All Things Media

February 2020

Call for Nominations
ICA Mass Communication Division Innovation Award for Theory

Deadline for nominations: 02 March, 2020

Honoree to Receive Award at ICA Annual Meeting in Australia (May, 2020)
Background. The Mass Communication Division membership approved the creation of a new award, the ICA MCD Innovation Award, at the 2016 ICA annual meeting in Fukuoka, Japan. This award will honor mass communication theory innovations in even numbered years and method innovations in odd numbered years. Innovation in theory development can manifest itself in many ways – the presentation of a new theory, the articulation of weaknesses of an existing theory and how a research effort addresses those weaknesses, approaching a mass communication phenomenon from a new explanatory principle that undergirds theory, or arguing for a paradigm shift. Innovation in method could reflect the creation of new analytical tools and/or procedures, the offering of an improved design to address a long-standing mass communication phenomenon, the creation of novel stimuli to address a mass communication question, the presentation of an advancement in comparative research methodology, or the use of mixed methods in a novel, but productive manner. An innovation is often defined as something “new”, but we all know that our theory and method advancements build on the work of others. Nevertheless, there are those instances when a particular work signals not just a step, but a leap forward that is worthy of being defined as an “innovation”. It is those works that represent a unique advancement that the division is seeking to identify for this award.

Call for Nominations. All nominations will focus on a single work of innovation, whether it be a peer-reviewed journal article, invited journal article, book chapter, or book. Both self-nominations and nominations by others are welcome. Only those individuals who are current members of the International Communication Association (ICA) can put forward a nomination or offer a letter of support. A nominated work can be by one or more author(s) and published anytime within fifteen years prior to the nomination deadline. For the 2020 award (and its March 2020 nomination deadline), this would include works published from March 2005 to the present. A nomination packet will include the following: (1) a primary nomination letter arguing why this piece of research represents a true methodological innovation and a summary of the scope and impact of the innovation on mass communication research; (2) a copy of the peer-reviewed journal article, invited journal article, book chapter, or up to two chapters of the book being nominated; (3) the Curriculum Vitae of the sole- or lead-author of the work being considered for the award; and, (4) as many as two additional letters of support for the nomination may be included in the packet, but are not necessary for award consideration.

Directions for Nomination Submission. All nomination materials should be included in a single Adobe Acrobat PDF attachment sent to InnovationAward2020@gmail.com by 23:59 GMT, March 2, 2020. Any questions concerning the ICA MCD Innovation Award for Theory should be directed to Robin Nabi, Ph.D., Award committee Chair, nabi@ucsb.edu.

Innovation Award Committee: Robin Nabi (Chair, UC Santa Barabara), Anne Bartsch (LMU), Shawnika Hull (GWU), Jochen Peter (ASCoR).
Click here to read the message on the Australian Bushfires from ICA President Terry Flew.

Click here to learn about registration.

The hotel block booking link is sent only to those who registered for the main conference prior to Thursday, 27 February, 2020. Click here to read about the hotel booking procedure for #ICA20.
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