

2016 Annual Report to the International Communication Association

Division/Interest Group: Communication Law & Policy

Chair: Seamus Simpson

Vice chair: Katharine Sarikakis

Report

Division Membership

The CLP division had 189 members (at 4/16). This is down from 227 members as at (4/15). However, membership stood at 257 members as at (1/16). The subsequent decline, according to Sam Luna, tends to be common through this part of the membership cycle. Membership numbers are thus expected to recover in the latter half of 2016 in the lead up to paper submission for the 2017 conference.

Paper Submissions to the 2016 Conference

6 panel submissions and 68 individual paper submissions were made to the 2016 annual conference. There were no paper disqualifications. 47 of the individual submissions were full papers; 21 were short position papers submitted to the extended abstract session, which was originally conceptualized as an extended session on the conference theme, '*Communicating with Power in Communication Law and Policy Scholarship*'. Despite 21 proposals having been submitted, the results of the peer reviewing process meant that the Chair was able to accept 6 submissions in this category and, based on the format employed in previous years, this session becomes a single conference theme session instead of an extended session, at which six short presentations are to be delivered followed by a short session chair's response and an open discussion.

Paper Acceptance Rates

The acceptance rate for 2016 conference was 50% for panel submissions, 29% for the extended session position papers, and 43% for individual papers.

Regional Profile of Accepted Authors and Reviewers

15 of the authors of accepted individual papers were affiliated with North American Universities, and 15 with non-US universities (14 Western Europe, 1 East Asia). 4 authors of papers accepted in the extended abstract session were from North American based scholars, 1 from Europe and 1 from East Asia. The allocated session chairs were both US (5) and non-US based scholars (4 - all from Europe). 12 of the authors of the accepted 5 poster session papers were from North America and 1 from East Asia. 9 of the authors of papers presented at the regular panel sessions were from North America, 6 from Western Europe and 4 from East Asia.

An email call for reviewers was put out to all members of the division. The division used 50 reviewers. Reviewers came from Austria, the US, Belgium, Japan, Hong Kong, Germany, New Zealand, Australia, India, Taiwan, Singapore, the UK, Canada and Israel. Six past division chairs (3 male; 3 female) reviewed extended abstracts and regular panel proposals.

Both the Division Chair and Vice Chair are based at universities in Europe (U of Salford and U of Vienna, respectively). 8 student papers were accepted in the conference program.

Awards

In 2016, the annual C. Edwin Baker Award (delivered jointly by the CLP and Philosophy, Theory and Critique Divisions) was administered by the CLP Division. Monroe Price (U of Pennsylvania) was the worthy recipient.

The Division gave out 3 conference fee waivers. These went to the top rated student papers in the division to assist with the costs of attending the conference. The remainder of the division funds were used to hold a division reception during the annual conference. There is likely to be a small sum remaining after these disbursements (subject to Japanese Yen/USD exchange rate at the time of the conference).

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