INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR MASS COMMUNICATION RESEARCH

NEWS ITEMS - JUNE 1984

PRAGUE CONFERENCE

See separate paper enclosed for full details. It is still not too late to register. We expect an attendance in the region of 400.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

See separate paper enclosed for notes on the meeting of the Executive Board and related matters. Comments and suggestions are still welcome.

RECRUITMENT, PROMOTION, PUBLICITY, etc.

See notes on the meeting of the Executive Board.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Many members have still not paid their subscriptions for 1984, although they are taking advantage of the special membership rates for the Prague conference. An invoice is enclosed for those who have not yet paid their 1984 subscription. Please attend to this at your earliest convenience, and accept apologies if you have paid your subscription in recent weeks.

AMENDED MEMBERSHIP LIST

The list of new members and amendments which is enclosed have been produced in a format which should make it possible for this list to be easily incorporated in the recently distributed Membership List.

All institutions and Councils, etc. with institutional or National Council membership status are requested to provide headquarters at Leicester with a list of all their members.

UNESCO SUPPORT

A grant from Unesco has made it possible for the Professional Education Section of the Association to organize a workshop immediately before the Prague conference. This support has also made it possible for some ten or twelve members from the Third World to attend the Prague conference who otherwise may not have been able to travel there.

A similar grant for an IPDC meeting, plus some support from Kaarle Nordenstreng and his colleagues in Finland ensured a reasonable attendance at the Executive Board meeting in Tampere in May.

Unesco, through the Czechoslovakian National Commission, has also agreed to provide financial support for a post-conference publication.

The Association has been asked by Unesco if it would be willing to participate in a cooperative research programme with Unesco in what is seen as a priority research area, namely The Socio-Economic and Cultural Impact of the New Communication Technologies. Those interested in this, or who require further information, should write to the President.

Unesco has recently published a book, History in Black and White (an analysis of South African school history textbooks) by Elizabeth Dean, Paul Hartmann and May Katzen. A follow-up study to this research by the same scholars, supported by Unesco, under the general heading Ethnicity and the Media, has recently been completed, and a decision is awaited on publication.

The President attended a symposium on The Media in Society organized by the French National Commission of Unesco in Marseille, France, in March, and in connection with this a report on Media Education will be presented to Unesco.

FUTURE CONFERENCES AND ASSEMBLIES

Firm offers have now been received from Barcelona, Spain and from Ljubljana, Yugoslavia for 1986 or 1988, and from Sao Paulo, Brazil for 1986. India has also made a provisional offer which has still to be formally confirmed for 1986. A final decision on the venue for 1986 will be taken at the Prague meeting.

OTHER CONFERENCES AND ACTIVITIES

The UNION FOR DEMOCRATIC COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE is attracting much attention and enthusiasm from critical researchers and activists. The conference theme of "Communications and Empowerment" has attracted a large number of paper and panel proposals, plus a number of exciting media presentations. The conference will take place in Washington, D.C., from 19-21 October. The final programme will be determined in early June, although most paper proposals have been acknowledged by Program Coordinator, Anna Zornosa. (If in doubt as to whether or not your proposal was received, please contact her immediately.) The Washington chapter is also busily working on conference promotion and registration packets. More information will be included in the next NEWS & NOTES. Until then, contact Oscar Gandy, UDC, PO Box 301, Howard University, Washington, D.C. 20059, U.S.A. about conference plans.

The 67th ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR EDUCATION IN JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION will take place at the University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida from 5-8 August 1984. Enquiries should be made to 1984 AEJMC Convention, 3053 Weimer Hall, College of Journalism & Communications, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611, U.S.A.

'GRACIAS', the group for the advancement of communication in the Americas, was established during the IAMCR conference in Paris in September 1982. The purpose of 'GRACIAS' is to maintain a dialogue about common and connected communication issues in the Americas, including Latin America, the Caribbean, Canada and the United States. 'GRACIAS' is dedicated to establishing networks among communication practitioners, researchers and educators across national boundaries to identify and encourage research on common communication issues such as information flows, communications equity, communications policy, emerging communications/information technologies, communications education, communications profession and communications ideology and methodology. Communication practitioners, researchers and educators concerned about communication in the Americas can be associated with 'GRACIAS'. Currently there is no membership fee to belong. For your name to be placed on the mailing list to receive the occasional newsletter, send name, title, address, phone number and description of communication interests to: 'GRACIAS' c/o Dr Ramona R Rush, Department of Communication, 230 McVey Hall, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky 40506-00452, U.S.A.

The FIRST ANNUAL MEDIA RESEARCH CONFERENCE to be sponsored by Queens College Council for Media Research, City University of New York, will be held from 5-7 September 1984 at the Graduate Center of the City University in downtown Manhattan. The theme of the conference is The New Technologies and Social Effects. Those interested and/or wishing to present papers should write to Gary Gumpert, Department of Communication Arts and Sciences, Queens College of CUNY, Flushing, New York 11367, U.S.A.

At the 1984 SCA CONFERENCE in Chicago, an action caucus will be held on instructional issues in developing, implementing and teaching an inter-cultural/cross-cultural communication curriculum. The action caucus will tentatively examine three areas: (1) the introductory intercultural communication course; (2) developing and implementing an intercultural communication curriculum; and (3) developing and implementing a cross-cultural (i.e. domestic cultures) communication curriculum. The action caucus will explore many issues, notably curriculum development models, instructional approaches (i.e. exercises/cases/simulations), course content issues, and philosophical/ethical issues in intercultural/cross-cultural curriculum development. If you cannot attend the SCA Conference but would to provide a paper/curriculum model/exercise/simulation/case for publication in caucus proceedings, please indicate this to the caucus coordinator. If you are interested in participating in the caucus on 1 November 1984 in Chicago, please contact the caucus coordinator, Dr Robert Shuter, Director, Center for Intercultural Communication, Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI 53233, USA.

The INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF COMMUNICATIONS ANNUAL CONFERENCE will be held in Berlin from 19-23 September 1984. Discussion sessions will be held under the following headings: (1) Broadcasting and Video: A Changing World, (2) Limits to the Information Economy, (3) The National Communications Framework, (4) National Strategies in Computers and Telecommunications, (5) Space Programmes: The New Frontiers and (6) Communications Research and Communication Issues. Registration for this conference is limited. Those interested should write as soon as possible, but in any case before Friday, 31 August, to the International Institute of Communications, Tavistock House South, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9LF.

Michael Gurevitch and Mark Levy are replacing Ellen Wartella and Charles Whitney as editors of the SAGE Mass Communication Review Yearbook. They would be pleased to hear (at the College of Journalism, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742, USA) from those who have suggestions for Volume 5 in the series.