www.jmk.su.se/contents/sidor/english/info/scientific\\_conference.php](http://www.jmk.su.se/contents/sidor/english/info/scientific_conference.php)). Other paper proposals pertaining to developing theory and current research in the political economy of media and communications are also welcome. The Political Economy and Community Communications section also are planning a joint session for the Stockholm conference."

Paper abstracts must be submitted by January 31, 2008, to [jwasko@uoregon.edu](mailto:jwasko@uoregon.edu). Acceptances will sent by at least March 31. Remember that paper proposals can only be submitted to one section or working group. The section will also try to plan a social event for the section during the conference. More details will be distributed closer to the conference dates.

Chair: Janet Wasko



# Working Group Reports from Paris

## COMIC ART



The Comic Art Working Group, in existence since 1984, had one session with presentations on global aspects of cartooning and country-specific topics such as animation in China, Korean online cartoons, Brazilian cartoons, and Asian comic books. Papers are sought for the 2008 conference in Sweden. A short abstract should be sent to chair John A. Lent at [jlent@temple.edu](mailto:jlent@temple.edu).

Chair: John Lent



## COMMUNICATION AND HIV/AIDS

The working group Communication and HIV/AIDS organised two excellent sessions at the annual meeting in Paris, in which some of the major challenges in HIV/AIDS and Communication were put on the table and explored. One was the global search for approaches and methods in communication for social and behaviour change.

The first discussion dealt with the fact that although there is no longer an exclusive emphasis on knowledge for behaviour change, we do not have alternative approaches. The discussion focused on the conventional wisdom that as soon as people had the right information they would make rational choices.

Several of our papers grappled with these questions, trying to contribute to this global debate. Nine live presentations and nine poster presentations were on the programme; a few participants were not able to attend – most of them from countries outside of Europe.

The working group also addressed some issues related to its scope and position in the IAMCR. The leadership of this working group – Thomas Tufte (who was not able to attend) and Marjan de Bruin – had indicated their wish to step down. The meeting agreed to work, through email, towards a transition of leadership in time for the next annual meeting.

Previous to the Paris meeting, the issue had been raised whether the group should not rename itself Health Communication. The members present objected, given the specific connotation of Health Communication.

The focus of the working group – Communication and HIV/AIDS – requires a strong interdisciplinary approach, in which fields of inquiry not normally associated with Communication should be present. Current insights in neuropsychology were mentioned as strong examples of this need to strengthen connections with other disciplines.

Co-Chairs: Marjan de Bruin & Thomas Tufte

## DIASPORA AND MEDIA

The third meeting of the Diaspora and Media Working Group took place on Tuesday 24 July 2007 in Paris. There were 25 abstracts submitted to the group of which 13 papers were selected for the conference.

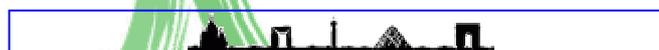
There were two slots for the working group sessions.

In the first slot, papers presented included a combination of the interplay of the transnational and the local in diasporic communications, the diaspora audiences and diaspora politics. The papers in this theme ranged from those that discussed young Germans in the Russian diaspora, Internet's role in the identities of young migrants, new diasporic media among Italians away from home, to ecology of diasporic advertising.

In the second theme on the context of diasporic communications and diasporic identities, the papers cover issues of diaspora cultural production, to issues of identity and media reception. Here papers covered topics such as the virtual African diaspora, veiled bodies-naked racism, multiculturalism meets Bollywood, mass media and Latin American diaspora in Europe.

All the contributions provided varied and rich material to the discussions on diaspora and the media.

Chair: Roza Tsagarousianou



## DIGITAL DIVIDE

The working group on Digital Divide held two dynamic discussions at the Paris Conference. The group had more abstracts submitted than for the previous conferences and these were developed into interesting and original papers. There was also an increased participation of non-presenting participants.

### Main issues

The digital divide discourse has been substantially changed over the time. Nowadays it is very much concerned with questions of uses, social, human, and individual dimensions of digital divide. Researches now predominantly focus on qualitative approaches, rather than previously, when digital divide research was dominated by qualitative approaches, that paid attention mostly to issues of technical infrastructures and physical access.

### Sessions

The first session dealt with proposals to elaborate more comprehensive analytical tools to measure digital divide through the dynamics of technical/economic and human/social dichotomy. Papers proposed a more positive stand in order to

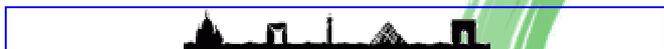
look at digital divide as an issue associated with potentials of digital dynamics and even digital inclusion. The issues of access and dissemination of digitalized knowledge both at the educational, institutional and individual level have been widely explored. Re-conceptualizing the problem of digital inequalities papers argued that information exchange becomes one of the key social processes. Therefore media literacy and skills to participate in this process have been viewed as important mechanisms to promote equal participation in media and further socio-economic progress.

The second session put forward new approaches to digital divide by exploring the sociability concept introduced into various national contexts. Another theoretical explanatory tool was the concept of information habitus which linked the issues of digital divide to individual features of users, their identities and media behavior. Among other key issues discussed were particularities of online access and online use of contents and services in the content of digital inequalities, role of cultural and media competences, features of web-journalism in conditions of digital dynamics. Major research methods include nationally based cases studies of digital divide and its consequences for various groups of users and comparative research based on national, age and gender differences.

### Elections

Florinda Mateo from the University of the Philippines was elected as Vice-Chair of the working group.

Chair: Elena Vartanova  
Vice-Chair: Florinda Mateo



### ENVIRONMENT, SCIENCE AND RISK COMMUNICATION

As is fitting for a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary conference, the number of abstracts received for the Environment Group was the largest ever experienced by this Group. Thanks to the sterling work of the Conference Organizing Committee in securing extra slots (many thanks to Divina and her colleagues), it was possible to accept 12 papers for presentation in the two slots allocated for the Working Group, and a further 13 papers for the poster-presentation sessions at the IAMCR Paris conference. The contributors came from Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Holland, Malaysia, Portugal, Spain, Taiwan, the UK and the USA.

The vibrancy of this field of research was amply demonstrated by the sheer number of high-quality abstracts submitted, by the high number of successfully delivered presentations (all but one of the accepted papers were presented), and not least by the excellent attendance and quality of feedback/discussion during the two lively sessions held at the UNESCO buildings on Tuesday 24th July.

While many of the core environmental concerns of our time continue to feature prominently in the work of the Group and in the research presented, there has also, in recent years been an increasing diversification, thematically as well as methodologically.

Key themes included:

- Pressure group strategies, 'greenwash tracking', public relations, advertising and new-media roles in environmental campaigning and debate.
- Risk and science communication in the media construction of a broad range of environmental, health and risk issues, from biotechnology, genetic modification and cancer risks to natural/man-made environmental disasters – including exciting work on the key role of powerful metaphors in media and public debate.
- Media representations of science/scientists and media roles in the construction of a scientific citizenry.
- Media, communication and the climate change debate - comprising work involving novel analytical approaches.
- Theorising 'media and sustainable development'
- Media roles and community-based response models in disaster and crisis communication.

The Working Group now invites proposals for papers to be presented at the 2008 IAMCR Conference in Stockholm. Papers from the full range of environment-science-risk-communication topics and perspectives will be considered. Abstracts of no more than 500 words should be submitted by no later than 31<sup>st</sup> January 2008 to: [ash@le.ac.uk](mailto:ash@le.ac.uk)

Chair: Anders Hansen



### MEDIA PRODUCTION ANALYSIS

The Media Production Analysis Working Group held two lively sessions in Paris. Ten papers were presented in two well attended sessions. These were selected from over thirty submissions through blind review by four distinguished scholars. Despite the need to hold to the group's focus, we had a wider range of topics than we have had in previous years. These examined the production of telenovelas, video games, business news, and factual television, among many other topics. Some of the work presented focused on technological change in production, and others on globalization. Two forthcoming publications derive in part from meetings of the Working Group: a special issue of the journal *Television & New Media*, being produced by John Sullivan; and an anthology entitled *Making Online News: The ethnography of New Media Production*, due in mid-2008 from Peter Lang Publishing and co-edited by Paterson and David Domingo. The Working Group is also a co-organiser, with Leeds University, of a conference on production research methodology to be held in 2008. Contact Chris Paterson for further information. The Working Group invites abstract submissions for the 2008 conference, and these may be directed to [c.paterson@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:c.paterson@leeds.ac.uk).

Chair: Chris Paterson



# IAMCR Beyond Boundaries:

## Reconsidering Regional Inequalities and Building Agreements

**By Cesar Bolano, IAMCR Treasurer**

*(This is an abridged version presenting only the highlights. A full version of the article can be found on the IAMCR website).*

### Introduction

When I assumed the invitation to be a part of the Board of IAMCR/AIERI/AIECS, during the 2004 assembly in Porto Alegre, after several consultations with my Latin American and Brazilian colleagues and friends from the Political Economy Section - repository of critical thought in the Communication Sciences - I made it clear that my bureaucratic work would be subordinated to the political activities, which aimed to increase the participation of researchers from less developed countries, in particular those from the Latin world and Latin America in particular, because of my own insertion in the field and my commitments assumed during the last two decades. With that spirit I assumed the post and with that objective I have been working, with the enthusiastic support of all the members of the Board and the International Council, in particular our president, Robin Mansell. [...]

### The problem

Analyzing the number of participants in Taipei, we verify the enormous share that the United States (41 participants) and Europe (56), especially Germany (10), have in IAMCR/AIERI/AIECS. Also, Australia had an important participation. The numbers relative to Taiwan (65), evidently, reflect the fact that the meeting occurred there. But it is interesting to notice, the low relative participation by the nearest Asian countries, excluding Japan (26) and Korean (11). If we don't count these two and the hostess country, the Asian participation drops to 38 people. It is below the Northern American participation. If we also disregard the Middle East, this number drops even more (23). From the People's Republic of China,

there were only two participants. Language barriers? Acquisitive power? Political questions regarding China? It is not important to analyze these questions here. What really matters is to demonstrate the hegemony of the so-called First World countries, without exception. If we were to analyze the numbers attending the 2004 Conference in Porto Alegre, we would find a similar situation. [...]

### The membership and fee reduction: A conquest

Considering those numbers and the World Bank economic category classification of the countries, used by the IAMCR/AIERI/AIECS, we did a few simulations to underpin the following proposals:

- Classification of the countries into only two income groups: high (using the World Bank classification), and low income (including low, upper middle and lower middle income in World Bank language).
- A 50% reduction in the membership fees of institutional members from the poor, excluding regular or emeritus members.

The purpose of this suggestion was, overall, to attract students from Latin America and other low income countries, by offering them the same discounts that were offered to the professionals and students from higher income countries. [...]

With these new changes the Board accomplished two of its electoral promises, by amplifying the options offered to the institutional members and democratizing the association. [...]

This positive and significant change must be related to the different actions of the Board, due specially to President Robin Mansell and Vice-president, Annabelle Sreberny, responsible for the new publication policy and also, I believe, to the new fee reduction. [...]

### The improvement of the relations with regional or national associations: the agreement between IAMCR/AIERI/AIECS and ALAIC

Another important step was the signature of an agreement with the Latin America association ALAIC (Asociación Latinoamericana de Investigadores de la Comunicación), that can now be extended to other national and regional IAMCR/AIERI/AIECS associate members. They don't pay a membership fee, which is very positive, and they don't have any other advantages or responsibilities. Their members can join IAMCR individually for a discounted fee. The IAMCR/AIERI/AIECS has a committee of affiliation and participation that has tried to amplify the dialog with international entities, such as the International Communication Association (ICA), or regional ones such as the Asian AMIC. The agreement between the IAMCR/AIERI/AIECS and ALAIC supports this initiative, seeking a better participation of researchers from non-hegemonic countries, and a more intense dialogue with local and regional institutions that represent them.

The agreement with ALAIC was helped by my position as a member of the Executive Boards of both entities, and we are already developing negotiations for similar agreements with the Brazilian INTERCOM and the Bolivian ABOIC. With Mexican AMIC we also signed a similar agreement in Paris. This is a model that can be adapted to other Latin American associations, to amplify the possibilities of incorporating their members from less income countries. We can also apply it the case of developed countries, as we are discussing it with the European regional association, ECREA.

The original proposal, considering the low number of affiliated institutions in Latin America, was to give affiliated individuals the possibility to benefit from the same discounts that

institutional members are entitled to. Ultimately in the final formal agreement between IAMCR/AIERI/AIECS and ALAIC (the text is available in the online full version), both agreed to make available advertising material, brochures and developments within IAMCR/AIERI/AIECS to associates, through their communications such as newsletters, journals, mailing lists, websites, etc. In exchange its associates receive discounts which do not cause a negative impact on the income of IAMCR/AIERI/AIECS because, until now, there has been a low level of participation in both associations.

The objective is not simply to increase the numbers of associates, but also to establish bonds between entities that are considered a priority for the policy of regional expansion of IAMCR/AIERI/AIECS. In the particular case of Latin America, for example, the tradition and the structure of the university system does not facilitate institutional affiliation. Agreements with important institutions like ALAIC, or the Brazilian INTERCOM or the Mexican AMIC, can be very productive from the point of view of increasing the number of associate members.

### **Regionalization and new challenges ahead:**

#### **A recent decision and proposals**

The problem of uneven regional representation has structural causes. Our asymmetries reflect other, much more fundamental factors, linked to social economic development, to the hegemony of the English language in the academic field, and also to the hegemony of Europe and the United States over recognized scientific production, followed by countries like Korea and Japan: in short the constitutive asymmetries of what has been called Knowledge Economy. It is no more than the new form adopted by the Capitalist Mode of Production, which reinforces the integration of industrial and academic, scientific and technological logics of production and distribution of wealth within the social structure and countries and regions.

Certainly it is not going to be the IAMCR/AIERI/AIECS, that will

solve the structural problems of capitalist production, but it is up to it to look into its interior, to organize itself in a more democratic way, stimulating the participation and incorporation of non-hegemonic thinking in the field. An additional problem that is difficult to treat is due to the association's global structure which makes it expensive for the participation of associates in the conferences, especially when they happen in distant locations.

But if we want to escape from the hegemonic tendency and to stimulate critical and alternative thinking, the great contribution that an association of this kind can give is the liaison between East and West, stimulating academic dialogue, approaching the African, Latin American and the Asian thinking. So we can go beyond the old condemnation of Eurocentric thinking to create a new approach. I think that we can only advance in this way through actions that make it easier and stimulate a greater participation of the many potential associates through a really effective regionalization policy.

This way, although the agreement between IAMCR/AIERI/AIECS and ALAIC, does not offer a great deal in terms of function, it offers a great deal through the opportunity to re-think the regionalization policy of IAMCR/AIERI/AIECS. This could be a more effective alternative to the proposal suggested by some members of the association of creating regional representatives to recruit new members. Instead, the International Council approved, in Paris, the transformation of the Membership and Participation Committee, into the **Membership and Regionalization Committee**, chaired by Daya Thussu and me. Its composition is very representative of the different regions, and one of our main objectives is to develop a dialogue with each of the regional (or even national) entities with a strategic interest.

There is another interesting proposal to regionalize the non-General Assembly year conference. This could be done with these regional partners. The IAMCR/AIERI/AIECS could also help with the horizontal dialogue, promoting inter-regional roundtables

in regional events that it would participate in.

It is also important to find ways to stimulate the direct exchange between the working groups of ALAIC, for example, and the sections of IAMCR/AIERI/AIECS. These are the organized groups that constitute the Media and Communication field in different cultural areas. This is evidently a very complex job, but also extremely important because it means finding a way to make the research agendas compatible between the different sub-fields and to define common guidelines and considering the real possibilities for joint actions.

The IAMCR/AIERI/AIECS Political Economy section can be considered a pioneer in this way. Two days before the Porto Alegre assembly, for example, it held an historic meeting in the Modern Art Museum of Rio Grande do Sul (MARGS), coordinated by me, as the president of the Latin Union of Political Economy of Information, Communication and Culture (ULEPICC) and coordinator of the working group of Political Economy of ALAIC, and by Janet Wasko, *chair* of the IAMCR/AIERI/AIECS Political Economy Section with high visibility in the international field.

Finally but no less important, there is a need to make the job of sections and working groups more democratic through a system of coordinated elections using the web or the post, and stimulating online academic events.

# In Memoriam: Jan Ekecrantz

Professor of Media and Communication Studies, Stockholm University

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Jan Ekecrantz, Professor of Media and Communication Studies, Stockholm University, died on July 28, 2007 after struggling with cancer for several months. During his illness he continued to work. He disliked being pitied and was anxious not to be treated as if he were seriously ill. Therefore the news of his death was to many of his friends and colleagues unexpected.

Jan Ekecrantz was a member of the faculty at the Department of Journalism, Media and Communication (JMK) at Stockholm University since the mid-1970s. He had held the professorship in Media and Communication Studies since 1999 and was also Associate professor of Journalism. During his entire career in the department he was actively involved in all levels of the programs in both Journalism and in Media and Communication Studies. In his research, he consistently brought out the close ties between the two subjects and insisted that research have relevance for the undergraduate program and for students' careers as journalists and media professionals.

Jan was genuinely international, with a continually expanding network of contacts throughout the world. He was frequently asked to serve as reviewer and examiner in many different capacities, including many dissertations and faculty appointments throughout the Nordic Countries. He was also a highly esteemed participant in several of the IAMCR's sections. His popularity for these different accomplishments was

undoubtedly due to the breadth of his knowledge and the fact that he was extremely well read, combined with his positive and critical attitude and basic humility in the face of these tasks. Jan was as well versed in the classic literature of the field as in the latest theories, and was quick to understand their implications for the future.



In his research Jan has over the years traversed many broad fields. His work has dealt with such diverse areas as journalism's construction of reality and the media situation in contemporary China, in Brazil and in Russia. In recent years his primary interest lay in processes of globalisation.

In the newly published Jubilee Issue of the *Nordicom Review*, Jan contributes

with an article entitled "Media and Communication Studies Going Global." Here he stresses a new *raison d'être* for cross-disciplinarity since globalization means increased complexity and for Jan this included a focus on global inequalities and social transformation. He was deeply involved in planning the IAMCR congress to be held in Stockholm in summer 2008 and had himself proposed the conference theme, "Media and Global Divides", well aware of the fact that there are winners and losers as a result of globalization phenomena. His guidelines through the whole of his career were to identify power domination and to deconstruct the role of media and communication in preserving unfair and undemocratic conditions.

All of us who have had the privilege to work with him have benefited from his knowledge and his intellectual way of discussing scholarly questions as well as more daily personal matters. If you asked him for his opinion you could most of the time expect at least two answers, which had the very good and inspiring result that the discussions were always ongoing.

It goes without saying that we as his colleagues and friends at JMK and Stockholm University miss him enormously and that many within the IAMCR share this feeling.

Karin Becker, Madeleine Kleberg, Göran Leth and Ester Pollack, Organizing committee for the 2008 IAMCR congress.

# Looking forward to Stockholm!

July 20-25 2008



## CONGRESS THEME

### “Media and Global Divides”

The congress will address relationships between media and contemporary global divides, be they historically founded or emergent phenomena. It will explore the pivotal, but still under-researched, roles of the media with regard to today's global inequalities.

In the last couple of decades the world has undergone fundamental changes relating to geopolitical, economic, cultural, religious and other conditions. New, non-territorial divides have added to or partially replaced the East-West and North-South dimensions of the world system, generating differences and divisions that may cut through very local life worlds, between cities and suburbs, the metropolis and the countryside. At the same time old and new group affiliations and solidarities along ideological, religious and/or class, gender and ethnic lines have been globalized.

Various media and media genres respond differently to these developments – normally, it seems, by not representing global cleavages at all, by masking them, or by framing them in “Western” terms. This can be seen in the context of an emerging new world order. It can also be related to all kinds of divides, the digital one perhaps being the most noted, that have also developed in the world's media structures. These divides are technological and social, and generated by markets and socio-political orders. They are reflected in an array of media genres and formats and in the segmentation of national, regional and worldwide audiences, corresponding for instance to elite and popular media outputs. However, some such distinctions have been blurred in the most rapidly modernizing and

expanding media systems, putting commercial and media forms in the service of political governance. At the same time, democracy movements around the world have put inequalities on the agendas of both mainstream and alternative media.

These transformations imply that the media are becoming evermore-significant actors and arenas on a global scale. The comparative or in-depth study of the different and interdependent developments of media, will constitute a major challenge for media and communication research in the second decade of the new millennium.

## THE HOST

Stockholm University and the Dept of Journalism, Media and Communication has the privilege to host the 26th world congress of the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) to be held in Stockholm, Sweden July 20-25 2008. The conference will take place on the campus of Stockholm University.

This is the first time during the organisation's 50-year history that the conference is organised in a Nordic country and it is supported by the Nordic research community.

The initiative for this conference has been taken by the Swedish Association for Media and Communication Research (FSMK), an active organisation with broad interests among media scholars. The actual organisation of the conference has also been conceived as a close cooperative effort including representatives from Swedish and Nordic colleges and universities and Nordicom, the longstanding organisation for information on Nordic media and communication research. Among others Stockholm University's Vice-Chancellor has expressed clear support.

## CALL FOR PAPERS

TO BE PRESENTED AT THE  
IAMCR WORLD CONGRESS  
IN STOCKHOLM, JULY 2008.

ABSTRACTS ARE DUE BY JANUARY 31, 2008,

TO BE SUBMITTED TO HEADS OF SECTIONS AND  
WORKING GROUPS

(SEE PAGE 31 FOR CONTACT DETAILS  
AND ONLINE AT [WWW.IAMCR.ORG](http://WWW.IAMCR.ORG)

OR [WWW.JMK.SU.SE](http://WWW.JMK.SU.SE)  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION).

THE FULL PROGRAMME WILL BE AVAILABLE  
ON MARCH 31, 2008.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME  
20-25 JULY 2008

SUNDAY JULY 20

15:00-19:00 Arrivals and registration (Aula Magna)  
19:00-21:00 Buffet (Campus), Speeches, Music

MONDAY JULY 21

8:30-9:30 Registration  
9:30-10:15 Welcome  
10:15-12:30 Plenary I:  
Keynotes, addressing the conference theme:  
Media and Global Divides  
12:30-14:00 Lunch  
14:00-16:30 Sections and working groups  
18:00-20:00 Banquet (Town Hall, Stockholm City)

TUESDAY JULY 22

9:00-12:30 Sections and working groups  
12:30-14:00 Lunch  
14:00-19:00 Sections and working groups  
19:30 - Organized activity, archipelago trip with buffet  
and music

WEDNESDAY JULY 23

9:00-12:30 Plenary II: International panel on Global Di-  
vides: (repr from Europe, Africa, Asia and the  
Americas)  
12:30-14:00 Lunch  
14:00-15:30 Sections and working groups  
16:00-19:30 General Assembly  
20:00 - Free/Sociological tour of the Stockholm area

THURSDAY JULY 24

9:00-12:30 Plenary III: Nordic panel on Global Divides  
12:30-14:00 Lunch  
14:00-19:00 Sections and working groups  
19:00-20:00 James Halloran Memorial Lecture by Cees  
Hamelink  
20:00 - Campus event (outdoor, music)

FRIDAY JULY 25

9:00-12:00 Sections and working groups  
12:00-13:00 Closing

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS, OCTOBER 2007

- Annabelle Sreberny, SOAS, University of London
- Jan Nederveen Pieterse, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Lilie Chouliarakis, London School of Economics
- Yudhishtir Raj Isar, The American University of Paris

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH COUNCIL  
AND ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

The following persons have agreed to serve on the research council for the congress:

Dr Elisabeth Eide, Oslo University College, Norway  
Dr Lars Holmgaard Christensen, Aalborg University, Denmark  
Professor Ullamaija Kivikuru, Helsinki University, Finland  
Dr Ester Pollack, Stockholm University  
Professor Karin Becker, Stockholm University  
Professor Göran Bolin, Södertörn University College  
Professor Ulla Carlsson, Nordicom and Göteborg University  
Professor Mats Ekström, Örebro University  
Professor Gunilla Jarlbro, Lund University  
Dr Madeleine Kleberg, Stockholm University  
Professor Astrid Söderberg-Widding, Stockholm University  
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**Ester Pollack**, senior lecturer in Journalism, Stockholm University. Head of department at JMK 2002-2005. Research focus on media and crime and on projects concerning the Swedish media and the World War II-era.

**Karin Becker** is deputy head at the Dept of JMK. Her research examines cultural histories and contemporary contexts of visual media practices, in the press, museum collections, private settings including the family, and as applied in ethnographic studies.

**Madeleine Kleberg**, reader in Media & Communication. One of the founders of the Gender and Communication Section within IAMCR and its first head. Currently working with research on The Intimization of Journalism. Transformations of Medialized Public Spheres from the 1880s to current times.  
**Göran Leth**, reader in Journalism studies. Head of department since 2006. His areas of research are source criticism, freedom of the press and journalism history. Currently working on the media and world war II.

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[www.su.se](http://www.su.se)  
[www.jmk.su.se](http://www.jmk.su.se)

# Membership Committee Report

July 2007

**Committee Members:** *Hopeton Dunn*, Jamaica, *Catherine Loneux*, France, *Rosa Mikeal Martey*, USA, *Daya Thususu*, UK and *Ullamaija Kivikuru*, Finland

**Report compiled by:** Ullamaija Kivikuru (Committee Chair)

## Summary

Membership and participation policies were added as a systematic component of the Association's general goals, policies, or activities first in Porto Alegre in 2004, when also this committee was established. In its report for the Taipei Conference in 2005, the committee provided a list of recommendations concerning member recruitment. In Cairo 2006, the committee noted with satisfaction that the implementation of many of its recommendations had already started by the Association leadership. The recommendations of the 2006 report were mainly extensions or specifications of the recommendations presented the year before. The focus was, on the one hand, on the gathering of baseline data about media and communication researchers globally and on national basis, and on the other, on the follow-up of new members.

Now in 2007, the committee notes with satisfaction that the implementation of many suggestions concerning membership has developed further, and even the database with membership information started to operate just before the Paris conference.

However, at this stage, there is no way of measuring the results of these efforts. A new recruitment policy is a long process. Based on sources from the early 1990s and 2007, the total membership seems to be now roughly on the same level as 10-15 years ago, around 1 300. The drop in membership that was experienced some years ago seems to have disappeared, but irregularities in paying the membership fee are still recognizable, especially among individual members. Further, the strong domination of members from so-called industrialized regions is still recognizable: more than two-thirds of the membership comes from the industrialized world.

We find the recently established *members' database* extremely valuable for generating better information about members than before. Some crucial data (e.g. gender breakdown) are still not available, but this is a very good start for detailed baseline data. In developing this database, also the existing old statistics and surveys (e.g. Dervin & Huesca, 1993; Lundby, 1993) should be taken into consideration in such a way that comparisons and trends would be easily recognizable.

Concerning *networking with other organizations* in the field, we repeat most of our 2006 suggestions:

- ☞ to start combining a simple annual timetable for global and regional conferences to be placed on the websites of all the organizations in the network;
- ☞ to combine baseline data about the memberships of all these associations. Thus we would gradually be able to develop a clearinghouse covering the whole field;
- ☞ to seek possibilities for joint seminars and other exercises
- ☞ to support joint research projects.

Concerning membership recruitment and strengthening of participation within IAMCR, we suggest the following:

- *Regional liaison persons* should be nominated. But sheer nomination is not enough. The liaison persons need also a schedule for their activities. We suggest that the first step in their activity is to map all the existing professional organizations and their activities in the region they are responsible for;
- *Regional workshops*. A regional workshop or seminar at least in two world regions should be organized each year.
- *Emerging scholars*. Some conference events should be designed especially for junior scholar newcomers
- *New member follow-up*. An award, a commendation for first-timer paper, a drawing among new members for a free one-year membership, etc. might encourage continuing involvement.
- *Outreach, mentoring*. It is helpful if IAMCR members regularly talk to new department members and graduate students about IAMCR and encourage paper submission. To assist in this, a pamphlet of the organization could give an easily digestible summary.

## Task and objectives

In its first meeting in Porto Alegre, the new International Council (IC) established a committee for membership and participation. Its objective is to analyse membership structure and propose methods to attract more members, especially from underrepresented areas. Based on the observation that section heads are proactively attracting new members, the committee included their experiences in their 2005 report, as well as specific proposals for enhancing the benefits of being a member of IAMCR.

The core of our 2005 recommendations, which is still found valid and relevant, was to integrate recruitment into IAMCR activities and blend membership and participation by addressing member needs through developing a range of activities on a global level, including via institutional participation. Through an assessment of current membership and Association structures, we identified six general areas where membership and participation can be addressed:

1. Make continuous and systematic membership recruitment one of the basic elements of IAMCR activities
2. Monitor and employ member needs in setting Association goals, activities, and structures
3. Develop a broad range of Association networking opportunities and activities
4. Global conferences must include global participation
5. Favour institutional membership, especially in Asia, Africa, and Latin America
6. Create a set of IAMCR benefits.

The original goal was to focus on both membership recruitment and participation, that is a profile of activities. Although the report mainly discusses membership recruitment, it

should be emphasized that recruitment alone is useless, if the members – old and new alike – do not find the activities of the Association satisfactory.

In this report, we focus on both membership recruitment and networking, both within the Association and among the IAMCR and other global, regional or thematic organisations. Previously prepared surveys by Dervin and Huesca and Lundby have been very useful in the compilation of this report.

### *Working mode*

The committee has carried out its work via the web. In 2007, especially Rosa Mikeal Martey has been intensively involved in the discussions, and we have also received information from Robin Mansell concerning the implementation of the IAMCR membership policies. We recognize that one of the basic problems of IAMCR is that most activity tends to accumulate around conferences. Accordingly, such long-term and continuous work as policy development and as part of it, membership and partnership efforts tend to be sporadic.

## MEMBERSHIP TODAY

According to the freshly compiled database statistics, kindly provided by Bruce Girard, it is possible to map the present situation in a far more exact way than ever before by the committee established in 2005. According to the figures we have received, the total of IAMCR membership (individual and institutional members who have paid membership fee either in 2006 or 2007 or in both years) exceeds 1 300 (N=1 383) and also the figure for active membership (paid both years) almost reaches 1 100 (N=1 093). About 60 per cent of the members are attached to the Association via institutional membership, and the payments appear as being considerably more regular among institutional members. However, it is pleasant to note that also the numbers of paying individual members indicate clear growth.

About 25 per cent of the individual members are registered as students, the majority as regular members. Among new members (N= 100, joined in October 2006– June 2007), roughly 45 percent are students. However, the student membership seems to fluctuate somewhat more than the regular membership. This is obviously due to the fact that emerging scholars change jobs somewhat more often than established staff members and thus tend to lose contact more easily with the IAMCR.

The “top 15” countries in 2007 are

Country	Individual	Institutional	Total
United Kingdom	19	140	159
United States	88	50	138
Spain	10	60	70
Sweden	5	50	55
Denmark	3	50	53
Australia	22	30	52
France	9	40	49
Germany	17	30	47
Canada	20	20	40

Holland	4	30	34
Norway	3	30	33
Belgium	4	20	24
Finland	3	20	23
Ireland	2	20	22
India	12	10	22

It can be said that the total membership is approaching the figures of the early 1990s. In the 1990 directory (N=1 586 names) and 1993 directory (N=1 541 names), the figures exceeded 1 500, but the numbers of paid-up memberships were around 1 300. The figures in the new database and the Dervin-Huesca (1993) report are not totally comparable, because the categorizations are done partly differently. However, the proportions of individual (1993: 27 %, 2007: 25%) and institutional (1993: 67 %, 2007: 75 %) members seem to have stabilized to the same level. Based on the new database, institutional membership appears more consistent than individual, although there might, of course, be frequent changes in the list of individuals included as institutional members via various institutions. If an institution attaches to the IAMCR, it also tends to pay the membership fee regularly, while there is far more payment fluctuation among individual members.

The European domination is strong, and European members are predominantly institutional, while in all other regions, individual membership is far stronger. Of the so-called developing countries, one (India) belongs to the list of the top 15. However, on the list of present paid-up members, 25 countries are listed out of a total of 70. In the early 1990s, 77 percent of the individual members and 85 per cent of the institutional members came from the industrialized countries. Similar figures are not directly available from 2007, but a rough estimate based on the regional figures shows that the proportions are quite similar (individual members from industrialized regions 75 per cent, institutional members 80 per cent).

By region, the picture is as follows:

Region	Individual	Institutional	Total
Europe	114	550	664
North America	108	70	178
Latin America	34	30	64
Asia	42	20	62
Oceania	29	30	59
Africa	24	10	34
Southeast Asia	7	10	17
Middle East	15	0	15

In the 1990s, three specific regions – Africa, industrialized Asia and North America – were more likely to list individual members than institutional members. Although the categories are somewhat different, the same conclusion can be drawn now. Of the regions, only Europe is strongly dominated by institutional membership, and in Oceania and Latin America, the situation is quite balanced. As in the early 1990s, the institutional pattern is most extreme in Scandinavia (91% institutional, 9% individual); the figures were almost exactly the same in 1993: 93% institutional, 7% individual.

According to Dervin and Huesca, individual members were far more likely to attend conferences than institutional members. Further, the calculations of Dervin & Huesca suggested that the locations of conferences are vital for getting regional attention among media and communication researchers. Persons from the industrialized regions constituted proportionately a far greater share of all the names across the 5 lists used by the researchers: some 80 per cent of the attendee names came from industrialized regions. One-third came from Scandinavia, almost 30 per cent from the rest of Western Europe, almost 20 per cent from North America, while the proportion of attendees from so-called non-industrialized regions reached only to 19 per cent. From 2007, no such statistics are available.

Unfortunately, also the scattered figures on membership by gender available now are not worth any further analysis. In the same way, the information available on institutional members is quite limited.

Of the 32 registered sections and working groups, as many as 13 have 60 members or more in their lists (same person can indicate interest in several groups):

International Communication	127
Communication Policy and Technology	110
Political Communication Research	101
Global Media Policy	99
Political Economy	91
Audience	90
Participatory Communication Research	86
Popular Culture	80
Community Communication	68
Digital Divide	64
Gender	62
Media Production Analysis	61
Media Education	60

The spectrum of themes is quite wide, giving support for fact that the strength of the Association is in its sections and working groups. As indicated already in 1993, many members feel that conference attendance every year is financially impossible and also often not relevant based on content, because there are so many other interesting conferences and seminars available. Sections and working groups could organize activity between conferences and thus strengthen the coherence and community feeling.

In sum, the committee is very pleased about the fact that the database is now in operation, and it is easy to develop it further. Especially figures on members by gender should be made available in the future, and the same applies to all information about institutional members. For networking and outreach purposes, information about conference attendance would be useful.

### *Networking*

Today, the field of communication and media research flourishes with a variety associations and organizations. Instead of considering the situation as a rivalry, it would be beneficial for the field to seek possibilities of cooperation and

networking. Some attempts to initiate the networking of international or global organizations in the field have been organized in recent years. We suggest that the IAMCR should take the initiative to promote this activity in order to:

- start combining a simple annual timetable for global and regional conferences to be placed on the websites of all the organizations in the network. This would, on the practical level, diminish timetable collisions and enable coordination. On a more substantive level, such a timetable would function as a “business card” for the whole field;
- combine baseline data about the memberships of these associations. This is perhaps a slightly more delicate task. The idea would be to collect information for a clearinghouse covering the whole field;
- seek possibilities for joint seminars and other exercises to enable joint research projects.

Naturally, all these activities should be voluntary, but the lack of systematic baseline data makes it difficult for all associations in the field to serve their members properly.

The committee notes with pleasure that concerning joint membership, IAMCR has taken the initiative. The treasurer has taken the initiative with the Latin American association to organise a discount for individual members of IAMCR if they are also members of the Latin American association. Instead of paying USD 20 they would pay USD 15. A similar arrangement – but with a considerably higher membership fee level, of course -- is under preparation for ECREA. This is progress in the right direction.

We have in our previous reports suggested a network of regional IAMCR “liaison officers” to be established. The Association President has already found several volunteers to work as liaison officers, but without the support of the database, it has been difficult to create a relevant work plan. The situation is now totally different, thanks to the database.

### *Young researchers as a resource*

Emerging scholars, especially graduate students, are an ideal resource for enthusiasm, interest, and participation in IAMCR membership activities. Because many emerging scholars benefit professionally from conference activities on their record, they are likely to be willing to put the time and energy needed into administrative coordination. As compensation, their conference fees could be reduced.

Creating regional liaisons from this pool could improve recruitment activities, especially in countries outside Europe/North America. Liaison persons, titled something like “IAMCR Regional Coordinator”, could distribute IAMCR newsletters, coordinate regional groups and panels, and increase the visibility of IAMCR generally. Regional coordinators could hold an annual meeting among those interested to discuss regional issues that can be brought up at conferences, develop panels, and foster academic collaboration.

Because this task may be challenging for graduate students, a senior scholar could be selected to spearhead the process, drawing on the regional coordinator for the administrative as-

pects, thus reducing the burden on senior scholars. Regional coordinators could then create a brief report with meeting outcomes and local membership lists. This process can be coordinated with the Task Force on Media and Communication Policy created in 2004, and it can even take place in the same meetings if desired. The ESN section could take leadership on recruiting regional coordinators who could create a local list of members and those interested in IAMCR. Region-specific contact information or websites could be created to facilitate networking.

### ***The IAMCR benefits***

The distribution of journals has started to operate quite smoothly, the publications committee has made progress, and the IAMCR Newsletter has found its role in the Association's activities. However, the benefits are not fixed. An alert attitude is needed. For example, in recent years, open access and peer-reviewed journals have begun to both challenge and complement traditional academic publishing. This is a welcome development and the IAMCR should develop a resource on its website with links to the best open access journals in the field of media and communications. Two examples are Javnost - The Public and the Westminster Papers in Communication and Culture. The specific IAMCR benefit in this kind of activity is that the Association, through its global membership and networks, is able to establish a well-operating and updated on-line resource very easily.

### ***Outreach***

Outreach, especially in Asian, African, and South American countries, is often difficult for IAMCR's current structure. Because many emerging scholars, especially graduate students, benefit professionally from conference activities on their record, they are an ideal resource for enthusiasm, interest, and participation in IAMCR membership activities.

We can develop outreach materials that can be used as is in English and/or translated into local languages for use by the regional coordinators. They can take the lead in distributing the IAMCR newsletter to those interested in the organization but not on current distribution lists, and even post calls for submissions and other announcements in local institutions.

In conclusion, it was a useful exercise to collect baseline data on communication researchers from each country. We suggest that the IAMCR contacts national or regional research organizations or, if there is no such organization, the IAMCR members in the particular country or region, carry out a simple survey about the numbers and workplaces of the researchers. After that, IAMCR should send via such regional "liaison officers" the welcoming letter designed by the Association President.

### ***Recommendations***

The committee filed its first report for the Taipei Conference, including a list of recommendations ) which we still find valid and relevant. That list was elaborated further for the Cairo Conference. We are pleased about the fact that the Association has started implementing these recommendations, but we still feel that the basic policy line should remain the same.

☞ *Regional liaison persons.* We recommend that the committee would continue its work and additional members representing all world regions would be nominated to help lead these initiatives. Especially such poorly covered areas as southern Africa and Asia should have a regional representative, for example, through SACOMM and AMIC.

☞ *Regional workshops.* Further, we recommend that we should aim to have one IAMCR-endorsed regional workshop or seminar at least in two world regions over the next year, as a follow-up to our previous commitment to encourage such activities. This would not necessarily mean financial support, but prior IAMCR endorsement of events to be hosted by established institutions or individuals known to us, following an application for approval of the activity to be hosted.

☞ *Emerging scholars.* One of the aspects IAMCR that is particularly positive for graduate students and new professionals is the smaller size of the conference as compared to something like ICA. It is easier to involve new participants in activities and encourages attachment to the organization. This can be done by creating or labeling some conference events as especially for newcomers (for example, a dinner or luncheon where new and more established members can meet and connect). It might be possible to use an existing event or scheduled lunch for that purpose. Additionally, there might be some work within sections or even a committee that would be well-suited for newcomers. For example, each section could have a new member role (especially for those in-country at the specific conference) that would lend some sense of ownership, like arranging an outing at a local café or providing some local information in a central place.

☞ *New member follow-up.* New member follow-up might reduce drop-outs. Some kind of award or commendation for a first-timer paper, a draw among new members for a free one-year membership, etc. might encourage continuing involvement. The issue is keeping track of who are new members on a section level, but a crucial starting point is *an accessible database of members*.

☞ *Outreach, mentoring.* It is helpful if IAMCR members regularly talk to new department members and graduate students about IAMCR and encourage paper submission. Especially graduate students respond well to professionals approaching them personally about work they have been developing. To assist in this, a pamphlet of the organization could give an easily digestible summary.



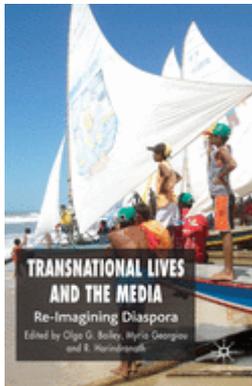


**Community Media**  
**International Perspectives**  
Edited by Linda K. Fuller

272 pp. / 1-4039-7794-1 /  
\$69.95 cl.

Palgrave Macmillan

Drawing on both theoretical and practical case studies, this collection moves from developing attempts at local media to case studies and on to cyber-examples. The contributors, all distinguished international communications scholars, present a range of perspectives on the ever-burgeoning area of grassroots, local media.



**Transnational Lives and the Media**

**Re-Imagining Diasporas**

Edited by Olga Guedes Bailey, Myria Georgiou and R. Harindranath

Palgrave Macmillan

288 pages  
Size 5 1/2 x 8 1/4  
\$85.00 - Hardcover 0-230-01983-8

This collection offers a comprehensive account of the relation between diaspora and media cultures drawing from traditional and innovative theoretical and empirical approaches illustrated by the consumption of national and transnational media by diasporas communities, and the views of non-governmental organizations on issues of the politics of participation and representation of ethnic minorities in the media.

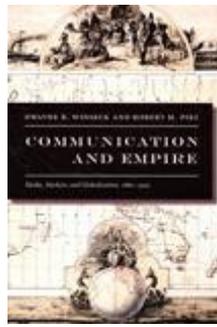


**Global Journalism Research**

**Theories, Methods, Findings, Future**  
Edited by Martin Loeffelholz and David Weaver.

Blackwell Publishing

ISBN hard cover: 978-1-4051-5331-7  
paperback: 978-1-4051-5332-4  
Price: USD \$44.95 for paperback and \$89.95 for hard cover, with a 20% discount through November 30, 2007.



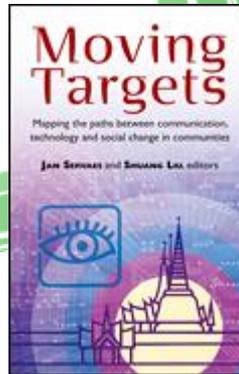
**Communication and Empire**  
**Media, Markets, and Globalization, 1860-1930**

By Dwayne R. Winseck & Robert M. Pike

Duke University Press

456 pages (May 2007)  
25 illustrations, 13 tables, 10 maps  
Cloth - \$89.95 [ISBN13 978-0-8223-3912-0]  
\$ 24.95 [ISBN13 978-0-8223-3928-1]

Filling in a key chapter in communications history, Dwayne R. Winseck and Robert M. Pike offer an in-depth examination of the rise of the "global media" between 1860 and 1930. They analyze the connections between the development of a global communication infrastructure, the creation of national telegraph and wireless systems, and news agencies and the content they provided. They emphasize how much of the global media system was in place before the high tide of imperialism in the early twentieth century, and they point to other factors that drove the proliferation of global media links, including economic booms and busts, initial steps toward multilateralism and international law, and the formation of corporate cartels.



**Moving Targets**

**Mapping the Paths between Communication, Technology and Social Change in Communities**

Edited by Jan Servaes and Shuang Liu

Southbound

ISBN: 978-983-9054-50-7  
276 pages. 14 x 21.5 cm.  
Paperback: US\$25

Written both by academics and practitioners, and using various cases as examples, this book illustrates multiple paths to social change. It our attempt to move development communication programmes from the centre to the periphery, i.e. from a more international and /or national level to a community level. The introduction of new technologies in people's living environments is usually accompanied by subsequent social and psychological change. The challenge, for both scholars and practitioners in the field of communication for development and social change, is to find how to empower the grassroots or "the voiceless" and to engage in the process of bringing about the changes that affect their own lives.

# Elections 2008! Voting Procedures

The election of a new Executive Board (President, Vice Presidents, Secretary General and Treasurer), and International Council will begin officially February 24, 2008. However, nominations may be submitted before that date. (See details below.)

The Statues and By Laws specify the following:

- The President, Vice Presidents, Secretary General and Treasurer, as well as the International Council, take office immediately for a four-year term and are eligible for re-election once only.
- The International Council should include an equal number of members as the Section Heads, and, as far as possible, an equitable representation of age, gender and geographical distribution.

Voting rights are as follows:

- Full individual members shall have one vote.
- Full institutional members that are nationally constituted shall have three votes.
- Full institutional members that are internationally constituted shall have five votes.
- Associate Members may participate in the deliberations of the General Assembly but may not vote.

## NOMINATION AND ELECTION PROCESS 2008

The Election Committee consists of three members appointed by the International Council to manage the election process. The committee includes Janet Wasko (chair) (USA), Cees Hamelink, Netherlands), and Dipak De (India).

### NOMINATIONS

The Election Committee will call for candidates for the Executive Board and the International Council at least 150 days before the General Assembly. The General Assembly for the Stockholm conference is scheduled for Wednesday, July 23, 2008. Thus, the call for candidates will be issued by at least FEBRUARY 24, 2008. (Nominations can be accepted earlier.) Send all nominations and other material to: Janet Wasko, Election Committee Chair, [jwasko@uoregon.edu](mailto:jwasko@uoregon.edu).

- Each candidate must be a paid-up member of the Association.
- Candidates for the Executive Board must be sponsored by a minimum of five (5) paid-up members from at least two (2) different countries.
- Candidates for the International Council may be nominated by either one paid-up member of the Association or by themselves. They may include members also nominated for the Executive Board.
- Candidates may be nominated for one or more positions on the Executive Board and, if they wish, for membership of the International Council. Candidates for election to both the Executive Board and the International Council shall, if successful in the former, be automatically removed from the latter.
- Each candidate shall send a confirmation of their candidacy and a curriculum vitae and/or statement of no more than 200 words, either electronically or by registered

mail, to the Chair of the Election Committee at least 120 days before the relevant session of the General Assembly, or by at least MARCH 25, 2008.

Post to: Professor Janet Wasko  
School of Journalism and Communication  
University of Oregon  
1275 University of Oregon  
Eugene, OR 97403-1275 USA  
or e-mail: [jwasko@uoregon.edu](mailto:jwasko@uoregon.edu)

### VOTING PROCEDURE

All paid-up members of the Association shall receive by post, no less than 90 days prior to the relevant meeting of the General Assembly, or no later than APRIL 23, 2008:

- A ballot containing the names of all candidates
- A curriculum vitae and/or statement not exceeding 200 words for each candidate
- A voting envelope for the returned ballot
- A pre-printed return envelope

Members must sign across the back-flap of the return envelope and return it to the Chair of the Election Committee, who must receive it not less than twenty one (21) days before the date of the General Assembly, or no later than by JULY 3, 2008.

### PROCESSING THE BALLOTS

The Election Committee shall, prior to the Ceremonial Opening of the Association's relevant Conference, appoint a Tellers Committee of seven (7), drawn from those members of the Association already present and registered for the Conference, none of whom shall be candidates for election nor members of the Election Committee.

The Tellers Committee shall count the ballot on the day of its appointment, using the "first past the post" electoral system. Any candidates for both the Executive Board and the International Council who succeed in this first election shall automatically be removed from the ballot for the International Council.

The Election Committee shall convey the results of the elections to the President, who shall announce them immediately in the way he/she seems fit, then formally to the next meeting of the General Assembly.

### REMINDER FROM THE LEGAL COMMITTEE

The Legal Committee reminds members that according to the so-called "transition rules" in the appendix of our current statutes, the mandates of Heads of sections, International Council Members, Executive Board members, elected for four years in 2004 may all be renewed in 2008, whether or not they held similar positions before 2004.

For the Legal Committee,  
Philippe J. Maarek

# Two IAMCR Prizes for Critical Thinking

## IAMCR PRIZE IN MEMORY OF DALLAS W. SMYTHE

For a paper accepted at the 2008 Stockholm Congress

Professor Dallas Smythe was a founder of the field of political economy of communication and a leading scholar and influence in national and international communication policy. Trained as an economist, Smythe's professional career included appointments at the Department of Labor and the Federal Communication Commission in the United States, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and the University of Regina. He was Professor of Communication at Simon Fraser University Canada from 1976 till his death in 1992. Dallas Smythe was an active member of IAMCR. He established the Communication Satellites Section which later became known as the Communication Policy & Technology Section and he was an active participant in the Political Economy Section.

In recognition of his work, the Dallas Smythe Memorial Endowment Fund was established in the School of Communication at Simon Fraser University in 1992 "to further the understanding of communication studies," through an invited lecture series and related activities.

### *Prize Criteria*

Criteria for award of a prize to an author(s) of a paper accepted for presentation at the major biannual IAMCR conferences:

- A paper for which an award is made will be deemed to make a contribution to furthering the understanding of communication studies from a critical perspective and be grounded in some way in the tradition of the study of the 'political economy of communication'.
- A paper for which an award is made will be deemed by the Smythe Award Panel to be of a high scholarly standard.

### *Procedure*

- Papers may be submitted by students and younger scholars associated with any section or working group of IAMCR.
- **Papers submitted for consideration by the Smythe Award Panel must be submitted by 16 May 2008 at [iamcr@lse.ac.uk](mailto:iamcr@lse.ac.uk) indicating clearly you are applying for the Smythe award.**
- An award will not necessarily be made at every conference.
- If an award is made, the author(s) will be notified within 3 weeks of the start of the conference.
- The award will normally be in the amount of US\$ 500.

### *Smythe Award Panel 2008*

Robin Mansell, IAMCR President  
Annabelle Sreberny, Vice-President  
Vincent Mosco, IAMCR member  
Janet Wasko, IAMCR Political Economy Section Head  
Yuezhi Zhao, IAMCR member

## IAMCR PRIZE IN MEMORY OF HERBERT I. SCHILLER

For a paper accepted at the 2008 Stockholm Congress

The Herbert Schiller prize was established at IAMCR's Singapore Conference to celebrate Herbert's lasting contribution to communications scholarship and to remember his work in helping to establish IAMCR as an open, hospitable and vital space of debate, as one of the founders of the Political Economy Section and as Vice President of the Association.

Herbert embodied the very best traditions of intellectual life, as a scholar, as an influential writer, as an engaged critic and public orator, and above all, as an inspirational teacher who encouraged younger scholars to develop work that challenges accepted orthodoxies and centers of power and opens up new questions for analysis and debate.

### *Prize Criteria*

- A paper which combines scholarly excellence with a commitment to developing and extending the critical, innovative and engaged spirit that characterised Herbert Schiller's own contribution to communications analysis.

### *Rules*

- Papers may be submitted by students and junior scholars associated with any section or working group of IAMCR who are under the age of 35 at the time the paper is submitted.
- Papers are limited 7,000 words.
- Papers must be based on work that has not already been published or firmly committed elsewhere.

### *Procedure*

- Papers should be submitted in electronic form to the Chair of the Herbert Schiller Award Panel.
- **The closing date for submissions is 16 May 2008. Send your submissions to [iamcr@lse.ac.uk](mailto:iamcr@lse.ac.uk) – clearly indicate you are applying for the Schiller award**
- An award will not necessarily be made; decisions will be made by the Herbert Schiller Award Panel and will be final.
- If an award is made, the author(s) will be notified about 3 weeks before the conference.
- The award comprises a cash prize of USD 1,000 as a contribution towards participation in the Cairo conference, together with a commemorative plaque marking the winner's achievement.

### *Herbert Schiller Award Panel 2008*

Graham Murdock, Chair and IAMCR Member  
John Downing, IAMCR Member  
Divina Frau-Meigs, IAMCR Vice-President  
Katherine Sarikakis, IAMCR Member

### *Contributions*

An IAMCR prize fund has been created and you can contribute to either or both funds from the [Online Fee Payment](#) at [www.iamcr.org](http://www.iamcr.org).



# New Membership Form Jan-Dec 2008

Current IAMCR members will receive an e-mail regarding 2008 membership fees. If you have not received this notice by January 2008 please contact us at [membership@iamcr.org](mailto:membership@iamcr.org)

To join IAMCR please go to <http://www.iamcr.org> and select *About IAMCR > Membership > Join IAMCR*. Alternatively you can fax this form to +44 (0) 870 759 8283 or mail it to Robin Mansell, President, IAMCR, at the address given under payment option C below.

Allied members: ALAIC and AMIC members from low-income countries can join IAMCR at a reduced fee. Allied members must pay their membership dues by online credit card. for details see: <https://www.iamcr.org/content/view/222/43/>

## Contact Details (this information is mandatory, please print clearly)

Member Name: Surname \_\_\_\_\_; First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title: Prof/Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms/Other \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ work; \_\_\_\_\_ home (optional)

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

URL: \_\_\_\_\_ (optional)

## Individual Membership

### High Income Country

- Regular 130 USD \* (no membership without choice of 1 journal for regular high income country members)
- Student 90 USD \*  40 USD
- Emeritus 90 USD \*  40 USD  
(includes choice of 1 journal) \* (without journal)

### Low Income Country

- Regular 40 USD \*  20 USD
- Student 30 USD \*  15 USD
- Emeritus 30 USD \*  15 USD  
(includes choice of 1 journal) \* (without journal)
- Regular/Student member of ALAIC/AMIC South America: 15 USD

## Institutional Membership

### High Income Country

10 members 500 USD \* plus 50 USD for each additional member.  
(includes choice of 1 journal; contact person will receive one copy of selected journal) \*

### Low Income Country

10 members 140 USD \* plus 14 USD for each additional member.  
(includes choice of 1 journal; contact person will receive one copy of selected journal) \*

For Institutional Membership, please submit the names and e-mail addresses of up to 10 members on a separate page. Alternatively, if you have submitted institutional members' information on the IAMCR website please tick this box:

Countries listed below are classed as High Income countries by the World Bank. If you reside in one of these countries you qualify for IAMCR's High Income membership status:

Andorra - Aruba - Australia - Austria - The Bahamas - Bahrain - Belgium - Bermuda - Brunei - Canada - Cayman Islands - Channel Islands - Cyprus - Denmark - Faeroe Islands - Finland - France - French Polynesia - Germany - Greece - Greenland - Guam - Hong Kong (China) - Iceland - Ireland - Isle of Man - Israel - Italy - Japan - Korea, Rep. - Kuwait - Liechtenstein - Luxembourg - Macao (China) - Malta - Monaco - Netherlands - Netherlands Antilles - New Caledonia - New Zealand - Norway - Portugal - Puerto Rico - Qatar - San Marino - Saudi Arabia - Singapore - Slovenia - Spain - Sweden - Switzerland - Taiwan - United Arab Emirates - United Kingdom - United States - Virgin Islands (U.S.)

Members from all other countries qualify for Low Income status for the purpose of membership fees.

### Choice of Journal

Membership fee includes choice of **1 Journal** from Sage

- International Communication Gazette (see [www.sagepub.com/journal.aspx?pid=82](http://www.sagepub.com/journal.aspx?pid=82))
- New Media and Society (see [www.sagepub.com/journal.aspx?pid=90](http://www.sagepub.com/journal.aspx?pid=90))
- Global Media and Communication (see [www.sagepub.com/journal.aspx?pid=10296](http://www.sagepub.com/journal.aspx?pid=10296))

Additional Journal titles: Add 40 USD for each

Contribution to **Schiller Fund** \_\_\_\_\_ USD

Contribution to **Smythe Fund** \_\_\_\_\_ USD

## How to pay

### A. Online Credit Card Payment

Visit [www.iamcr.org](http://www.iamcr.org) and go to *About IAMCR > Membership > Online Fee payment.*

### B. Offline Credit Card Payment

Mail or fax this form to:

Professor Robin Mansell, President IAMCR address below under C.

Fax: +44 (0) 870 759 8283

Credit Card Type:     VISA             MASTERCARD

Name on Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Month \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Security No. (Last three digits - back of card): \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ USD

including contributions/additional members (institutional)/additional journal

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### C. Check drawn on a USD bank account payable to IAMCR, send to:

Please send this form with the check to:

Professor Robin Mansell, President, IAMCR

Department of Media and Communications

London School of Economics & Political Science

Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE, UK

### D. Direct Bank Transfer in USD to payable to IAMCR

Name of Bank: HSBC

Account Holder's Name: IAMCR

Bank Account No.: 59092763

Branch Number (Sort Code): 400515

Bank Address: 194 Strand, London, WC2R 1DX

London, UK Fax Number of Branch: +44 (0) 7599 3914

Swift Number or ABA Number (IBAN number):

USD account GB92MIDL40051559092763.

Add 25 US\$ for bank charges.

Ensure that Bank Transfer information includes member name.

Please send this form to Professor Robin Mansell (address above)

**If you have questions, please email us at [membership@iamcr.org](mailto:membership@iamcr.org).**

**Thank you for joining IAMCR!**

# EFJ Supports Petition Against Censorship and Political Pressures on Journalists in Slovenia

Today the European Federation of Journalists, the European group of the International Federation of Journalists, brought its full backing to over 400 journalists in Slovenia who signed a petition to denounce intolerable pressure in the newsrooms.

“We are appalled that after months of protests and appeals by national and international media organisations the Slovenian authorities keep putting pressure on journalists in a grotesque manner” said EFJ General Secretary Aidan White. “Almost one fifth of the professional journalists in Slovenia signed the petition and we now expect things to change rapidly in view of the Slovenian presidency of the EU in January 2008”.

The text of the petition claims that the Prime Minister Janez Janša “restricts media freedom” in the country in various ways. For example the state owns shares in large Slovenian companies which are also co-owners of the media, thus allowing changes among chief executive officers, members of supervisory boards and editors-in-chief in most of the major Slovenian media. “The government has established an informal and influential decision-making pyramid” says the petition, and as a consequence, managers and editors-in-chief are “not able to respect the autonomy of journalists and they censor journalists' texts which are critical of the authorities”.

Even assigned articles are often left unpublished, usually without any proper justification. The journalists also point out that opinion makers unfavorable to the government are refused access to certain media. Journalists are being given notice, they are degraded, removed from the working areas they have covered previously, transferred, discriminated against and obstructed.

During the EFJ General Meeting in Zagreb in March 2007, members of the EFJ jointly adopted a strong statement to condemn the situation in Slovenia, where the government had “drastically increased pressures on the media and journalists and its possibilities to affect editorial decisions”.

Slovene journalists sent a letter about censorship and governmental pressures on journalists to the presidents, the heads of parliaments and the prime ministers of all European Union member states, as well as to a number of international organisations. The EFJ fully backs them and calls its members to support them.

**See petition and signatories:**

[www.peticijazopercenzuro.com](http://www.peticijazopercenzuro.com)

**For further information contact the EFJ +32 2 235 22 00**

*The EFJ represents over 250,000 journalists in over 30 countries*

[www.ifj.org](http://www.ifj.org)

Splichal, Slavko ([slavko.splichal@guest.arnes.si](mailto:slavko.splichal@guest.arnes.si))

## Call for Manuscripts

### Special Issue: "Media Psychology and International Public Diplomacy" American Journal of Media Psychology

There was a time when much of international public diplomacy took place among diplomats and opinion leaders of various countries. Today, international public diplomacy entails explicit and implicit messages sent by a government in one country to members of a general public in another country for the purpose of shaping their attitudes toward some aspect of the sending country. What processes can best describe attitude formation and/or attitude change as it relates to international public diplomacy in a global media environment? What role, if any, do the international media networks (news and entertainment, traditional and Web-based) play in this context?

Researchers with interests in such areas as attitude formation and change, media psychology, social psychology, cross-cultural communication, political communication, public opinion, international communication, news exposure, international relations, media effects and related topics are invited to submit papers to the American Journal of Media Psychology for a special issue that focuses on explaining attitude formation and attitude change as related to international public diplomacy within a global media environment.

Submissions sought are ones that tackle this topic by either focusing exclusively on applying psychology and/or communication theories to this topic area, and/or conducting comprehensive literature reviews of studies that have findings that are applicable to this topic area, and/or carrying out theory-driven empirical investigations that focus on this topic.

**Currently, we are still accepting manuscripts.**

The American Journal of Media Psychology is a peer-reviewed scientific journal that publishes theoretical and empirical papers and essays and book reviews that advance an understanding of media effects and processes on individuals in society. Submissions should have a psychological focus, which means the level of analysis should focus on individuals and their interaction with or relationship to mass media content and institutions. All theoretical and methodological perspectives are welcomed. For instructions on submitting a manuscript, please point your browser to <http://www.marquettejournals.org/mediapsychology.html>

Questions about this call for manuscripts can be directed to Dr. Michael Elasmr, Editor, American Journal of Media Psychology at [elasmr@bu.edu](mailto:elasmr@bu.edu).

# IAMCR Governing Bodies

## Executive Board

**President**  
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**Secretary General**  
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**Treasurer**  
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## International Council

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