

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 16/2 • NOVEMBER 2006



IAMCR International Association for Media and Communication Research
AIECS Asociación Internacional de Estudios en Comunicación Social
AIERI Association Internationale des Études et Recherches sur L'Information et la Communication

Global Jaw Jaw

It's what us academics do... Talk. Better jaw jaw than war war, as Churchill once said. And we did it again, magnificently, in Cairo. The lead-up to the conference had not been easy. Some members were concerned about bird flu; others were concerned about the heat (actually cooler than London that particular week!) and yet others were concerned about the growing political tensions in the region and a renewed threat of terrorism. As usual, some people complained about the costs and length of travel "there" and wondered why we didn't hold a conference "here", forgetting that our membership is transnational and that "there" is where many members also live and work.

Once the terrible violence was unleashed over Lebanese and Israeli towns and villages, some members chose not to come while others were unable to come. Travel because of bombed airports, closed check-points and concern about family safety prevented many members from attending. The 'situation' lurked behind our gathering and frequently became the topic of our research focus, our discussions and disagreements. It meant that Egypt was a powerful learning experience as we each encountered people who held very different viewpoints and perspectives on the immediate crises. Maintaining our ability to listen to and dialogue with others remains at the core of the academic enterprise, and is all the more valuable when our civility is indeed tested.

For me, that surely is one of the most significant benefits of belonging to an organization such as IAMCR. We are not an organization with a veneer of internationalism but an in-

herently transnational association and our movement around the globe is as profound an education as the academic research and analysis we conduct in our various homes. The different contexts encourage us to focus on new issues. In Cairo, we staged a fascinating encounter between Christianity (as embodied by John Durham Peters) and Islam (Ziauddin Sardar), with both speakers making the issues around religion and the media much more than a remote topic of academic study. We welcomed Fatma Alloo from Tanzania, who helped extend our analyses of different forms of communication to include the kanga, the traditional dress of Tanzanian women, and problematized once again issues around 'whose communication for whose development?' (see p.6).

Editor's column Annabelle Sreberny

We also learned that what appeared to be a relentless stream of Cairean traffic on day one would become a negotiable patterned flow by day three. We saw how poverty coexists with extreme wealth, as it does in most major cities. We exclaimed how modernity and tradition find their own accommodation; having just seen the wonderful new Egyptian film *The Yacoubian Building* in the London Film Festival, this is clearly a long-standing motif about Egypt in general and Cairo in particular. And we experienced Egyptian hospitality, enjoying the local cuisine under large canopies that suggested the desert and other ways of life were not so remote in either time or place. A brief report

on the conference from one of our indefatigable hosts, Hussein Amin, is on p.3.

And so we move on to Paris for the 50th anniversary of IAMCR. Robin Mansell picks up this theme in her presidential letter, while the latest available information about registration and paper submissions for Paris is to be found on the centre pages (from p. 17). Please note however that final dates for early and late registration and other details will be announced on the revamped and more user-friendly IAMCR website: <http://www.iamcr.org>.

Inside this issue

President's Column	3
Hussein Amin: Cairo Conference Report	3
Fatma Alloo: Knowledge Societies for All	6
Vice-President's Report	9
Minutes of the General Assembly	10
Section Reports from Cairo	12
Paris Conference 2007	17
Working Group Reports	21
Membership Committee Report	20
Thai Media Activist receives HR Award	29
New Membership Form	32
IAMCR Governing Bodies	35



President: Robin Mansell (UK)
Secretary General: Ole Prehn (Denmark)
Treasurer: Cesar Bolano (Brazil)
Vice Presidents: Divina Frau-Meigs (France)
 Annabelle Sreberny (UK)
Immediate Past President: Frank Morgan (Australia)

The IAMCR Newsletter is published two or more times a year. This Newsletter is published by the Centre for Media and Film Studies at SOAS, University of London (Annabelle Sreberny and Jens Franz).

Content for the next newsletter should be emailed to Annabelle Sreberny (a.sreberny@soas.ac.uk) or posted to Prof. A. Sreberny, Centre for Media and Film Studies, SOAS, University of London, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London, WC1H 0XG, UK.

The submission deadline for the Spring 2007 issue is March 21, 2007.

Picture credits:

- Photograph of Fatma Alloo on p.6 by Shehina Fazal;
- The Paris skyline on the middle pages was taken from Wikipedia;
- Photographs of Supinya Klangnarong and Thai anti-censorship protest on p.29 courtesy of Jan Servaes and Jens Franz respectively.

And for all avid readers of the small print:

From where did the UNESCO stamp on p.17 originate?

What is written on the spine of this issue? (clue on page 29)

CONTACT ADDRESSES

GENERAL INFORMATION

Robin Mansell (President)
 Department of Media & Communications
 London School of Economics & Political Science
 Houghton Street
 London WC2A 2AE
 Tel: +44 20 7955 6380
 Fax: +44 20 7955 7248
 iamcr@lse.ac.uk

BUDGET COMMITTEE & MEMBERSHIP FEES

César Bolaño (Treasurer)
 Universidade Federal de Sergipe
 Departamento de Economia
 Cidade Univ. Prof. José Aloisio de Campos
 49100-000 São Cristóvão SE
 Brazil
 Tel: +55-79 212-6775
 Fax.: +55 79 212-6766
 iamcrtreasurer@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION

Ullamaija Kivikuru
 University of Helsinki
 SSKH/Swedish School of Social Science
 P.O.Box 16
 00014 Helsinki
 Finland
 ullamaija.kivikuru@helsinki.fi

INTERNAL COMMUNICATION, CONFERENCES AND WEB

Ole Prehn (Secretary General)
 Faculty of Humanities, Aalborg University
 Kroghstr. 3
 DK-9220 Aalborg, Denmark
 Tel: +45 9635 9038
 Fax: +45 9815 6864
 prehn@hum.aau.dk

PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

Annabelle Sreberny (Vice President)
 Centre for Media and Film Studies
 SOAS, University of London
 Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square,
 London, WC1H 0XG, UK
 Tel: +44 20 7898 4422
 a.sreberny@soas.ac.uk

PAST PRESIDENT

Frank Morgan
 Department of Communication and Media Arts
 The University of Newcastle
 Newcastle NSW 2308
 AUSTRALIA
 Tel: + 61 2 4948 8997
 fgm054@bigpond.net.au

IAMCR • AIERI • AIECS

IAMCR WEBSITE:

www.iamcr.org
 www.aieri.org
 www.aiecs.org

IAMCR SUBSCRIPTION RATES 2007

Please see the membership form on p.34 of this newsletter for details of the new individual and institutional IAMCR membership rates.

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

Full page: UK£ 200
 Half page: UK£ 125

IAMCR ANNOUNCEMENT LIST:

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

On Becoming 50!

Now that the Cairo conference is behind us, the work begins to prepare for the Paris conference and the celebration of IAMCR's 50th year. I am grateful to all those who made Cairo a great success (as demonstrated by the survey of participants which you can find at our website). I am also grateful to the Paris local organising team for taking up the challenge of preparing for next year. Details will be available at the IAMCR website in November.

As anyone who has succeeded in becoming 50 knows, one is often asked questions like – what next? what would you like to continue with and what would you like to change? These same questions can and should be asked about our association. Over the past year or so there have been useful discussions about the areas in which national, regional and international organisations can best collaborate, most recently in September during the University of Westminster conference on internationalising media studies. I strongly support the desire to collaborate and expect we will find new ways to do so on behalf of all of our members.

However, as I found myself claiming that IAMCR is an international organisation (which is the claim we can and must make), I began to think

about all the ways in which we could strengthen our membership base and become more inclusive than we are. As we move towards becoming 50 years old, this is a priority for me and the International Council has emphasised this too. As I told the International Council in Cairo, so far I have not found the time to try seriously to address the extent of our membership or the senses in which we could strengthen our claim to being international in terms of what we do. With our new website, we are attracting a much larger number of queries about how to join from people all over the world. We must build on this.

President's Column

The theme of our 50th Anniversary Conference 'Media, Communication, Information: 50 Years of Theories and Practices' will prompt us to reflect on what it means to foster theory building and research and teaching practices in a truly international milieu. I think this reflection is crucially important and that we can draw on the insights not only of our IAMCR members, but those who choose to belong to other associations as well.

My second big priority for this coming year is to see whether we can use our new website to provide an online site for building up a database of teaching programmes that are relevant to our field. We are constantly being asked for information of this kind. Normally, such an endeavour would be beyond our financial means, but efforts are underway to raise some funding. When that is secured I will let you know. But we can also build on the advantages of collaborative publishing software to enable people to volunteer to provide information in a structured way. I will be working with others to see if we can get this initiative off the ground in the period leading up to the Paris conference in July 2007.

Finally, I want to signal that the unexpected death in July 2006 of Professor Roger Silverstone, who was the head of my department at the London School of Economics, means that I have taken on new responsibilities. As a result, I may find it a little difficult to be as quick to respond or to deliver as I have tried to over the past two years. I ask for your understanding and will do my best to keep IAMCR's needs very high on my list of priorities.

Robin Mansell

IAMCR Cairo Conference Report

Dr. Hussein Amin, Conference Chair

On 23-28 July 2006, the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication at the American University in Cairo hosted the 25th General Assembly and Conference for the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR). Nearly 1,000 participants from all over the world came to join this important academic event. The conference, held under the auspices of the Egyptian Minister of Information, H.E. Mr. Enas Al-Fiki, addressed a very timely theme: Knowledge Societies for All: Media and Communication Strategies.

IAMCR 2006 was attended by delegations from 90 countries, including ministers, academics, professionals and media experts in different fields of communication, alongside many representatives from the United Nations and other international organizations, embassies, non-governmental organizations, civil society, the private sector and other stakeholder groups. The conference program in-

cluded approximately 130 sessions and roundtable discussions, an exhibition in the main campus of AUC, and a series of parallel events including the meetings of different sections and working groups in addition to the conference general assembly.

The conference included five main plenary sessions that were held in AUC's Ewart Memorial Hall, with simultaneous translation into Arabic, Spanish and French. In addition, eight Arabic-language plenary sessions, with simultaneous translation into English, were held in AUC's Oriental Hall to provide an opportunity for our non-English-speaking Arab colleagues to present their research. The conference included 28 sections and working groups in different fields of communications ranging from media economics to public opinion to the digital divide and more.

The opening ceremony of the conference was chaired by Professor Hussein Amin, Department of Journalism &

Mass Communication, American University in Cairo, and included remarks by Professor Robin Mansell, IAMCR President, as well as Ambassador Nasser Kamel, who delivered a speech on behalf of the Minister for Information. The conference plenary sessions were very successful and were attended by many participants, as were most of the sections and working groups organized around five themes. More information about the plenary sessions is available in the IAMCR president's conference report (<http://www.iamcr.org/content/view/137/196/>). This year, the conference provided for the first time a call for papers in Arabic to enable scholars present their academic work in Arabic. This explains the participation of more than 140 academics, professionals, and media policy-makers from the most prominent public and private universities and media organizations in Egypt and the Arab world.

Moreover, the conference provided scholars from developing countries a special subsidized registration fee that was 20% of the original sum in order to make possible their participation.

The closing ceremony was a beautiful night that ended with a video that summed up the feelings of all the participants of the Cairo conference. We hope to soon have the video available on the IAMCR website.

Egyptian government and private media organizations as well as international publishers responded generously to calls for support of the conference. The list of sponsors included Egyptian Radio and Television Union, Egypt's Nile-Sat, the *International Herald Tribune-Daily Star Egypt newspaper*, the International Academy for Engineering and Media Sciences (IAMES), the Modern Sciences and Arts University (MSA), Al-Mehwar satellite channel, *Al-Akhbar* newspaper, the Middle East News Agency (MENA), *Al-Masry Al-Youm* news paper, Video Cairo, Emeco Travel, *Al-Gamaheer* newspaper, Moody Graphics, EgyptAir, the International Technology Industry Development Agency (ITIDA), Holiday Tours, SAGE Publications, Routledge, and Blackwell publishing houses also participated in sponsoring the event and held a special reception. The diversity of these organizations, representing both public and private sector organizations; their local, regional, and international nature; and the array of their activities emphasize the amount of widespread recognition and excitement that news of the conference's choice of Egypt as a location generated.

In addition to the academic activities of the conference, participants were provided with nightly entertainment to help the busy attendees become acquainted with some of the culture of the country, including folk music and dancing from different parts of the country and a modern blend of jazz and traditional Arabic music. Participants were also provided with twice-daily coffee breaks as well as daily lunch and dinner on campus – the inclusiveness of these arrangements helped create a wonderful environment for the participants.

The conference organized an Egyptian media event to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of Arab academics and professionals. Dr. Gihan Rashti from Cairo University and Mr. Saad Labib from the Egyptian Radio and Television Union received awards for outstanding achievement. Additionally, the results of Herbert Schiller Prize and the Smith prize competitions were announced.

The Department of Journalism and Mass Communication published two newsletters to keep participants informed of the many events scheduled for the conference: a special daily conference issue of the university's student newspaper, *the Caravan*, was distributed each morning and a special conference newsletter, *Papyrus*, was distributed each evening. In addition, the AUC's Adham Center for Electronic Journalism produced video documentaries of the conference for the opening and closing ceremonies to highlight the event.

The conference organizers published two versions of the conference papers, English and Arabic, as well as the conference program, CD, an online newsletter, and the conference website. The volumes contain extracts of the papers, while the full-length version of the papers is available on CD and on the conference website. The CD also contains the conference program, all available speeches and presentations, as well as a list of participants. In addition, the CD included several photos in printable format for appropriate use by participants. The department will provide a photo gallery of all pictures taken during the conference, newsletters in pdf format, and the two documentaries produced for the conference on the IAMCR website.

Preparations for the conference were coordinated by the Conference Secretariat, which was organized into an executive committee, the organizing committee and various subcommittees. The local committee included Dr. Hussein Amin as chair of the local organizing committee, Dr. Ibrahim Saleh as co-chair for logistics and organization, Dr. Ralph Berenger as English editor, Dr. Bassiouni Hamada as Arabic editor, and Dr. Mona Zaki as a member of the committee. The local organizing committee was also responsible for managing the event and coordinating with different subcommittees of translation, research units, food and beverage, cultural activities, technical coordination, ushering, support team, printing material, design and art work, media and publicity, production, etc.

Egyptian media and international media provided good coverage of the event, including coverage on the Egyptian television channel one, Egypt's Nile TV International, Nile News, Egyptian radio, the Daily Star, MENA, and *Al-Gamaheer* Newspaper as well as many other newspapers

In the online version of this report you can find the results of a survey of participants at the closing of the conference. The response of the participants was overwhelmingly positive to most aspects of the conference, from organizing, to website and registration procedures, hotel accommodations, conference organization, satisfaction with the conference and its value-for-money, and overall satisfaction. A surprising number of respondents did not attend the roundtable discussions, and a number also responded that some of the conference activities and arrangements needed to be communicated somewhat better – many did not know that medical service was provided to participants and some did not have enough prior notice of the cultural activities at night.

Policy recommendations for each section and working group are an exemplary menu of strategies for decision-makers in public and private institutions. Thanks are due to

all of the conference participants who came to Cairo and contributed to the success of the conference. This conference was truly an historic event for the IAMCR and for media and communications research, in that it provided a venue for academics from the region and from other developing countries to meet, network, and debate colleagues from the West and, at the same time, it provided those from the West with the opportunity to discuss first-hand their research and conclusions with fellow researchers from the Middle East. The IAMCR 2006 conference allowed researchers from this part of the world the opportunity to present their research in an international setting, to some of the field's most distinguished researchers. I am confident that IAMCR 2006 will continue to impact media and communications research both here and in the West for years to come. IAMCR 2006 is a model for academic collaboration and research: the search for improved understanding, for new insights, for shifts of perspective, for debate and discussion, and for the promise of joint research and work to

inform and shape media and communication strategies around the world.

The Department of Journalism and Mass Communication at American University in Cairo hosted this international conference to support the strengthening of human and institutional capacities for media and communication strategies, to contribute to the building of capacity for policy analysis and technology assessment and strengthening educational efforts, to strengthen regional and international collaboration, and to facilitate access to, and sharing of, relevant information and best practices. It is our hope that IAMCR 2006 is the first of many international conferences to reach out to the developing world.

Hussein Amin (h_amin@aucegypt.edu)

The full report including the survey results can be found on the IAMCR website: http://www.iamcr.org/component?option=com_docman/task,doc_download/gid,65/

Publications Committee report

We have a good range of international members on the Publications Committee and members are reviewing book proposals.

IAMCR Newsletter

The newsletter has settled into a biannual, April and November, cycle. It is generating some advertising revenue. We now charge in £ pounds sterling: £125 a half page and £200 a full page. Adverts have included academic vacancies; conferences; publishers. Revenue for the last two issues (Autumn 2005 and Spring 2006) was around US\$2000. This revenue just about covers the costs of production and layout by a graduate student at SOAS, while printing costs and postage have so far been absorbed by SOAS.

We also exchange adverts with academic organizations and publishing outlets. We have exchanged adverts with AMIC for inclusion in its newsletter and IAMCR has been advertised within Index on Censorship.

The newsletter is also generating some interesting and varied content. The April 2006 issue in particular contained contributions from 12 members, besides the notes on member's work, and there's been considerable positive feedback from members.

I would be happy to pass on this editing role to someone else but it does need to be someone reasonably familiar with the activities of IAMCR. Let me extend an invitation to you to 'guest edit' an issue. If you are interested in discussing this, please get in touch with me.

Journals as a benefit of membership

This year, 2006, we decided after considerable exploration and discussion, to offer members a choice of one journal as part of IAMCR membership benefits. The choice is from three Sage journal titles: *New Media and Society*, *In-*

ternational Communication Gazette and *Global Media*. Additional journal subscriptions can be bought for US\$40, a very good price.

We are purchasing copies from Sage at half price, while the distribution has been organized with student volunteers at SOAS. So far the subscription numbers are relatively low so the process is manageable. But as numbers grow, we need to make decisions about further subvention from IAMCR to cover the organizational and postage costs. This does not rule out arrangements with other publishers nor offering other journal titles. If members have suggestions about other titles, I would be pleased to hear from you.

Also, the distribution of both the newsletter and journals depends on IAMCR having your correct contact details so please ensure that these are up-to-date. Please contact me directly if you have any problems about receipt of these posted materials.

IAMCR Handbook Series with Blackwells

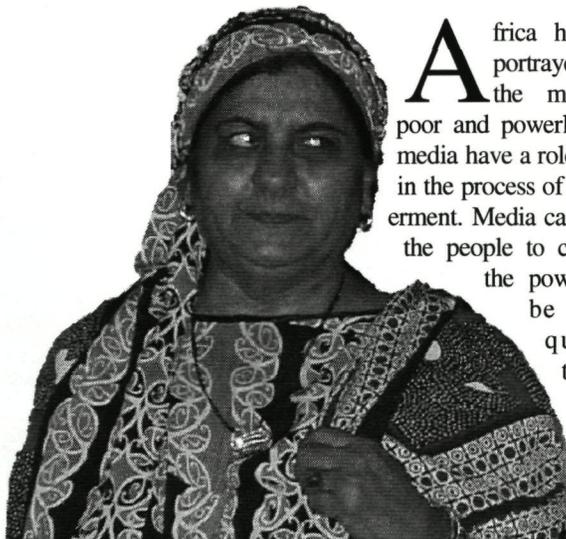
Blackwells has approached IAMCR to develop a series of high-level internationally-inflected handbooks, some organized around the Section interests of members as well as around other research areas. A number of sections heads have expressed serious interest and I am negotiating a contract with Elizabeth Swayze. I hope to be able to present a formal contract proposal to the Executive Board and the Publications Committee in Autumn 2006.

Annabelle Sreberny
Vice-President/Head of Publications Committee

*for Thomas Tufte's report on the
IAMCR book series with Hampton press see p28*

Fatma Alloo, Opening Plenary, Cairo 2006

Knowledge Societies for All: Media and Communication Strategies



Africa has been portrayed by the media as poor and powerless. But media have a role to play in the process of empowerment. Media can enable the people to challenge the powers that be and question the direction they are taking. Information

technology can be used to destroy the 'poor and powerless' myth. It can also mobilize a community for empowerment and social change.

In mystic Zanzibar, where I come from, in the popular media image, we find a romantic little sleepy island where dhow frequent the coast, a thriving trading community of the Indian Ocean flourishes, and time stands still.

Legend has it that they once played the flute in Zanzibar and people danced on the shores of Lake Victoria. Zanzibar then had a maritime economy without the use of technology as we know it today. Globalization then functioned with its own cultural diversity and thrived with the peoples' knowledge-based society with its own communication channels.

As peoples, we are not ordained by nature to be propertyed and propertyless. The land was created for us to live on and bear the fruit of it through our labour. Nature did not intend us to be people with money and property on the one hand, and people with nothing but their labour on the other hand..

Before we discuss media and communication strategies in enhancing knowledge, and this conference is appropriately happening in the wake of WSIS, let us first discuss a fundamental issue- that of equity of access. Presently, we are posed with the issue of digital divide. Within our national boundaries we have those who do have access to technology and those who cannot access as they do not have the power of capital. Then we have the north and the south. There is a gap and it manifests itself in the form of a digital divide within the communication systems that we have presently.

We start from a premise and assumption that information and communication technology (ICT) has the potential to greatly enhance the building of a knowledge society. Once we are in agreement with that assumption, then we look at how to enhance and promote the use of ICTs to that effect.

People are generally hungry for information and want to

communicate – it is a curiosity that transgresses all races, classes and cultures. In time immemorial stories have been told of the land beyond. The most famous of them all in our region is Alif Leila u Leila – Thousand and one night. It brings mythologies of the land beyond and imaginations of the unknown. It is this curiosity that has led men and women to the moon and gave us the fables of Ibn Batuta.

Then we had the colonization era heralded by the voyages of "discoveries" of Marco Polo, David Livingstone etc. etc. This era's information was relayed in a concerted and targeted manner making sure that the colonizing and the colonized retained the power structure in place. Information has always been managed as it is a source of power and control in shaping our thinking.

It is then pertinent for us to create an enabling environment for communication for the sake of knowledge which in turn challenges power. The use of ICT in the media and communication has flourished and spread like wild-fire. ICTs are used for media, entertainment, businesses, communication and almost everything – even dating!

Macro-policies which used to take time to reach the South can now be put on the internet and transmitted globally at the touch of a button. We are in an era in which policy makers could be facing a harder time if those in the global community who are committed to positive change became more organized. This 'cyber-culture' of information exchange and networks, if invested in, has the potential in effecting change. During the U.N. decades, information through the net played a pivotal role in mobilizing forces of change over issues of violence against women, human rights etc in my part of the globe.

Demand for information is there but what is lacking is the 'enabling environment'. What would an 'enabling environment' mean for a fisherman in Zanzibar, for example?

1. THE VALUE OF INFORMATION

To answer the above question we have to look at the value of information – other than quenching a curiosity, what value does that information have for him/her? This is above the cost element. For example, when mobile phones came to Tanzania, the analysts suspected that they would not flourish as much due to the limited spending power of the people. With a cost of a call at US\$0.50 (at that time), it was too expensive compared to the minimum wage of US\$40 per month. They could not be further from the reality. To date, we have 3.8 million cellular users in a population of 35 million – that's more than 10% of the population having cellular telephones. It is because it brings value to their lives. For example, a telephone call costing US\$0.50 may have saved a trip to the village with a cost of US\$5. Therefore, if there are any ICTs available, the information that they avail must be valued.

The determinant of whether information is deemed valuable is content. Content varies for different interests. For example, the Tanzanian Media Women's Association (TAMWA) used the content generated during the United

Nations (UN) Decade to access information which was then translated and used in mobilization of society on violence against women's issues as did the human rights based associations. Content became a primary driving force for these organizations to invest in technologies that would enable them to access information at a speed that they desired. This in turn became a catalyst for other upcoming non-governmental organizations in the early nineties to invest in the ICTs in the case of Tanzania. This was when nascent organizations needed international backed resolutions to mobilize national issues.

The situation is different now as civil society organizations have emerged with defined identities and issues to mobilize around. The lack of local content is the issue now. I would say that 97% of information accessed in Tanzania today is foreign in nature. This is the challenge for organizations and peoples who believe in equity as an issue in society.

When South Africa had an embargo imposed on it by the international community, access to the global internet was very expensive. As a result, and due to facilitation by the authorities, a 'South African' internet had grown impressively and hosted the majority of the information accessed by its nationals. This means that the information is made for local consumption and therefore relevant and the cost of connectivity goes down as connection to the global internet is minimal. So much so that most South African ISPs have a tariff structure, even in the post apartheid era, where the costs of local and international bandwidths are different and you can buy accordingly.

2. LITERACY, LANGUAGE AND USE-ABILITY

The other issue we have to pay attention to is literacy, language and use-ability. The mobile phone flourished because everyone knows how to talk and they do not need to talk a certain language. The spread of ICTs for media and communication very much depends on the literacy of the people who will access the information.

A much higher level of knowledge is needed, but this is not to say that the readers have to be fully literate as a precondition. There is a tele-centre project in India that is designed for people who have very low literacy levels and it relies heavily on the point-and-click function and uses graphics and sound functions extensively. These are ways to make access available more widely as well as to build a starting point for self-teaching.

Language – ICTs are usually centered on text. Reading text means that other than being able to read, you need to be able to read in the language that the information is in. Among the Zanzibari community globally, there is a website where proverbs in Kiswahili language are created and exchanged. It was started by an individual who put the latest kanga (local traditional cloth) design on the web so as to create a market for his shop.

Kanga is a cultural cloth used on the east coast of Africa by women and men for every day use from the cradle to the grave. It is a form of traditional communication that women use in a culture of silence. Every kanga has a philosophical saying drawn from Swahili culture.

The sayings depicted on the cloth are punchy, suggestive, sharp or reflective, depending on the mood of the woman who is wearing the kanga. A kanga saying "Karibu wangu muhibu", "welcome my love" communicates a strong morale boost to anyone, let alone to the man for whom it is being worn. Or a man may give a kanga to his wife at the birth of their child, saying "titi la mama ni tamu" "Mother's milk is the best". In so doing, he portrays his feeling that he would like his wife to breastfeed – but he can only express a feeling and not a demand.

But messages on the kanga can also be quite sharp such as "nyuki mkali kwa asali yake" "the bee fiercely guards its honey"- A strong warning message from the woman wearing the kanga to another woman who she suspects is fooling around with her husband. A kanga displayed response by the girlfriend could be "Na tule asali tumwache nyuki na ukali wake" "let us enjoy the honey and leave the bee with its sting!"

Very soon those who accessed the website began to debate on the writings of the kanga and from this emerged a creative forum of new proverbs which could go onto the next kanga production. Manufacturers began to visit the sites and get their proverbs to print on the next kanga design for free and it was generated by consumers of the product! Cyberspace provided the opportunity for a vibrant cultural community to build its creative wealth of sayings and debates in Kiswahili globally by accessing the internet.

To create a knowledge society through use of media and communication strategies, one needs to embed its development in the knowledge of that society.

3. AFFORDABLE ACCESS

A big consideration is the cost of access. Cost of access relates to the cost of bandwidth. In Tanzania, a MEG (shared) of bandwidth costs an average of US\$3,000 per month while in the US it would cost a home user US\$50 for the same. As a result, cost of bandwidth is much higher and the quality of service – that is the speed – is much lower as ISPs combine users in the same bandwidth pool resulting in congestion, in an effort to survive.

Presently, one such intervention to respond to the above is the AfyaNet-healthnet in Tanzania. The concept is the creation of AfyaNet as a facilitator for service provision for health facilities and projects. This would allow a 'consortium' of users to buy bandwidth collectively and share a larger pool of available bandwidth. This would enable them to receive the service at a much cheaper rate as well as to receive a service that is appropriate and much more beneficial to the overall objectives of the facilities than what is currently available on the market.

AfyaNet as a group, will represent its own members and be a bargaining block of users in relation to the purchase of bandwidth from commercial providers. In addition, AfyaNet will form a hub around which the 'members' can exchange knowledge and network on many other aspects apart from mere connectivity issues. It will also form the nucleus of innovation for different ICTs that can be researched and developed for deployment among its members. Thereby, not only addressing the cost issue, but forming a 'knowledge society' around which there will be mutual benefits to all. In unity there is power is the message of this project.

4. COMPUTERS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Where most users in the west have the luxury of a personal computer and a broadband connection at home, a fisherman in Zanzibar will not be able to afford that. Cyber cafes however are a common phenomenon now in the remote areas of Tanzania for example. The important question arising is how the community's needs are served and who is the community?

In all my years of experience in media and civil society I have come to see the community as a contemporary force of social change that unsettles the status quo. The crucial element is the fact that information be used as a tool to better peoples lives. What is also crucial is that the participation of different people in communities should feed into a creative system of change which improves the livelihoods of all, and not only of the 'haves'. This is a challenge we face in the global realm of cyberculture which many groups are trying to build.

What is important then is for civil society to engage in policy issues so as to encourage easy and cheaper accessibility in their quest for building an enabling environment for community based groups and peoples as a whole. Affordability of access to internet then becomes of primary importance.

In our quest as civil society organizations and in order to build a knowledge based society for all, we have to be aware on a day to day basis of media and communication strategies which are:

A) Affordability of the International cost of bandwidth: here the communal use and building of knowledge societies such as in the case of AfyaNet- Tanzania

B) Local Infrastructure:

Lobby government to invest in infrastructure as it would do on roads, electricity and water. Make ICTs a 'public utility'.

Furthermore, lobby governments to take an active part in promoting or facilitating connection to affordable international connectivity initiatives in a way that will reduce prices for end users. One such initiative is the East African Submarine System (EASSy) Cable that will connect Djibouti to South Africa and all countries on the East Coast of Africa.

C) Government Regulation

Lobby government to have regulation that promotes the growth of local information generation and hosting while keeping flexible on the ability for providers to choose the best International connectivity options.

Promote open access. This will allow big players as well as small players to get access to connectivity and service with no restriction. Such a move breaks down a monopolistic and exclusive mode of business that is detrimental to ICT development in the third world. A case in point is the building of the SAT-3 cable in West Africa. The signatories to that cable were the incumbent telecoms operators, who should have been acting in the best interest of their nationals. Instead, tariffs remained restrictively high and participation was limited to the 'club members'. As a result, the existence of a fiber landing point in a country was irrelevant, at best. It is only now that discussions have started to make that cable more 'people friendly'

D) Information must be relevant

Local information generation and hosting as a way to make an enabling environment for people to post information that is relevant to themselves. For example, if a son or daughter of a fisherman has access to a free hosting site at which she can host and update information related to fishing – such as currents, weather conditions and fish migration patterns, she would do so and soon all fishermen would be asking for this information. Similarly, a local fisheries agency may do the same as a service and to manage fisheries.

Enabling trading over the internet – e-commerce whereby I gave an example of kanga on the east coast of Tanzania used in every social occasion as a cultural symbol globally to a community on the east coast of Africa and its diaspora outreach, thus creating a market.

E) Literacy, Language and Use-ability

In the Northern part of Zanzibar there is a group of youths who keep a turtle farm which is an endangered species, as a hobby and as a passion. The turtle project was born when these youths discovered access to internet where they downloaded facts on how to feed these turtles and learnt about the environment in which they thrived best. They translated this into Kiswahili and are now using this information as an education tool for school children and they are linked to a local women's group on the east coast of the island who provide them with seaweed on which turtles feed and thrive. Language here was a crucial element besides the access which the NGO centre of which I was the executive director, provided so as to enable this group to thrive and enhance their capacity and environmentally sound and sustainable initiative within the community.

IN CONCLUSION

To create a knowledge society through use of media and communication strategies, one needs to embed its development in the knowledge of that society. To enable its accessibility it is crucial to mobilize civil society to impact its government on policy issues like the open access model which strives to break the digital divide.

The new discourse emerging around information and communication systems in the civil society movement is action oriented rather than analysis based. Online newsletters like the Pambazuka, Associate Progressive Communication (APC), to name a few are all virtual and have had an impact in civil society to create knowledge on issues of communication strategies in our part of the globe.

Women, young people have been able to be part of the visible players in the discourse as source and consumers of information not only within but also without. It is a forum that avails civil society of the space to express their dreams and abilities in forms that are not limited and unique but also uncensored and diverse.

Technology and infrastructure are the basis of the process of empowerment in societies. To empower effectively via ICTs for the benefit of civil society is a challenge we must take up head on. Production of local knowledge on a par with the dominant knowledge is crucial in this process of positive change. E-engagement requires the demystification of the power of knowledge and the technologies used in dissemination of this knowledge through the media.

(References opposite)

IAMCR's International Involvements

Over the last two years, many events of international dimension have taken place, with issues related to human rights, communication, information and research. I tried to represent IAMCR in these different international venues, especially where we have observer status as an NGO.

1. Coordination of the WSIS taskforce, with Mark Raboy. We were present at the 3 precoms during phase 2 and contributed texts and speeches. We were well represented in Tunis, with more than ten parallel events organized by the education taskforce or by members of the WSIS taskforce. We were able to launch the international researchers' charter successfully. I had the honour of speaking on behalf of civil society, on issues of research, media and education, as a representative of IAMCR, in the Nation States plenary;
2. Participation in the debates on the Convention for the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions. We issued a statement addressing issues of human rights, balance of intellectual property rights and common goods, from a research perspective. The convention was finalized in November 2005 and awaits ratification by the States (30 signatures at least are required);
3. Follow-up on UNESCO information-communication programs:
IPDC (International Program for the Development of Communication). There are a few major points of evolution worth mentioning: a positive report on the recovery of the program; the end of the moratorium by donor countries; the emergence of new donor countries: UK and USA. The program will follow closely WSIS action line 9 on media. The Communication division is asking

REFERENCES FOR FATMA ALLOO'S TALK

- Alloo F., Can the internet empower women?, *Curior*, 1998.
- Alloo, F., Using Information technology as a mobilizing force: The case of the Tanzania media Women Association (TAMWA), in *Women encounter technology; Changing patterns of employment in the third world*, edited by Swasti Mitter and Sheila Rowbotham, 1995, pp.303-313.
- Heeks, R., Success and Improvisation of Information Systems Projects in Developing Countries, Development Informatics Working Paper Series Paper no.11, Institute for Development Policy and Management, University of Manchester, Jan. 2002.
- Maoulidi, S., ICT challenges and opportunities in realizing social justice for women, 2005.
- Sheriff, S., The internet and equity of access in Zanzibar, 2001, Cornell Univ. MPS thesis.
- Sheriff S., Rural IP Connectivity in Tanzania: Options and Challenges, IICD study by Information and Communication Technology Resource Centre (ICT-RC), May 2006.
- Sheriff S., AfyaNet Tanzania, Laiki Project, April 2006.
- van der Velden, M., Hunger and information Society: A case for cognitive justice at the WSIS 2003, <http://www.globalagenda.org/cognitive/justicewsis>.

for input of researchers, which can be done on-line, at unesco.org.

IFAP (Information For All Program). There are a few major points of evolution worth mentioning: the program still needs to find real funding and credibility with donors; the program tends to be dominated by documentation and library science concerns; the program runs the risk of being targeted directly by the commercial arm of corporations (not via foundations), like Microsoft or Google (the latter has announced it would do a feasibility study on the possibility of creating a universal digital library, based on the Library of Congress model). The program will closely follow WSIS action lines 1, 2, 3, 7, 10, with no additional resources. The information division is asking for input of researchers, on issues of diversity, e-learning, access, development.

As a result of this active participation, and thanks to the direct implication of the members of our taskforce and of our board, we are slowly but surely regaining lost ground with Unesco and other international entities, and fully using the opportunities afforded by our observer status. We are building symbolic capital, and it should show again next year in Unesco, Paris, where we will be celebrating our 50th anniversary.

For the future, we need to keep thinking in ways to increase our visibility and our capacity for input as an NGO with many talented researchers that can combine theory and field work. We need to target key organizations more effectively in the future, especially those that are increasingly dealing with issues of information, communication and human rights. We have members who are active in the Internet Governance Forum and on the CSTD (that will coordinate the post-WSIS phase). But we need to extend our interests to WIPO, ITU and the newly created Global Alliance.

As these numerous liaison activities are increasing, time-consuming and need to be done at no cost to IAMCR, we are hoping to be able to set up a loose network of observers interested in global communication issues. We need volunteers who are well placed in terms of interest and geographical location to do this follow-up task, and most importantly, report back to our association. The process of accreditation may take some time but this opportunity to observe, participate should be seized as an opportunity to conduct and implement research as well. It could facilitate the task of the new IAMCR Task force on Media and Communication Policy Issues, which I will continue to support, trusting that Andrew Calabrese will do an excellent job at presiding over it.

I hope to be able to work with all of you to enlarge our recognition as a full-fledged NGO, one that can produce research, impact policy and lobby effectively for the benefit of all our research community, worldwide. Don't just surf the wave, create the wave.

Divina Frau-Meigs
Vice-President

Minutes of the IAMCR General Assembly

Cairo, 26 July 2006, 16:30-18:45

Past president Cees Hamelink asked the General Assembly to stand in silence in memory of George Gerbner, Jim Carey, Michael Traber, and Roger Silverstone, who had died since the last assembly.

1. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved, and due to the statutes Thomas Jacobson was elected as vice-chair to take over as chair of the assembly during the presentation of reports from the Executive Board.

2. Minutes from the General Assembly (Porto Alegre, 30 July 2004) and matters arising

The minutes were approved, and no matters arising were identified.

3. Report from the local organizing committee of the Cairo conference

On behalf of the committee Professor Hussein Amin gave a brief report. He noted that there were at least 900 people registered making the Cairo conference the biggest event in the history of the IAMCR. He also stressed the importance for the Middle East and Egypt in particular to hosting the conference in this region. The conference had attracted a huge interest in the media, and he thanked the many sponsors for their donations that had made the conference possible.

4. Presentation of the Schiller and Smythe Awards

Stijn Joye (Ghent University, Belgium) was awarded the IAMCR prize in memory of Herbert I. Schiller for his paper "Raising Awareness in a Digital Society: The case of IPS Flanders". Felicity Brown (Auckland University, New Zealand) was awarded the IAMCR prize in memory of Dallas W. Smythe for her paper "Rethinking the Role of Surveillance Studies and the Critical Political Economy of Communication".

Both award winners thanked IAMCR for the honour and both stressed that this was their first IAMCR conference.

5. Reports from the president, the treasurer and the vice-presidents

a) The president's report

The president used the opportunity to thank the Cairo local organising committee for having done tremendous work to make the Cairo conference happen. She especially thanked Hussein Amin, Ibrahim Saleh, Ralph Berenger and all the students. She also thanked everybody having been involved in the preparation of the conference, not the least, Beate Josphehi for her work in the new position as programme coordinator.

The president referred to her two published reports and only highlighted a few issues.

First of all an agreement has been reached on how to present the IAMCR in a wider context. The five themes will be used to organise the new IAMCR web site.

Due to a decision in the International Council, IAMCR has commissioned communica.org (Bruce Girard) a company in Uruguay to establish a new flexible web site.

Among other things, the web site offers new opportunities to communicate through lists, to publish, etc. Thus the web site will be much more content rich. Added to that there will be a new membership database in September 2006 that will enable us to reach all members or groups of them. She also mentioned the new membership fee structure and the journal offer attached to being a member. She underlined the fact that on-line discussions in the board and council had been disciplined and made it possible to make a lot of decisions.

In the coming years, emphasis will be given to national and regional membership recruitment and external relationships. We have many opportunities, especially after WSIS and the follow-up activities including the Internet Governance Forum, and she thanked all who had been and still are actively involved in the WSIS and its aftermath.

She concluded by stressing that IAMCR is back on track and in a robust shape to fulfil the mission of the IAMCR.

b) Report from vice-president Annabelle Sreberny

Annabelle Sreberny reported on the IAMCR Newsletter which is issued twice a year and is expanding its content thanks to various members. In 2005 revenues from advertising totalled US\$ 1,200 which is far less than it costs to run the newsletter.

From this year IAMCR offers members a choice from three discounted Sage journals: New Media and Society, International Communication Gazette, and Global Media. As of June 2006, 107 members had joined to take advantage of the journal, but as it this number is expected to grow, further subvention from the IAMCR may be necessary. She thanked Sage for the agreement, but underlined that other journals and publishers are open for consideration. She also mentioned a possible collaboration between Blackwell and IAMCR to publish a series of handbooks.

Finally she announced that in future conference abstracts will be published in advance on the web site, but she also proposed that full papers will not be published. She told the assembly that the new web site could be an effective tool for publishing works by individuals who will be able to provide their work if they choose from conferences and other events. This would be added value for the membership.

c) Report from vice-president Divina Frau-Meigs

Divina Frau-Meigs reported on her numerous liaison activities with international organisations of various kinds – especially those relating to UNESCO, human rights, and other activities. She suggested that IAMCR needs to target key organisations more effectively in the future in order to get formal observer status, and that we need to solicit and enrol committed volunteers who are well placed in terms of interests and geographical location to do this work. She also said that she would continue to support the new IAMCR Task Force on Media and Communication Policy Issues.

d) Report from the treasurer

The report was presented by the president in the absence of César Bolano. She mentioned that the International Council had approved a new fee structure and a new categorisation of rich and less well-off countries. It had also

approved a one year discount for new members attending the conferences.

On the financial side she mentioned that during 2005 revenues had been far less than expected. This was due to various problems with changing the treasurer's office from Canada to Brazil and the fact that there was no functional database. These problems have now been solved and financially, IAMCR is now back on track with estimated revenues of US\$ 46,000 for 2006, and an accumulated surplus of US\$ 57,000.

One major expense has been auditing, but after some investigations the status is that neither in the United Kingdom or in France is there a demand for professional auditing of non-profit organisations with annual revenues below US\$ 500,000 such as IAMCR. She had therefore asked Dipak Di to go through the accounts, and he had found no real anomalies. She further proposed that two members from the General Assembly volunteer to function as internal auditors. She suggested that the existing budget committee should be renamed "budget and finance committee". The committee will have to work out an investment plan for association.

From the floor it was warned that eliminating formal auditing could potentially be a risky affair, and the president promised to look for cheaper possibilities although she was not optimistic.

6. Approval of election of section heads and any changes in sections and working groups

As not all sections held business meetings during the Cairo conference, all changes were approved ex ante.

From the floor it was asked why sections and working groups sometimes overlapped, and why working groups were only active during conferences with the General Assembly meeting. The secretary general promised that the Executive Board will be looking into this during the coming year.

7. Proposed amendments to the statutes

At the International Council meeting in Taipei 2005, it was unanimously agreed to propose to the General Assembly to change the statutory election modality from the optional preferential voting system to a first past the post electoral system. It was therefore proposed to make the following change:

Existing Statute:

"S5.5 It shall elect the President, the Executive Board, the International Council, the Section Heads and all such committees as I may establish, using a system of optional preferential voting;"

Proposed statute:

"...using a first past the post electoral system;"

The proposal was unanimously approved..

8. Proposal for establishing a task force on Media and Communication Policy

In 2004 a task force to represent IAMCR during the WSIS process was formed in Porto Alegre. Especially the task force document "The International Researchers' Charter for Knowledge Societies" has been of great value to present IAMCR and to enhance the development of policy perspectives on behalf of media and communication researchers.

The continued focussing on these aspects in the future is of paramount importance, and the president and Andrew Calabrese (with input from the International Council and the WSIS Task Force) therefore proposed the following to the General Assembly:

In view of the active involvement of the IAMCR in the ongoing media and communication policy issues – at international and national levels, the General Assembly resolves to establish a Standing Task Force on Media and Communication Policy, with the membership decided by the International Council. In the spirit of critical independent scholarship the Task Force will:

- contribute to the sharing of relevant information and documentation about media and communication policy issues, as they arise, with the broader academic community and civil society;
- facilitate the synthesizing of existing research on information society issues and feed this into relevant international forums;
- assist in the clarification of crucial policy-relevant concepts for the IAMCR membership;
- assist in the development of effective and relevant alliances with other individuals and organisations concerned with key media and communication policy issues; and
- ensure effective representation of IAMCR in selected forums (formal and informal) in line with IAMCR members' expressed interests.

The assembly approved establishing the new task force, and it also approved that Andrew Calabrese will chair the force.

9. Approval of new members

The (preliminary) list of new members was approved.

10. Forthcoming conferences

Divina Frau-Meigs presented UNESCO/Paris as the venue for the 2007 conference and pointed to the fact that this conference will mark IAMCR's 50th anniversary, hence Paris would be the natural place as IAMCR was formed here. This was approved.

The Secretary General said that two bids for the 2008 conference and General Assembly had been submitted to the Executive Board. Both bids – from Sweden and Sth. Korea – needed some details to be worked out before a final decision could be made, and he therefore suggested that the assembly hand over the decision to the International Council during October/November. This was approved.

11. Motions from the floor

M. Siddiqi proposed a motion condemning the Egyptian Government for not issuing visas to Iranian participants. After some discussion on the wording and the widening of members affected by such actions, the assembly approved the following:

The General Assembly of the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) denounces the Egyptian government for not issuing visas to the participants from several countries including Iran and Nigeria. The General Assembly asks IAMCR Executive Board to convey our denunciation to the Egyptian ministry of foreign affairs and the Egyptian Embassy in Tehran.

12. Any other business

It was suggested and approved that the General Assembly will send its best greetings and hope for a smooth recovery to past president Frank Morgan, who was absent due to illness.

Ole Prehn

Section Reports from Cairo

AUDIENCES

The Audience Section achieved some notable goals at the Cairo Conference, in spite of the last minute inability of many of our presenters to attend. Brian O'Neill from the Dublin Institute of Technology was elected Deputy Chair of the Section. Brian's appointment will ensure that the Section is better supported in future. You can contact Brian by email at brian.oneill@dit.ie

In addition, thanks to the initiatives of Nico Carpentier, the Section has entered into developmental collaboration with audience researchers associated with ECREA and ICA. It is our hope to share expertise, an understanding of developments in audience research, and refereeing skills across all three associations.

There was considerable discussion of future directions for the Section. The Section broadened its scope for Cairo by including a focus on digital media audiences. However, it was also recognised that research on audience development needs more recognition in the work of the Section. For the Paris conference, therefore, the general call for papers on the conference theme will be supplemented by recognition of the Section as a forum for theories, issues and research about

- Digital Media Audiences
- Audience Development
- Reception Studies
- Audience Theory and Policy Studies

The Presentations

45 abstracts were submitted to the Section last January, and of these 35 were selected for presentation. However, many presenters could not travel to Cairo for financial, visa and other reasons, including the war in Lebanon. In spite of these setbacks, there was general agreement from those who attended our sessions that the particular orientation of the Section to the examination and critique of research methods was extremely helpful and illuminating, providing insights likely to consolidate good research practice and design in future.

Paris 2007

In 2007, IAMCR will celebrate its 50th year as an association of media researchers. More information about the Paris conference will be available soon from the IAMCR website. However, as Chair of the Audience Section I am taking the liberty of proposing that an Audience Section theme should complement the 50 Years of IAMCR theme celebrated by the conference as a whole. While we will welcome research that recognises achievements in audience research over the past 50 years, we will also look to the future. Our Section theme will therefore be 'Integrating Digital Media: Emerging Issues in Audience Research.'

In addition the Section has been invited by the Gender Section to develop a joint session for the Paris conference. For that session we will particularly welcome reception studies that re-evaluate the last 50 years of research about gender and reception.

And last but far from least, special thanks to all who did attend and did present in Cairo for the wonderful contribution their work made to the success of the Cairo Conference.

Virginia Nightingale

COMMUNITY COMMUNICATION

The section sponsored 5 sessions in Cairo. Sessions focused on ethnic communities and media, empowering communities through old and new media, media and social movements, and local media and the nation. The section also ran a joint session with Participatory Communication Research on community building and media.

The Community Communication section will hold elections for new Section Head and Vice-Section Heads at the Paris meeting. At past business meetings, section members have discussed the possibility of voting by email. We considered that option this year, but rejected it, since we were unable to obtain a reliable list of current section members. When such a list becomes available, we will move to email voting. In the meantime, those interested in participating in elections, or running for office, should plan to be present at the Paris meeting. We can also post statements of interest on the section's page of the IAMCR web site.

The section also invites submissions of member's book announcements to our web site, which can be found at: <http://www.iamcr.org/content/blogcategory/51/138/>

Laura Stein

COMMUNICATION POLICY AND TECHNOLOGY

The on-going interface between communications technologies, users and public policy-making provided the focus for a wide range of theoretical papers and empirical studies presented in Cairo.

Researchers and scholars from Asia, Africa, the Americas and Europe wrestled with the challenges of praxis and the implications of development-linked research in the aftermath of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS).

Beyond Tunis

The Section's opening session, dubbed 'Beyond Tunis: Policy and Technology after WSIS' set the tone for the five other sessions that were to follow. How were societies and researchers in the global North and South making sense of the grandiose pronouncements and formal declarations of Tunis and Geneva on such issues as Internet Governance, gender mainstreaming and the 'digital divide'? What theories must now inform research and policy-making in an Internet dominated, increasingly mobile and yet socially under-developing and war-ravaged global space?

For one presenter, 'multiple competing visions of the Internet' are emerging, while for another there is a 'multi-layer, socio-technical system' that is shaping and co-

ordinating the structures of Internet governance and access. For still others there were glimmers of an 'opportunity divide' as civil society appeared strengthened by the Summit processes. Analyses of the WSIS documents also produced assessments of 'hope' in terms of their contribution towards achievement of the UN Millennium Development Goals.

New Media: Resilient in Crises and War

But the outlook was not all positive. In the session addressing 'Culture and Technology: New Policy Interfaces', the participants were asked to reflect on both the theoretical and practical challenges of 'Occupation, Diaspora and Counter Public Spheres: Palestinian Internet in Context'. The resilience of new media, operating under conditions of war, crises and gate-keeper controls, whether in Palestine, China or in Katrina-stricken New Orleans, was demonstrated across borders and cultures.

Critical analyses of the rise of Globalization, reflected in papers such as Brazil's 'Salvador as a Digital City', and the protrusion of South African capital from telecommunications companies into numerous other African economies to the north, were also examined in the session on 'People, Globalization and Emerging Technologies'.

Technology, Content and Regulation

Sessions on the 'Production and Regulation of ICT Content', others on 'Technology Applications in the Public and Private Sector Policy' domains as well as on the role of 'Users in ICT Development' were equally active. Two presentations discussing attempts to establish mobile digital newspapers offered engaging exposes on consumer resistance and limited user up-take of innovations offering to embed news consumers in e-paper technology development. The data from both suggested that many people in Belgium, for the moment at least, preferred to continue to turn the pages of traditional newspapers that to acquire digital news 'tablets'.

Other presentations from China, Egypt, Canada, Sweden, Singapore, France and the United States all contributed to twenty five (25) engaging but in some instances under-theorised presentations over the three days.

Business Meeting

At the Business Meeting, the Section leadership was returned en-bloc. In an effort to strengthen publication of work presented in the Section, Ruth Teer Tomaselli agreed to assist in this area, while Fabio Ferreira and Loreto Corredoira agreed to provide assistance in web support services and membership development respectively. There was a call for greater IAMCR efforts to provide graduate students and emerging scholars and researchers with research grants and fellowships to attend and participate in the annual conferences. Proposals by the Section leadership to strengthen links with related Working Groups were also endorsed.

Hopeton Dunn

GENDER

The Gender and Communication Section received 31 paper submissions from presenters hailing from 20 countries for the 2006 Cairo Meetings. These papers were divided into seven sessions, whose topics included:

- Advertising Gender (Part I: Images and Meanings; Part II: Social Extensions)
- Gender Viewed through the Media Panoply
- Gender, Popular Culture and Mediated Identity
- Gender and/in the News
- Gender and Political Communication, (Parts I and II)

Our sessions were well-attended, with audience averages of 12 per session. However, the number of presenters who actually appeared in Cairo was disappointing. Only one-third of the papers listed on the program were actually presented. In many cases monetary considerations appear to be the culprit, with presenters from Indonesia, Ecuador, Brazil, India and Pakistan citing insufficient travel funds as a reason for withdrawal. In addition, the emergent crisis in Lebanon also appeared to play a role in curtailing attendance, with presenters from India and the United States begging off at the last moment.

Features and Themes

As can be inferred from the session titles, above, the relationship between gender and communication was explored in papers addressing representations in advertising; news presentations of men and women; how newsroom practices impinge on male and female career vectors; sport and gender and sexual identity; television programming and the reproduction of gender stereotypes; the Internet, isolation and civic engagement; and rap music in relation to matters of sexuality and gender identity. An important feature of our program were three jointly-sponsored sessions: two with IAMCR's own Political Communication Section, and one with the International Communication Association's Feminist Scholarship Division. This marked the fifth such cooperative endeavor between the two major global communication associations, and we, of course, are proud to have contributed to closer accord between the respective associations. The inclusion of co-sponsored sessions in our program reflects the Gender Section's recognition of its existence as a "cross-cutting theme", with ties to many of the sub-disciplines in media and communication studies. It also reflects our section's commitment to enhanced cross-pollination among and discourse between IAMCR's many substantive, specialized areas.

Activities

Historically, the Gender Section has played a support-role for IAMCR's annual "Women's Dinner". In recent years this dinner has been arranged by local conference organizers and held in a restaurant away from the conference venue. It is generally host to between 20 and 50 members. This year, in a slight departure from the past, the fete was held on site, in conjunction with one of the regularly scheduled dinners. A good time was had by all who participated.

Elections

The section was scheduled to hold an election to replace out-going Co-Chair. Gita Bamezai. Gita had served as Co-Chair for four years. Two candidates were nominated as possible replacements, Ellen Riordan, current Vice-Chair, and Janet Bedgood, of Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand. The election was scheduled to be held during the section Business Meeting, but due to a lack of quorum, it was decided to hold the procedure on-line. Can-

didates will be posting their personal statements on the Section website (http://www.intcul.tohoku.ac.jp/~holden/iamcr/Gender_index.html) before the end of September. An announcement about the election, as well as an email to section members, will detail the election procedures. Voting will be concluded by mid-October, and the results will be publicized on line.

Call for Papers, Paris 2007

Given space limitations, it may not be possible to accommodate all proposals. For this reason, proposals for complete panels and/or round tables are particularly encouraged. In addition, panels focusing on UNESCO communication policies vis-à-vis gender may receive favorable attention, as will those individual papers which emphasize the relationship between gender and the conference theme. We particularly seek papers which balance theory and practice. In addition, we have asked the Audience Section to join together in developing a joint session for Paris 2007. Our hope is to solicit papers that re-evaluate the last 50 years of research about gender and reception (although other panel ideas are certainly welcome).

Questions about submissions or suggestions for panels should be directed to Section Co-Chair Todd Holden (holden@intcul.tohoku.ac.jp) or Vice Chair, Ellen Riordan, (emriordan@stthomas.edu). For the joint session with the Audience Studies section, you may also contact Virginia NIghtingale (V.Nightingale@uws.edu.au).

Todd Holden

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION

General Overview

The International Communication Section at IAMCR Cairo 2006 enjoyed 11 of 12 scheduled sessions. Attendance through the 11 sessions averaged about 12 persons per session. At least two but no more than five presentations occurred each session. Regretfully, a special session involving several Iranian colleagues was cancelled because of difficulties obtaining Iranian visas, as per email communication between IAMCR President Robin Mansell and the Egyptian government. This may have been related to the rising Middle Eastern crisis in Lebanon.

Presentation Topics

Community, Media and Crisis Communication;
Current Communication Issues in Egypt;
Communicating Across Electronic and Cultural Boundaries;
Audiences, Framing and Media Issues;
New Frontiers in Broad/Narrowcasting;
New Issues for the Public Sphere;
Public Diplomacy and the Issues of Conflict;
Islamic Media: Defining Issues in Development;
Borders Crossing and Information Flow: New Conceptual Issues;
Government Influence and Propaganda: Advocacy and Communication;
ICT and Communication Issues;
Information Society: Global and Local; and
Discourse and Narrative Analysis.

Main Themes

Each session enjoyed vigorous discussion. From the many sessions, three main themes emerged: Darfur discussion, the role of technology in communication on the international level, and international press freedom.

In addition to being one of the world's greatest crises, another reason the Darfur tragedy may have been such a discussion point could have been the way the section was used as a review for a forthcoming book on the subject. Professor Bella Mody from the University of Colorado-Boulder, leads the Darfur book project. Many of the proposed book chapters were submitted as conference papers. Attendees listened to Japanese, African, Middle Eastern and other media analyses of the situation.

The role of technology on the international level encompassed almost every session. Papers addressing free media – including public and alternative sources in addition to mainstream and wire news portals -- in Scandinavia added new meaning and understanding to top World Press rankings for these countries. Further, learning interesting research approaches to assessing how information technology meets commercial and social interests in Indian Choupals sparked essential methodological discussion as well as provided tangible contrast to international media literacy differences and needs.

International press freedom, particularly with Egyptian protests for public diplomacy efforts with Israel occurring outside American University in Cairo windows, was the hottest and most timely topic. Discussion surrounding U.S. media portrayals of the Invasion in Iraq, international news changes post 9-11, and scholarly proposed new Arab public diplomacy strategies, which occurred during "Session 6: Public Diplomacy and the Implications of Conflict" strained attendee professionalism. Emotions were raw as attendees struggled to make sense of the presented information.

In sum, the section enjoyed excellent quality presentations and fantastic scholarly debate. One of the greatest difficulties was being reminded of world difficulties – from Darfur to Israel – and the inability to come to agreement on solutions.

Activities

During the conference, acting section heads arranged a luncheon for interested ICS presenters and attendees to continue section topic discussion and/or mingling. About 12 people participated. This added to section and conference scholarly familiarity and congeniality.

Call for Papers for Paris

The division encourages IAMCR members to submit papers pertaining to retrospectives as well as new trajectories of international communication practice, policy and theory. We anticipate a full, active section programme with several special panels on UNESCO's historic role in global communication policy development. Questions about submissions or suggestions for panels for Paris 2007 should be directed to Section Chair Allen Palmer (allen_palmer@byu.edu) or Sujatha-sosale (sujatha-sosale@uiowa.edu).

Allan Palmer

LAW

In Cairo the Law Section has discussed reports ranging from Christian-nationalism and ubuntuism as a normative framework for media regulation in South Africa, to changes in the Bangladesh Press Council Act, to the institution of ombudsmen for public radio and TV broadcasters, to protection of journalists in Iraq and online freedom of speech in South Korea. The overall number of participants at the Section meetings was 15 from 11 countries.

Business meeting of the section elected Mohammad Sahid Ullah as vice-chair. Mohammad Sahid Ullah is Assistant Professor of the Department of Communication and Journalism at Chittagong University in Bangladesh.

The section currently is making plans for the Paris conference in July 2007 and welcomes ideas from section members. Send suggestions to co-chairs Andrei Richter (richter@medialaw.ru) and Wolfgang Kleinwachter (wolfgang@imv.au.dk). A call for papers will be posted on the section website (see below) and in the next newsletter.

For more information about the section, see the section's website at: <http://www.medialaw.ru/iamcr/> The site provides the abstracts of the papers to the conference.

Andrei Richter

MEDIA AND SPORT

As with many sections, the Media and Sport Section had a few speakers unable to attend. The sessions of the group were attended by around 8-10 people. Despite this the sessions featured good and productive discussions, which generated ideas for future research initiatives and collaborations.

We were able to welcome a new attendee, Michael Serrazio, to the Section, and he expressed enthusiasm to become involved in the group and its scholarly contacts.

The business meeting reviewed the sessions and discussed ways in which the Section might continue to develop. It was generally felt that the 2007 Conference in Paris was likely to attract a greater number of offers of papers.

Call for Papers for Paris

All papers, from the full range of perspectives on the study of Media and Sport, will be considered. As mentioned, we expect Paris to attract many submissions and thus would encourage proposals for complete panels and/or round tables. An indication of intention of submission would be very much appreciated.

Alina Bernstein

MEDIA EDUCATION RESEARCH

Thirteen research papers were presented in the Media Education Research Section by scholars from as many as ten countries. Three scholars were from the United States, two each from Brazil and India, and the rest from the United Kingdom, France, Hong Kong, Mexico, Malta, Spain and Portugal. Each presentation was followed by

lively discussion on the varied experiences of imparting Media Education in different countries.

The presentations were held in four sessions under the following topics:

1. Media Education in Industrialised and Developing Societies
2. Media Education and Youth
3. Media Education and Television Reception
4. Media Education and Interactive Learning.

At the business meeting Prof. Joseph Borg, University of Malta, Malta, was unanimously selected Chair, and Prof. Tania Ribeiro Soares, Sao Paulo State University, Brazil, the Co-Chair of the Section.

Keval J. Kumar

PARTICIPATORY COMMUNICATION

A change of leadership, a slightly lower level of attendance in the sessions, but many interesting papers and lively discussions based on these presentations – that is a nutshell report on the Participatory Communication Research Section's activities during the Cairo Conference.

The total number of abstracts approved for the Conference was 28, quite on the normal level. As many as 21 full papers received, but only 17 authors were able to attend the Conference. As so many times before, the PCR Section's participants had difficulties in collecting travel money. On the other hand, the number of no-shows was not higher than before. The fact that not everybody can afford to participate in conferences is a reason for developing such means of communication as the listserv, homepage and net discussions which the Section has carried out for years already.

The papers were presented in altogether eight panel sessions. Two were joint sessions with another section/working group (Community Media, HIV/AIDS). The attendance figures – from a dozen to two dozens -- were somewhat lower than in many previous conferences. One reason for the low attendance could be the long distance of the room assigned for us. It was a good room, but far from the Main Campus. Occasional visitors hardly found us. But the core group remained loyal to the Section and the discussions were vivid as usual. We talked extremely heatedly about campaign assessment, ICT governance, net-based in-groups and silent/silenced groups.

The Business Meeting of the Section decided that all the papers presented at the Cairo Conference will be zipped and put on the Section's homepage. Via zipping the papers, also such members who were not able to attend, can get a copy. The papers are now on the PCR homepage (www.socialsciences.wur.nl/cis/pcr). The page can also be reached via the IAMCR new website.

The new Section Head is Rico Lie from Wageningen University, the Netherlands. The potential need for renewing/updating the Section's mission statement was left in the hands of the new leadership, namely Rico Lie and the Vice Head Pradip Thomas from Queensland University, Australia.

lia. They develop a new version of the text and send it via the listserve to the membership for further discussion. The possibility for a name change also came up in the discussion. It was suggested that, for example, the Section could drop the word "research" from its title.

There have also been a few suggestions of cooperation and even of merging the Section with other sections, but the Business Meeting decided that for the time being, the Section is going to continue as it has done so far: staying independent, but arranging joint sessions with other sections and working groups. The groups named were the Community Media Section, the HIV/AIDS working group, plus the Diaspora working group, but others are also possible.

Blackwell has offered the IAMCR the possibility to publish a series of textbooks/handbooks on the basis of proposals coming from IAMCR sections and working groups. The PCR Section expressed its interest to produce a material on development communication. The meeting decided to collect more information about the nature of the books planned. Robert White volunteered to operate as a "task force" for this book plan.

Ullamaija Kivikuru

POLITICAL COMMUNICATION

11 panels were organized for the Cairo Congress, totaling 74 panelists. 9 were from Asia (compared to 19 in the Taipei conference), 8 from the Middle East countries (none in Taipei), 30 from Europe, 16 from North America (roughly as in Porto Alegre -13), 5 from Oceania, 5 from Africa (also similar figures as for Porto Alegre), but only 1 from Latin America (compared to 15 in Porto Alegre). This shows clearly the influence of distance and budget to the participation to our activities, mainly for Asian and South American colleagues. The gender balance was slightly uneven as usual (2/3 men, 1/3 women). The main fields covered were "Journalism, Press, TV and Politics", "Political Marketing and campaigning" and "Internet and Politics". 3/5 th of the papers were national or individual case-studies, 1/5th theoretical papers, and 1/5th directly comparative studies, an usual equilibrium. An excellent cooperation with the Gender Section led to a successful commonly organized panel, showing that a potential field (Gender and Political Communication) was obviously waiting to be explored.

In the absence of the section chair, for family reasons, Professor Jürgen Wilke of the University of Mainz, graciously took care of coordination in Cairo without reporting afterwards any kind of problem.

Other Activities

The section co-sponsored a roundtable on "Methods and goals of comparative political communication" at the ICA Congress in Dresden, in June, co-sponsored by the similar Sections and Committees of ICA and IPSA.

Participants were:

- Wolfgang Donsbach, Chair, Technische Universität Dresden, Past President of ICA
- Philippe J. Maarek, Professor, University of Paris 12, Chair of IAMCR Political Communication Research Section, convener of the panel

- Gianpietro Mazzoleni, Professor, Università degli Studi, Milano, Chair of ICA Political Communication Division
- Barbara Pfetsch, Professor, University of Hohenheim, Chair of IPSA Research Committee on Political Communication
- Dominic Wring, Senior Lecturer, University of Loughborough, Co-Chair of the Media and Politics Group of the Political Studies Association

The discussion among panelists was followed by many questions from a strong audience in a crowded room.

Paris Conference

The section is interested in papers bearing on all the dimensions in political communication of the subject of the conference. But we also seek papers on any of the whole range of political communication research; the media and political socialization, political campaigning, public opinion and political participation, interactions between the media and intermediary organizations such as interest groups and political parties, as well as the involvement and uses of the medias in campaigns, election; and also the media and marketing processes in government, from policy making to day to day politics at the local level, including Town Halls and other Local Government Institutions communication, from their day to day governance to the answers given to problematic neighborhoods. The use of Internet and blogs in modern political communication is also of interest to the section.

In order to improve the on-site discussions, all panels will have a discussant. Colleagues willing to act as discussants may apply as far as they have already taken part to at least two previous meetings of the section and/or are well-known searchers in the field. Paper givers may also volunteer to be discussants in other panels than theirs. Would-be discussants should specify in which field of political communication they are rather willing to work and also send in the same personal data required from paper givers.

Philippe J. Maarek

POLITICAL ECONOMY

The section's program for the Cairo conference included 25 paper presentations, as well as lively discussions during the panels. The scope of the topics covered in the papers was wide-ranging, as the panels' titles suggest: Case Studies of Media Reform, Intellectual Property Rights: Issues and Problems, Media Activism and Citizen-based Media Projects, Evolving Media Capitalism, ICT and Telecommunications: Policies and Performance, Assessing the Information Society and Development, Refining and Rethinking Theories of Political Economy, Internet and Online Developments and Developing Media in the 21st Century.

The Political Economy section also held a business meeting during the conference and discussed a number of ideas about the section's activities, including expanding online content, an email list of members, and publications of the section's work. Section members attending the meeting re-elected Janet Wasko as section chair and Helena Sousa as vice-chair.

(Continued on page 20)

50 years of IAMCR, Paris, 2007: Celebrating in style!

The 2007 Paris conference at Unesco will be a special one: IAMCR will be celebrating its 50th birthday!

So the usual structure of the off-year conference will not be totally respected. The afternoon of the last day will be reserved for celebratory events - part assessment of the past, part strategies and scenarios for the future. But the conference itself should be an occasion for all of us to assess where our field of research stands. Hence the choice of the theme:

"Media, communication, information: celebrating 50 years of theories and practices". We hope that many scholars will step up to the challenge of such an important (self)evaluation process that is also an exercise in style.

The French team working on the local organization is composed of members from the Université Paris 2-Panthéon Assas, where the Institut Français de Presse was instrumental in creating IAMCR, and Université Paris 3-Sorbonne Nouvelle, where the continuous French interest in the association has produced two vice-presidents. A collective of members representing all the universities of Ile de France with communications departments will compose the local scientific committee. The French Communications Research Association,

SFSIC, will lend its scientific support. Translation in French, Spanish and English will be offered for the plenaries and main events.

Paris as a world city should be up to the occasion, in style. For those of you who haven't been there in the last few years, Paris Plage is quite a communications occasion. You can imagine you are Walter Benjamin and gaze at others while being gazed at, along the river banks of the Seine especially designed to this effect. The newly-opened Quai Branly Museum will take you back to a primitive and pristine time when communication and information tools were shivering with creativity. The Cité des sciences at La Villette will transport you into the future, with nano-technologies and their promises. While Unesco itself encapsulates a lot of the themes and values IAMCR stands for in terms of culture, education and research.

We all should feel at home there, in a community of like-minded spirits. Come and join the celebration, in your own style.

Divina Frau-Meigs, Josiane Jouet,
Michael Palmer, Nathalie Sonnac
for the Paris 2007 Organizing Committee

IAMCR Conference UNESCO, Paris 23-25 July, 2007



Media, Communication, Information: Celebrating 50 Years of Theories and Practices

Deadline for Calls for Papers:

January 15, 2007

Approved Abstracts and Notifications:

March 1, 2007

Rules for Paper Submission: You may submit the same abstract or paper to ONE section only. You may submit different papers to different sections or, as the case may be, different papers to the same section. If we find the same paper submitted to different sections or working groups, IAMCR and the local organizers of the conference will withdraw the paper so that it is (if accepted) presented in only ONE section/working group.

IAMCR Call for papers
23-25 July, 2007, UNESCO, Paris (France)
Media, Communication, Information:
Celebrating 50 Years of Theories and Practices

AIERI Appel à co
23-25 Juillet 2007, UN
Médias, Communica
Célébration de 50 ans de

These last fifty years have seen a number of theoretical evolutions and practical advances in the domains which relate media to the inter-or multi-disciplinary field of information and communication. Some of them have emanated from European and Western research centres, others from diverse regions of the world scientific community. These various bodies of research have supplied analytical tools that cover the whole range of the field of media, information and communication, in a global perspective: from the production and the international circulation of news and data, images and texts, to their reception, by a wide range of publics. They have critically examined such issues as public space and democracy, actor networks and agency or technological mediation and its modalities.

New theoretical spaces of development and applications are also emerging, apparent in a number of pioneering works, with original and innovative approaches. Issues such as internet governance and co-regulation of the media resonate with questions on diasporic publics, cultural and trans-cultural diversities. The theoretical contributions of other fields, such as economics, cognition, politics, or urban studies, to name a few, have been facilitating new readings of semiotic processes and media representations, and fostering a deeper understanding of the tensions between genres and gender, minorities and communities, "youth" cultures and subcultures, worldwide. The modifications of the market and the political economy of the media in the context of globalization have cast in new perspectives such issues as cultural goods and services, e-learning industries and media literacies, not to mention sustainable development alternatives via media and new technologies for information and communication.

These developments, old and new, coincide with the areas of inquiry and the directions for research that IAMCR has fully embraced over the past fifty years. The abstracts and papers submitted to the various sections of IAMCR for the 2007 conference will need to reflect these tendencies while intersecting with their dominant thematic strand such as media history, political communication, political economy, participatory communication, media education, information and ICT policy, etc. Working groups are encouraged to organize joint sessions with the sections to better ensure that their emerging trends and perspectives can be accommodated.

The abstracts and papers will also need to make innovative connections between theory and practice, notably by underlining the contribution of empirical work to research and by proposing original methodologies, protocols and appropriate indicators. Perspectives and trends for the future should also be delineated, so as to provide new paths for investigation by IAMCR members in the next 50 years. Abstracts (500 words at most) must be sent to the section heads and working group chairs by January 15th 2007. The final decisions will be notified by March 1st 2007.

Contact: divina.frau-meigs@univ-paris3.fr (local organization)
or Ole Prehn (IAMCR secretariat)

Ces cinquante dernières années ont vu u
pratiques dans les domaines qui traver
des médias et de l'information-comm
de centres de recherches européens ou occide
verses régions de la communauté scientifique
outils d'analyse tant pour la production et la
informations, des images et des textes, que po
l'aune de la mondialisation. Ils questionnent ta
réseaux d'acteurs et leur autonomie ou la médi

D'autres espaces de développement théorico
en émergence, avec des travaux pionniers, aux
gouvernance et de la co-régulation des médias
lics en diaspora, des diversités culturelles et
d'autres champs, comme l'économie, la cogniti
n'en mentionner que quelques uns, viennent al
tensions entre genres et genre, minorités visibi
cultures minoritaires (subcultures), dans le mo
l'économie politique des médias dans le conte
perspective nouvelle les biens et services cu
l'éducation aux médias, sans oublier le dével
velées par le biais des nouvelles technologies d

Ces développements, anciens et nouvea
matiques de recherche que l'AIERI poursuit d
présentés pour la conférence de 2007 se devro
coupant avec les thématiques dominantes dans
des médias, la communication politique, l'éco
pative, l'éducation aux médias, la réglementa
groupes de travail sont encouragés à organis
pour s'assurer que les tendances émergentes e
ils travaillent soient bien représentées.

Les résumés et les travaux se devront égal
pratique, en soulignant notamment l'apport d
proposant des méthodologies, des protocoles
Les perspectives nouvelles et les tendances fu
les nouveaux terrains de recherche ouverts au
venir. Les résumés (500 mots au maximum)
sections et de groupes de recherche pour le 15
finales seront notifiées le 1er mars 2007.

Contact: divina.frau-meigs@univ-paris3.fr
ou Ole Prehn (secrétariat AIERI)



ommunications
ESCO, Paris (France)
tion, Information:
théories et de pratiques

AIECS Convocatoria para la presentación de ponencias
23-25 Julio 2007, UNESCO, Paris (Francia)
Medios, Comunicación, Información:
Celebración de 50 Años de Teorías y Prácticas

un certain nombre d'avancées théoriques et
présent le champ inter- et multi-disciplinaire
communication. Certaines d'entre elles émanent
centraux, d'autres encore proviennent de di-
vision mondiale. Ces travaux fournissent des
circulation internationale des données, des
pour leur réception, par des publics divers, à
dans l'espace public et la démocratie que les
évolution technologique et ses modalités.

teorías y de mises en pratique sont également
aproximaciones innovadoras. Las cuestiones de la
relacionadas en resonancia con las de las pub-
trans-culturales. Los aportos teóricos
teoría, la política, los estudios urbanos, para
desarrollar lecturas nuevas de los proces-
os, y profundizar nuestra comprensión de
los y las comunidades, culturas « jóvenes » et
de todo. Las modificaciones del mercado y
del texto de la mundialización metten dans une
teóricas, las industrias de la e-formation et
desarrollo durable aux alternatives renou-
velées de l'information-communication.

temas, s'inscrivent dans les axes et problé-
matiques depuis 50 ans. Les résumés et les travaux
doivent refléter ces tendances tout en les re-
latant dans les différentes sections, comme l'histoire
politique, la communication partici-
pative des nouvelles technologies, etc. Les
travaux des sessions conjointes avec les sections
et les perspectives innovantes sur lesquelles

de faire le lien entre la théorie et la
des recherches et enquêtes de terrain et en
des indicateurs appropriés et innovants.
Les décisions devront être précisées pour indiquer
aux membres de l'AIERI dans les 50 ans à
venir doivent être envoyés aux responsables de
le 5 janvier 2007 au plus tard. Les décisions

(organisation locale)

Estos últimos cincuenta años han visto un número de avances teóricos y prácticos
en las competencias que relacionan los medios de comunicación con el campo
inter- y multi-disciplinario de la información y la comunicación. Algunos de es-
tos avances surgieron de centros de investigación europeos y occidentales, otros provie-
nen de diversas regiones de la comunidad científica mundial. Estos diversos cuerpos de
investigación han suministrado instrumentos analíticos que abarcan en su toda su exten-
sión el campo de los medios y de la información y comunicación, en una perspectiva
global: desde la producción y la circulación internacional de noticias y datos, imágenes y
textos, hasta su recepción por amplia variedad de públicos. Ellos han permitido examinar
críticamente cuestiones tales como el espacio público y la democracia, las redes de ac-
tores y su autonomía o la mediación tecnológica y sus modalidades.

Están surgiendo también nuevos espacios de desarrollos teóricos y usos, reflejado en
varios trabajos pioneros, que aportan propuestas originales e innovadoras. Cuestiones como
el gobierno de Internet y la co-regulación de los medios resuenan junto a interrogantes sobre
los públicos en diáspora, las diversidades culturales y trans-culturales. Las contribuciones
teóricas de otros campos, como la economía, la cognición, la política, o los estudios urbanos,
para mencionar sólo unos cuantos, han facilitado nuevas lecturas de los procesos semióticos y
las representaciones en los medios de comunicación, y han promovido, alrededor del mundo,
un entendimiento más profundo de las tensiones entre géneros y género, minorías y comuni-
dades, culturas "juveniles" y subculturas. Las modificaciones del mercado y la economía
política de los medios en el contexto de la globalización han abierto nuevas perspectivas sobre
cuestiones como los bienes y servicios culturales, las industrias de e-educación y la educación
en medios, sin olvidar las alternativas de desarrollo sostenible a través de los medios y las
nuevas tecnologías de la información y la comunicación.

Estos desarrollos, viejos y nuevos, coinciden con las problemáticas y ejes de investi-
gación en las que AIECS trabaja desde hace 50 años. Los resúmenes y ponencias presen-
tados a las distintas secciones de AIECS para la conferencia de 2007 deberán reflejar
estas tendencias, integrándolas con las temáticas propias de cada sección como historia
de los medios, comunicación política, economía política, comunicación participativa,
educación para los medios, regulación de las nuevas tecnologías, etc. Se llama a los gru-
pos de trabajo a organizar sesiones conjuntas entre las distintas secciones para
asegurar que las tendencias emergentes y las perspectivas innovadoras p u e d a n
estar mejor representadas.

Los resúmenes y ponencias también tendrán que establecer conex-
iones innovadoras entre la teoría y la práctica, subrayando especialmente la con-
tribución y proto-
tipos para el
camino de
resúmenes
los grupos
notificadas
del trabajo empírico para la investigación y proponiendo metodologías
colos innovadores, e indicadores apropiados. Las perspectivas y tenden-
futuro también deberán ser delineadas, para proporcionar nuevos
investigación a los miembros de AIECS en los próximos 50 años. Los
(500 palabras) deben ser enviados a los directores de las secciones y de
de trabajo hasta el 15 de enero de 2007. Las decisiones finales serán
el 1 de marzo de 2007.

Contacto: divina.frau-meigs@univ-paris3.fr (organización local)
o Ole Prehn (secretariado AIECS)



Section Reports from Cairo – continued

(Continued from page 16)

During the meeting, section members also congratulated Felicity Brown (Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand) for receiving the IAMCR Prize in Memory of Dallas W. Smythe. Her winning paper, "Rethinking the Role of Surveillance Studies in the Critical Political Economy of Communication," was delivered at the Cairo conference during the section's panel entitled "Refining and Rethinking Theories of Political Economy."

Paris 2007

The section would like to invite paper proposals for the conference, especially pertaining to the conference theme or exploring the history and development of political economy of media and communications. We also are planning several other special events, which will be announced at a later date. Announcements will be made on the section's (see below for URL). Questions about submissions or suggestions for panels for Paris 2007 should be sent to Janet Wasko (jwasko@uoregon.edu) or Helena Sousa (helena@ics.uminho.pt).

For more information about the section (including photos from the Cairo conference), see the section's website at: <http://jcomm.uoregon.edu/~IAMCR-PolEcon>.

Janet Wasko

PSYCHOLOGY AND PUBLIC OPINION

Since the restructuring of the Sections of the IAMCR at the Singapore Conference, the PPO Section was mainly concerned with the presentation and discussion of empirical work about the content, use and reception of media and the effects of media consumption. All media are involved – newspaper, radio, TV, Internet or computer games. In addition, the section is traditionally open for quantitative and for qualitative studies with the interest to promote an intensive exchange of results and experiences. Also questions of methodology and theoretical sessions take place usually.

In Cairo, speakers dealt with all these topics. Especially the role of media in case of environmental problems, war, violence and conflict were of interest – as these are the great and relevant problems of today. Thus, in three of the six empirical panels the media content and the media use was presented and discussed in case of environmental risks and the Tsunami tragedy, the Intifada, 9/11 or terrorism, and these presentations came from very different parts of the world. More general and more theoretical, topics like media made and transported scandals and news frames were discussed, also results of the analysis of the structure of media arguments or what was called public diplomacy.

The other three empirical panels were more audience related, as they were concerned with media effects – topics here for example were the emerging cultural communities in Chinese online forums, the use of notebooks in WLAN Cafes in Germany or relation between different types of photographs and whether they are remembered some time after viewing. Besides the heads of section, these sessions were chaired by Miki Kawabata and Ralph D. Berenger.

The seventh session of the PPO Section was more theoretical. It was – after the discussion of Erving Goffman and the Media at the Porto Alegre Conference and the discussion of Juergen Habermas and the public sphere concept at the Taiwan Conference – devoted to the work of Alfred Schuetz and his phenomenological approach to communication, including questions like what is exactly meant by "everyday life", a category which becomes more frequent in media and communication research in the last years.

Finally, the business session served to develop plans for the further work of the section. The participating members of the section encouraged the heads to go on with their work and to give the sessions an interesting form by offering the participants different possibilities in the call for papers for future meetings: first some general sessions as usually concerned with the empirical work in the frame of the topics of the section and the general topics of the whole conference. Second, a theoretical session with a specific theme. Thirdly, the section was asked to emphasize specific topics for some years, for example the changing social and family relations through the success of digital media. In addition, it was supported that the section also should participate as an organizer and supporter of regional meetings, if possible. A first step here is the participation of the section on a conference on Media Events, which will take place in July 2007 (see the call for papers on page 22 in this newsletter).

Friedrich Krotz and Hillel Nosssek

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION SECTION

The Professional Education section devoted its first session to journalism education in the Arab world and was given insights into the state of affairs in Egypt, Oman and the Arab world generally. A lively debate ensued about the degree to which journalism education can make a difference in countries where press freedom is restricted. It also focussed the discussion on to the wider question of how journalism education can be carried out under challenging circumstances – a point the Professional Education section considers pursuing further, also in terms of a publication. The challenging circumstances not only refer to the Arab world. Other papers given in Cairo addressed themselves, for example, at rebuilding journalism in the Balkans or the state of journalism in Ghana.

Overall, 17 out of the 18 papers listed in the conference program were presented by their authors in five sessions. It was very pleasing to see that the sessions on journalism education and on journalists' ethics in particular attracted sizeable audiences with close to 30 listeners. Journalism education in the European context continues to negotiate the tension between industry demands and the demands of academia, with no immediate solution in sight. The refereed conference proceedings will be available on the section's website in a couple of months' time.

In its business meeting, the members of the section confirmed Dr. Beate Josephi as head of the section for another year and elected Dr. Ibrahim Saleh from the American University in Cairo as her deputy.

Beate Josephi

Working Group Reports

DIASPORA AND MEDIA

DIGITAL DIVIDE

This was the second meeting of the Group following the launch of the Diaspora and Media Working Group in Porto Alegre in 2004. The group has a convenor (Shehina Fazal) and a collective panel - Annabelle Sreberny, John Sinclair and Roza Tsagarousianou.

The second group of the meeting in Cairo was extremely successful. All those presenting a paper were able to attend, except for one who could attend due to lack of funding. There were three sessions in the meeting of the working group in Cairo that covered three broad themes on the area of diaspora and the media:

- The interplay of the transnational and the local in diasporic communications;
- Diasporic communications and diasporic identities;
- Diasporic cultural production and consumption.

Within the first theme on the interplay of the transnational and the local in diasporic communications, the papers presented ranged from the those that looked at the European Muslim networks and formation of transnational public spaces; the diasporic cultural production among the people from the Philippines in the US; the issues confronting the Rumanian 'Strawberry Pickers' in the UK; and the urban diaspora networks in London.

In the second theme on the context of diasporic communications and diasporic identities, the papers covered the identity formation and positioning of the Iranian diaspora in Norway; the impact of television on women from diaspora communities in Norway and a paper that looked at the interplay of communications and diaspora communities within the context of the Zimbabwean nurse in the British Big Brother show in 2005.

The third theme consisted of two papers. One examined the role of public television, national culture and minorities in the treatment of immigration in Catalan fiction and the other discussed how ethnic minorities are in a whirlpool of majority, managed news media.

At the end of the working group session there was a short business meeting to discuss the future of the working group, with the participants. Several issues were raised, however, two key points that suggest that there is a need for such issues to be discussed at an international forum such as IAMCR are:

- The engagement of diaspora, multiculturalism and transnationalism with media and communications;
- The working group should meet in Paris in 2007, within possible panel(s) in Sections such Community Communication and Gender sections.

Shehina Fazal

The Working Group on Digital Divide (WG on DD) has started at the IAMCR conference in Budapest in order to discuss urgent issues of access and use of new media with the special focus on new inequalities which emerged in media and communication area. Later the group had several sessions in Barcelona and Porto Alegre and discussed national differences of digital divide consequences for media use and communication rights.

The topic for the WG meetings in Cairo was 'Exclusion and Inclusion in the Knowledge Society: New Approaches to Digital Divide'. The aim of two sessions was to discuss the ways to assess 'digital divide' since the factual measurement and systematic collection of empirical indicators describing 'digital divide' was still far from perfect. There is a clear need to create a transparent picture of emerging media and information inequalities in knowledge society and to identify widely accepted and transparent indicators for describing the picture.

The first session 'Theoretical Approaches to Exclusion/Inclusion Aspects of Digital Divide' discussed several issues. They were concentrated around factual measurement of digital divide, national factors to be taken into account and new indicators of media and knowledge inequality and knowledge divide in emerging knowledge-based societies. Special attention was given to the development of new technical platforms such as Wi-Max and their influences on conditions of access to new media technology by media professional, media trainers, and general public.

The second session 'Digital Divide and its Measurement: National Cases' has discussed implications of new media in media environment of various societies. National cases such as Bangladesh, Philippines, and Egypt have been analyzed from the point of 'closing the information gap'. Although indicators of internet penetration, use of new digital media by media professionals, educators and general public might be encouraging, the factual situation described by papers was often not quite positive. Motivations to use new media and their content in each particular case played much more substantial role as compared to access and penetration indicators. On the basis on the discussion several levels of digital divide have been identified. They were access, usability (including content paradigm), and sociability.

At the end of the WG sessions there was a special debate on the future research perspectives for the group. It was decided that the WG at its further sessions should take into account more positive aspects of media digitalization concentrating on issues of digital dynamics and its implications in media environment. The idea about more interaction and collaboration with other IAMCR sections and working groups dealing with the same interdisciplinary issues was supported unanimously. The WG on DD has proposed to meet in Paris 2007.

Elena Vartanova

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES, SCIENCE AND RISK COMMUNICATION

Eighteen abstracts were received and 14 were accepted for presentation in the three slots allocated for the Working Group at the IAMCR Cairo conference. The contributors came from Belgium, China, Denmark, Japan, Nigeria, The Philippines, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, the UK and the USA. While 14 papers were accepted and listed in the official programme, a small number of contributors were unable to make it to Cairo for various reasons, but 10 papers were successfully presented, itself a comparatively impressive number and a success-rate comparable to that of the Group's previous meeting two years ago in Porto Alegre. The gender balance of presenters was 8 female to 2 male.

The vibrancy of this field of research was demonstrated in the level of pre-conference interest shown, in the high number of successfully delivered presentations, and not least in the quality of feedback/discussion during the three lively sessions held at the American University in Cairo.

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. Similarly – and perhaps reflecting the trans-national or global character of many of the key environmental concerns dominating current media and public/political debate – many of the studies presented included international and trans-cultural comparisons. Key themes included:

- Media uses and roles in relation to the climate change debate – comprising comprehensive work taking in both new advances in discourse analysis and novel approaches to the role of photography and visualisation;
- The relationship between media and religion as it pertains to politics and public understanding of science and environmental issues;
- Risk and science communication in the media construction of a broad range of environmental/risk issues, from toxic chemicals and food safety to environmental disasters;
- Representations/uses of nature and cultural identity in advertising;
- Media coverage and the use of 'successful' discourses by environmental and aboriginal movements;
- Intercultural comparisons of environmental journalism in public service broadcasting organisations.

Anders Hansen

GLOBAL MEDIA POLICY

Since its founding in Glasgow in 1998, the Global Media Policy working group has proven to be a useful, unconventional venue for linking cutting-edge research and political strategies for influencing the emerging global media environment. The Cairo sessions demonstrated that this continues to be the case.

The working group held three well-attended sessions in Cairo, intended to explore the current state and future directions of global media policy, as well as set a course for ongoing activity of the working group. The working group remains focused on broad, transnational media and communication policy-making processes and the spaces in which these play out. Coming in the wake of the World Summit on the Information Society, in which several working group members played an active part, participants in the Cairo sessions stressed the need to continue monitoring the politics of multilateral bodies such as the UN's new Internet Governance Forum, international treaty negotiations in sites such as UNESCO and the World Intellectual Property Organization, and key trends in the ways that national governments and regional bodies such as the European Union are adapting to changes in the global policy context. The participation of nongovernment actors, particularly civil society actors, in these processes continues to be a main area of interest and research focus for working group members – but the Cairo sessions were marked by an increased awareness of the need to pay more attention to the role of the private sector and economic questions in general in future research on global media policy.

The business session in Cairo decided that the working group would try to work on "mapping the field" of global media policy between now and the next biennial Congress, perhaps using the new IAMCR web site as an interactive platform for this project. Members were particularly enthusiastic about the possible role that this could play as a resource for the new Task Force on Media and Communication Policy that the association created in Cairo.

Marc Raboy

ISLAM AND MEDIA

IAMCR 25th Conference & General Assembly in Cairo, Egypt was an unprecedented event in the history of our working group. The group was initiated at IAMCR, Glasgow in 1998. Both in terms of quality of papers and in terms of participation this was the best ever Islam and Media Working Group performance.

Presenters were asked to submit proposals of their papers under the working group theme, "Communication and information policymaking in the Muslim world: objectives, opportunities and challenges." Fifteen proposals were accepted from among 27 submissions after a thorough review by both internal and external referees. The accepted papers were assigned to the three sessions available to the working group.

The first set of papers focused on freedom of expression and how it is being understood in Muslim and non-Muslim societies. Abdelghani Jbara presented his interesting and thought provoking analysis of the *Julund Posten* cartoons in light of humanistic, Islamic and Christian ethics. Cinzia Padovani presented Joe Khalil's paper on "Diversity and Islam in post conflict broadcast policy." The paper presented a case study of Afghanistan and Iraq. Mohammad Siddiqi discussed how analysts having different perspectives look at the debate on Islam between radical and mod-

erate Muslims. He analyzed the thoughts of right wing think tank scholars, moderate non-Muslim scholars, orthodox Muslim thinkers and moderate Muslim scholars.

Among the second set of papers, Ibrahim Saleh and Dahlia Sabry analyzed the "Qur'an translation's role in steering public opinion against Islam." In their detailed study they compared various contemporary translations of Qur'an into English and how different inaccuracies in these translations distort the true picture of Islam. Basyouni Hamada, Mariam Rady, and Shaimaa Saleh shared the result of their content-analysis based study of the "Impact of mass media content (Film and TV serials) on street Children in Egypt."

The third set of papers focused on practical steps taken by video and television producers to create alternative media content for Muslim children in the West, especially in the United States and Canada. Jawad Jafry showed various clippings from videos produced by Sound Vision, a Chicago based multimedia company. He shared with the audience the challenges and opportunities in launching such a program. Abdul Malik Mujahid further extended the discussion in his presentation by emphasizing the role of such alternative media in strengthening and shaping the identity of Muslim minorities in the West.

The fourth set of papers dealt with blending of media with religious models of communications in Iran. Unfortunately none of the presenters from Iran were given visa to attend the conference and therefore could not avail the opportunity to present their ideas. A resolution denouncing the Egyptian government was approved by the IAMCR General Assembly in its business meeting.

During the business meeting the working group re-elected Mohammad A. Siddiqi, as Chair and Basyouni Hamada as Secretary General of the Islam and Media Working group for another two years. Abdul Malik Mujahid was elected as Vice Chair. A committee to publish group's e-newsletter was also appointed with Hyat Badr from Cairo University as its coordinator. The newsletter will be published four times a year. Submissions of no more than 300 words, in MS Word file, may be sent to m-siddiqi@wiu.edu .

Last but not the least, the purpose of Islam and Media Working Group is to engage media scholars and professionals in dialogue and exchange of ideas on issues related to communication and media from an Islamic point of view. We want to strengthen IAMCR by bringing to its forum our thoughts and ideas to learn and to inform others.

Mohammad A. Siddiqi

MEDIA PRODUCTION ANALYSES

The Working Group for Media Production Analyses had three panels of refereed papers and a business meeting in Cairo. There was a lively discussion about the future of the group and whether it should seek sectional status, but it was determined that this year the group would remain as is. Chris Paterson, of Leeds University, remains the coordinator. Ida Schultz of Roskilde University has agreed to assist with the organization of future panels. It was recommended that the group reinstate the list serve and webpage which

are currently dormant, and Paterson agreed to do so. At the request of participants, Paterson sought clarification from the IAMCR leadership of whether or not working group papers are to be accepted for off-year conferences, but it seems this question remains unresolved.

The mandate of the group remains to focus on different technologies, organizational contexts and genres to grasp the internal and external dynamics of media production processes. Comparisons between technologies, organizational contexts and genres are relevant. Other focal points are production ethnography in general, problems and strategies of access, and the theoretical grounding of methods. This working group would like to use this opportunity to call for abstracts for the 2007 Paris conference in order to determine if one or more panels for Paris are possible. Contact Dr. Paterson at c.paterson@leeds.ac.uk for further information.

Chris Paterson

POPULAR CULTURE

The group received ten offers of papers, eight of which were accepted. This marked a smaller response than the last three conferences. One person was encouraged to submit to the Political Economy Section instead, and was accepted for that Section.

Unfortunately four papers were withdrawn after the programme was finalised. Despite this there were some good papers and lively discussion. The first session, featuring two papers related to Disney and Egypt, was especially productive. Credit should be given to Jason Wilson who, in the absence of the second speaker, fielded questions and discussion for around 45 minutes.

It was clear that there was general enthusiasm for the choice of Paris, and I propose to initiate email discussion amongst regular attenders concerning the future direction of the group.

The programme as presented was:

- Representations of the European Constitutional treaty on French popular newspapers, Angeliki Koukoutsaki-Monnier; Université de Metz-Paul Verlaine, France
- 'Egyptiana' and the Exotic: constructions of Egypt in the carnival site, Deborah Philips; Brunel University, UK
- Reading "Miki" in Egypt: Global Media in Local Context, Hadil Ghoneim; Dar El Shorouk Publishers
- Rough Chuckles - Mourning the public in online comics, Jason Wilson; University of Luton, UK
- A critical reappraisal of resistance: a case study on hybrid gender identities in music videos, Sofie Van Bauwel; Ghent University, Belgium
- A cultural media study of hunting in Iberian peninsula and Bohemia Moravia, insuring the wild life of Europe, Jarmila Slechtova; Silesian University, Czech Republic & Manuel Carvalheiro; Lusiada University, Portugal.

Garry Whannel

Report of the Membership and Participation Committee

• July 2006 •

SUMMARY

Membership and participation policies was 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. The committee notes with satisfaction that the implementation of many of its recommendations has already started by the Association leadership. At this state, there is no way of measuring the results of these efforts. A new recruitment policy is a long process.

The recommendations of the 2006 report are mainly extensions or specifications of the recommendations presented last year. The focus is, 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.

Concerning *networking with other organizations* in the field, we suggest:

- 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:

1. *Regional liaison persons* should be nominated.
2. *Regional workshops*. A regional workshop or seminar at least in two world regions should be organized each year.
3. *Welcoming letter*. All persons who present papers in sections or working groups for the first time at the IAMCR conferences should be targeted to become new active members through their sections and a new member letter designed by the President of the IAMCR should be sent to them, inviting them into active membership and participation.
4. *Emerging scholars*. Some conference events should be designed especially for junior scholar newcomers
5. *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.
6. *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, 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.

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.

WORKING MODE

The committee has carried out its work via the web. Especially Hopeton Dunn and Rosa Mikeal Martey have been intensively involved in the discussions. We recognise 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 turn sporadic.

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. Two modest attempts to initiate the networking of international or global organizations in the field have recently been organized, in November 2005 in Amsterdam (ECREA Conference) and more recently in Dresden (ICA Conference). Not all organizations participated, and the goals have been modest at this initial stage. 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 substance-linked level, such a timetable would function as a "business card" of 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
- 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.

MEMBERSHIP TODAY, AN EXAMPLE

An exercise worth trying is to collect information about the researcher corps in a country or region and compare the figures to the IAMCR membership in the same area. It is, however, not very easy to collect such figures. There do not exist many clear-houses of media and communication researchers; such a documentation network (COMNET) operated under UNESCO in the 1980s, but one regional documentation center belonging to it still exists: NORDICOM which gathers information about communication research and researchers from the Nordic countries. These countries are well covered by the IAMCR. The membership body of Nordic researchers is fairly established in the IAMCR, as was documented in the previous report by this committee. However, there is both country-based variation and considerable space for improvement in the membership from this region as well, as indicated in the following table. The information comes from the latest IAMCR membership directory and the NORDICOM Information Volume 28 Nr 3, 2006, listing all active researchers in the field.

In the IAMCR figure, both institutional and individual members are included. The majority of Nordic members are institutional. There are only 17 individual members from Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden, either regular or junior. In Iceland, there are no IAMCR members. Thus in the case of the Nordic countries, whatever recruitment plan is designed, it should obviously be institution based.

Country	Researchers (Nordicom)	IAMCR members
Denmark	120	71 (59%)
Finland	234	35 (15%)
Iceland	8	-
Norway	222	72 (32%)
Sweden	409	37 (9%)
Total	993	214 (22%)

Of the Nordic countries, Finland and Sweden have far fewer institutional members than Denmark and Norway. The following questions are clear: why and what can be done to change this issue? In the case of the Nordic countries, there is an array of means to improve the situation. The NORDICOM directory carries the addresses of both individual members and research institutions. These can be used for contacts. Further, all the Nordic countries have national researcher associations which could function as a middleman. In the Nordic countries, a regional researcher conference is also arranged every second year. It has been used as a marketing channel for IAMCR information, but also this channel could be made more effective.

In conclusion, it were a useful exercise to collect baseline data on communication researchers from each country. We suggest that the IAMCR contacts national or regional researcher organizations or, if there is no such organization, the IAMCR members in the particular country or region to 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. We are pleased about the fact that the Association has started implementing these recommendations.

☞ *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 get 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.

☞ *Welcoming letter.* We also repeat our suggestion that all persons who present papers in Sections or Working Groups for the first time at the IAMCR conferences should be targeted to become new active members through their selected Sections and be sent the already existing new member letter designed by the President, inviting them into active membership and participation.

☞ *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 first-timer paper, a drawing 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.

Committee Members: Hopeton Dunn, Catherine Loneux, Rosa Mikeal Martey, Daya Thususu, and Ullamaija Kivikuru
Report compiled by: Ullamaija Kivikuru (Committee Chair)

IAMCR Task Force on Media and Communication Policy

Dear Colleagues,

At the 2006 General Assembly of IAMCR in Cairo, with the encouragement and support of association president Robin Mansell, a proposal for establishing a standing IAMCR Task Force on Media and Communication Policy was approved. The text of the mandate, which was sent out to members by e-mail and published in the IAMCR newsletter prior to the Cairo conference, appears below. At the time of the approval of the proposal, I was elected to serve as the first Chair of the new Task Force, and I will be responsible for reporting on its activities annually to the International Council. As the full text of the proposal indicates, the mandate of the Task Force will be subject to review by the IC "every four years, at the first biennial meeting at the start of each new IAMCR presidency." I sincerely believe that this Task Force can and will reflect positively on the association by effectively drawing from the wealth of policy knowledge, interest and experience that our members possess.

As indicated when we circulated the proposal prior to the conference in Cairo, a policy Task Force originally was established at the 2004 conference in Porto Alegre, and it was co-chaired by Divina Frau-Meigs and Marc Raboy. That Task Force was the vehicle for IAMCR participation in the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in Tunisia in November of 2005. The newly formed Task Force has a more general mission, which is (quoting from the text of the proposal) "to maintain a global presence for IAMCR on important issues concerning media and communication policies, drawing on the interests and expertise of IAMCR members and reaching

out to engage with the expertise of other individuals and organizations." Since many IAMCR members have research expertise and practical experience in the field of media and communication policy (particularly, but not limited to, members of the Communication Technology Policy Section and the Global Media Policy Working Group), it is likely that our association will have much of value to offer in intergovernmental policy forums.

Since the time of the Cairo conference, I have sought advice from Robin Mansell and a group of IAMCR members who were involved in the WSIS Task Force, and who participated in the plenary on the subject in Cairo. (The panel was organized and chaired by Divina Frau-Meigs, and included Hopeton Dunn, Marc Raboy, Claudia Padovani and myself.) I will continue to consult with these and others informally, as needed, but the Task Force membership will be determined by interest and commitment alone. Any IAMCR member may join the Task Force, and they may become active to the extent they choose. As to what the Task Force's agenda will be, that will be a matter for further discussion on a list that has been set up, and to which you are invited to subscribe. Subscription information is available at: http://iamcr.org/mailman/listinfo/policytf_iamcr.org, where you will find easy instructions on how to get on the list. Afterwards, you will be able to post and receive messages from the Task Force list, the address for which is: policytf@iamcr.org. You must be a dues-paying IAMCR member in good standing in order to subscribe to the list.

Thank you for supporting this worthwhile initiative,
Andrew Calabrese

Junior Scholars Network

The Junior Scholars Network is growing up! For eight successful conferences, the JSN has held panels, roundtables, coffee outings, and special sessions. Members from all around the world of twenty-somethings to forty-somethings have participated in lively commentary, great feedback, and invigorating discussion around a range of research in communication. Realizing that our membership is not limited to 'juniors', we of the JSN have been debating a name change and have decided to call ourselves the 'Emerging Scholars Network' – ESN.

Committed as ever to creating a network that serves those new to the field of communication and to IAMCR, the ESN continues to develop its mentorship program, member interaction, and especially new member services. As part of that committee, the re-named ESN has developed a new website going online this month at its new URL, esn.colostate.edu. The site is hosted by the Department of Journalism and Technical Communication at Colorado State University, and was designed and programmed by Rosa Mikeal Martey. Special thanks to that department and university for donating the space. Additional online projects, including an ESN blog, a new listserv, and a section introduction packet for new members are in progress.

The 2006 Cairo conference continued the Network's tradition of strong local participation and lively exchange. About 20 papers at three panels included work on news, new technology, and politics, from scholars from around the world. The Network's business meeting generated great ideas for increasing member contact outside of conferences and renewed commitment to providing panelists with valuable feedback of papers and projects presented. A special thanks to Sara Bannerman and Arul Aram for overseeing the panels, activities and business meeting in Cairo. This fall ESN will hold elections for its non-chair positions via email. Anyone interested in running for positions in the Network are welcome to contact the section chair, Rosa Mikeal Martey at rosa.martey@colostate.edu.

Next year's Paris conference will include some changes for the Network, including new possibilities for collaboration with other IAMCR sections and the development of another roundtable session. In particular, the Network hopes to get its long-awaited mentorship program up and running this year with the help and involvement of senior scholars. Details and requests for your help will be coming soon! As always, membership in ESN is open to anyone who feels 'young' - or emerging! - in academia.

Rosa Mikeal Martey

Call for Papers

Media Events, Globalization and Cultural Change

**Thursday 5th July – Friday 7th July 2007,
University of Bremen, Germany**

Organiser: Media Sociology Group of the German Communication Association (DGPK) and Psychology and Public Opinion Section (PPO) of the IAMCR

Conference team: Nick Couldry, Andreas Hepp,
Friedrich Krotz

Since Dayan and Katz' groundbreaking study *Media Events*, the 'eventization' of media communication has become an important area of international media and communication studies research. In the early discussions, the implicit assumption was that media events are a form of ritualised mass communication, which offers the opportunity to integrate people into 'rituals' and/or 'celebrations' of national societies. One can call this a ritual view on media events.

However, recent empirical research on media events, globalization and cultural change has demonstrated that this is only one aspect of the phenomenon: Specific kinds of so-called 'ritual media events' may integrate into national rituals (for example, national celebrations), but fail to do so on a global level. Thus, if one understands the 11th September attacks or the last Iraqi war as phenomena that resulted in (global) media events, one has to conclude that these events produced conflict beyond 'rituals'. At the same time, we have new hybrids of 'ritual' and 'commercialised' media events like the Catholic World Youth Day in Cologne, Germany. Here, empirical research has shown that ritual media events are only integrating with regard to certain social groups while being rather disintegrating and conflict-inducing as far as others are concerned.

In addition, one has to take into account that media events are part of popular culture. In times of the differentiation of media technologies and the fragmentation of media landscapes as part of the ongoing process of global deregulation, the 'eventization' of the media is increasingly important for the marketing and everyday appropriation of popular media texts. On the one hand, many Hollywood and Bollywood blockbusters, many TV shows, dailies, reality and talk shows are marketed as media events – which, in the case of formats like Big Brother or Who Wants to be A Millionaire, is done transculturally. On the other hand, 'events' like blockbusters or mediated concert shows offer people an opportunity for joining situative communities in individualised and fragmented societies. This kind of media event, which in many ways differs from the ritual media events described above, could be called a 'popular media event' as it is a main part of present popular culture. It is important to note though that these media events are not just 'made' by the media industry, but articulated in the interaction between media actors and everyday people.

Finally, it has to be assumed that the character and the role of media events will change in relation to foreseeable contextual changes: the strategies of media enterprises are

changing as media events become part of their planning, while political forces (including governments) increasingly draw no media spectacle as a strategic tool. The role for the individual is also changing, as people, for example through weblogging, can participate in a different way. Besides, social institutions, politicians and others might be variously involved in this 'eventization' process.

The international conference "Media Events, Globalization and Cultural Change" will articulate these discussions. Based on empirical research and present theoretical work, its aim is to develop media events theory further in order to understand the role of media events in an increasingly globalised but nevertheless fragmented world marked by conflict.

Papers - both theoretically oriented and/or empirically grounded - are invited on the theme of media events in the context of globalization and cultural change. Topics might include:

- ☞ Defining and theorising media events
- ☞ Exploring processes of ritualization, as worked out in and around media events
- ☞ Empirical studies on media events, their globalization and change
- ☞ Studies on the relation of media events and (global) popular culture
- ☞ Analysing media events production and consumption
- ☞ Everyday appropriation of media events
- ☞ Transnational media flows, global media events and the global public sphere
- ☞ Ritual media events and the changing nature of religion
- ☞ The role of digital media (the internet, weblogs etc.) within media events

Invited keynote speakers are Daniel Dayan, Knut Lundby and Eric Rothenbuhler. We encourage contributions from different academic perspectives on media events. Please send your abstracts (not more than 300 words) by Sunday 31st March 2007 to:

Prof. Dr. Nick Couldry

Goldsmiths College; Dept of Media and Communications
Lewisham Way, New Cross, London SE14 6NW, UK
Phone: +44 (0)20 7919 7636, Email: Couldry@gold.ac.uk
or:

Prof. Dr. Andreas Hepp

University of Bremen; Institute for Media, Communication & Information; Faculty for Cultural Studies
Enrique-Schmidt-Straße, SFG 4320
D-28359 Bremen, Germany
Phone: +49 (0)421 218-3046
Email: Andreas.Hepp@uni-bremen.de
or:

Prof. Dr. Friedrich Krotz

University of Erfurt, Communication Studies
Nordhaeuser Str. 63; 99089 Erfurt, Germany
Phone: +49 (0)361 7374171
Email: Friedrich.Krotz@uni-erfurt.de

Member's New Work

EUROPE'S POLITICAL COMMUNICATION DEFICIT

Sophia Kaitatzi-Whitlock (Assistant Professor, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece)

arima publishing
Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP32 6BB
United Kingdom
www.arimapublishing.com

333 pages, price UK£12.99, US\$24.00

This book investigates the relationship between political communication, politics and policy-making in the European Union over the last twenty years. It shows how a political communication deficit has emerged in the EU, and explores the long term effects of this in the apathy, ignorance and disaffection of its citizens. It tracks the structural causes of this in the communication strategies and policies that have been pursued in Europe since the early 1980s and demonstrates how the privatization of the European media which began in this period led to their weakening as organs of political communication.

Despite revolutionary technological developments in electronic communications, the opportunity to use the media, particularly television, as organs of political communication to create social cohesion, participation and dialogue, was thus missed. Given the failure to satisfy such basic political communication needs, this communication deficit has actively contributed to the democratic deficit in Europe."

Guillermo Mastrini, a IAMCR member in Argentina, has recently published the book *Periodistas y magnates: Estructura y concentración de las industrias culturales en América Latina* (Journalists and Tycoons: Structure and concentration of culture industries in Latin America).

This book, prologued by Ricardo Uceda, Armand Mattelart and Danilo Arbilla, summarizes the results of the first research studies on the structure and indicators of the culture industries and telecom sector in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and

Venezuela. These studies were organized by the Instituto de Prensa y Sociedad (IPyS), having participated prestigious journalists and researchers, both compiling and discussing each country's reports.

These results presented in this book will contribute to the well needed debate on pluralism and opinion diversity in latin american countries, in the new context of the dissemination of information and communication infrastructures.

For further information, please visit:
<http://www.prometeolibros.com.ar/MainSite/Libro.php?IdLibro=356579>

David H. Weaver, Randal A. Beam, Bonnie J. Brownlee, Paul S. Voakes, and G. Cleveland Wilhoit, *The American Journalist in the 21st Century: U.S. news people at the dawn of a new millennium*. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, 2006, 291pp.

See <http://www.erlbaum.com/weaver> for details.

IAMCR Book Series with Hampton Press

Status of activities as of June 30th 2006.

PUBLISHED:

Peter M. Lewis and Susan Jones (eds) *From the Margins to the Cutting Edge*.
Published

Katharine Sarikakis and Daya Thussu (eds). *Ideologies of the Internet*.
Published June 2006.

BEING REVIEWED:

Herman Wasserman & Anthea Graman. *Do the right thing: a critical perspective on ethics and professionalism in post-apartheid journalism in South Africa*
Proposal received: April 2006.

Mojca Pajnik: Tentative Title: *Feminists on Habermas' Public*
Proposal received: April 2006.

IN PROCESS OF PRODUCTION:

Francisco Sierra, Guillermo Mastrini and César Bolano (eds). **Untitled. Key words: Political Economy, Communication, Latin America.**
(published in Spanish in Argentina in 2005).
This volume is being revised and translated into English.

IDEAS FOR 2006/2007

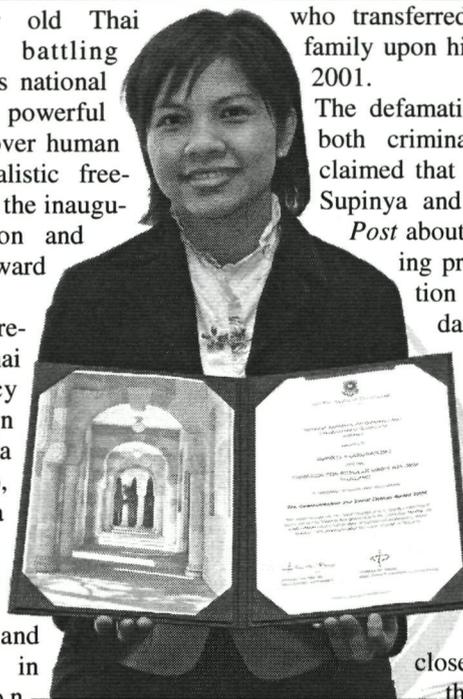
- clarify priorities and directions for the current IAMCR book series
- clarify feasibility for a possible IAMCR book series in Spanish/Portuguese (following up on previous conversations held with CLACSO in Buenos Aires)
- work to contract a book on WSIS
- develop a proposal for a 'celebratory' volume for IAMCR's 50 anniversary

Thomas Tufte

University of Queensland Human Rights Award recognizes Thai Freedom-of-Expression Advocate

A 33 year old Thai woman battling Thailand's national government and powerful corporate sector over human rights and journalistic freedom was awarded the inaugural Communication and Social Change Award 2006.

General Secretary of the Thai media advocacy group, 'Campaign for Popular Media Reform' (CPMR), Ms Supinya Klangnarong received the award from the University of Queensland at a ceremony in Brisbane on 22 September 2006.



Supinya Klangnarong with the award certificate

The Award was presented to help mark the 85th anniversary of the founding of journalism studies at the University's School of Journalism and Communication, the longest established journalism program in Australia and one of the oldest in the world.

Head of School, Professor Jan Servaes said that the award recognises the moral courage and on-going commitment demonstrated by Supinya Klangnarong and the 'Campaign for Popular Media Reform' in the furtherance of freedom of expression, media pluralism and communication for social change in Thailand.

Supinya and CPMR had been actively campaigning for the democratization of Thailand's state-owned electronic media since the drafting stage of the 1997 Constitution, though it was a defamation case brought against her and the *Thai Post* newspaper by the largest Thai telecommunications group Shin Corp in 2003 which brought her to international attention.

Shin Corp, comprising the largest Thai mobile phone company AIS and only 'independent' TV station itv, was founded by Thailand's then Prime Minister, Thaksin Shinawatra,

who transferred ownership to his family upon his election as PM in 2001.

The defamation suits brought in both criminal and civil court claimed that comments made by Supinya and published in *Thai Post* about Shin Corp's soaring profits since the election of Thaksin had damaged the group's share price and sought US\$10 million in damages.

What made this case exceptional was not only the record amount of damages sought and that the plaintiff was a company closely associated with the government, but that Supinya fought

the case (defamation cases are frequently filed in Thai courts to intimidate journalists and settled out of court once this aim is achieved). The case was seen as another step in the erosion of freedom of expression under the premiership of Thaksin.

When Supinya and *Thai Post* finally won the defamation case earlier in 2006, international freedom of expression advocates such as IFJ, CPJ, Article-19 and HRW acclaimed the ruling as an important victory for the right to freedom of expression globally.

However, Supinya Klangnarong expressed both joy and frustration during her acceptance speech in Queensland. While on the plane to Brisbane, Thai military had staged a coup which deposed Thaksin and nullified the 1997 Constitution. She was clearly disappointed with the coup, as it was a severe setback to the democratic process. She said that while Thaksin heavily controlled freedom of expression, Articles 39, 40, 41 of the 1997 Constitution had at least guaranteed media freedoms which could be invoked even if they had not been widely implemented. "Now we have to start all over again". Supinya welcomed the award as an encouragement to continue the struggle for media democratization, and CPMR is once again campaigning for freedom of expression in these testing times for Thailand's civil society.

Nominations for the 2007 Communication and Social Change award are open.

For more information on the award, visit: <http://www.uq.edu.au/journ-com/index.html?page=31906&pid=2569>, where you can also watch a video clip of the award ceremony and acceptance speech.

University of Queensland press release, with additional material by Jens Franz (jf5@soas.ac.uk)



Thai journalists protesting against censorship and intimidation under the Thaksin-government in April 2006

Full Professor, with tenure, Global Media Industries

Department of Radio-Television, College of Mass Communication and Media Arts Southern Illinois University Carbondale

The Department of Radio-Television in the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts at Southern Illinois University Carbondale invites applications from highly qualified individuals. PhD in Communication or related field, strong record of research accomplishment, undergraduate and graduate teaching required. Applicants must either hold the rank of full professor or advanced associate professor. Research in two or more of the following areas: global information policies; comparative media industries (e.g. advertising, videogames, mobile telephone, broadcasting, internet); international political economy of media convergence; international audiences/readerships; comparative corporate media strategies; trends in public service media. Preference will be given to applicants who can contribute to a climate that values and uses diversity in all its forms to enliven and make more inclusive the mission of the university.

Duties include teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in the area of Media Industries; serving on and directing Ph.D. dissertation and/or MFA thesis committees; developing new avenues for collaborative research; working closely with the College's Global Media Research Center to seek external funding for research; continuing scholarship and publications activity; participating in professional associations; and serving on Department, College, and University committees.

Send letter of application, curriculum vitae, three letters of reference, and samples of relevant research/creative work to: John Downing, Search Committee Chair, Global Media Industries, Department of Radio-Television, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Mailcode 6609, Carbondale, Illinois 62901. Telephone: 618-536-7555, Fax: 618-453-6982. Application deadline: October 31, 2006 or until filled. SIUC is committed to developing a diverse faculty and staff population. SIUC is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer that strives to enhance its ability to develop a diverse faculty and to increase its potential to serve a diverse student population. All applications are welcomed and encouraged and will receive consideration.



The University of Michigan Department of Communication Studies

Faculty Openings Beginning Fall 2007 Assistant/Associate/Full Professor of Communication Studies

The University of Michigan Department of Communication Studies seeks applicants for tenure track/tenured positions. Expanding department emphasizes interdisciplinary study of the mass media using qualitative and/or quantitative methods. We anticipate filling three positions, pending authorization. All areas will be considered, with a special interest in the following areas: **International/Comparative Media**, **New Media**, and **Health and the Media**. Detailed information regarding these positions can be found at <http://www.lsa.umich.edu/comm>.

Anticipated starting date for all positions is September 1, 2007. Applicants should identify the position and their primary area of interest as one of the three listed above or another area of specialization in communication studies and send a vita, evidence of teaching excellence, and a research statement. Junior applicants should send three letters of recommendation; senior candidates should send names of suggested reviewers. Evaluation of applicants will begin immediately and continue until positions are filled. Some positions are pending authorization.

Send applications to: Search Committee, Department of Communication Studies, The University of Michigan, 1225 South University Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48104-2523.

The University of Michigan is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. The University is supportive of the needs of dual career couples.



Activities of Affiliate Organisations

New Books from NORDICOM

Jesper Falkheimer & André Jansson (eds.): *Geographies of Communication. The Spatial Turn in Media Studies. Nordicom, Göteborg University 2006, 309 p. (Price: € 30)*

The relationship between space and communication is becoming more complex. Mediatisation blurs the boundaries between different spaces, as well as between dimensions of space. It also leads to the re-articulation of geographical territories – often (re)producing socio-political values and power struggles. This book departs from the assertion that the changing character of media society calls for a spatial turn in media studies. There are clear signs that such a turn is on its way. But no account has yet been formulated for the full potential of this. Gathering new analyses from leading Nordic media scholars, geographers and ethnologists, this book provides a broad view of the perspectives that emerge from the spatial turn. The chapters explore issues such as (trans)nationality, tourism, urban culture, interactive media, and the networking of domestic space. Together, they map out what might become a new sub-field within media and cultural studies: the geography of communication.

Two Books from the International Clearinghouse on Children, Youth and Media at Nordicom:

Ulla Carlsson (ed.): *Regulation, Awareness, Empowerment. Young People and Harmful Media Content in the Digital Age. The International Clearinghouse on Children, Youth and Media, Nordicom, Göteborg University 2006, 286 p. (Price: € 28)*

In 2005 UNESCO asked the International Clearinghouse on Children, Youth and Media to prepare a publication on "Efforts and Innovative Approaches to Reduce Violence in Electronic and Digital Media". This volume presents the results of the work the Clearinghouse has done in response to that request. The Clearinghouse is pleased to have been able to gather a good number of scholars and other experts who, with an eye to the future, present conclusions that can be drawn from the research to date on offensive and potentially harmful media content and the protection of minors. They do so from a variety of perspectives and with most valuable reflections. The Clearinghouse also presents different kinds of efforts at raising media and information literacy through examples of activities, projects and resources from many different parts of the world.

Ulla Carlsson & Cecilia von Feilitzen (eds.): *In the Service of Young People? Studies and Reflections on Media in the Digital Age. The International Clearinghouse on Children, Youth and Media, Nordicom, Göteborg University 2006, 438 p. (Price: € 28)*

For the present yearbook, the Clearinghouse has tried to assemble contributions by researchers from different parts of the world in order to shed light on issues of vital importance that arise when dealing with a subject such as 'media in the service of young people'. The first part of the contains articles by eminent scholars active on different continents. These articles exhibit theoretical visions and empirical examples of what constitutes – and what does not constitute – media and media contents in the service of children and youth. The researchers also reflect on measures for improving young people's media situation in the digital age. In the second part of the book, the Clearinghouse presents various efforts to increase media and information/Internet literacy among young people, parents, media educators and media professionals by providing examples of activities, projects and resources in many countries.

For further information see Nordicom's homepage: www.nordicom.gu.se

CALL FOR PAPERS

COMMUNICATION AND PEACE

2007 EURICOM COLLOQUIUM ON COMMUNICATION AND CULTURE IN COOPERATION WITH WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR CHRISTIAN COMMUNICATION

PIRAN (SLOVENIA), SEPTEMBER 13-15, 2007

Communication and Peace is the topic of the September 2007 EURICOM colloquium in Piran, Slovenia. In a world divided by ideological, ethnic, and economic conflicts, communication functions as a vital means of exchanging ideas, addressing frictions, and settling hostilities. The colloquium invites participants to consider forms and functions of communication in the process of negotiating peace, to question the role of media in the (re)production of conflicts and their resolutions, and to reflect on the importance of dialogue in making sense of disharmony and producing closure. Who are the partners in communication and how do they use language (or imagery) to succeed or fail in their quest for peace and how does the

process of communication unfold in local, national, or international arenas of human conflict?

The colloquium is dedicated to the memory of Michael Traber, a co-founder of Euricom and Editor of *Media Development*, who devoted his life to the idea of peace and communication.

Suggestions for papers are invited until January 15, 2007; final papers are due by July 15, 2007.

Send abstracts or any requests for further information to:
Hanno Hardt (hanno.hardt@fdv.uni-lj.si)
Slavko Splichal (slavko.splichal@guest.arnes.si)

IAMCR
AIECS
AIERI



New Membership Form Jan-Dec 2007

Current IAMCR members will receive an e-mail regarding 2007 membership fees.
If you have not received this notice by December 1st please contact us at
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.

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)

Honorary - pay regular or emeritus fee if you wish.

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)
- New Media and Society (see www.sagepub.com/journal.aspx?pid=90)
- Global Media and Communication (see 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 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.

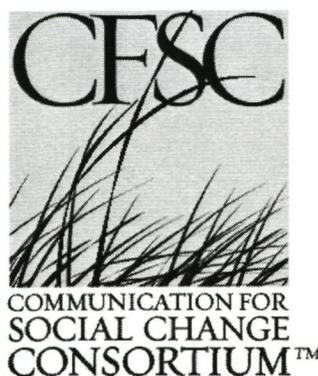
Ensure that Bank Transfer information includes member name.

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

If you have questions, please email us at membership@iamcr.org.

Thank you for joining IAMCR!

ORDER TODAY



**COMMUNICATION FOR
SOCIAL CHANGE
ANTHOLOGY:
HISTORICAL AND
CONTEMPORARY
READINGS**

Alfonso Gumucio and Thomas Tufte (Eds.)

Essential for communication and development experts, this groundbreaking book:

- Brings together a broad variety of views by more than 150 key thinkers.
- Reviews the evolution of communication for social change thinking from the early 20th century to the present.

This textbook looks at where the the field has been and where it is headed.

Published by the nonprofit group that brought you the CFSC Body of Knowledge; *Mazi*, an electronic report, on-the-ground CFSC counsel, practice and leadership—as well as case stories and evidence—this textbook is sure to set new standards for communication for development.

1,000+ pages | \$150.00 USD*

Order today:

<http://www.communicationforsocialchange.org/publications-resources.php>

*Communication for Social Change Consortium, 14 South Orange Avenue, Suite 2F
South Orange, New Jersey 07079, United States*

Phone: 1-973-763-1115 • Fax: 1-973-762-8267 • www.communicationforsocialchange.org

***USE CONF06 CODE FOR SPECIAL 20 PERCENT MEMBER DISCOUNT**

Communication for Social Change® is a U.S. registered mark of Communication for Social Change Consortium, Inc.

Whereas most communication science programs focus on media-studies this Master program concentrates on communication processes in the context of societal and technological change, focussing on the domains of nature, environment, water, agriculture, biotechnology, nutrition and health.

communication with substance

International Master of Science Program Applied Communication Science
at the Wageningen University, the Netherlands

An advanced program in an internationally oriented and interdisciplinary environment.

contact: ir. Marleen Nooij • marleen.nooij@wur.nl • 0031-(0)317-482708 • www.mcs.wur.nl • www.wageningenuniversiteit.nl



WAGENINGEN UR
For quality of life

IAMCR Governing Bodies

Executive Board

President:

Robin Mansell
iamcr@lse.ac.uk

Secretary General:

Ole Prehn
prehn@hum.aau.dk

Treasurer:

César Bolaño
iamcrtreasurer@yahoo.com

Vice Presidents:

Divina Frau-Meigs
meigs@wanadoo.fr

Annabelle Sreberny
a.sreberny@soas.ac.uk

International Council

Andrew Calabrese (USA)
andrew.calabrese@colorado.edu

Dipak De (India)
dipakde@sify.com

Marjan de Bruin (Jamaica)
marjan.debruin@uwimona.edu.jm

John Downing (USA)
jdowning@siu.edu

Sophia Kaitazi-Whitlock (Greece)
sophia@alphanet.gr

Virginia Nightingale (Australia)
v.nightingale@uws.edu.au

Kaarle Nordenstreng
(Finland)KaarleNordenstreng@uta.fi

Claudia Padovani (Italy)
claudia.padovani@unipd.it

Marc Raboy (Canada)
marc.raboy@mcgill.ca

John Sinclair (Australia)
john.sinclair@vu.edu.au

Daya Thussu (UK)
D.K.Thussu@westminster.ac.uk

Thomas Tufte (Denmark)
ttufte@ruc.dk

Elena Vartanova (Russia)
eva@journ.msu.ru

Georgette Wang (Hong Kong)
telgw@hkbu.edu.hk

Jürgen Wilke (Germany)
juergen.wilke@uni-mainz.de

Honorary Presidents

James D. Halloran

Cees Hamelink
hamelink@antenna.nl

Frank Morgan
fgm054@bigpond.net.au

Hamid Mowlana
mowlana@american.edu

Manuel Parés I Maicas
Manuel.Pares@uab.es

Section Heads

Audience and Reception Studies

Virginia Nightingale
v.nightingale@uws.edu.au
Vice-chair: Brian O'Neill boneill@dit.ei

Communication Policy and Technology

Hopeton Dunn hdunn@cwjamaica.com
Pascal Verhoest p.verhoest@stb.tno.nl
Vice-chair: Jo Pierson jo.pierson@vub.ac.be

Community Communication

Laura Stein lstein@mail.utexas.edu
Vice-chairs:
Per Jauert pjauert@imv.au.dk
Elinor Rennie e.rennie@qut.edu.au

Education Research Section

Joe Borg joseph.borg@um.edu.mt
Tania Ribeiro taribeiro@gmail.com

Gender and Communication

Todd Holden holden@intcul.tohoku.ac.jp

History

Peter Putnis peter.putnis@canberra.edu.au
Carlos Barrera cbarrera@unav.es

International Communication

Allen Palmer allen_palmer@byu.edu

Law

Andrei Richter richter@medialaw.ru
Vice-chair:
Wolfgang Kleinwächter wolfgang@imv.au.dk

Media and Sport

Alina Berstein alinaber@netvision.net.il

Media Education Research

Joe Borg joseph.borg@um.edu.mt
Tania Ribeiro Soares: taribeiro@gmail.com

Participatory Communication Research

Rico Lie rico.lie@wur.nl
Vice-chair:
Pradip Thomas pradip.thomas@uq.edu.au

Political Communication Research

Philippe Maarek maarek@univ-paris12.fr

Political Economy

Janet Wasko jwasko@uoregon.edu
Vice-chair:
Helena Sousa helena@ics.uminho.pt

Professional Education

Beate Josephi b.josephi@ecu.edu.au
Vice-chair:
Ibrahim Saleh librasma@aucegypt.edu

Psychology and Public Opinion

Hillel Nosssek hnossek@colman.ac.il
Friedrich Krotz friedrich.krotz@uni-erfurt.de

Junior Scholars Network

Rosa Leslie Mikeal rmikealm@asc.upenn.edu

Working Groups

Media, Religion, and Culture

P. Johannes Ehrat Jehrat@web.de

Media Production Analysis

Chris Paterson c.paterson@ulster.ac.uk

Environment, Science and Risk Communication

Anders Hansen ash@leicester.ac.uk

Global Media Policy

Marc Raboy Marc.raboy@mcgill.ca

Islam and Media Working Group

Mohammad Siddiqi m-siddiqi@wiu.edu

Vice-chair:

Abdul Malik Mujahid malik@soundvision.com

Digital Divide

Elena Vartanova eva@journ.msu.ru

Ethics and Communication

Manuel Parés I Maicas Manuel.Pares@uab.es

European Public Broadcasting Policies

Jo Bardoel bardoel@psecw.uva.nl

Popular Culture

Gerry Whannel gwhannel@britishlibrary.net

Post-Socialist Media

Yassen N. Zassoursky dean@journ.msu.ru

Vice-chair:

Anastasia Grusha grusha@journ.msu.ru

Communication and HIV/AIDS

Marjan de Bruin
marjan.debruin@uwimona.edu.jm
Thomas Tufte ttufte@ruc.dk

Diaspora and Media

Shehina Fazal s.fazal@londonmet.ac.uk

Comic Art

John A. Lent jlent@temple.edu

Health and Communication

Milton Campos Milton.campos@umontreal.ca

Chinese Communication Association

Bonnie Peng ypeng@nccu.edu.tw

Standing Committees

Conference Committee

Ole Prehn prehn@hum.aau.dk

Election Committee

Janet Wasko jwasko@uoregon.edu

Membership & Participation Committee

Ullamaija Kivikuru
ullamaija.kivikuru@helsinki.fi

Publications Committee

Annabelle Sreberny a.sreberny@soas.ac.uk

Legal Committee

Philippe Maarek maarek@univ-paris12.fr

Scholarly Review Committee

Robin Mansell iamcr@lse.ac.uk
Kaarle Nordenstreng
kaarle.nordenstreng@uta.fi

IAMCR Task Force on Media and Communication Policy

Andrew Calabrese
andrew.calabrese@colorado.edu

