Dear PR Division members,

Happy Autumn! I hope your fall semester started (or is starting) well. In this fall ICA PRD newsletter, you will find PRD business meeting minutes from the 2017 ICA conference, update on the ICA Fellow Selection Task Force, news from other current PRD committees, 2018 ICA call for papers and the update about the 2018 ICA conference deadline, and plenty of job announcements from around the world.

As always, please keep in touch via Facebook and email and let us know if you have any questions. If you want to get involved with the ICA Public Relations Division and/or help with ongoing tasks, please let me know.

Katerina Tsetsura
Chair,
ICA Public Relations Division

II. Report from the Vice Chair and Program Planner, Flora Hung-Baesecke

PRD Report from the 2017 ICA conference
We had another successful conference in 2017 in San Diego. Overall, 187 papers and extended abstracts were submitted. 103 were accepted (9 posters and 24 sessions). Acceptance rate: 55%.

You can find the PRD business meeting minutes here: [https://www.icahdq.org/members/group_content_view.asp?group=186109&id=633471](https://www.icahdq.org/members/group_content_view.asp?group=186109&id=633471). Please send any corrections to ICA PRD secretary Alina Dolea at alinadolea@gmail.com

Selection of ICA Fellows Task Force
Our Division is yet to have the first PRD member as an ICA fellow. This year, PRD members have submitted two applications for consideration, but none was approved. Several PRD members have created a task force and worked with the PRD Chair to express our concerns about the selection process of ICA Fellows to the ICA HQ and ICA Board. Currently, PRD Chair and members of the task force are working together with several ICA Past Presidents, this year’s ICA Fellows Chair Cynthia Stohl, other Board members, and ICA Executive Director Laura Sawyer to find the ways to discuss revision of the selection process to increase transparency. We will keep you updated on the work of the task force.
News from current PRD committees
Thank you to all who volunteered to help our division. We have formed three committees. Members of all committees are highly motivated and will contribute greatly to the well-being of our division.

The ICA PRD Social Media Committee:
Phuong Hoan Le, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Cindy S.B. Ngai, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong, SAR PRC
Alessandro Lovari, Università degli Studi di Sassari, Italy
Arunima Krishna, Boston University, USA
Lisa Tam, Queensland University of Technology, Australia

The ICA PRD Fundraising Committee:
Tiffany Mohr, University of Alabama, USA
Jiun-Yi Tsai, Northern Arizona University, USA
Leysan Khakimova Storie, Zayed University, UAE
Albina Kartavtseva, University of Newcastle, Australia

The ICA PRD 2018 Division Reception and Dinner Ad-hoc Committee:
Flora Hung-Baescke, Massey University, New Zealand
Katerina Tsetsura, University of Oklahoma, USA
Shannon Bowen, University of South Carolina, USA
Petra Theunissen, Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand

Update from the committee: The Organizational Communication Committee will join us again for the division reception. Our local host in Prague has helped to identify several venues for wine tasting. If you have any suggestions where to host a reception and/or dinner, please share them with the committee.

The 2018 ICA conference Update

New Submission Deadline: The 2018 ICA conference paper site is now open for submissions! Please note that this year the paper management submission online system will stop accepting submissions at 16.00 GMT on November 1, 2017, not midnight as it used to be. ICA HQ encourages us to submit your papers ahead of the deadline to avoid any system failure.

ICA PRD Call for papers: The 2018 call for papers is available here (http://www.icahdq.org/mpage/PR2018). For any questions, please contact Vice Chair Flora Hung-Baescke at flora.hung@gmail.com.

Pre/PostConference Proposal Submissions
This year, the Public Relations Division supported the following proposals, some of which are sponsored or co-sponsored by other divisions. These proposals are all accepted by ICA:

1. The Ph.D. Student Workshop, prepared by Katerina Tsetsura, is sponsored by the Public Relations Division.

2. The Preconference proposal, Diverse Voices: Authentic Communication, Trust, Dialogue, and Society, prepared by Flora Hung-Baescke, Regina Chen from Public Relations Society of China, Oyvind Ihlen from the European Public Relations Education
and Research Association, and Denisa Hejlová from Charles University in Prague, is sponsored by the Public Relations Division and co-sponsored by the Global Communication and Social Change Division, and the Organizational Communication Division.

3. The Preconference proposal, Theories in Public Relations: Reflections and Future Directions, prepared by Chiara Valentini and Lee Edwards, is sponsored by the Public Relations Division.

4. The postconference proposal, Lobbying and Democracy: The Voice of Communication, prepared by Oyvind Ihlen, Anna Shavit, Chiara Valentini, Scott Davidson from the European Public Relations Education and Research Association, is sponsored by the Public Diplomacy Interest Group and co-sponsored by the Public Relations Division.

5. Preconference proposal, Voice and voices: Exploring the Tensions between Plurivocity and Univocity (exact title to be confirmed), prepared by Professor François Cooren (Université de Montréal), is co-sponsored by the Public Relations Division and other ICA divisions.

The call for papers for all pre/post-conferences will follow shortly. See our Facebook page for updates.

III. Other conferences and calls for papers

WORLD PUBLIC RELATIONS FORUM, Research Colloquium, Oslo, Norway, April 22, 2018

Call for abstracts/papers. Should we believe the media hype, there are changes in society’s epistemic foundation. Descriptions abound of a “post-truth society” – word of the year in 2016, according to Oxford Dictionaries. Post-truth denotes “circumstances in which objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief.” While the use and misuse of facts and research is nothing new, it might be possible to talk about an intensification due to changes in the media landscape leading to fragmentation and potentially to “echo chambers” where people seek to get their views confirmed without being exposed to counterarguments.

If it is correct that the epistemic foundation of society becomes more polarised, fragmented, uncertain and fluid, grasping the ways in which organisations communicate becomes important to understand what contributes to increase or decrease in social fragmentation. What truths are forwarded by public relations, and how do organizational intelligence and ultimate goals of profit and legitimacy play into this? That is the challenge the Research Colloquium will examine.

WPRF 2018 participants will come away with a better understanding of communications impact in a fast and ever-changing world.

Full papers of a maximum of 6000 words will be considered for publication in a special edition of Public Relations Review. To submit your abstract click here: [http://www.worldprforum.com/](http://www.worldprforum.com/).
The 9th edition of the International History of Public Relations Conference (IHPRC)
July 11-12, 2018 at Bournemouth University, UK

In addition to the traditional themes on the history of PR, proposals are welcome for a discussion panel on the history of PR education and the teaching of PR history. Research around this area may offer insight on the links between PR education, PR history and how the practice of the discipline has evolved historically.

Submissions: Papers for presentation at IHPRC 2018 will be selected, after peer review, on the basis of abstracts, of no more than two pages total length, including any references. The abstract should express the purpose, methodology, findings, implications/limitations and originality of the study. Author and affiliation details are to be printed on a separate sheet and the author(s) should not be identified in the abstract.

Deadlines: Submission of abstracts: Monday, December 18, 2017 to prhistory@bournemouth.ac.uk. Acceptance notification (by email): w/c January 29th, 2018.

All accepted abstracts will be published online prior to the conference. The next special issue will be in Public Relations Review, which will be published in 2018 (guest editors: Dr Tasos Theofilou and Professor Tom Watson).
Full call for papers: https://microsites.bournemouth.ac.uk/historyofpr/

BledCom 2018: 25th Jubilee Edition
July 5-7, Bled, Slovenia

BledCom is 25! The silver Jubilee Edition of the International Public Relations Research Symposium (popular as BledCom) will take place from Thursday, July 5, to Saturday, July 7, 2018 in Bled, Slovenia.
The theme is: A World in Crisis: The Role of Public Relations. The world appears to be in a particularly fluid crisis because of recent events. Trust in authorities and institutions is falling while organizations appear to be making optimistic promises of their commitment, engagement, and even enthusiasm toward a better world. What is going on? Public relations has always been involved in sense-making and reflection, relationship management, and storytelling. How much has it contributed to the present VUCA (Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, and Ambiguous) state of affairs and what is its role in the near future? These are questions we would like to discuss during the 25th anniversary. The deadline to submit abstracts and panel proposals is February 1, 2018.

IV. Job vacancies

All current job opportunities (PhD positions, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor) are listed on our ICA PR Division Facebook page. Visit our Facebook page for the latest updates and to post information on your job vacancies, calls for papers, new publications or future events.

Invitation for candidates for Guest Professor in Organisational Communication (temporary position) at the Department of Informatics and Media, Uppsala University

The Department of Informatics and Media (IM) is part of the Faculty of Social Sciences at Uppsala University. The members of the Department develop knowledge on the current and
future modes of communication and information distribution. The Department incorporates three subject areas: Information Systems (IS), Human-Computer Interaction (HCI), and Media and Communication Studies (MCS). MCS teaching is located in the Bachelor Programme in Media, Communication and Journalism Studies, 180 credits (from autumn 2017), in our one-year Journalism programme, in Digital Media and Society (a specialisation within the Master Programme in Social Sciences) and in the Master Programme Management, Communication and IT (MCIT). MCS research is structured by three thematic focal points: 1/Communication, and material and discursive power dynamics; 2/Communication, participation and empowerment; and 3/Communication, identity and difference.

MCS has a vacant temporary position as a Guest Professor in Organisational Communication. The emphasis rests on Organisational Communication but the position’s thematic focus also includes Strategic and Corporate Communication.

For further information about the Guest Professorship please contact: Dr. Therese Monstad, administrative director of studies (MCS), therese.monstad@im.uu.se, +46 (0)18-471 10 18. You are welcome to submit your candidacy no later than 2017-11-15. Please send your candidacy to: therese.monstad@im.uu.se.

The University of Maryland is seeking an assistant professor of public relations to start August 2018. The successful candidate will have or show clear promise of a strong, active research program in public relations. Best consideration by Sept. 22. See the link for more information and to apply: http://ejobs.umd.edu/postings/54111

The University of Maryland, College Park is the flagship institution in the University System of Maryland. Our 1,250-acre College Park campus is just minutes away from Washington, D.C., and the nexus of the nation’s legislative, executive, and judicial centers of power.

Please contact Erich Sommerfeldt (esommerf@umd.edu) with any questions.

Assistant Professor -School of Advertising and Public Relations- Full Time - The University of Tennessee School of Advertising and Public Relations seeks to fill a tenure track Assistant Professor position to begin August 1, 2018. We seek a colleague with expertise in public relations. Ph.D. at the time of the appointment in public relations or equivalent and evidence of excellence in teaching and research commensurate with appointment at a Carnegie classified Research University are required. Industry experience is preferred. ABDs will be considered. To apply, please send a letter of application, vita, evidence of teaching and research excellence, and the names and contact information of at least three references to: Dr. Maureen Taylor School, School of Advertising and Public Relations, 476 Communications Building, Knoxville, TN 37996-0324, phone 865-974-5101.

Details - https://www.facebook.com/groups/icaprdiv/permalink/10154753313860636/

The Department of Public Relations/Advertising at Rowan University (NJ) welcomes applications for a full-time (10-month), tenure-track Assistant Professor to join the department September 1, 2018. See the link for more information. Applications due November 1, 2017.

Colorado State University in Fort Collins is looking to hire an assistant professor of PR/Strategic Comm to start August 2018. Join an amazing department and help shape the future of our PR curriculum at the undergraduate, MS, and PhD levels. This is a photo in Rocky Mountain National Park (only an hour away), which is where I’m headed today to conduct some strategic communication research in partnership with the National Park Service. CSU is an amazing place to work hard and play in the stunning outdoors. Go to the link for all the details on applying: https://jobs.colostate.edu/postings/49859

The Department of Communication and Journalism at Oakland University invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor position in our new public relations and strategic communication major. The appointment begins August 15, 2018. The position is designed to cultivate the new major. Successful candidates will teach undergraduate courses in the areas of public relations and strategic communication, maintain an active research agenda, and provide leadership and service within the department, college, and university. Required qualifications include: a Ph.D. in public relations, strategic communication, or related field at time of appointment; experience teaching undergraduate courses in public relations and strategic communication and demonstrated activity in scholarly arenas, such as conference presentations, publications, or similar, with an articulated research agenda. Teaching responsibilities would include teaching quantitative methods and basic courses in public relations and strategic communication. Professional experience in the PR field is desirable. The ideal candidate will strengthen our existing curriculum by developing new courses in one or more of the following areas: social media, health communication, media technologies and strategic communication.
Inquiries can be directed to Holly Shreve Gilbert (shreve@oakland.edu). Quick link to job posting: http://jobs.oakland.edu/postings/11474

The Media and Communications Department at University of Canterbury, New Zealand, is looking to appoint a fixed-term lecturer to teach two courses in the areas of strategic communication during the first semester of 2018 (February 19th to June 01st). Details can be found under this link: https://www.seek.co.nz/job/34469607

Kind reminder
Don’t forget to send your news also to the division Secretary, Alina Dolea, alinadolea@gmail.com, so that we can tell members what’s going on in the division!