

IAMCR International Council Meeting, June 25,
2013

Dublin, Ireland
The Helix, DCU
Time: 13:30-17:00

Members in attendance:

EB: Janet Wasko, Aimée Vega Montiel and Pradip Thomas, Maria Michalis, Nico Caprentier Seon-Gi Baek (IC), Arne Hintz (Chair, Community Communication), Stefania Milan (IC), Helena Sousa (Chair, Political Economy), Ruth Teer-Tomaselli, Maria Jose Canel (Co-Chair, Political Communication), Christina Holtz-Bacha (Co-Chair, Political Communication), Ester Pollack (IC & Crisis Communication) Rodrigo Gomez (Political Economy), Kate Holland (Health Communication & Change), Nanna Engebretsen (HIV Communication), Sarah Cardey (HIV Communication), Margaretha Geertsema-Sligh (Co-Chair, Gender & Communications), Herman Wasserman (Chair, International Communication), Ravindra Kumar Vemula (Co-Chair, HIV Communication), Sandra Braman

(Chair, Law), Beate Josephi (IC & Finance Committee), Bruce Girard (Comunica), Chris Paterson (IC, Environment Committee, Vice-Chair Production WG), Roel Puijk (Chair, Media Production Analysis Working Group) Jo Pierson (Chair, Communication Policy & Technology), Sandra Ristovska (Co-Chair, ESN), Francesca Musiani (Co-Chair, ESN), Annabelle Sreberny (Past President), **Richard Maxwell** (Environment Committee), Satarupa Dasgupta (Participatory Communication Research) Robert Hackett (Co-Chair, Environment Committee), Frau-Meigs Divina (Chair, Media Education Research), Basyouni Hamada (Chair, Islam and the Media), Robin Mansell (Past President), Friedrich Krotz (IC), Philippe Maarek (IC), Marjan de Bruin (Chair, Health Communication & Change, SRC, Publications Committee), Claudia Padovani (WG Global Media Policy, Publications Committee), Kaarle Nordenstreng (SRC), Tom Jacobson (SRC), Hillel Nossék (Chair, Mediated Communication, Public Opinion and Society), Corinna Luethje (Vice-Head, Mediated Communication, Public Opinion and Society), Merja Ellefson (in lieu of Epp Lauk), Adison Cabral, Roza Tsagarousianou (Chair, Diaspora and Media), Paschal Preston (Chair, Dublin LOC), Denize Arajuo (IC, Publications Committee), Ibrahim Saleh (Chair, Journalism Research & Education)

1. Welcome and opening remarks

Janet Wasco called the meeting to order, welcomed the council members and apologized for the delayed start to the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

A number of council members could not attend and sent their apologies: Manuel Pinto, Alina Bernstein, Gabi Hadl, Cees Hamelink, Manuel Pares Maicus, Kaitlyn Mendes, Jeremy Shtern Epp Lauk, Chandrika Kaul.

3. Matters arising from last meeting held in Durban

Minutes from IC Council meeting from Durban, South Africa, 20 July 2012, were approved, and issues remaining from that meeting were taken up as part of the discussion for relevant committees and working groups in the remainder of the meeting.

CONFERENCES

4. Dublin conference update – Maria Michalis/Paschal Preston

Maria Michalis indicated that conference arrangements were well underway and going according to plan. The conference received more than 2,400 abstracts, with approximately 1,400 participants registered.

5. Report on IAMCR conference 2014 - Hyderabad Proposal – Usha Raman

Ravindra Kumar Vemula, a member of the Hyderabad local organizing committee, spoke briefly about the preparations for the 2014 conference. Arrangements have been made for the conference to take place at Hyderabad's major conference center. He distributed flyers for the conference and took questions about attendance, cost, and security. He indicated that the committee anticipates no limits on number of attendees and that they expected registration, lodging, and other associated costs to be lower than for other conferences. In addition, the area where the conference is being held in is quite

secure.

EB REPORTS

6. President's report – Janet Wasko

Janet Wasko highlighted key points made in the written President's report. There were no questions asked. (See attached report.)

7. Vice Presidents' reports - Aimée Vega Montiel and Pradip Thomas

Aimee Vega Montiel discussed her responsibilities with the newsletter and membership committee, and co-coordinating relationships with UNESCO's "Women Make News" initiative. She also represented IAMCR at numerous conferences and other associations's meetings.

Pradip Thomas highlighted his activities as co-editor of the newsletter, in helping with the membership drive, and assisting in securing the Hyderabad proposal.

(See attached reports.)

8. Secretary-General's report – Maria Michalis

Maria Michalis highlighted her activities working with the Dublin local organizing committee and the section and working group heads. In addition, she briefly discussed her role in the site visit to Hyderabad in preparation for the 2014 conference.

(See attached report.)

9. Treasurer's report and budget for 2014 – Nico Carpentier

Nico Carpentier discussed the financial state of the organization. He highlighted difficulties in long-term comparisons of membership and financial data. In spite of this, the organization is operating in the black. In part, he indicated that this was due to extraordinary fundraising efforts from the Durban conference local organizing committee. He discussed a number of possible changes to the organization's

investment strategies and purchases, all of which are discussed in more detail in the attached report. He also presented a list of Comunica's services. (See attached report.)

10. Report from Membership Committee – Aimée Vega Montiel and Pradip Thomas

Aimee Vega Montiel and Pradip Thomas reported on the preparations for a membership campaign. They shared some examples of printed materials designed in preparation for a major campaign, which is expected to begin in October 2013. They suggested that the Sections Heads and International Council members will be asked to participate in this campaign. In addition, in response to questions, they indicated that the campaign needs to happen on multiple fronts, including talking with interested colleagues at their universities and at other conferences. (See attached reports.)

11. Report from Section/Working Group Heads Meeting

Sarah Cardey reported from the

Section/Working Group Heads meeting earlier in the day. Key issues raised were related to conference deadlines, the OCS system, difficulties with no-shows, and peer review. This issue of peer review was taken up as later in this meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

12. Report from Legal Committee – Philippe Maarek

Phillippe Maarek presented a proposal from the Legal Committee regarding Section/Working Group Head elections. A discussion ensued about the difficulties with immediate adoption and other potential difficulties. The motion was accepted with a three year probation period. (26 In Favor, 0 Not in Favor, and 2 abstentions.) (See attached report.)

13. Report from Scholarly Review Committee - Tom Jacobson

Tom Jacobson presented four proposals from the committee. The discussion centered on the first

proposal for mandatory peer review. The guidelines for this peer review process will be discussed and developed by the Scholarly Review Committee. This motion passed. (40 In Favor, 0 Not In Favor, and 1 Abstention.) The other three of the proposals were tabled for further discussion at a later meeting. (See attached reports.)

14. Report from Publications Committee - Claudia Padovani/Marjan deBruin

Marjan deBruin and Claudia Padovani gave an overview of the committee's work to secure contracts for book series representing IAMCR. Contracts are in the works with Palgrave, and discussions with Intellect are still underway. (See attached report.)

15. Report from Environmental Impact Committee – Robert Hackett

Robert Hackett presented a range of suggestions for improving the environmental impact of the organization and conferences. A discussion

ensued about the difficulties of complete adoption of the suggestions, which included changes for the organization, rules for local organizing committees, guidelines for working with outside organizations, changes to investment strategies, and conference scheduling. It was noted by members of past local organizing committees that many of these suggestions had been taken into account in their planning. The Executive Board also indicated that they were in favor of working to further reduce the environmental impact of the organization. (See attached reports.)

Discussion then changed to the difficulties of conference scheduling (see below)

16. Report from Task Force on Global Media Policy - Jeremy Shtern/Stefania Milan

Reports from this committee could not be given due to time constraints, but are attached.

17. Report from Committee on Changes in Academia and Future Directions for IAMCR

- Friedrich Krotz

Reports from this committee could not be given due to time constraints, but are attached.

18. Report from Task Force on the Future of the IAMCR – Cees Hamelink/Robin Mansell

Reports from this committee could not be given due to time constraints, but are attached.

DISCUSSION

19. Conference scheduling

The discussion of conference scheduling included the question of moving from an annual to a biannual conference system, with the possibility of regional or virtual conferences. It was noted that the organization previously followed a biannual format. There was considerable disagreement about what impacts - professional, collegial, environmental - should be taken into account, and there was strong discussion from all sides about the merits of each system. It was agreed that a survey of the general membership should be implemented

before a decision can be made. Further discussion of the issue by the International Council will take place over the next year. The Executive Board agreed to organize a membership survey and to initiate a process for further discussion.

At this point, due to time constraints, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes taken by:
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25 June 2013