I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF OFFICERS 2009-2010

The meeting was called to order by division Chair Craig Carroll on June 24, 2010 at 4:00pm. Members were welcomed to the meeting and the officers for 2009-2010 were introduced – Chair: Craig Carroll, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA; Vice Chair: Juan-Carlos Molleda, University of Florida, USA; Jennifer Bartlett, Queensland University of Technology, AUSTRALIA.

II. OLD BUSINESS

Minutes from the Chicago meeting distributed to members were approved.
Moved: Anne Gregory
Seconded: Rhonda Zaharna

b. Election and nomination of Office Bearers
Vilma Luoma-Aho was to begin her term as Secretary from the close of the 2010 meeting but has withdrawn her availability for this time. We thank Vilma for agreeing to take on the position. As the position of Secretary is now vacant, nominations will be taken during the meeting. Jennifer Bartlett has agreed to stay on in the position until the election of the new Secretary in October 2010. The new Secretary’s term will begin in January 2011. Nominations will also be taken for the position of Vice Chair during this meeting, to be voted on in the elections in October. The new Vice Chair will take on the position from the close of the Boston meeting in 2011.
Clarification was sought on the appointment and term of Chair as Craig Carroll moved into the position on Betteke van Ruler’s early step down for the position. Michael Haley confirmed that Craig’s move from elected vice-Chair to Chair was according to the Association constitution.
c. Announcements from the ICA Board Meeting

Carroll presented an overview of the key points from the ICA board meeting 2010. The following points were noted:

Finance Committee. ICA continues to do well financially. Lease arrangements to other business continue in Washington as a source of income

Possibility raised of a 12% increase in dues in coming year.

A new position of communications officer for ICA was raised at the Board meeting. This is a common role in professional and academic associations and ICA does not have such a role to date. Their salary would be one of the items covered by the prospective 12% dues increase.

A new corporate logo has been designed and will now be used by ICA.

Carl Botan moved to start looking at a new logo design. Seconded by Craig Carroll.

Upcoming Conferences. The following locations are upcoming:
2011 Boston
2012 Phoenix
2013 London.

Concerns were raised in the Public Relations Division meeting about the Conference going ahead in Phoenix due to proposed immigration laws in that State. A series of protest options were raised by members. Rhonda Zaharna suggested that $ would still go to Phoenix whether the conference goes ahead or not. Vince Hazleton suggested $ would still be lost by the Association if the conference did not proceed.

It was noted that a surcharge will be levied from the Boston conference onwards. The US$5-$7 levy would go towards student travel to attend the conference.

The number of conference submissions will be limited to 2 per person from next year (2011).

ICA Publications

Public relations contributions were noted as absent from Human Communication Research and Communication Yearbook.

Journal of Communication had 18 submission on Public relations subject matter.

Communication Theory had 4 submissions.

ICA Journal Editors announced

James Katz is new editor of Human Communication Research

ICA Fellows
There are no Fellows from the public relations division. Nomination requires 8-9 letters of support for full professors are required from the division. Bob Heath has been sent forth as a nominee from the Public Relations division and his nomination will be formally submitted for the following year.

d. PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISION SUB-REPORTS

1. Membership (Bonita Neff)

Overall membership numbers are down 25% this year which is consistent with the rest of the Association.

2. Finance (Craig Carroll)

Finances are also therefore down. However, endowment has been established for the Heath and Grunig awards. Members were invited to contribute to the endowment funds. A figure of US$40,000 is needed for each fund.

3. Journal sponsorship (Craig Carroll on behalf of Elizabeth Toth)

A new Sage journal – Public Relations Inquiry – appears to fit the taskforce requirements for a journal related to the Public Relations division. The editor of this public is Jordi Xifra. Sage has put in place a plan to list the journal on ISI in three years. The journal will take a more inter-disciplinary approaches to include sociology, philosophy, psychology, culture studies, political science, economics and critical approaches and to be more qualitative than quantitative in nature. Submissions will be called for soon and the first issue is planned for January 2012.

Carl Botan noted that there is only 1 editor from North America (USA, Canada, Mexico).

David McKie noted that internationally, public relations journal ranking was a problem. Therefore the content of the first two issues of the new journal will be sourced from outside public relations to build impact factors.

4. By-Laws (Craig Carroll on behalf of Bruce Berger)

Bruce Berger headed up this group. They require one year to keep considering and to be reflected on in Boston. In Singapore, changes to be considered.
Katerina Tsetsura asked for an explanation of nominations and elections in the division. The proposal is for nomination to begin three months prior to the conference and close at the conference.

5. Newsletter (Jennifer Bartlett)

Members suggested they do like to have an electronic version of the newsletter to be posted on the website as well as the ongoing website content related to the taskforce. Members will be asked to provide nominated forms of information to the Secretary by a certain date for inclusion in the newsletter. David McKie offered assistance in this process.

6. Taskforce on Cross National Research (Stefan Wehmeier on behalf of Mark Eisenegger)

Stefan presented on the purpose of the CNR. Vilma Luoma-aho raised the question of where the funding comes from. It was agreed funding opportunities also need to go up on the site.

7. Webmaster (Stefan Wehmeier)

It was agreed the division Secretary and the Webmaster liaise. Every three months send out information to the members as well as have it on the website. Some of the suggested news items include – Annual reports, updates on journals, journal rankings.

8. Report on Singapore conference (Juan-Carlos Molleda)

88 papers were submitted for the conference. Seven were accepted for poster sessions and 45 as full papers. This represents a 59% acceptance rate. In all, 17 countries were involved. A total of 20 slots were finally allocated.

A global public relations pre-conference was also carried out with 80 participants. Thanks were made to Kirk Hallahan, Katerina Tsetsura and Shari Veil for their contribution.

9. Acknowledgements

Special acknowledgement and thanks were given to Juan-Carlos Molleda for organizing the program and to Bruce Berger for the work in the By-laws.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Feedback on the program was invited by Juan-Carlos Molleda for organizing the forthcoming program for 2011.

2. Awards
The following awards were made for 2010:

Top student paper: Maria De Moya, U of Florida, USA Ji Young Kim, U of Florida, USA Spiro K. Kiousis, U of Florida, USA

Top faculty paper: Yi-Hui Huang, Chinese U of Hong Kong, CHINA, PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF

Thesis award: Kristin Pace, Michigan State U / Accepting Responsibility and Expressing Regret as Crisis Communication Strategies, directed by Dr. Tomasz Fediuk, Illinois State University, has been awarded the 2008-2009 James E. Grunig and Larissa A. Grunig Outstanding Master’s Thesis Award from the Public Relations Division of the International Communication Association.

Dissertation award: Bumsub Jin, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, State University of New York, Oswego / The Roles of Public Relations and Social Capital for Communal Relationship Building: Enhancing Collaborative Values and Outcomes, directed by Dr. Mary Ann Ferguson, University of Florida, has been awarded the 2008-2009 James E. Grunig and Larissa A. Grunig Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award from the Public Relations Division of the International Communication Association.

3. Nominations for PR Division office-bearers

Secretary: Erich Sommerfeldt and Chiara Valentini
Moved by Vince Hazelton. Seconded by Maureen Taylor

Vice-Chair: Katerina Tsetsura and Jennifer Bartlett
Moved by Shari Veil. Seconded by Maureen Taylor

4. Discussion related to Public Relations Division

Gunther Bentele noted that the rules for the Public Relations division had different procedures to ICA in general. A particular concern was related to panel submissions. It was suggested that all divisions need to agree to longer abstracts for panels.

5. Boston 2011 Conference

The conference will be held 26-30 May at Westin Waterfront. Papers will be due 1 November with notification of acceptance by mid January. For the coming conference, applicants should check where their paper will go – regular paper, poster session or virtual conference. It was noted that the virtual conference (a new initiative for 2011) will not be held in real time. It is not designed to deal with no-shows but to be a category of its own.
6. Membership drive (Bonnie Neff)

Bonnie reports that 121 members attended the conference out of 392 in the division. A strong number of slots were allocated to the Public relations divisions.

7. Journal Rankings

David McKie noted the need to raise the rankings for public relations journals

8. Reports from Editors

Short updates were presented by Anne Gregory as editor of journal of Communication Management and Ansgar Zerfass on behalf of the International journal of Strategic Communication.

9. A number of job vacancies were noted: U NSW, U Florida, U Oklahoma, and American U.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Craig Carroll closed the meeting at 5.30pm. Shari Veil seconded.