ICA CAT Business Meeting 2023 Minutes
(May 26, 2023, Toronto)

Current elected CAT leadership team
Chair: Caleb T. Carr, Illinois State University
Vice Chair: Katy Pearce, Washington University
Secretary: Anna Sophie Kümpel, TU Dresden
SEC: Chengyu Fang, University of California – Santa Barbara
International Liaison: Hyunjin Kang, Nanyang Technological University

Appointed/non-officer CAT leadership
Awards Chair: William H. Dutton
Social Media Manager: Katy Pearce
Co-Directors of Doctoral Consortium: Bree McEwan & Brooke Foucault Welles

Minutes from the Business Meeting 2022 in Paris can be found here: https://www.icahdq.org/resource/group/9c634c08-310f-4a16-85da-7c2e4b349eed/2022_ica_cat_minutes.pdf

Agenda
1. Chair’s Report
2. Secretary’s Report
3. Vice Chair’s Report
4. International Liaison’s Report
5. SEC Representative’s Report
6. Doctoral Consortium Report
7. CAT Awards
8. New Business
9. Adjourn

0. A word from the Exec Committee Noshir Contractor:
   - 74th Annual Conference will be held in Gold Coast Region, QLD, Australia (“Beautiful relaxed beach town”) from June 20 to June 24, 2024:
     - Q: Why the late date? A: To better accommodate people who want to travel prior to or after the conference
     - Q: Isn’t that Winter in Australia? A: Yes, but temperatures comparable to the ones in Toronto right now
   - Mode: Conference will be hybrid
   - Costs: US$190 for single room in the Conference Hotel
   - Theme: “Communication and Global Human Rights”

1. Chair’s Report

Caleb Carr opens the meeting and welcomes the team and all CAT members; the current CAT leadership team (see above) is briefly introduced. The agenda for the meeting is presented.
Notes from ICA:

Upcoming ICA Conferences
- ICA24 – Gold Coast, QLD (Taylor’s Version)
  - $378,000 in subvention funding from Australian government to help defer costs from lower-attendance (travel grants & enhance technology)
- ICA25 – Denver, CO, USA (Taylor’s Version)
- ICA26 – Open (Latin America [first choice] or Europe)

Regional Conferences
- 2024 May – U of Burgundy (France): “Food and Communication”

Budget Passed
- Will be posted online by ICA

New Task Force for recategorizing countries
- WIP, ICA will keep everybody updated on which system will be used in the future

Health of CAT:
- Good health; CAT remains ICA’s largest division
  - Membership numbers: 1,076 CAT members (2022: 1,042; 2021: 602; 2020: 910)
- Working to pursue additional revenue streams
  - Additional funding lines will be explored in the next years
  - Continued thanks to Underwood Institute for their sustained generosity!
  - Short-term: CAT Swag (see VC report)
  - Long-term: Sponsorships

2. Secretary’s Report

Anna Sophie Kümpel informs CAT members about the budget of the CAT division:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAT Budget:</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rollover from FY2022 Budget</td>
<td>11,262.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership ($5 per member + $2 subsidy from ICA)</td>
<td>7,532.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Budget from Discontinued Midyear BOD Meeting</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donation from The Underwood Institute</td>
<td>500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Budget</strong></td>
<td><strong>20,294.35</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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| Costs for 2023 Reception (no final numbers yet!) | ~4,600.00 |
| Costs for Travel Grants (10x $300)              | 3,000.00  |
| Costs for Doctoral Consortium                  | 250.00    |
| **Total Costs**                                | **7,850.00** |
| **Budget minus Costs**                         | **12,444.35** |
3. Vice Chair’s Report

Katy Pearce informs CAT members about the conference planning and additional VC activities:

Conference slot allocations:
- 68 research session slots
- 13 co-sponsored sessions
- 5 pre-/post-conferences
- 11 poster slots

Submissions:
- **Paper submissions:** 384/205 accepted (53% acceptance rate)
- **Panel submissions:** 19/8 accepted (42% acceptance rate)
- **Abstracts:** 260/84 accepted (30% acceptance rate)
- **Escalators:** 73/22 (30% acceptance rate)

Some notes on reviewing:
- **Thank you to everybody who reviewed for CAT – especially to those who did extra reviews!**
  - 1,200 reviewers (average number of submissions per reviewer: 2)
  - CAT Top Reviewer: America Edwards (University of California – Santa Barbara)
- We have at least 1 PhD holder reviewing every submission and manually checked for rude or short reviews this year
- ICA policy is that if you submit to a division/IG, you review for that division/IG (with exceptions for exceptional circumstances)
- The ScholarOne reviewing system has some challenges → Please help us by setting your keywords appropriately!
  - Division tag first (Ex: Communication & Technology: Romantic relationships)
  - Know that tags do not cross-reference, so even if you told Mass Communication that you have expertise in social network analysis, the system does not use that information for your assignments in other divisions/IGs.
  - Specific > Broad because the system does not understand that “interpersonal communication” would also likely include “romantic relationships.”

**CAT Swag Fundraiser:**
- Available on ICA Store (Shirts, Bucket Heads, etc.)
- Proceeds go to the CAT travel fund, so consider getting some CAT swag 😊

4. International Liaison’s Report

International Liaison Hyunjin Kang reports:

- CAT has a broad international representation (61 countries in 2023; 46 countries in 2021)
- But, most of our division members reside in Tier A countries (89.2%, with 48.1% from U.S.)
  - Tier A: 89.2% (e.g., U.S., Germany, Canada, Netherlands)
Tier B: 6.24% (e.g., China, Mexico, South Africa, Turkey, Brazil)
Tier C: 4.56% (e.g., Nigeria, India, Indonesia)

**Best Practice Online Interview**
- To get ideas/tips for mentorship and internalization programs for CAT
- Online interviews (open-ended question survey) with those who took a leadership or management role in mentorship, career development, or networking programs
- 10 completed responses
  - Organizations/ Divisions of interviewees included: ICA- Political Communication Division; NCA- Organizational Communication; Australia and New Zealand Communication Association (ANZCA); N2Women MobiSys’21 event

**Proposed Initiatives**
- CAT Mentorship Program
  - Linking with the research escalator program
- Increased networking and support opportunities for Tier B/C country members:
  - Newcomers meet-up & Q&A session: more active promotion is needed to attract more Tier B/C country members
  - Develop formal programs to leverage CAT welcome meeting & Reception for better networking and support for Tier B/C country members
- Financial support to members from Tier B and C countries
  - 10 Travel grants in 2023- prioritizing new student members and from underrepresented areas
- Mid-year virtual brownbag research talks to highlight the work of underrepresented international scholars

5. SEC Representative’s Report

Caleb Carr presents on behalf of SEC Chengyu Fang:

- **Past year:**
  - ICA CAT Newcomer Q&A Meeting
    - Two sessions in October
    - Answered questions about our division, submissions, reviews, etc.
    - ~30 attendees across both
  - Worked with the exec committee to develop ICA CAT tips and resources

- **Upcoming year:**
  - More concise and oriented reviewing guide for graduate students & early career scholars
    - Whether we like to admit it or not, nearly half of our reviews are students, important task for both socialization and reviewing quality
  - Continued effort to develop CAT’s version of a peer mentoring program
  - Brainstorm possible initiatives for upcoming years (any ideas and suggestions are appreciated, please e-mail: chengyu@ucsb.edu)
6. Doctoral Consortium Report

Bree McEwan & Brooke Foucault Welles are reporting on the CAT Doctoral Consortium (DC):

- Thank you to the Institute of Communication, Culture, Information and Technology (ICCIT) at the University of Toronto Mississauga and the Office of the President, Rhonda McEwen at Victoria University for co-sponsoring the DC!
- Great opportunity for doctoral students to develop their research and get valuable feedback from experienced CAT scholars
  - DC in 2023: 19 students & 9 mentors
- Mentors are needed → Goal for 2024: Improve the diversity of the mentors; big pool of people is needed to match the topics of the students to mentors’ expertise → so please get in touch if you can imagine being a mentor (no formal commitment needed at this point!)

7. CAT Awards

Big congratulations to this year’s award winners!

- **Top Poster:**
  - Conflict Task Resolution Between Partners Meets Co-Present Mobile Phone Use: Exploration of Real-Time Dynamics [Michal Frackowiak (U of Lausanne), Mariek Vanden Abeele (Ghent U), Pascale Sophie Russell (U of Surrey), & Peter Hilpert (U of Lausanne)]

- **Top Student Papers:**
  - Understanding the efficacy of provenance interventions for tackling recontextualized misinformation [Cassidy Bereskin (U of Oxford)]
  - Why do people unfollow “friends” on social media? Communication authenticity, unfollowing, and the construction of networked intimacy on WeChat moments [Junwen Hu (Michigan State U)]
  - More than job loss: The influence of symbolic threat from automation on redistribution and technology attitudes [Chloe Ahn (U of Pennsylvania)]
  - Sharing “Memories in Real Life” on social media platforms: How constructs of authenticity are implicated within digital memory work [Taylor Annabell (Kings College)]

- **Top Papers:**
  - Algorithmic conspirituality: Explicating its emergence, dimensions, and persuasibility [Shaheen Kanthawala (U of Alabama), Kelley Cotter (Penn State U), Amy Richart (U of Alabama), Ankolika De (Penn State U), Haley McAtee (U of Alabama), Connie Yun (U of Illinois – Urbana-Champaign), & Julia R. DeCook (Independent)]
  - Embodying adverse health outcomes through immersive virtual reality to promote perceived risk and health behaviors [Dai-Yun Wu (National Yang Ming Chiao Tung U), & Jih-Hsuan (T-A-M-M-Y) Lin (National Chengchi U)]
  - Using conversational agents to correct misinformation and change behavioral intentions [Ziyang Gong & Leona Yi-Fan Su (U of Illinois – Urbana-Champaign)]
A replication and extension of the personal social media ecosystem framework [Michael C. Carter (Boston’s Children Hospital), Drew P. Cingel, Samantha L. Vigil, & Jeanette B. Ruiz (U California - Davis)]

In addition to the conference awards, CAT also awarded the (1) Frederick Williams Prize for Contribution to the Study of Communication and Technology and the (2) Herbert S. Dordick Dissertation Award for an outstanding doctoral dissertation in the field of communication and technology in 2023.

- **Herbert S. Dordick Dissertation Award:** Dr. Michelle Ferris Dobles (U of Costa Rica)
  - Steve Jones (Nominator): “Dr. Ferris Dobles’s dissertation greatly adds to our knowledge of important emergent issues regarding the consequences of mobile media and technology for migration, migrants and refugees. … Her formulation of a theory of hybrid migration, with its focus on how technology permeates the entire process of human migration on both the intimate/micro and the infrastructural/macro levels offers a starting point for discussions about important policy and design considerations about the ways in which communication technologies and new media matter in the lives of migrants and refugees.”

- **Frederick Williams Prize for Contribution to the Study of Communication and Technology:** Prof. Joseph B. Walther (U California – Santa Barbara)
  - S. Shyam Sundar (Nominator): “[Dr. Walther] has been instrumental in shaping scholarship in computer-mediated communication (CMC) for over 30 years...including 6 major theories […] Aside from his scholarship, Joe has been a generous mentor and role model for many of us in CAT division.”

8. New Business

- Changes in Leadership
  - Thanks to Anna Sophie Kümpel for serving as the CAT secretary for the last three years (Incoming Secretary: Adrian Meier (FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg)

- ICA Elections → 3 CAT executive positions voted on in September 2023 Election
  - Vice-Chair (4-year term: 2 vice-chair; 2 chair); SEC; International Liaison
  - All positions start at the conclusion of #ica24 in Australia
    - Please contact Caleb or Katy if interested!

- Refocusing CAT?
  - **Discussion about whether there is a need to refocus what CAT stands for**
    - Jessica Vitak: Is there really a problem considering how big the division is?
    - Katy Pearce: Everybody wants to review papers that match their expertise, which is really hard for a big division; problem for planners
    - Leah A. Lievrouw: Revisit the discussions that happened around 2000; set up task force to discuss possibilities (S. Shyam Sundar: This was also done in 2010)
    - Ran Wei: For younger scholars, having a large division could be the best to get their ICA journey started
    - Please reach out if there are further thoughts on that!
9. Adjourn

The meeting is adjourned.