Journalism Studies Division Business Meeting ICA 2020
Minutes from the Business Meeting held virtually via Zoom
Recorded on May 11, 2020, 01:00 PM GMT

1. Opening
Division Chair Keren Tenenboim-Weinblatt opened the annual business meeting of the Journalism Studies Division. She started the meeting by giving an update on the division’s membership:
   • We have 613 members from 39 countries; we’re the fourth largest in ICA
   • Our members are highly engaged as reviewers, presenters, chairs, respondents, etc.

2. ICA News (Pending)

2.1 2021 Conference
The 2021 conference will be held in Denver, Colorado in the United States.

2.2 ICA Board of Directors Meeting Highlights
   • Pending, as business meeting recorded before the Board of Directors meeting.

3. Journalism Studies Division News

3.1 New officers
   • Keren formally turned over the division chair position to Seth Lewis, who has served as the division’s vice chair for two years.
   • Seth thanked Keren for her leadership; he also announced the results of the Fall 2019 elections: Annika Sehl (University of the Bundeswehr Munich) is elected as Vice Chair and Eddy Borges-Rey (Northwestern University in Qatar) as International Liaison
   • Elections for a new Secretary and Graduate Student Representative will be held in Fall 2020. Those interested are encouraged to reach out to either Seth or Annika.

3.2 Division News
   • Revenues
     o Membership fees & ICA subsidies: $6,110
   • Expenses
     o ICA Hardship Fund (in lieu of Journalism Studies reception): $3,500
     o Top Student Paper Awards: $750
   • Use of conference fee waivers
     o Winners of top student papers
     o Students from Tier C countries participating in the Colloquium

4. Graduate student colloquium preconference
This year’s preconference was organized by our Graduate Student Representative Joy Kibarabara. Joy also acknowledged the help of Edson and Raul Ferrer-Conill. The colloquium will be held virtually: Students were matched with mentors; the mentors will provide written feedback on the students’ submitted papers and will arrange on a voluntary basis a virtual meeting with their mentees.
• 24 submissions received from 15 countries
• **13 student participants** at the colloquium, representing Austria (1), China (1), Denmark (1), Finland (1), France (1), Israel (1), Kenya (1), Denmark (1), New Zealand (1), Singapore (1), South Africa (1), UK (1), US (2)
• **14 faculty respondents**: Annika Sehl, Christian Baden, Henrik Bodker, Jan Boyles, Karen McIntyre, Kristy Hess, Linda Steiner, Stephanie Craft, Stephanie Edgerly, Stephen Reese, Susan Keith, Tim Vos, Yariv Tsfati & Zvi Reich
• Joy also acknowledged Griffith University, which had agreed to host the Colloquium in Gold Coast, Australia, as well as the following sponsors:
  o Karlstad University
  o UBC Graduate School of Journalism, University of British Columbia
  o Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Pennsylvania
  o Hubbard School of Journalism & Mass Communication, University of Minnesota
  o College of Communication Arts and Sciences, Michigan State University
  o Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, Oxford University
  o University of Stavanger
  o Södertörn University, Stockholm
  o School of Journalism in the Moody College of Communication, University of Texas at Austin
  o Cardiff School of Journalism, Media and Culture, Cardiff University
  o Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, University of Southern California
  o Department of Media and Communication at LMU Munich
  o School of Journalism and Communication, University of Oregon
  o Hong Kong Baptist University

5. Paper and Panel Competitions

5.1 Submissions
The Journalism Studies Division received 303 submissions: 205 full papers (a 21% decrease from the 414 submissions in 2019); 9 panel proposals (47% decrease); and 116 extended abstracts (17% decrease). We had the third highest number of submissions across ICA.

4.2 Review process
• 229 reviewers (14% decrease from the D.C. competition but still 22% more than Prague’s)
• Average of 4.2 reviews per reviewer (slightly down from prior year)
• Each submission again received 3 reviews, which is the “JSD standard”

4.3 Acceptance rate
• 58% for full papers & abstracts (118 presentations)
• 56% for panels (5 sessions)

6. Potential Initiatives
• **Public Engagement**
  o We have developed an award—but what’s next?
• Internationalization
  o How can be build on progress via the grad student colloquium?
• Communication and Community
  o How can we best serve members and their needs? Let us know
• Development
  o Can we find funding sources to help us grow in key areas?
• Presentation formats
  o Always ask: What’s working? Where do we need more/less experimentation?
  o How do formats relate to our larger goals?

7. Division Awards

7.1 Top 3 Faculty Papers
1. Aviv Barnoy (Zefat Academic College) & Zvi Reich (U of the Negev) “News reporters’ trust: A study of source and message credibility”
2. Steen Steensen (OsloMet), Raul Ferrer-Conill (Karlstad U), & Chris Peters (Roskilde U) “(Against a) Theory of audience engagement”
3. Raul Ferrer-Conill (Karlstad U), Erik Knudsen (U of Bergen), Corinna Lauerer (LMU Munich), & Aviv Barnoy (Zefat Academic College) “The visual boundaries of journalism: Native advertising and the convergence of editorial and commercial content”

7.2 Top 3 Student Papers
1. Nicholas Mathews (U of Minnesota) “Life in a news desert”
2. Sarah Kay Wiley (U of Minnesota) “Identity, autonomy, and press freedom in computational journalism”

7.3 Top Poster Award
Selected based on paper reviewer scores. The award goes to:

Caty Borum Chattoo (American U), Lori Young (U of Pennsylvania), David Conrad (American U), Aras Coskuntuncel (American U): “‘The rent is too damn high’: Housing security and homelessness portrayals in U.S. print news coverage”

7.4 Top Extended Abstract

Kim Christian Schrøder (Roskilde U), Chris Peters (Roskilde U), Julie Vulpius (Roskilde U) Josephine Lehaff (Roskilde U): “Investigating how young adults make sense of public affairs in a digital media landscape”

7.5 Top Reviewer Award

Jan Lauren Boyles (Iowa State U)

7.6 Gene Burd Outstanding Dissertation in Journalism Studies Award
Eight dissertations were nominated. The award committee, which includes David Domingo (Chair), Celeste González de Bustamante, Francis Lap Fung Lee, Mervi Pantti, and Matthew Powers, selected the following:

**Finalist:**

**Qun Wang** (PhD, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey)

*Normalization and Differentiation in Google News: A Multi-Method Analysis of the World’s Largest News Aggregator*

Supervisor: Susan Keith

**Winner:**

**David Cheruiyot** (PhD, Karlstad University)

*Criticising Journalism: Popular Media Criticism in the Digital Age*

Supervisors: Henrik Örnebring and Michael Karlsson

David read the following description of the winning dissertation:

*Criticising Journalism, with case studies in South Africa and Kenya, breaks new ground for Journalism Studies by normalizing non-Western journalism as a rich object of study that contributes very meaningful evidence to the global scholarly debate about meta-journalistic discourses, which is crucial to understand the evolution of journalism in the digital media ecology.*

**7.7 Journalism Studies Division Book Award**

No award given this year; will resume in 2021; books nominated this year will also be considered for the 2021 award.

**Wolfgang Donsbach Outstanding Journal Article of the Year**


The committee members were Matt Carlson (Chair), Stephanie Craft, Michael Karlsson, Irene Costera Meijer, Agnieszka Stepinska

**Honorable Mention:**

**Nikki Usher**: “Putting “Place” in the Center of Journalism Research: A Way Forward to Understand Challenges to Trust and Knowledge in News” *Journalism & Communication Monographs* 2019

**Winner:**

**Martin Scott, Mel Bunce, Kate Wright**: “Foundation funding and the boundaries of journalism” *Journalism Studies* 2019
The ICA Journalism Studies Public Engagement Award

The committee includes Silvio Waisbord (Chair), Valerie Belair-Gagnon, Caroline Fisher, Admire Mare, and Oscar Westlund.

Winner:
Irene Costera Meijer, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Silvio said, on behalf of the committee: “We are impressed by the scope and the accomplishment of her public scholarship. She has done a tremendous amount of work that blends interests in academia, policy and industry. Her work has contributed to improving journalism practice and to addressing issues of quality, particularly in the Dutch news media and European media policy-making.

“...Given current concerns in the news industry and journalism, her collaborative work is important to bridge the gap between academia and news organizations to work towards common goals. One of the letters in support of her nomination states that her work has helped the ‘news media in the Netherlands and beyond develop far more nuanced and robust understandings of the public, of people’s perception of news, and of what actually creates (democratic, public) value when the news meets people. Every major Dutch media organization I have visited have been aware of and engaged with her work.’ Also, an Editor in Chief who wrote another letter calls her an ‘inspiration to innovation in journalism.’

“...Costera Meijer’s work stands as a model of the kind of public scholarship that society needs from academia to address important questions in the contemporary news industry and journalism. Her work is an example of how scholars can collaborate in productive ways with journalists in understanding news content and approaching audience engagement.”

International Journal of Press/Politics Best Book Award

The International Journal of Press/Politics Best Book Award honors internationally oriented books published in the past 10 years that advance our theoretical and empirical understanding of the linkages between news media and politics in a globalized world in a significant way.

The award committee members are: Cristian Vaccari (Chair), Kimberly Gross, and Keren Tenenboim-Weinblatt.

Winner:

Closing

Seth provided some initial information about the 2021 conference in Denver: “They (ICA) are very excited. They feel that they have a great setup of two Hyatt hotels that are on the same block that can amply accommodate everyone, with good room rates, close to the Red Rock Music Amphitheater—I’m told—in a very good location in Denver. Lots of eating options
around there. I think we all hope and are certainly anxious to be together again in 2021 so you have that to look forward to.”

The business meeting took about 50 minutes.

Minutes Prepared By:

Edson C. Tandoc Jr.
Associate Professor, Nanyang Technological University Singapore
Secretary, ICA Journalism Studies Division