2020 ANNUAL REPORT

International Communication Association

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Washington, D.C. 20036, USA
Website: www.icahdq.org
The International Communication Association aims to advance the scholarly study of human communication by encouraging and facilitating excellence in academic research worldwide.

*Due to COVID-19, ICA did not require div/igs to submit annual reports. They were optional.
It is my distinct honor to submit the President’s report for ICA’s 2020 annual report. 2020 has of course been a hugely challenging year for all of us. With the COVID-19 global pandemic, dramatic changes in how we work, teach, research, and live our everyday lives, and restrictions on international travel, ICA members and the Association have had to adapt to a very different global environment. This was of course most apparent with the 70th annual conference which took place in Nusa Dua, Bali, and had the theme of Searching for the Next Level of Human Communication: Human, Social, and Neuro. This event was hosted by ASPIKOM, the Indonesian national communications association. ICA members also participated in an affiliated event, AI Era: Emerging Media, Industry and Society, hosted by Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China, which was also in October 2019.

Task forces. A number of ICA Task Forces and Standing Committees progressed work during 2019–2020, and we are thankful for those who have committed their time to such vitally important work. Both the IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessiblility) Task Force and the Professional Standards Task Force became Standing Committees in May, reflecting the ongoing importance of their work. The year also saw the establishment of a Future of ICA Conferences Task Force and an Open Access Strategic Plan Task Force, as well as Task Forces dealing with the review of affiliated journals, strategic planning, and the formation of interest groups.

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Membership and annual conference. As of the annual conference this spring, ICA membership stood at just over 3,400 members spanning 84 countries, more than 2,300 members, hailing from 64 countries, convened virtually, for our signature event, the annual conference from May 21-27. President-elect and program planner Claes de Vrees (U of Amsterdam) and conference theme chair Eike Rinke (U of Leeds) organized a record-attendance meeting around ideas related to “Open Communication.” The virtual conference attracted scholars whose intellectual interests represented the breadth of ICA’s 23 divisions and 10 interest groups. The ICA Board of Directors also approved in May the proposal to elevate Computational Methods from an Interest Group to a Division.

Journals and regional conferences. The ICA continues to serve its members and the discipline through its journals and regional conferences. Its six journals – Journal of Communication (edited by Lance Holbert, Temple U), Human Communication Research (Eun-Ju Lee, Seoul National U), Communication Theory (Karin Wilkins, U of Miami, to be succeeded by Maria Elizabeth Grabe, Indiana U), Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication (Rich Ling, Nanyang Technological U), Communication, Culture & Critique (Sarah Banet-Weiser, London School of Economics & Political Science, and Laurie Ouellette, U of Minnesota), and Annals of the ICA (David Ewoldson, Michigan State U) – continue to attract submissions from all corners of the globe and all parts of our field. ICA also has three affiliate journals: the French-language Revue Française des Sciences de l’Information et de la Communication; the Chinese-language Communication & Society; and Studies in Communication and Media, a German- and English-language open-access journal published by the German Communication Association.

This past year, continuing its regional conference program, ICA convened one meeting in Asia. In October 2019, which took place in Nusa Dua and Bali, and had the theme of Searching for the Next Level of Human Communication:
REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT

CLAES DE VREESE
U of Amsterdam
ICA President-Elect (2019–2020)

The 70th Annual International Communication Association conference was a historic conference. Scheduled for the Gold Coast of Australia, COVID_19 dictated a change to an online conference. This shift from our physical conference to the online environment was executed in just a few weeks.

In the few weeks at our disposal, ICA headquarters did the near-impossible: Finding a platform for the conference, tailoring it to the ICA, and making countless choices about how to conduct regular panels, roundtables, Blue Sky workshops, business meetings, Fellow induction, Presidential Address and workshop, business meetings, Fellow induction, Presidential Address. We also added, last minute, a high profile panel on “Communication and Covid_19”. Distinguished ICA members Leticia Bode, Hye-Jin Paek, Julia van Weert, Dietram Scheufele and Rasmus Kleis Nielsen provided insights into their current work on the pandemic, and examples of how communication scholarship is feeding in to policy discussions, into the debate about an “infodemic”, and into the behavioural units of government agencies. This panel can be watched here (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yhVZiJCJHUSt3xmcWIa024MFyKg&index=4&t=5s) and it is a good reminder of the need for communication scholarship to engage, pro-actively with policy makers and societal stakeholders.

The conference’s Closing Plenary address the implications of Artificial Intelligence for communication scholarship and education. A stellar panel featuring Andrea Guzman, Jean Burgess, S. Shyam Sundar, Seth Lewis and Steve Jones provided rich examples of the trajectory of this topic in various institutions, ICA divisions and interest groups and its potentially profound and disruptive future impact.

The online conference could not make up for all the short interactions of a physical conference. The short exchanges about research, the development of new projects and ideas, the coffee with grad students, networking, and seeing old and new friends. However, there were real silver linings. One was the generous contributions of institutions, ICA divisions and interest groups, and its potentially profound and disruptive future impact.

We live in interesting times.

The conference had barely come to an end before the brutal police violence in the US spurred an international wave of outrage and protests. The ICA as a general policy does not comment in public on most political events. We have made exceptions in the past in relation to e.g. travel bans for certain groups. In response to the BlackLivesMatter protest, the ICA Executive Committee issued a statement, jointly with the Task Force on Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility. Following the joint statement (found here https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.icahdq.org/resource/resmgr/files/ICA_BLM.pdf), we are working pro-actively to implement new policy and change current practices.

Immediately after the conference, the new President-Elect launches the theme of next year’s conference. Mary Beth Oliver and her theme group have drawn up a fantastic theme, timely and important: https://www.icahdq.org/page/ICA21CFP. As the ICA prepares for the 2021 conference, we will de facto be making decisions about how to design and hold a conference in world where COVID19, climate concerns, and cuts in budgets in higher education are likely to be high on the agenda. Getting the format mix for a new type of conference goes well beyond “just planning the next conference”. As an association we look forward to engaging with our membership and navigating these challenges which also open new opportunities that we will try and embrace.

We live in interesting times.
REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT-SELECT

MARY BETH OLIVER
Pennsylvania State U
ICA President-Elect-Select (2019-2020)

I am deeply honored and am very excited to join the ICA Executive Committee. I have already learned so much from all of the members and the wonderful staff and leadership at ICA Headquarters. As planning now begins for ICA21 in Denver, I am extra appreciative of the insight, good humor, and organization of this fantastic team.

My work is in media psychology, and over the years the focus of my research has been on issues pertaining to White racism and on positive media psychology. It may seem odd to study such seemingly contradictory issues, but I turned to positive media psychology with the hope that we might be able to harness the power of media for purposes of social good and social justice. With that backdrop in mind, I knew that I wanted for the conference theme to reflect these types of issues that encourage us to try to rise to our higher and better selves.

In thinking about how to craft this theme, I invited a number of scholars to serve as co-chairs of the Theme Committee: Walid Affi, Mohan Dutta, Srividya Ramasubramanian, Chenjerai Kumanyika, Meghan Sanders, and Anamik Saha. In asking these scholars to join me in working on the theme, I was motivated and inspired by their work on issues of social justice and their activism in the community.

As we began our discussions, Covid-19 was just growing in strength across the planet. We shared deeply held beliefs about how the virus was exposing inequities, creating hardships, and highlighting the importance of workers that are often ignored or disparaged. In these discussions we found ourselves frequently returning to the concept of care. We did not want to be Pollyannish about this concept, however. Rather, we wanted to engage with the concept, noting that care is both essential but that it is also exploitable.

With this backdrop in mind, we arrived at the theme: Engaging the Essential Work of Care: Communication, Connectedness, and Social Justice.

With this team we are encouraging scholars throughout the organization to consider how “care” functions in our theories, how it is studied and conceptualized, and how it may serve as a catalyst for social good. We believe it will open spaces for us to reflect on how this concept functions in social, political, cultural, and economic systems, and that it will also encourage us to think about how it is manifested within the discipline and our organization.

With the Engaging the Essential Work of Care theme, we encourage scholars to consider a host of related questions and issues such as 1) How do we cultivate and celebrate care? 2) How is care communicated interpersonally, politically, economically, and via communication technologies? 3) How can care be used to amplify diverse voices and provide courage to those who resist? 4) How can care be the embodiment of healing, community, and solidarity? 5) How is care enacted and experienced differently across communities and cultures? 6) How is the concept of care relevant to issues of climate change and efforts to protect the humans, animals, and plants that inhabit our environment? 7) How has the concept of care been communicated or executed in ways that work against social well-being or utilized to justify the continuation of inequities and oppression? 8) In what ways might structures and practices, such as transnational NGO programs, impose care in ways that instantiate neocolonial forms of power? How can we probe the problematic ethics of care? 9) How and why is care “gendered,” and what impact does this have on labor and economic/political disparity? 10) How does the marketing of and profit from care by corporations, governments, or other entities use the same bodies in appeals that often get neglected in practice?
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT
THE STATE OF THE ASSOCIATION 2020

LAURA SAWYER, MA.CAE
ICA Executive Director

The International Communication Association officially emerged on 1 January 1950 as the National Society for the Study of Communication (NSSC), but didn’t become “ICA” until 1969, in recognition of its growing international reach (now at a membership of over 5,000 scholars in 87 countries). As we close out fiscal year 2020, we are stronger than ever, in spite of some significant global challenges.

I wrote this from my kitchen counter at home; I have an official home office area but the light is better upstairs, so that is where I have spent the majority of my days during the “Shelter in Place” order (and now Phase 3) imposed by what was in majority of my days during the “Shelter in Place” order (and now Phase 3) imposed by what was

Though I was (and am still) stuck mostly indoors with my family, I have never felt more connected to our members. We commiserate over the difficulties of getting work done with children at home, laugh together about our “quarantine hair” and hidden pajama bottoms from the waist down (and recycling containers brimming with empty wine bottles, in some cases), and lend each other support as we take turns feeling bereft of hope, pessimistic about ever returning to “normal” (whatever that means for each of us). Some of us have stayed busier than ever as a means of dealing with the anxiety, while others experienced lethargy and “brain fog,” frustrating efforts to get any real research done. The days have felt like an endless series of Zoom and BlueJeans and Skype and Slack calls; when there is no delineation between work and home, work is always there, and you have no plausible deniability to keep you from being available 24/7. It has become clear that in spite of this chaos, our members are a resilient and funny and fantastically creative group who will find a way to thrive in spite of enormous obstacles. The work you do—the work I am honored to help you do, in my small way—is so important to our understanding of the world, and the implications of this virus on society is no exception.

ICA continues to thrive, finding new avenues of influence and new ways to expand our community. That said, there is always more that can be done to strengthen and diversify the organization going forward.

Fiscal Health
ICA’s fiscal health remains strong. We were able to renegotiate with Australian partners for 2024 and in so doing, have avoided many of the significant expenses that would typically come with cancelling a physical conference of this size. ICA thankfully also has reserves to bolster us in the event that we had not been able to. While ICA’s conference used to only break even and the association was carried by the publications revenue, that formula has flipped with the impending move towards Open Access (not just for ICA but as a field), with the conference now representing a larger piece of the revenue “pie.”

The Annual Conference
Our annual conference is the “crown jewel” of our activities, and while the last two years have been extremely successful (over 3,500 attendees for both Prague and DC), Australia was already going to be smaller, and now that we switched to virtual prior to 50% of the attendees registering, it became a “mini-ICA,” with only approximately 2,317 attendees. What we do know is that we have picked up hundreds of NEW attendees who couldn’t attend physically in Australia but are now newly involved in ICA now that they’ve attended a virtual ICA conference, and that is a good thing!

When the 70th Annual ICA Conference was cancelled as an in-person event on 6 March and converted to a virtual format, ICA staff worked overtime for weeks to not only tie up loose ends from the cancelled physical conference but to create brand-new procedures for the now-virtual conference. Because we have been using a housing provider for a few years now, we saved ICA attendees from being caught out on hotel reservations; their credit card information was never turned over to the hotels and therefore was simply purged with no fees. Subsequent to our decision to cancel the physical conference, flights to Australia were cancelled entirely, mass gatherings were banned, and hotels were shuttered. While the decision to cancel was a difficult one, it was the only right decision to protect our members’ health and safety, and we very much appreciate the overwhelming support the decision received from the membership. A comprehensive FAQ on how the virtual conference worked helped keep us all organized and calm (as calm as can be expected in these times).

As we said in our 24 March letter, we are all dealing with this issue on different time frames (we have members in 87 countries, after all, each of which has handled—or not handled—this pandemic in its own way), so there was no “one size fits all” approach. What seemed to resonate the most with our members throughout the process was my statement that “no one will judge you if you give your presentation with a partner walking across the background, a small child on your hip in pyjamas. We will meet you where you are.” That phrase became the unofficial motto of the conference from that day forward and indeed, perhaps it should be the motto for the year as a whole.

We did receive pushback from a limited number of attendees about being “forced” to continue on with a virtual presentation. We have no interest in forcing anyone to do anything, but we did try to make our case thusly:

1. Students and early-career scholars needed you. Especially those who are building their CVs for an imminent or already-underway job search. They NEEDED US to have this conference. They needed ICA to stay the course and provide them with a place to present their work not only so it can be listed on their CV but so that they could have access to FEEDBACK FROM YOU. They needed your input to make their work stronger.
2. Your colleagues needed you. This was ICA’s 70th Annual Conference, as we had just celebrated the 50th anniversary of our identity as the International Communication Association.
3. ICA needed you, too. ICA is a non-profit organization, and over a third of our annual budget comes from the Annual Conference (grossly oversimplified; the other two thirds come from membership dues and international journals). While we avoided penalties by shifting our contract obligations to 2024, ICA did lose money on sunk costs for the in-person meeting we had to cancel, and those losses will be much exacerbated by the refunds we processed, including the 25% refund we gave to each attendee. Despite these expenses and this lost revenue, the Executive Board agreed that the health and safety of our attendees was the top consideration. But ICA still needs the support of its members, attendees, exhibitors, and sponsors. All non-profit membership associations to which you belong need you to support them with your participation, where applicable, in order to not only survive (so they will all still be here when the dust settles, to publish the journals and hold the conferences from where you can present your research and network with old friends), but also to preserve our sense of community. From ECREA to NAB/BEA, from IAMCR and AoIR to SFSIC and DGPhk, membership associations around the world have been here to help you grow your career, make new connections, and disseminate your research, and we want to continue to be here after we have collectively weathered this storm together.

Regional Conferences
Our 2019 regional conference, “Searching for the Next Level of Human Communication: Human, Social, and Neuro” took place 16-18 October in Nusa Dua, Bali, to great success. ICA Executive Committee members past president PengHwa Ang, President Terry Flew, and treasurer Peter Monge attended as invited speakers. More information on the Bali conference can be found here.

Social Justice
ICA recently adopted a more expanded code of ethics solidifying our commitment to advancing the public good. Additionally, we subscribe to ethical contracting practices when choosing venues for our conferences. Our statement underlines that “it is the policy of the International Communication Association to contract for its meetings in locations where its members would not be subject to discrimination on the basis of age, gender, marital status, national origin, physical ability, race, religion or sexual orientation under state, country or city laws. Language stipulating this as a non-negotiable, cancelable factor will be included in all contracts.” We also have an anti-human trafficking stipulation in our boilerplate contract for host hotels.

In May 2019, the Board of Directors created an Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Task Force, which has been converted into a standing committee and which has a list of numerous recommendations that the Executive Committee are clearing for implementation. In Summer 2020, in concert with a global call for action, the ICA Executive Committee issued a Statement in Solidarity with the Black Lives Matter Movement. As we said in the statement, “we have not always gotten this right, but we are committed to doing better.” This will be a long journey, but a worthwhile one I consider it my honor to facilitate.

Environmental Concerns
We continue to manage to do more and more with our resources while at the same time keeping sustainability and sound fiscal decisions at the fore. For years, ICA has produced both a smaller, “schedule at a glance” version and a much larger, heavier, phone-book-sized print program that includes descriptions for all sessions. ICA has been charging extra for this larger version for some time now in an effort to cut back on the number of people who request it and thus cut back on the paper used for such an undertaking, so that as of the DC conference those who bought the larger version constituted only about 10% of the overall attendance of the conference (90% of attendees opt to use the conference app in conjunction with the smaller schedule-at-a-glance version to navigate their program). ICA has been exploring the cost-benefit of the carbon footprint both of printing the program and of shipping multiple pallets of to the conference venue each year. ICA’s Executive Committee voted unanimously to discontinue the production of the larger version in 2020. The smaller version will be retained, and it will absorb a few advertising and informational pages from the discontinued version. The conference website will, of course, live, have all of that information in a searchable format, online, and headquarters staff will continue to produce the content of the large version and make it available as a downloadable PDF on the conference website, as before.

There are numerous challenges associated with global climate change that affect the way academic conferences conduct themselves; in the past we have eliminated bottled water, plastic souvenir “freebies” at registration, tote bags, and numerous other items that simply get tossed out after the conference is over by the majority of participants. We give preference in contracting to LEED-certified (and equivalent) venues, we work with our venue partners to donate unused food and flowers, and we implemented a carbon offset option for attendees with an environmental nonprofit provider starting in 2020 as well. While there is more to be done, we hope that eliminating this one substantial element will begin to make a difference in the carbon footprint of the ICA conference. As well, the 2020 virtual conference—while undertaken as an emergency measure under duress—became an opportunity for us all to explore the possibilities and limitations of virtual conference formats.

Fellows, Honors, and Awards
Through the hard work of Fellows Chairs Larry Gross (2017), Cynthia Stohl (2018), and Francois Cooren (2019), who have led initiatives to increase candidacies from diverse prospective Fellows, as well as this year’s Fellows’ Chair Barbie Zeilizer (2020), our Fellow demographics are becoming more and more diverse in terms of gender, geography, and ethnicity, and are beginning to reflect ICA’s truly global membership. We continue to have no shortage of talented and qualified candidates for elected offices within the association, and we have an abundance of deserving candidates for the ICA-wide awards each year. All of this points to an association that is thriving. In 2020, ICA inducted 31 new Fellows (though their ceremony and plaque distribution will not occur until Denver 2021).

Financial Aid
Typically, ICA gives over $60,000 in travel grants to students (and faculty with financial hardships), particularly those in Tier B & C countries and those who suffer from systemic inequities due to ethnic minority status. In 2020, we also created the ICA20 Hardship Fund, spearheaded by President-Elect Claes de Vreese, to reimburse these same demographics for non-refundable flights and visa fees as a result of the conference’s conversion to a virtual format. The more people in need we can assist, the better, for it is that personal contact with ICA as an organization, the conversations with colleagues and mentors, the “a-ha moments” they have listening to a talk, that keep people coming back year after year as we grow the “next generation” of ICA scholars. We express our sincere thanks to those individuals and institutions who gave to this important effort.

Lastly, we continue to come together to move the association forward, even in the face of new challenges such as global nationalism, travel bans, censorship, the COVID-19 global pandemic, and even the struggle to adhere to the spirit of Open Access while remaining financially viable as an NPO. We live in an increasingly fragmented and combative world, but we are well positioned to meet every challenge.

Through the evolution detailed above, we will make ICA an even stronger institution. With your input, participation, and support, we can be assured that the International Communication Association has a future as bright as its legacy. We have a talented and engaged team at the ICA headquarters in Washington, DC, and we are each focused on providing excellent service to our members. Feel free to reach out to any of us at any time; we are happy to hear from you!
This proposed budget comes to you as a motion requesting that you approve it as our operating budget for FY21.

Finances in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic

Planning the annual ICA conference involves a huge amount of work on the part of many people, as all of you who are a part of it know so well. It also involves the investment of a considerable amount of money, specifically for things like renting conference centers, paying for the opening and closing ceremonies, and renting audio-visual equipment and staff. For the Gold Coast conference we had nearly half a million dollars in contracted services. When we made the decision to substitute the virtual conference for the physical one, the people to whom we owed those funds demanded that we pay them the money despite the fact that we would not be receiving any of the services. Laura declined to pay, proposing instead that we postpone the conference until 2024 our next uncommitted year for a conference. After considerable negotiations, Laura was able to get all of the entities in Gold Coast to agree to this arrangement, to keep the deposits we had made for the 2020 conference and to wait for the major remaining payments until 2024. This is a huge financial achievement for us and is one of the reasons why our finances are not as desperate as they would otherwise be.

As you well know, the Executive Committee approved a 25% conference registration fee refund for those who were attending the virtual conference. That was a loss of approximately $175,000 of our budgeted conference registration amount of $700,000, a sizable loss of income. It is worth noting, as well, that the income for the 2020 conference was already going to be lower than it would be for a European or North American location, and we had budgeted for that, but while all is not yet said and done, it is likely that the attendance numbers will be further depressed by the conversion to virtual. When we made the decision to go virtual for the safety and health of our attendees, staff, and leadership, many members had not yet registered. Whereas our attendance in Prague and Washington, DC was above the 3,500 mark, we had anticipated a net of 2,700 or so attendees for Australia which will now above the 3,500 mark, we had anticipated a net of 2,700 or so attendees for Australia. Laura was able to get all of the entities in Gold Coast to agree to this arrangement, to keep the deposits we had made for the 2020 conference until 2024 our next uncommitted year for a conference. After considerable negotiations, Laura was able to get all of the entities in Gold Coast to agree to this arrangement, to keep the deposits we had made for the 2020 conference and to wait for the major remaining payments until 2024. This is a huge financial achievement for us and is one of the reasons why our finances are not as desperate as they would otherwise be.

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Laura and the EC recognized that converting the 2020 conference to virtual-only, while necessary, was likely to provide a financial hardship to many of our members, especially students, tier 2 and 3 members, and clinical and part time faculty who might not be able to receive reimbursement from their universities for unused but unrefundable airfare and visa expenses. So, we started the ICA Hardship Fund and invited members and universities to donate. The response was overwhelming. To date we have raised approximately $70,000. In early May our staff will be soliciting requests from members for this financial assistance via online application form, and we will be distributing the funds after the close of the 2020 virtual conference (as with the physical conference, we do ensure that you attend the event prior to issuing reimbursement). This money is not included in the FY21 proposed budget because it was raised in FY20 and will be distributed within the FY20 budget year.

Review of Long Term Investment Accounts

It will come as no surprise to anyone that the world financial markets have been in deep trouble over the past four months. Many stock markets around the globe have lost considerable value since the beginning of the year. For example, roughly a month ago the Standard and Poor’s 500 Index had lost 33.8% of its value and the Dow Jones Industrial Average had lost 36%.

The primary function of the long term account is as a safety net, specifically for unforeseen operating expenses in an emergency. If a year ever qualified as potentially needing emergency funds, this is it. As you can see from the total expense number listed for FY20 (Line 188), our operating expense for this year was $2,407,947. So, we do not have a year’s operating funds but we do have about 2/3 of that amount. Had Laura not been so successful in negotiating carrying over our obligations in Gold Coast to 2024, we might well have had to use a half million dollars to cover those costs.

Our long term investment account balance is $1,633,413 as of March 31. For the first quarter of 2020 (our second quarter) our funds posted “a -13.89 return” (that is, a loss), which compared to the S&P and The Dow Jones indexes is quite good. More important, however, is that we have not touched these funds so we have not realized any financial loss to date in this account. And, on a positive note, over the last month our long term fund had gained back about another 5% which means we now have paper losses in this fund of under 10%. Of course, there is a lot of volatility ahead and we do not know what the markets will do, but that is where we are as of April 30.

Review of Short Term Investment Accounts

The short term account contains operating funds and investment funds. Since our bank account makes almost no money at all, we use this account to generate income on whatever cash we have
at hand and don’t need immediately. Early last year on the basis of a recommendation from ICA’s financial advisor, we rebalanced this portfolio into a conservative mix of funds highly likely to provide a reasonable interest return. This strategy paid off. On January 1, 2020 we had $1,097,450 in this account. The balance on March 31 was $1,096,974, a loss of “-0.25 return” for the first quarter. And, again, in the good news department, our advisor has indicated that this number is no longer negative and has returned to the positive side so we are again making money on this account.

**Investment Policies**

ICA has a policy of investing in Socially Responsible Funds. This means that companies that engage in products or processes that are considered socially or environmentally irresponsible, like firearms, tobacco, fossil fuels, etc., are excluded. Last year our investment advisor discovered a new Vanguard Socially Responsible Fund, and we have been steadily transferring funds into this account. We now have more than 2/3 of our investments in these funds. Ironically, most socially responsible funds charge a large premium for their product, which makes it difficult to make money on the funds, which is what investing is all about. Interestingly, this fund charges .15 basis points per share, which provides us the kinds of funds we want to invest in and make money!

ICA has an overall investment policy which stipulates investment goals and strategies. Largely, this is focused on conservative investment principles and tries to minimize our losses while providing investment income. Our current policy was written many years ago and is rather out of date with how markets work in the digital age. Laura, our investment advisor Matthew Lanham (Royal Bank of Canada), and I have met several times to discuss, revise and update the policy. We are close to a finished draft, but when the pandemic hit, the final revision got put on the back burner. We will return to it this summer and will get it out to the board for review and approval.

**Other Financial Matters**

As many of you know, our long-time tenant Starbucks broke its lease with us (and paid a cancellation fee). Laura found a replacement tenant in terms of an upscale tea shop. Shortly after the tenant moved in, the Mayor of Washington, DC closed all the restaurants in response to the global pandemic. The new tenant had no customers or way to generate funds. Laura worked out an arrangement whereby the tenant would pay half the rent and could use the money in escrow from the security deposit they provided until the government lifted the lock down. Then, they will repay the borrowed money from the security deposit over time. So, what looked like a potentially major financial loss by losing the tenant (in excess of $100,000) has been averted at least for now. And, it was the right thing to do for the new tenant who had no control over these events.

Our **regional conferences** have been very successful. We have one planned this year for South Africa, which we hope we will be able to hold. With the global pandemic, no one knows at this point. We have budgeted $15,000 for that event.

Those of you who attended 2018 ICA Conference in Prague will remember that we all paid a **Value Add Tax**, some to all of which we could recover after we left the country. ICA paid VAT as well, in fact, in excess of $100,000. Despite our best effort to get the entirety of our refund, including hiring a firm to intercede on our behalf, we have been unsuccessful in recovering the last US $57,000 or so. We are told that the government works slowly and mysteriously in the Czech Republic, and that enough time has not passed to consider this a final result, but we are not optimistic. Our auditors are recommending that if we do not get these funds soon we charge them off to bad debt. We are hoping not to have to do that.

It might come as a surprise that we have had a fairly large increase in **Lifetime Memberships**. Last year we received $56,000 in new Life Membership funds. Our auditors are recommending that we transfer this money to Designated Funds to sequester them for a fixed number of years and apportion the funds to our income stream on a yearly basis. That is good fiscal practice and we are beginning that process with our accountants.

**Good News on Funding**

As ICA is headquartered in the United States, it is eligible for certain benefits under recent legislation passed by the US Congress as a response to the global COVID-19 pandemic. Immediately upon the application portals opening, Laura completed the onerous paperwork to apply for both an Economic Injury Grant of up to US $10,000, as well as for the Paycheck Protection Program. The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), established by the CARES Act, is implemented by the Small Business Administration with support from the Department of the Treasury. This program provides small businesses with funds to pay up to eight weeks of payroll costs including benefits (funds can also be used to pay interest on mortgages, rent, and utilities). The Paycheck Protection Program prioritizes millions of Americans employed by small businesses by authorizing up to $349 billion toward job retention and certain other expenses. As of the first week of May 2020, we have had no answer about the $10,000 Economic Injury Grant, but I am delighted to report that Laura’s application for the PPP was approved, and ICA has already received a deposit of US $140,000. This “loan” will be forgiven if ICA passes certain tests in the next 6 months, including not having laid off any staff. This does not negate the impact of decreased revenue from the conference, but it certainly helps our bottom line and will allow us to move forward into FY21 with less damage than we would otherwise. This money plus the mitigation of penalties from Laura’s negotiations to move the Gold Coast meeting forward to 2024 will help ICA emerge from this global pandemic and financial crisis largely unscathed.

**The Bottom Line**

Overall, given the pandemic that has swept the globe over the past six months, the economic chaos that has hit many associations and businesses in most countries around the world, and especially our decision to substitute our virtual conference for our physical conference in Australia, our finances are remarkably healthy. We could have been in far worse shape. But our reserve accounts have held up well during the declines in the markets. We have largely avoided the loss of a half million dollars in contracts to vendors in Gold Coast by transferring them to 2024. And, we are predicting a profitable conference in Denver next year and a stable budget. Although things could change in the coming months, at least as of 1 May, ICA is a financially strong organization and well able to continue to do all the things that we do as scholars and teachers and as the premier communication association in the world.
Since assuming the role of BMAL in 2019, I have taken many opportunities to discuss with academics in Asia (including Australasia) concerning communication research. I wanted to learn more about the state of the art, as it were, in their respective national or regional contexts, and how much they know about ICA. I did this primarily through three means: (a) during international conferences that I attended; (b) through the international research networks of which I am an active participant; (c) through the research conferences and symposia that I organized at my own institution.

For (a), I spoke to different people during the following occasions:

3. Situations International Conference 2019: Ethnicity, Race and Racism in Asia, Co-hosted by the School of the Humanities, Nanyang Technological University and the Department of English, Yonsei University, Singapore, 24-26 October, 2019.
8. 17th Annual Meeting of the Cultural Studies Association (USA), Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana, May 30- June 1, 2019.

For (b), I made a special effort to bring up the work of ICA during the collaborative research meetings with the following groups, which span a number of countries in Asia and beyond:

- “Digital Citizenship in Asia: Creativity, Literacy, and Civic Engagement.” Collaboration with an international team led by Audrey Yue, National University of Singapore. 2019-present
- “Justice, Arts, Migration Network (JAM).” Collaboration with University of Lincoln, UK and Western Sydney University, Australia. Asia team led by John Erni. 2018-present
- “Trans-Pacific Cultural Studies.” Collaboration with the Institute of Trans-Pacific Cultural Research, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada. Hong Kong team led by John Erni. 2016-present
- “Media, Mobility and Identity in the Asia Pacific.”

For (c), I included ICA in my opening remarks in this conference that I organized at Hong Kong Baptist University. Of the international participants, 3 have been members of ICA.

The “Included-out: An International Symposium of the Justice, Arts and Migration Network,” HKBU, 7-8 November 2019

Insights: fairly similar to the insights stated in (a) above.

First, I continue to thank ICA Board of Directors for the provision of travel expenses for BMAL. In addition to the moral support from ICA, this funding enabled me to conduct ICA activities in Africa in the ending year.

(i) I represented ICA at the South African Communication Association (28-30 Aug 2019) at the University of Cape Town during their annual conference. Apart from presenting my paper, I was also given an opportunity to address the delegates. I talked about ICA and the various available opportunities. I also encouraged them to actively participate in the 3rd ICA-Africa regional conference that would be held at the University of Cape Town later in 2020 (due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the conference has been deferred to 2021)

(ii) The East African Communication Association (EACA) was also held on 28 – 30 August 2019 at the Aga Khan University, in Nairobi, Kenya. Through the President of the Association, I encouraged the Conference delegates to submit to ICA-Africa regional conference scheduled for 2020 in Cape Town.

I used the opportunity to encourage EACA and SACOMM to hold their annual conferences at different times to allow participation from each other’s associations. This was well received, as a way of academically union Africa.

To increase our membership and presence in Latin America, I was in the process of developing a regional ICA conference. We had a regional conference in Chile during 2012. The one being proposed would take place in Peru or Colombia. University partners in both countries have expressed interest in hosting. Planning has been postponed due to Covid-19. Once this emergency is over I will continue to pursue.
The International Communication Association (ICA) is currently home to 3,146 active members across 81 different countries. Regular members make up the bulk of ICA membership with 1,688 active members. Student members is the second largest membership type at 839. Most of ICA members identify as woman.

Currently, ICA membership is 20% less than this time last year. This is likely due to the predicted outcomes for the 2020 conference.

Nonetheless, ICA membership continues to slowly increase throughout the months.

Total ICA membership per month
FY19 and FY20

- Although membership drops in December after the grace period ends, membership renewals increase in January as conference registration opens.
- Please note, data was collected prior to the deactivation of members in December 2018 which is why the drop is recorded in January.

Total number of members in April 2019: 3,938
Total number of members in April 2020: 3,149

Membership by Country
Counted on 1 April 2020 for FY20

Argentina: 2
Australia: 134
Austria: 23
Barbados: 1
Bangladesh: 2
Belgium: 34
Brazil: 7
Bulgaria: 1
Cameroon: 1
Canada: 37
Chile: 8
China: 71
Colombia: 13
Costa Rica: 1
Croatia: 3
Czech Republic: 2
Denmark: 19
Ecuador: 1
Egypt: 3
Finland: 24
France: 15
Germany: 179
Ghana: 1
Greece: 1
Guatemala: 1
Hong Kong: 57
India: 16
Indonesia: 13
Iran: 1
Ireland: 5
Israel: 35
Italy: 12
Jamaica: 1
Japan: 48
Jordan: 1
Kenya: 18
Korea, South: 35
Kuwait: 2
Lebanon: 4
Luxembourg: 2
Macao: 4
Malaysia: 10
Malta: 1
Mexico: 10
Namibia: 1
Nepal: 4
Netherlands: 74
New Zealand: 27
Nigeria: 7
Norway: 20
Pakistan: 2
Peru: 3
Philippines: 17
Poland: 6
Portugal: 2
Qatar: 1
Romania: 3
Russia: 12
Rwanda: 1
Saudi Arabia: 4
Serbia: 1
Singapore: 50
Slovenia: 1
South Africa: 5
Spain: 20
Sri Lanka: 1
Sweden: 29
Switzerland: 50
Taiwan: 14
Thailand: 2
Turkey: 1
Uganda: 1
Ukraine: 1
United Arab Emirates: 3
United Kingdom: 102
United States: 1,727
Vietnam: 1
Wales: 1
Zambia: 1
Blank: 93
MEMBERSHIP

Membership by Division
Counted on 1 April 2020 for FY20

CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS AND THE MEDIA: 104
COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY: 568
COMMUNICATION HISTORY: 134
COMMUNICATION LAW AND POLICY: 136
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNICATION: 167
ETHNICITY AND RACE IN COMMUNICATION: 174
FEMINIST SCHOLARSHIP: 172
GAME STUDIES: 134
GLOBAL COMMUNICATION AND SOCIAL CHANGE: 215
HEALTH COMMUNICATION: 426
INFORMATION SYSTEMS: 214
INSTRUCTIONAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL COMMUNICATION: 100
INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION: 213
INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION: 234
JOURNALISM STUDIES: 465
LANGUAGE AND SOCIAL INTERACTION: 126
MASS COMMUNICATION: 455
ORGANIZATIONAL COMMUNICATION: 309
PHILOSOPHY, THEORY AND CRITIQUE: 212
POLITICAL COMMUNICATION: 530
POPULAR COMMUNICATION: 182
PUBLIC RELATIONS: 241
VISUAL COMMUNICATION STUDIES: 141

Membership by Interest Group
Counted on 1 April 2020 for FY20

ACTIVISM, COMMUNICATION AND SOCIAL JUSTICE: 193
COMMUNICATION SCIENCE AND BIOLOGY: 108
COMPUTATIONAL METHODS: 219
HUMAN-MACHINE COMMUNICATION: 139
INTERGROUP COMMUNICATION: 105
LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER & QUEER STUDIES: 96
MEDIA INDUSTRY STUDIES: 178
MOBILE COMMUNICATION: 173
PUBLIC DIPLOMACY: 78
SPORTS COMMUNICATION: 68

MEMBERSHIP

Membership by Gender
Counted on 1 April 2020 for FY20

Woman: 1515
Man: 1148
Cis/Cisgender: 90
Genderqueer: 11
Non-binary: 4
Third gender: 1
Trans/Transgender: 2
All the above: 3
None of the above: 3
Blank: 414

This is an optional field. The data is not representative of the entire ICA community
The 70th Annual ICA Conference, though held virtually, nonetheless provided the Association and its members with an opportunity to celebrate excellence in the field by granting various awards. Congratulations to all the winners and our sincere gratitude to all the members of the various ICA awards committees, who do tremendous work each year to select each of these recipients. A special thank you to our Research Awards Committee Chair, Thomas Hanitzsch (LMU Munich), for his hard work pulling all of these awards together during a challenging time.

FELLOWS BOOK AWARD

“The Media Equation: How People Treat Computers, Television, and New Media Like Real People and Places,” by Byron Reeves and Clifford Nass is a groundbreaking book that is still extremely relevant today, 24 years after its publication. If this volume had an immediate impact on thinking about human computer interaction, this impact has grown over the years as younger scholars have been influenced by the arguments and engaged with them for purposes of modification and critique. It has been cited recently by researchers working on subjects as diverse as the ethical issues surrounding social robots, autonomous driving, augmented reality, virtual assistants such as Alexa and Siri, smartphone health interventions, gender and social computing, children and smartphones, and economic capital. Precarious Indian citizens remained so despite their passionate aspirations. Deconstructing these rationalities and identities of entrepreneurialism in the context of development and governance in India, the book charts a new theoretical frame for understanding the entrepreneur as a figure of exploitation and a tool of nation-building. Dr. Irani asks critically “Who modernizes whom, and towards what horizon?” As such, the book de-Westernizes the figure of entrepreneur as a hero of teleological progress.

OUTSTANDING BOOK AWARD

This book is a richly detailed, multi-year ethnography of the ways in which social entrepreneurship, design, and innovation work underscore national and global chains of value and power. The book marshals history and political economy around stories of everyday people who invested in impossible dreams that if they are more creative, they will achieve upward social mobility. Instead, innovation and human-centered design projects most benefited those already with social

APPLIED/PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH AWARD
Awarded to: Moya Bailey (Northeastern U), Brooke Foucault Welles (Northeastern U) and Sarah Jackson (U of Pennsylvania) Bailey, Welles, and Jackson exemplify a new generation of scholars who are redefining what public impact scholarship looks like and how communication researchers can engage diverse audiences. Their research has demonstrated journals and presented in several ICA divisions and interest groups. Their recent book #Hashtag Activism, published by MIT Press, is an exemplary manifestation of rigorous mix-method scholarship that incorporates the lived experiences of practitioners in an innovative and fascinating way. Bailey, Welles, and Jackson’s work can be read as a model for how communication researchers can engage with social media in a way that is both rigorous and impactful.
2020 ICA AWARDS

EARLY CAREER SCHOLAR AWARD

Awarded to: Laura Vandenbosch (U Leuven, Belgium)

The contributions of Dr. Laura Vandenbosch to our discipline are of such scale and depth it is hard to believe she is still early in her career—having grown into an outstanding researcher, an influential author, a caring mentor and a true leader in just a few short years. A prolific scholar, yet one concerned with real challenges in our technologically-driven world, Laura Vandenbosch has published an impressive oeuvre in the major outlets of our field—driven by a passion to understand thoroughly the role of mediated narratives in the lives of the young. As one of her recommendation letters noted, “Her work on media and youth is sharp, revealing, and theoretically ambitious. She is a careful and insightful scholar, testing models with longitudinal survey designs and pressing for theoretical advancement with discerning vision.”

The large number of awards and grants she has earned are further evidence of the quality of her work. As another letter writer concluded, “Since her first publications nearly a decade ago, Laura Vandenbosch has established herself as one of the leading experts in research on adolescents and the media. Without her contributions, we would know considerably less about what the ever-changing media landscape means to those [adolescents] who use it most frequently and enthusiastically.”

(Committee: Chair: Craig Scott, Members: Kathleen Beullens, Isabel Molina-Guzman, Amy Nathanson, Chaim Noy)

measureable impact outside academia in reports to leading organizations, such as the Knight Foundation; through wide coverage in leading media, including the New York Times, BBC, NPR, the Boston Globe; and in many public lectures in community and professional venues, including keynote talks given in prominent international conferences. To quote from their recommendation letters: “They epitomize the values that the ICA Applied Research Award seeks to recognize and amplify, “their timely and fascinating line of work promises to continue to generate impact in the near future.”

(Author: Chair: It dit Manosevitch, Members: Jung-Hyun Kim, Trisha Lin, Aaron Shaw, Michelle Violanti)

AUBREY FISHER MENTORSHIP AWARD

Awarded to: Steven R. Wilson (U of South Florida, USA)

Dr. Wilson’s current and former students overflow with praise for and appreciation of his careful feedback, his integrity, and his guidance. They describe him as encouraging, humble, attentive, and inspiring. His students understand and appreciate that he has rigorous standards for quality scholarship, but that he accompanies these standards by being patient, helpful, and “genuinely kind.” One former student described Dr. Wilson’s response when she tried to express her gratitude for his mentorship: “Just pay it forward,” he said. This advice, in turn, resonates with his own students’ mentorship of the many young scholars in our discipline. “Steve has spent his entire career supporting the success of students, and he never asks for anything in return. Empowering students with the abilities, experiences, and skills to reach their goals is the reward. I know that I will spend the rest of my career trying to ‘pay it forward’ by mentoring and advising students.”

(Committee: Chair: Mary Beth Oliver, Members: Maram Khazen, Oliver Quiring, Dietram Scheufele, Jessica Taylor Piotrowski)
of the dominant frameworks for Information Management, and health contexts, led to revolts around motivational entries, and two books. His chapters, or encyclopedia is the author of over 75 articles, methodologically rigorous, he theoretically grounded, and research that is applied, management. Producing uncertainty and information experts in the area of and among the foremost Barbara, is a leading scholar in at the U of California, Santa

ICA wishes to welcome, and congratulate, the ICA Fellows Class of 2020:

WALID AFIFI
Professor of Communication at the U of California, Santa Barbara, is a leading scholar in interpersonal communication and among the foremost experts in the area of uncertainty and information management. Producing research that is applied, theoretically grounded, and methodologically rigorous, he is the author of over 75 articles, chapters, or encyclopedia entries, and two books. His research program, which revolves around motivational components in interpersonal and health contexts, led to the development and testing of the Theory of Motivated Information Management, which currently stands as one of the dominant frameworks for

PENG HWA ANG
Professor of Communication and Information at Nanyang Technological U, Singapore, researches media law and policy. His work on Internet law and policy since the start of the public Internet led to him being one of the academics appointed by then UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan to the 40-strong Working Group on Internet Governance for the 2005 World Summit on the Information Society, which in turn led to the formation of the Internet Governance Forum. Ang co-founded the Global Internet Governance Academic Network, serving as its inaugural chair, and co-founded the Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum, serving as its inaugural chair as well. He was Chairman of the Asian Media Information and Communication Centre from 2003 to 2012 and President of the International Communication Association 2016-17. In 2008, he spent his sabatical at the Mudra Institute of Communication Research, in Ahmedabad, India, to help start the doctoral programme. He is Chief Editor of the Asian Journal of Communication. In Singapore, he is Chair of the Advertising Standards Authority of Singapore, the self-regulatory body of the advertising industry, and has consulted for the governments of Singapore, Thailand, and Bhutan on media policy. His articles have appeared in academic journals as well as trade publications such as The Asian Wall Street Journal and the Singapore Straits Times, and he is interviewed regularly by the Singapore media and by the Christian Science Monitor, USA Today, TIME, and The Economist’s Marketplace. A lawyer by training, he worked as a journalist before pursuing his master’s at the U of Southern California and his Ph.D. at Michigan State U.

KAREN ASHCRAFT
Associate Dean of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the College of Media, Communication, and Information at the U of Colorado, Boulder. For over 20 years, she has contributed innovative and insightful scholarship in the areas of gender and organizing, critical feminist organizational studies, difference and occupational identity, and affect as creating resistance spaces in organizational control. One of her key contributions is to show how communication, difference, work, and power intersect in complex and often contradictory ways. As the co-author of two books, her articles appear in highly prestigious communication and management journals, including Communication Theory, Communication Monographs, The Academy of Management Review, and Administrative Science Quarterly. Her work has received both disciplinary and interdisciplinary acclaim, including eight Top Paper Awards and three Best Article/Book of the Year Awards from ICA, the National Communication Association, and the Academy of Management. She has served as Associate Editor for Human Relations, a top outlet for interdisciplinary research on work and organizations, and has co-edited four special issues on organizational discourse, managing identities, and theories of work and working today. She has held visiting scholar appointments in the Institute of Economic Research and the Department of Business Administration at Sweden’s Lund U and presented lectures, plenaries, and keynote addresses at Copenhagen U, Massey U, the Norwegian Air Force, and London’s Cranfield School of Management.

2020 ICA FELLOWS

GEORGE A. BARNETT
Distinguished Professor Emeritus at the U of California, Davis, who previously held positions in the Departments of Communication at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and the State U of New York at Buffalo. Director of more than 40 dissertations and the 2012 recipient of ICA’s B. Aubrey Fisher Mentorship Award, Barnett has published extensively, writing or editing more than a dozen books, authoring or co-authoring more than 120 peer reviewed articles, and authoring or co-authoring more than 40 chapters. The quality of his research has been recognized frequently by his peers; he has received 16 top paper awards at conferences. His work has focused on the study of international communication, social and communication networks, the sociology of science, diffusion, and social influence. Some of the issues he has examined include the extent to which theories of international relations explain the interrelations among countries based on their telecommunication, Internet, and transportation links and the dynamics of these systems, how the cognitive maps of voters help us to predict their voting decisions and how that information can be used to formulate effective political messages, and how one’s location in a communication

2020 ICA FELLOWS

CONFERENCE
Lee B. Becker

Emeritus Professor of Journalism and Mass Communication at the U of Georgia, has spent his more than 40-year career refining our understanding of major communication concepts, particularly those focused on media effects. In a number of seminal articles and book chapters, he has analyzed a variety of concepts central to effects research and advised scholars to utilize them through the lens of active audiences. Becker advanced the pursuit of factors to assess media performance through studies of elements such as perceived credibility, market forces, and degrees of press freedom. He also pioneered scholarship in the sociology of journalism and mass communication education, utilizing national and international data sets to study the field’s normative fabric at the point where journalists are being trained. His leadership of the James M. Cox Jr. Center for International Mass Communication Training and Research at the U of Georgia has led to collaborations with scholars and media professionals from around the world.

Pablo J. Boczkowski

Professor of Communication Studies at Northwestern U, is a leading scholar of journalism studies, information and communication studies, organizational studies, and cultural studies in the discipline. He has published three books, seven edited books or journal volumes, nearly 50 journal articles and conference proceedings, and over 20 book chapters. His work has garnered nearly 20 research awards, including four Best Book Awards (from the American Sociological Association, National Communication Association, and International Communication Association), and several Best Paper or Best Article Awards. He has received approximately $500,000 in research grants, held five fellowships and visiting scholar positions, and given over 150 invited lectures. He is a dedicated mentor of graduate students, with over 40 student-authored articles and chapters. He is also an institution builder, through such roles at Northwestern U as Co-Director of the Center for Global Culture and Communication; Founding Director of the Master of Science Program in Leadership for Creative Enterprises; Director of the Doctoral Program in Media, Technology and Society; and Co-Founder and Co-Director of the Center for Media and Society in Argentina (a joint initiative with U de San Andrés). He has also organized over a dozen communication-centered conferences in both the U.S. and Argentina. Boczkowski’s contributions to the field include his role as a public intellectual, frequently writing and speaking on the state of journalism and public culture in the U.S. and abroad.

Lilie Chouliaraki

Professor of Media and Communications at the London School of Economics and Political Science. She graduated from the School of Philosophy, U of Athens, and continued with postgraduate and doctoral research in Linguistics and Critical Discourse Analysis at Lancaster U. For the past fifteen years, her scholarship has examined the ethical and political complexities of communicating human suffering in the media. Her research addresses four domains in which human suffering appears as a problem of communication: disaster news, humanitarian campaigns & celebrity advocacy, war & conflict reporting and migration news. She has published extensively on how digital platforms and genres are changing the witnessing of war today. Her book on the topic, entitled Witnessing Without Responsibility: Digital Testimonies from Conflict Zones, is forthcoming with Columbia U Press. Other publications include Discourse in Late Modernity (1999), The Spectatorship of Suffering (2006), The Soft Power of War (ed. 2008), The Ironic Spectator: Solidarity in the Age of Post-humanitarianism (2013), The Routledge Handbook of Humanitarian Communication (2019; co-ed, in press) and The Digital Border, Mobility, Technology and Power (New York University Press, under submission). Chouliaraki has also published more than 60 articles in peer-reviewed journals and edited volumes, with her work translated into French, Italian, Portuguese, Polish, Danish, Greek and Chinese. She is the recipient of three ICA awards for her research publications, most recently the 2015 Outstanding Book of the Year Award for The Ironic Spectator: Solidarity in the Age of Post-humanitarianism.

Stuart Cunningham

Distinguished Professor of Media and Communications in the Creative Industries Faculty at Queensland U of Technology in Brisbane, Australia, has made a singular contribution to advancing communication, cultural and media studies scholarship in Australia and internationally, exemplifying the relevance to industry practice and government policy. He is author, co-author or co-editor of 17 books, 25 reports, over 200 chapters and articles, and a wide range of general articles and public communications. His most recent honors include admission into the UK-based Academy of Social Sciences in 2013, a Fulbright Senior Scholarship for 2014-15, and in 2015 the award of Member of the Order of Australia. Cunningham was founding Director of the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Creative Industries and Innovation (CCI), a multi-million dollar research initiative funded by the Australian government. Cunningham has had a long and active involvement with ICA over the last decade and has contributed consistently to multiple divisions, including Popular Communication and the Media Industry Studies Interest Group.

Andrew Flanagin

Professor in the Department of Communication at the U of California, Santa Barbara. He is an internationally-recognized scholar of digital communication who has pioneered research on how conventional social science theories need to be revised to address developments in communication technologies and, in turn, how conventional theories can be used to understand new technologies. He has published three books (MIT Press; Cambridge U Press) and nearly 100 publications that routinely appear in the most influential journals in the field. The quality of his research has been recognized through multiple ICA awards, including the Outstanding Article of the Year Award. Flanagin has received considerable grant funding, including multiple...
HOMERO GIL DE ZÚÑIGA

In Fall 2020 assumes the positions of Distinguished Research Professor at the U of Salamanca, where he will direct the Democracy Research Unit (DRU), and Professor of Media Effects at Penn State U., pursued a Ph.D. in Politics at U Europea de Madrid and a Ph.D. in Mass Communication at U of Wisconsin – Madison. He is also a Senior Research Fellow at U Diego Portales, Chile. Originally from Spain, he has held positions and fellowships at multiple academic institutions in Europe and the US, including the Center for Information Technology Policy at Princeton U, the Nieman Journalism Lab at Harvard U, and the McQuaid Honorary Fellow at the Amsterdam School of Communication Research at U of Amsterdam. His research addresses the influence of new technologies and digital media over people’s daily lives, as well as the effect of such use on the overall democratic process. He has produced several books/ volumes and over 100 ISI/ JCR journal articles (e.g., the Journal of Communication, Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication, Human Communication Research, New Media & Society, and Communication Research). He has given over 100 presentations at scientific meetings and over 80 keynote and research talks at universities around the globe (USA, Spain, Canada, Germany, France, Mexico, Malaysia, Cuba, UK, The Netherlands). He has received research awards from ICA, World Association for Public Opinion Research (WAPOR), International Symposium on Online Journalism (ISOJ), Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), and American Political Science Association (APSA).

MELANIE GREEN

Currently Professor of Communication at the U of Buffalo. She pioneered the study of narrative persuasion with her development of transportation theory, which explains how the psychological process of being absorbed into stories leads to belief and attitude change. Her work has had widespread influence in media psychology, health communication, and entertainment studies as well as the study of persuasion. She has published widely in both communication and social psychology with 54 peer reviewed articles, seven invited articles, two edited books, and 23 book chapters. She is a current associate editor of Journal of Communication and a Fellow of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology.

JEFF HANCOCK

Professor of Communication at Stanford University, studies how social media are influential in deception, misrepresentation, lying, and emotional responses to technology and language. His work has changed how communication scholars think about online communication, focusing on descriptions of the Internet as a venue for authentic self-presentation, emotional expression and misrepresentation. Hancock is most noted for his work on why and how people lie online and the effects of deceptive interactions on relationships. He has published extensively about social media and is a frequent source of expertise in the application of communication research to new AI technologies that can automatically recognize deception. Hancock is the founding director of the Social Media Lab at Stanford U, an interdisciplinary group that is currently working on social media, mental health and wellbeing.

THOMAS HANITZSCH

Chair and Professor of Communication at LMU Munich, has made wide-ranging contributions to journalism and communication research, including journalism and communication theory, journalism culture, conflict and war journalism, celebrity and lifestyle journalism, media ethics, media trust and media skepticism, research methodology, and comparative communication research. Hanitzsch’s 2007 article in Communication Theory was among the first to define journalism culture as an analytical concept, deconstructing “journalism culture” into three underlying domains and seven dimensions, and his approach has been widely adopted in subsequent research. In 2006, he set up a project that eventually became the Worlds of Journalism Study, which now involves researchers from more than 110 countries. The Worlds of Journalism Study has broken new ground in journalism and communication research not only because of its vast geographic coverage but also because of the new methodological and managerial standards it set in place for large-scale comparative research. Hanitzsch is also one of three founders of ICA’s Journalism Studies Interest Group, where, under his leadership, the group gained divisional status and quickly grew into one of ICA’s largest divisions. In 2011, Hanitzsch was appointed Editor-in-Chief of Communication Theory. The journal flourished under his leadership, leaping to 4th in the Thomson Reuters Journal Citation Report in 2015.

LANCE HOLBERT

Professor of Communication and Social Influence at Temple U, is not only a distinguished scholar, teacher, reviewer, and editor but also a builder of the field of communication. A Distinguished Research Fellow at the Annenberg Public Policy Center at the U of Pennsylvania, Holbert’s research has enhanced the field’s understanding of the process of media influence in entertainment and politics and has fostered methodologically sophisticated ways of knowing. Holbert has served on more than a dozen editorial boards, including those of Journal of Communication, for which he now serves as Editor-in-Chief, The Annals of the International Communication Association, and Human Communication Research. Holbert has chaired the ICA Mass Communication Division, headed its Political Communication Division’s Dissertation Award Committee, and served on ICA task forces on regional conferences, divisional funding, and ethics. At Temple U, he has played a major role in creating an empirically focused rhetorical-scientific department focused on social justice concerns.

ANDREA B. HOLLINGSHEAD

Professor of Communication in the USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism and has joint appointments with the USC Marshall School of Business and the Department of Psychology. Professor Hollingshead is an expert on group and team collaboration and decision making. Her research identifies the factors, processes, and practices that make some groups more effective than others, and it addresses how groups collaborate and create communities in online spaces. Her publications include three books: Research Methods for Studying Groups and Teams: A Guide to Approaches, Tools and Technologies (2012, co-edited with Marshall Scott Poole), Theories for Public Groups: Interdisciplinary Perspectives (2005, co-edited with Marshall Scott Poole), and Grant Writing for Public Groups: A Guide to Proposals (2001, co-edited with Marshall Scott Poole).
and Groups Interacting with Technology (1994, co-authored with Joseph E. McGrath). Her many research articles have appeared in top outlets in the fields of communication, management and social psychology. Hollingshead teaches courses on group communication and leadership, marketing communication, and mindful communication at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. She also conducts workshops and short programs for professionals on those topics and has received many awards for her research and teaching.

KNOBLOCH

In the summer of 2020 assumes the position of Dean at Northwestern U in Qatar, as the Anthony Shadid Professor at the Annenberg School for Communication of the U of Pennsylvania and Director of its Center for Advanced Research in Global Communication. She is the author of more than 50 journal articles and 15 book chapters and a former Associate Editor of the Journal of Social and Personal Relationships. Her scholarship has been honored by the Gerald R. Miller Award for Early Career Achievement from the International Association for Relationship Research, the Golden Anniversary Monograph Award from the National Communication Association, the Biennial Article Award from the International Association for Relationship Research, the Charles H. Woolbert Research Award from the National Communication Association, and the University Scholar Award from the U of Illinois.

KRAIDY

Tim Kuhn

Professor of Communication at U Colorado, Boulder, is a scholar of organizational communication with an international reputation crossing the disciplines of communication and management and organization studies. Kuhn’s research spans three interconnected areas of study: the communicative constitution of organizations; knowledge and knowing; and identity and identification. Co-author or co-editor of five books, he has received several “Best Article” and “Best Book” Awards from ICA, NCA, or the Academy of Management, and his conference papers have been recognized for six “Top Paper” Awards at national and international conferences. Two of his papers were published in The Academy of Management Annals and The Academy of Management Review, underscoring the importance, quality, and international visibility of his work. Since 2015, Kuhn has been serving as an Associate Editor for Human Relations, an international and interdisciplinary organizational studies journal. He previously served as an International Research Fellow at Lund U’s School of Economics and Management and as a Visiting Scholar at Copenhagen Business School. He has held a number of leadership positions in ICA, including Vice Chair and forthcoming Chair of the Organizational Communication Division.

Francis Lee

Professor and Director at the School of Journalism and Communication, The Chinese U of Hong Kong (CUHK), he is a prolific, influential and well-cited international scholar of contentious politics in transitional societies, in general, and the role of media in social movements, in particular. He has (co)authored four books and coedited another four, published 133 journal articles and 27 book chapters, and helmed six special journal issues. He was the recipient of CUHK’s most competitive Faculty Research Excellence Award in 2013, where, as PI, he received 14 research grants, amounting to US$672,000. He actively participates as the Hong Kong representative for three large-scale international comparative studies of journalism. Lee has also provided outstanding service to the research community: the Associate Editor of Mass Communication & Society since 2013, he is currently the Chief Editor of the SSCI-listed Chinese Journal of Communication. He serves on the editorial board of ten other journals, including Communication Research and the International Journal of Press Politics. A dedicated mentor to his students, he serves as an active journalist and respected media columnist, where he is keenly sought by local and international media such as the BBC and the New York Times, especially during times of heated social conflict. Frequently consulted by NGOs and other public bodies, he has been invited to give numerous keynote speeches and lectures by institutions at home and abroad. Lee served as the Graduate Division Head at CUHK for many years and assumed the School’s Directorship in 2017.
Lwin, May O.

Professor of Communication and Information and Associate Dean at Singapore’s Nanyang Technological U, studies health communication, with a focus on the intersection of digital technology/new media and its applications to health communication and public health issues. Her work has focused on major public health concerns such as obesity, cyber wellness and communicable diseases, including influenza, dengue fever and HIV. Collaborating across disciplines with hospitals and international institutes and generating competitive research grants that total more than US$8 million to date, her research is grounded in family, group, and parental communication and health behavior change theories. Lwin’s longstanding work on the design, use and assessment of digitally-mediated health communication systems to improve public health was launched real-time in Sri Lanka, where an app, developed and informed by research, has helped lower the incidence of dengue in that country. For her decade-long work in this arena, she received the 2019 ICA Outstanding Applied Research Award. That same approach was used in Singapore in the outbreak of the Wuhan coronavirus. Her research has led to new advertising regulation of fast food and sugar-sweetened beverages in Singapore and a new regime on food labelling. She is active and involved in the global communication community - presenting at universities, mentoring young faculty in Asia and serving on various advisory panels. Not only have her supervisees won top dissertation awards in ICA, but she has received international recognition, including the Fulbright ASEAN Scholar Award and the Ogilvy Foundation International Award for Academic Leadership.

Press, Andrea

Kenan Professor of Media Studies and Sociology at the U of Virginia, combines intellectual advancement with a thorough commitment to ethnographic exploration and incisive critique. Her research is internationally renowned for its contribution to feminist media studies, audience studies, media sociology, film and media theory. Her first book, Women Watching Television, has been recognized by junior and senior scholars alike for its original integration of feminist theory and audience reception. Her most recent book, Media-Ready Feminism and Everyday Sexism, sheds new light on how popular media forms – television shows, films, internet sites and social media – promote the popular perception that “feminism is already accomplished.” Press critiques this view for its reproduction of a particularly circumscribed neoliberal feminist vision, showing how, in tandem, representations of “everyday sexism” have become embodied in a wide array of institutions, practices, and beliefs. Widely-known in both communication and sociology for her critical and interdisciplinary contributions, Press integrates textual and audience reception analysis, revealing the transformation of cultural meanings as messages are circulated and appropriated in everyday life. Press has led both in research, leadership, mentoring and institution-building. She founded the successful and sizeable Media Studies Department at the U of Virginia, co-edits the peer-reviewed international journal The Communication Review, chairs ICA’s Feminist Scholarship Division, and has served as Executive Director of the Virginia Film Festival, among other achievements.

Price, Monroe E.

Adjunct Full Professor at the U of Pennsylvania’s Annenberg School for Communication and recently retired as the founding director of its Center for Global Communication Studies. He also serves as the Joseph and Sadie Danciger Professor of Law and Director of the Howard M. Squadron Program in Law, Media and Society at Yeshiva U’s Cardozo School of Law, directs the Stanhope Centre for Communications Policy Research at the London School of Economics and Political Science and is a member of the advisory board of the Centre for Media, Data and Society of Budapest’s Central European U. A former Dean at the Cardozo School of Law and founding director of the Programme in Comparative Media Law and Policy (PCMLP) at the U of Oxford, where he is still a Research Fellow, PCMLP honored him by creating the annual Monroe Price Media Law Moot Court competition. Essential in making policy studies a recognized subfield of media and communication studies, he is a pioneer in the study of media and communications policy and law. His contributions to the field include his theory of a “market for loyalties” in media regulation and introducing the field of communication studies to strategic narrative theory. In addition to his groundbreaking theoretical and empirical research, Price has worked tirelessly to connect communication studies with a wide transnational network of regulators, scholars, and practitioners in Europe, Africa, Latin America and Asia as well as in the US. The mentor of dozens of students, visiting scholars, and faculty, he hosts many of them when they join him at Oxford every summer to participate in the Annenberg-Oxford Media Policy Summer Institute, which he has organized for 21 years.
MICHAEL STOHL

Professor of Communication at the U of California, Santa Barbara, who for more than 40 years has made contributed to the fields of communication and political science through his intellectual leadership and pioneering studies of terrorism, communication, and human rights and through his international and interdisciplinary engagement as a professor and administrator. Known for transcending disciplinary boundaries to pursue greater understanding of the problems of violence, terrorism, and the expansion of human rights, he was recognized by ICA when he received the 2011 Applied/Public Policy Research Award for his work on State Terrorism and Human Rights and the 2008 Outstanding Article Award for the article “Networks of Terror.” He has been a regular participant in ICA since 1992 in Organizational Communication, Political Communication, and Global Communication. He has authored three books, edited 17 others, and published 62 journal articles and 68 book chapters. He has been the recipient of three Fulbright Awards, prestigious fellowships and international collaborative research grants in New Zealand, The Netherlands, and elsewhere. In recognition of his leadership and contribution to International Education and International Exchange, The Council on International Education Exchange established the Michael Stohl Scholarship Award in 2011 to provide $25,000 in annual scholarships to “Stohl scholars,” for nontraditional, economically challenged, or first generation college students, to pursue study abroad opportunities.

ANGHARAD N. VALDIVIA

Research Professor at the Institute of Communications Research and Professor of Media and Cinema Studies at the U of Illinois-Urban Champaign. Angharad has published more than eight books, edited collections, and definitive encyclopedias in Media Studies. Her research on feminist communication studies, Latina/o communication studies, and culture and communication has been published in more than 60 journal articles and 40 book chapters. Within ICA, Angharad has served as the chair of the Feminist Scholarship Interest Group (1991-1993), now a division thanks in large part to her work at that time, and Editor of Communication Theory, among other roles. Through her decades of work in Latino communication studies, feminist media studies, and critical media and communication studies, Angharad has opened and cultivated academic spaces where women and women of color faculty from the United States and globally have thrived, contributing to the rigorous and innovative production of knowledge in the field.

KARIN WAHL-JORGENSEN

Director of Research Development and Environment in the School of Journalism, Media and Culture at Cardiff U, where she also directs the Journalism and Democracy Research Group and research activities in the Centre for Community Journalism. With a PhD in Communication from Stanford U and an honorary doctorate from Roskilde U, Wahl-Jorgensen’s scholarship is influential across the broader field of Communication, including Political Communication, Journalism Studies, Social Change and Activism, and International Communication. Her research, focusing on how media support or preclude public debate, has introduced affect as a central force in public discourse and in so doing expanded theoretical and methodological approaches to understanding the relationship among publics, media, and politics as expressed in shared narratives. In an era of polarized political and discursive environments, her work directly addresses how affect is a key feature—both as a driver and outcome—of contemporary media content, uses, and architectures. She innovatively addresses the pressing concerns of today’s media landscape with reference to concepts that have long been central to the field, such as the public sphere and the forces shaping it. She has published five scholarly books and more than 100 refereed journal articles and book chapters. Wahl-Jorgensen’s has served ICA as an elected board member at large and as a chair and judge for awards competitions at the association and division levels.

HERMAN WASSERMAN

Professor of Media Studies and Director of the Centre for Film & Media Studies at the U of Cape Town. With a focus on Africa as an understudied world region and a strong emphasis on post-colonial perspectives, he is widely respected for his scholarship and has significantly contributed to the areas of International and Global Communication, Political Communication, media and democracy, and post-colonial theory. He has published 13 books (including two single-authored monographs with a third forthcoming in 2020), over 80 refereed journal articles, and 50 book chapters. Via his engagement in key debates in the field on normative ethics, tabloidization and media, and conflict and democracy, his work has left a notable imprint on scholarship revolving around de-Westernizing communication research. He has also used his expertise in African media to contribute to comparative studies of journalism and media, focusing, for instance, on media, public conflict and democratization in transitional democracies, the influence of geopolitical shifts in the Global South, and comparative studies of “fake news” and misinformation in the broader African region. In addition, he has produced critiques of systems of global knowledge production, thereby interrogating the power relations that govern global scholarship.

GUOBIN YANG

Grace Lee Boggs Professor of Communication and Sociology at the U of Pennsylvania’s Annenberg School for Communication and Department of Sociology. Yang’s research, teaching and service transcend disciplinary and national boundaries, where his ongoing investment in contemporary internet activism and 1960s-era revolutionary movements in China has connected social theory with new media studies and social movement research. He is the author or editor of nine books, including the award-winning The Power of the Internet in China: Citizen Activism Online (2009) and The Red Guard Generation and Political Activism in China (2016), and more than 70 refereed journal articles. The multidisciplinary nature of Yang’s scholarship is mirrored in his mentoring of graduate students. At Penn, he serves as the Annenberg School’s Associate Dean for Graduate Studies, the Director of the Center on Digital Culture and Society and Deputy Director of the Center for the Study of Contemporary China. In addition to communication and sociology, he also is a faculty member in the Graduate Groups in History, East Asian Languages and Cultures, International Studies, the Center for East Asian Studies and the Asian American Studies Program. Beyond these contributions, Yang has spearheaded efforts to connect the field of communication with social justice projects. He was the founding chair of ICA’s Activism, Communication and Social Justice Interest Group. Under his leadership, ACSJ fostered research that responds to the pressing social justice issues of our time and became one of the most active ICA groups in recent years. Yang’s work as a pioneering leader in the field of communication embodies ICA’s commitment to scholarship for the public good.
COMMITTEES & TASK FORCES

AFFILIATE JOURNAL COMMITTEE
Chair Cynthia Stohl

Members Elisia Cohen, Francois Heinderyckx, Frank Esser, Bu Zhong, Tom Mankowski (ex-officio)

As indicated in the last report, and as per the bylaws we accepted in 2015 we are still waiting for the Affiliate Journal Process Review Task Force to approve the continuation of the program. Thus, we have not put out a call for proposals for a new journal. The three affiliation journals that we have are continuing to thrive and expand readership.

DIVISION AND INTEREST GROUP MENTORING AND COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Chair Matt Carlson  Members Nicole Ellison, Natalia Rybas, Jesper Strömbäck, Adrienne Shaw, Richard Popp

The main task that the DIGMC committee has done is the carry out a formal review of the Computation Studies Interest Group as part of its application to move to division status. We had to build this process from the group up over the course of the last year, which included a meeting at the 2019 ICA conference, the creation of a template, and a system for evaluating and writing the report. We now have a template we can use for the future. The DIGMC committee also participated in the shift to online annual reports and eventually the longer biennial reporters. Finally, we held a best practices salon at the 2019 conference.

FUTURE OF ICA CONFERENCES TASK FORCE
Chair Jeff Niederdeppe

Members Stacey Connaughton, Young Mie Kim, Mirca Madianou, Catherine Preston, Jordan Soliz, Tany Tang

Our task force was formed in November 2019. Since then, we have met via zoom on two different occasions. Task force members analyzed relevant data in between those two meetings. The first meeting brainstormed the types of information we thought would be relevant to the charge. Based on that discussion, we reached out to ICA’s Executive Director to request a large volume of information related to the following topics: (a) recent financial information pertaining to conference costs and revenue; (b) previous task force reports on the annual conference; (c) conference site selection criteria; (d) evaluation data from the last 4 ICA conference evaluations; (e) multi-year trends in membership and conference attendance data; (f) past 3-year data on division submission formats, submission volumes, and acceptance rates by format; (g) the sustainability task force reports (for information relevant to conferences); and (h) other current task force charges (to assess areas of potential overlap and cooperation). Task force members divided up these sources of information and presented a preliminary report of their findings at the task force’s second zoom meeting. The task force is scheduled to meet in late March to identify some preliminary conclusions from these analyses to share at the Board of Director’s meeting.

IDEA TASK FORCE
Chair Jasmine McNealy & Maria Len-Rios
Members Meryl Alper, Stine Eckert, Walid Afifi, Kimberly Gross, David Ewoldsen, Shiv Ganesh, Miriam Kweny Ayiekho, Jess Rauchberg

The ICA IDEA Task Force officially commenced in November 2019. Since then, we have held two full task force meetings: January 13, 2020 and March 13, 2020. At mid-year we submitted a preliminary report for Spring 2020, which included three proposals: information-gathering, creating a preliminary definition of IDEA, and making recommendations to ICA. This is a report of activities in these areas:
- Information-gathering: We asked for, and received, several reports regarding the areas of interest for IDEA. Other information we collected from the ICA website. We are in the process of analyzing this information.
- Subgroups: To facilitate the analysis of this information, we have divided the members of the task force into three subgroups with different foci. These subgroups are Definitions + Membership, Journals + Awards, Conferences + Reviewing. Subgroups also meet and communicate with each other to assess the reports and data collected, and to propose recommendations. The next full task force meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2020. We will provide further updates during the summer.
Our Charge
The Interest Group Task Force was charged to:
1. Review the criteria by which IGs are proposed
2. Build into the process a mechanism for broader consultation; and
3. Consider the implications of organizational growth.

Background
- At the May 2019 ICA Board of Directors meeting, a new interest group, Human-Machine Communication, was approved. The approval process sparked a conversation about whether ICA has a “maximum size” and if there are any costs to a proliferation of interest groups.
- This conversation did not intend to undermine Human-Machine Communication but rather re-enlivened a perennial discussion within ICA about how new interest groups and divisions impact older ones.
- Interest groups and divisions tend to arise organically. There is not a parallel, organic “demise” of divisions. For this reason, there is room to assess whether the current roster of divisions and interest groups best represents the field.
- Jessica noted that there are some additional murmurs of new interest groups coming along, particularly growing out of some of the larger divisions (like MassComm and CAT). If these divisions were to have splinter groups, it would exacerbate the growth pressures on ICA.

In sum, we determined that this process needs review because it impacts two broad issues within ICA:

A) Intellectual: Does our division makeup reflect the field? Are we capitalizing on new developments and subfields? Do our divisions and interest groups make sense? Does growth add to ICA in a sensible and generative way? Are we intelligible to newcomers to ICA?
B) Administrative: Does ICA have a “maximum” size? Is it possible that the current roster of divisions and interest groups best represents the field?
- Jessica noted that there are some additional murmurs of new interest groups coming along, particularly growing out of some of the larger divisions (like MassComm and CAT). If these divisions were to have splinter groups, it would exacerbate the growth pressures on ICA.

Our Recommendation
Currently, prospective Interest Groups consult with prospective IG’s consult Julie Arnold, then complete a form which is submitted to ICA. After meeting the requirements outlined in ICA Bylaws, the Interest Group may submit a formal motion to the Board of Directors, which votes on the Interest Group at its annual meeting.

In the current process, there is no space for deliberation about what the proposed Interest Group might mean for the organization as a whole. Because of the lack of deliberation, the process of proposing an Interest Groups can feel akin to a checklist: once certain boxes are ticked, the group “qualifies,” even if it might not make sense within ICA overall. Currently, proposed Interest Groups are encouraged to reach out to related divisions, but this process can feel piecemeal and can endow those divisions inordinate power in affirming or vetoing potential Interest Groups.

We therefore recommend that ICA would institute a standing committee to review prospective Interest Groups. The prospective Interest Group would be required to submit the same initiating form, but would also put together a two-page rationale and literature review to be reviewed by the committee. After receipt of this documentation, the subcommittee would review and then meet (in person or online) with the Interest Group founders to discuss the proposal. That discussion would result in a recommendation from the subcommittee to the Board of Directors regarding the merits of the prospective Interest Group. Subsequently, a favorable vote would allow the Interest Group to continue toward formal status.

The subcommittee would be composed of second year Board members, who serve staggered three year terms. The subcommittee would be made up of six members, three from Divisions and three from Interest Groups.

The paperwork listed as required above would reviewed annually to make adjustments.

The committee also recommends that no new Interest Groups be accepted until the review process is in place.

Anticipated Impact of Recommendation
- The process will create an opportunity for deliberation that should allow ICA to think more broadly and judiciously about prospective interest groups. This might have the effect of slowing down the rate of new interest group formation.
- If ICA were to grow more slowly, this would help to manage the increasing fragmentation of the organization and its divisions, though it might also make the organization slightly less kaleidoscopic.

Additional Recommendation
In addition to the process recommended above, which is within the purview of this committee, a number of ancillary issues emerged. These issues expand beyond the purview of this committee, yet are important considerations for ICA as a whole.

- The association should remove the requirement that preconferences must be sponsored by divisions.
- The association should reclassify all divisions and interest groups to a new designation that would give them the same status (e.g. “sections” or “communities”).
- All divisions should be required (and incentivized) to update their bylaws.
- The association should explore a way to take stock of all its divisions and interest groups, with an eye toward updating and reorganizing division composition, possible mergers of related divisions, and sunsetting underperforming divisions.
- The association should explore making programming decisions made in clusters, so that members who participate in closely related divisions/IGs are able to participate across them.
The chair of the committee sent a note to the ICA leadership in August 2019 making a set of recommendations, as follows:

- Send all ILs a note from the president-elect as well as the chair of the internationalization committee, explaining who various point people are.
- Provide some sort of digital platform for ILs to exchange notes and raise issues as necessary.
- Communicate the new structure to the association, and ensure that members know who the various ILs are, as well as the chair and members of the internationalization committee.
- Ensure that all ILs are aware of the various elements of their role.
- Create a position for the chair of the internationalization committee on the board of the association so that issues raised by ILs can be moved upwards and raised at the highest levels of the association.
- Select members of the internationalization committee itself from the ILs, once they have completed their one or two year term.
- Provide regular information to members about the association’s considerable efforts to increase the breadth and depth of internationalization and work on issues of inclusion and equity.

Follow-up on these issues can be summarized as follows:

- All incoming internationalization liaisons were sent an email from the chair of the M&I committee in November 2019, with a description of duties.
- A discussion space for liaisons has been set up on ICA’s website.
- The board will discuss the need for direct representation of the ILs and the M&I committee in May 2020, as well as the possibility of selecting representation on the M&I committee from the ILs themselves.

Internationalization at the ICA 2020 (virtual) conference.

- The chair participated in a Blue Skies workshop conducted by SECAC on the place of internationalization vis-à-vis inclusion, diversity, equity and access.
- The internationalization committee is now represented by the chair on several association-wide committees and task forces, including the I.D.E.A. Task Force, the Nominating Committee, and the Strategic Planning Task Force. This will help in ensuring that internationalization issues are considered thoroughly and robustly as a “horizontal” force, but the vertical integration of internationalization into ICA’s structure still needs to be considered by the board and the executive.
- Internationalization Liaisons are scheduled to meet at the virtual conference, both synchronously and asynchronously.

The Task Force is charged with examining ICA’s publishing program as a whole and how Open Access (OA) and Open Science (OS) impact our members and current publications.

The Task Force should concentrate on:

- Reviewing models for OA publishing, including the transition of the International Journal of Communication (IJoC) to ICA
- Developing a strategy and policy for ICA regarding OA publishing
- Developing scenarios for organizational and financial outlook for ICA if OA is implemented
- Reviewing key developments in OS
- Developing ICA’s first OS strategy
- Identifying OS aspects that ICA might consider implementing organizationally and through policy
- Making recommendations for OS for ICA Board of Directors in May 2020.

Work flow:
The Task Force started its work in fall 2019. This Report reflects work completed in the Task Force (with a working group OA and a working group OS). The Task Force delivered a status report to the Executive Committee meeting in January 2020.

The work in the Task Force continued but has been delayed from March 2020 onwards due to the COVID-19 pandemic and work towards the online conference 2020.

The report yields 3 motions, submitted separately, but listed here for clarity:

→ Motion to Board: Change the copyright rules for JCMC and make it a formal OA journal as soon as possible.

→ Motion to Board: Introduce OSF badges at all ICA journals soon. It should be a ‘voluntary implementation’ to our journals. A submission can (but is not required to) apply for OS badges.

OUP is rolling out a journals-wide initiative for adoption of one of four statements that each journal needs to select.

1. The journal encourages the public release of data but makes no requirements.
2. The journal encourages the public release of data but does not require it, but it does require a data availability statement as part of the article.
3. The journal requires the public release of data as a condition of publication.
4. The journal requires the public release of data as a condition of publication and data will be peer reviewed along with the manuscript.

→ Motion to Board: In line with the opt-in philosophy above, the TF recommends that ICA adopts option 2 for all journals at this stage. It also notes that not all articles (e.g., theoretical reviews) will have actual data to refer to in a data availability statement.

On terminology:
The Task Force is named Open Access
and Open Science. In the report we bring an update on the activities in both areas. Regarding the use of the open science terminology, the task force has a preference for Open Scholarship which we consider more inclusive and broad.

Open Access

Background: ICA journals, with the exception of Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication (JCMC), are hybrids. OA Gold Hybrid (subscription with option to pay Article Processing Charge (APC) to open article). All types of OA use a version of a Creative Commons license that is held by the author. Whether that is a pre-print or purchasing Gold status in one of our subscription journals under CC BY. All self-archiving policies can be found here.

ICA has had an OA Gratis journal for over a decade, JCMC. Not a true OA journal, JCMC is a free journal that is supported by the revenue of our other journals, and its copyright is held by the Association.

Board meeting 2019: At the board meeting 2019 a motion was approved for ICA to explore options for taking over the International Journal of Communication. JIoC is an OA Diamond (free version of record and no APC) journal published by Annenberg Press out of U of Southern California. JIoC was set to be gifted to ICA. This plan was ultimately not supported by the Dean of Annenberg School and the plans have been stopped, at least for the time being.

The TF explored the option of moving JCMC to formal OA status immediately. This is a change only in copyright and will make JCMC a formal OA journal. This is supported by OUP and the TF recommends implementing this ASAP.

Motion to Board: Change the copyright rules for JCMC and make it a formal OA journal as soon as possible.

This transition for JCMC is separate from any further discussions of OA funding models or the transition of other ICA journals.

The OA WG has looked at different options for OA publishing of ICA journals after the current contract with OUP expires.

The intention was to consolidate an overview to provide a sense of self-publishing costs. This work has not been completed due to Covid-19.

The TF anticipates the OA&OS Task Force being a multi-year Task Force until 2024. The charge will be updated and also include working with the EC and the Publications Committee on the Call for Proposals for ICA journals after the current OUP contract.

Open Science/Open Scholarship

The OS work group developed a number of concrete initiatives for an ICA OS strategy. These were endorsed by the TF and the Executive Committee in its January 2020 meeting.

Educating ICA’s Members and Institutions on Open Science / Scholarship

- The OS discussion is only just emerging in parts of the ICA. To ensure a wider awareness, understanding and shared language moving forward, ICA should provide a short memo / intro fact sheet on “ICA and open science” (for members and their home institutions). The TF prefers using the more inclusive term ‘Open Scholarship’ rather than Open Access.

Open Access and Open Science Task Force continued..

‘Open Science’ when referring to Association-wide initiatives around ‘openness’.

ACTIONS:
- Use OSF’s guidelines as a template for an OS & ICA online space.
- Create Open Scholarship section on ICA site (or elsewhere) (with basic information, list of info sources, tips, #openica, #opencomm, etc.)
- In the ICA OS space, reserve a section for individuals/labs who want to work jointly on projects. Examples can be found in eye-tracking studies, often small samples, small effects; can be scaled if collaborative.

Implementation of Badges on ICA Journals

- ICA should introduce the OSF badge system (https://osf.io/tvyxz/) for all ICA journals.
- Initially this should be voluntary (authors opt in). The badge system is a ‘carrot system’. The entry barrier should be low, welcoming to all types of scholarship and data. The editorial/production flow should be smooth and based on experiences from other journals.
- The use and experiences will be evaluated after an initial 2-year period. This evaluation is carried out by the Publications Committee. Policy adjustments can be suggested after this period.
- In the ICA OS space, reserve a section for individuals/labs who want to work jointly on projects. Examples can be found in eye-tracking studies, often small samples, small effects; can be scaled if collaborative.

ACTION
- Motion to Board: In line with the opt-in philosophy above, the TF recommends that ICA adopt option 2 for all journals at this stage. It also notes that not all articles (e.g., theoretical reviews) will have actual data to refer to in a data availability statement.

EXPERIMENTATION WITH RR (REGISTERED REPORTS)

The Task Force sees a lot of merit in the RR format (see e.g., https://cos.io/rr/). The TF also acknowledges that Open Science discussions around the RR format are emerging within the ICA community.

The TF believes this would be valuable for ICA journals to consider. JCMC is already having a discussion of this.
Committees and Task Forces

Open Access and Open Science Task Force continued...

Action
• RR’s are not introduced at this stage, but will be considered for later implementation.

Open Science practices in ICA conference procedures

The 2020 submissions for the conference offered an opt-in model for OS practices (such as pre-registration, etc.). The TF supports continuing the approach for the 2021 and onwards submissions (akin to badge system for journals) and allowing for pre-registered studies (with data still to be collected) to be submitted to the conference.

Action
• Consolidate OS in ICA conference submission procedures:
  - To allow authors of *any* individual submission to (optionally) indicate that they followed open science practices in line with the Open Science Badges system (three boxes: open data; preregistered; open materials)
  - To allow divisions/IGs to offer a separate submission category for “prospective preregistered studies” (or similar) to invite submissions of studies that have been preregistered but not yet conducted. [Whether these should be extended abstracts, long-form study proposals or something else could be left to decide by divs/IGs and this submission category could, of course, also be called differently]
  - These procedures will be implemented with Jennifer Le and the conference team (while finding solutions with ScholarOne Abstracts).

Encourage further OS discussion:
To further gauge interest in and questions above OS practices, the TF conducts a survey of the ICA membership. This survey will be conducted in May 2020 or at a later stage (due to Covid-19).

OS at the virtual Annual ICA Conference

• Create sessions at #ICA20 to showcase and discuss OS practices.

Actions:
• Use Learning Labs slots set aside at #ica20 for OS practice labs.
• Eike Rinke (2020 theme chair) has created a diverse program for #ica20 on the conference, including very diverse discussions of open science practices from both humanities and social science perspectives. Most of this programming (10 out of 11 sessions) are planned to be retained for the virtual conference.

Publications Committee
Chair
Robin Nabi

Members
Patricia Moy, Katherine Sender, Sabine Trepte, Silvio Waisbord

1. The Publications Committee (PC) conducted three searches for new editors for three ICA journals (Human Communication Research; Communication, Culture & Critique; and Annals of the International Communication Association). Advertising began at last year’s ICA conference. E-mail blasts to the ICA membership and to Division chairs were sent out in addition to calls for nominations published in the ICA newsletter and on the ICA website. As well, to increase the diversity of the pool of applicants beyond what the advertised call might achieve, the current editors of each journal and the PC members were asked for their recommendations for potentially strong candidates. These efforts ultimately yielded 2 applications for Annals, 3 applications for HCR, and 0 applications for CCC. As a result of the lack of applications for CCC editor, the call was reposted and the current editors contacted again for suggestions. This second effort resulted in 2 submitted applications. After careful attention to the applicants’ materials (which included a cover letter / vision statement, CV, and letters of recommendation), the PC met via videoconference to assess each applicant’s viability. All applicants were deemed qualified and moved to the interview stage. The PC developed a series of questions that were asked of all applicants. All members were part of both Annals interviews and both CCC interviews, and 2 of the five members were part of all three HCR interviews. Each interview lasted 45-50 minutes. PC members met by videoconference after the interviews for each journal to discuss the candidates a final time.

Although multiple candidates were assessed as qualified, the PC achieved very strong consensus around a candidate or candidate team for each journal. As such, the PC presented motions to the Board that Professor Herman Wasserman, University of Cape Town, become the next Editor-in-Chief of the Annals of the International Communication Association; Professors Jonathan Cohen and Yariv Tsafit, Haifa University, become the next Editors-in-Chief of Human Communication Research; and Professor Melissa Click, Gonzaga University, become the next Editor-in-Chief of Communication, Culture & Critique. Details of the qualifications of each are expressed in the motions to the Board.

2. No new plagiarism violations were reported by editors to the Publications Committee last year. Two ethics violations were reported.

(A) The Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication editor received a complaint of data slicing for articles published in the early 2000s (referred to in the mid-year report.) The PC Chair reviewed the case and determined that the multiple papers published from the same data set did not constitute data slicing given the different literatures and variables used in analysis. (B) A graduate
Publication Committee continued...

student reached out to Laura Sawyer requesting that a conference paper submission be revoked as she claimed she was excluded as an author despite contributing substantially to the ideas represented in the piece. After reviewing the case, including a statement from the faculty advisor on the paper, the PC Chair determined that there was insufficient evidence to pursue action at the level of ICA and referred the student back to their department to find resolution.

3. The PC will be searching for a replacement for Bob Craig as editor of the Handbook Series. Bob has agreed to serve in the position through the end of 2021. The PC will develop a process for how to proceed as this is the first time ICA has sought a replacement for this particular editor.

4. The PC continues with the development of a best-practices document to guide future new editor searches, which will address the initiation and timing of searches, methods by which to encourage diverse applicant pools, and a consistent interview protocol for finalists, among other issues.

5. In response to the problems with copy editing reported by the journal editors, particularly for Journal of Communication, we have moved to a new copy editing service on a trial basis for JoC. As it seems to be going very well, we are in the process of moving the other ICA journals over to the new service.

6. The PC is staying on the pulse of the Open Access/Open Science task force as there are implications of the Task Force’s work for issues related to journal functioning, though nothing has been asked of the PC as of yet.

AFILIATE AND REGIONAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Chair
Peng Hwa Ang

Members
Porismita Borah, Agnes Lucy Lando, Tamir Sheaffer, Cynthia Stohl, Wendy Willem

Affiliated Conferences

Two affiliate conferences were approved this past year.

The affiliate conference at Shanghai Jiaotong School of Media and Communication was held on October 26 on the theme AI Era: Emerging Media, Industry, and Society. The conference has been running since 2013 and has gained traction as an international communication conference to attend. Participants have also observed a general rise in quality of the papers presented. The School has proposed to continue the affiliation with the 2020 conference on October 17.

The second affiliate conference was to have been held in Dubai in November 2019, organised by the Higher Colleges of Technology, United Arab Emirates. This would have been the first international conference organised by the university and the first ICA affiliate conference in the Middle East. It was to be on the theme. Trends in Media and Message. The organisers, however, decided to postpone the conference to November 2020.

Regional Conference

One regional conference was held this year on 16-18 October 2019 in Bali, Indonesia. It was hosted by the Association of Communication Higher Education in Indonesia (ASPIKOM). Attendees from the ICA executive committee were Terry Flew, Peter Monge and Peng Hwa Ang. The theme was Searching for the Next Level of Human Communication: Human, Social, and Neuro (Society 5.0).

(Significantly, also in attendance were representatives from the Asia Pacific Communication Alliance (APCA). This is an affiliation being formed from the academic associations in communication in Asia.)

It was the first international conference of ASPIKOM as English was the medium of communication. About 200 papers were submitted of which 114 were accepted. This is an acceptance rate of about 60%; the acceptance rate for regional conferences had tended to be around 80%, sometimes this 80% was of papers that were based on abstracts reviewed and accepted. There were some 150 paying participants but it felt as if there were more than 200 attendees, including students.

It was well supported within Indonesia with sponsorship support from the Ministry of Communications and Informatics and the Governor of Bali, both of whom sent representatives to deliver their speeches.

The Association said that a planned to hold the conference every two years. The seed that has been sown is likely to bear fruit.

Future

A proposal for a regional conference in Cape Town, South Africa has been accepted. Originally scheduled for November 2020, the Committee has recommended that the organisers postpone the call for papers and the conference as a consequence.

Afternote: At the time of submission, because of the covid-19 pandemic, it is unclear if the above conferences will be held this year.
The Student and Early-Career Advisory Committee (SECAC) serves the student and early-career members of the International Communication Association (ICA). After the DC conference, our committee has met five times on Skype and Zoom (June, September, November 2019; January and March 2020), and has communicated by email and WhatsApp throughout the administrative year to plan and organize several events catering to the Student and Early-Career Representatives (SECRs), students, and early-career scholars of the ICA.

Accomplishments During the 2019-2020 Year

1. Increased Participation of Students and Early-Career Scholars
   On February 23, 2020, SECAC invited SECRs from all ICA divisions and interest groups to our first virtual meeting. This was not an official ICA meeting, but an informal gathering organized by SECAC to welcome our current and incoming SECRs. Julie Arnold, a representative from the ICA headquarters, also joined and provided an overview of the overall ICA structure and expectations for our newly elected SECRs.

   More importantly, we had a productive open forum to discuss the participation of student and early-career ICA members. This meeting was recorded with the consent of the attendees and shared with the SECRs who were not able to attend.

2. DC Conference Events Organized by the SECAC
   The SECAC organized three events catering to students and early-career scholars during the DC conference: 
   A) Student and Early-Career Scholar Business Meeting: This meeting was open to not only SECRs but also student and early-career members. Prior to the DC conference and after this meeting, the items of discussion and meeting minutes, respectively, were distributed to all SECRs by email, and several questions about SECAC and ICA were answered in the same communication.

   B) Student and Early-Career Reception: Approximately 200 students and early-career scholars had an important opportunity to socialize in an open-bar setting and build a professional network. This event was sponsored by many university Communication programs, such as those of University of Texas-Austin, University of Massachusetts, Florida State University, University of Utah, Northwestern University, University of Kansas, University of Pennsylvania, and Ohio State University.

   C) Blue Sky Workshop “Can There Be a Life Beyond Academia? Achieving Work-Life Balance as Young Scholars”: The Blue Sky Workshop (BSW), hosted by SECAC, provided an opportunity for graduate students and early-career scholars to listen to panelists, ask questions, and share their ideas. The panelists were Camella Rising (National Cancer Institute, SECAC 2017-2019); Tanja Bosch (Cape Town Univ.); and Mari Castañeda (UMass Amherst). The three panelists shared their valuable experiences in achieving a work-life balance, and discussed the challenges they face and the strategies used to overcome them.

3. Contribution to the Student Column of the ICA Newsletter SECAC has contributed to the student column every month, and throughout the past year, we have discussed many issues that student members have shared: 
   May 2019 | Come and Join Our Student and Early Career Networking Events! (by Sarah Cho)
   June/July 2019 | A Recap of the Blue Sky Workshop in DC and a Farewell to Outgoing Members (by Myrene Magabo & Sarah Cho)
   August 2019 | Greetings (by Myrene Magabo)
   September 2019 | Greetings (by Grazia Murtarelli, Muhammad Ittefaq & Cecilia Zhou)
   October 2019 | How to Write and Submit a Conference Paper (by Grazia Murtarelli)
   November 2019 | Cheers to You, ICA Deadliners! (by Clare Graill)
   December 2019 | Winter Is Short; Summer Is Coming (by Sarah Cho)
   January/February 2020 | How Does It Feel to Be an International "and" Graduate Instructor? (by Muhammad Ittefaq & Cecilia Zhou)
   March 2020 | "So What Can We Do for ICA?" (by Sarah Cho and Myrene Magabo)
   April 2020 | Seven in a Thousand Reasons to Attend the Virtual Conference #ica20 (by Myrene Magabo)

4. Website and Social Media
   A) Contents on the SECAC website (http://www.icahq.org/members/group_content_view.asp?group=188197&id=632139) has been updated including current and newly elected SECRs’ names and email contacts.

   B) Inviting new SECRs to the SECAC Facebook group as a channel for internal communication and for activities such as Q&As, idea-sharing, and discussing best practices

   C) Inviting SECRs to write student columns for the ICA newsletters

5. Developing and updating SECAC manual
   In the upcoming 2020-2021 administrative year, SECAC will update the previous SECAC manual (https://cdn-ymaws.com/www.icahq.org/resource/).
SECAC continued...

group/3a6f5345-d9ad-4f76-aea7-6602f74f569a/SECR_Manual_April17.pdf), which was created by former SECAC chairs. The existing manual requires revisions to identify and utilize sound guidelines and norms based on past experiences. The SECAC Chair or Co-Chairs will draft the manual together with the other SECAC members, and the draft will be discussed in a virtual roundtable discussion among the SECAC and SECRs. Once approved by SECAC and the SECRs, the draft will be advised by the ICA headquarters. When the guidelines and acceptable norms are put in writing, it will be less confusing for members to follow the necessary procedures when carrying out their activities.

STRATEGIC PLANNING TASK FORCE

Chair Cynthia Stohl, Co-Chair & Karin Wilkins, Co-Chair

Members Omar Al-Ghazzi, Francois Allard-Huver, Pablo Boczkowski, Claes de Vreese, ex officio Shiv Ganesh, ex officio Lee Humphreys, ex officio Nancy Jennings, Winni Johansen, Maria Len-Rios, ex officio Jasmine McNealy, ex officio Patricia Moy, Eve Ng, ex officio Devon Powers, ex officio Jack Qiu, Eike Mark Rinke, David Tewksbury, Yariv Tsfati, Silvio Waisbord

The co-chairs have had several conversations with Patricia Moy but given the circumstances we have not yet begun the strategic planning process. We had planned to have an initial meeting at the annual conference in the Gold Coast.

ICA UNICEF TASK FORCE

Chair Terry Flew

Members Iccha Basnyat, Radhika Gajjala, Paula Gardner, Amy Jordan, Mirca Madianou

This Task Force was formed in October 2019 to advance a partnership arrangement between the ICA and UNICEF. Arising out of discussions at the May 2019 ICA Conference in Washington, DC, the Task Force was charged:

• To identify and broker collaborative relationships between the ICA and UNICEF around fields of common interest, across research, knowledge exchange and partnerships;
• To act as a clearing house for initiatives developed at the level of ICA Divisions and Interest Groups, and for partnerships between UNICEF and ICA members, that seek association with the ICA;
• To advise UNICEF of current developments in the field of communication and related disciplines that further the mission and objectives of UNICEF, particularly in the application of communication for social and behavioural change;
• To represent ICA in partnerships led by UNICEF such as the Global Alliance for Social and Behavior Change: (per UNICEF’s bylaws) there is an obligation for a member of this task force to attend a monthly conference call and to attend one annual meeting (preferably in person but online, if nothing else). Presumably, which member fulfills these obligations could change/rotate.

A sticking point was that ICA could not sign onto the Commitment to Cooperate that UNICEF had circulated, as it identified a key role of the Global Alliance for Social and Behavior Change as being “Policy and advocacy”. As a non-profit organization registered under US law as a 501c3, this could risk the ICA’s federal status, which prohibits lobby activities. While some members of the Alliance, such as Johns Hopkins University, argued that there was not a problem in this regard, the view was taken that the ICA Executive could be putting the Association at risk with this clause being in place.

It has been consistently difficult to advance discussions further. I met with Rania Elessawi from UNICEF in New Brunswick in January (she is a Rutgers graduate), and she committed to preparing a “lightweight” MoU that could allow ICA and UNICEF to work around the 501c3 issue. However, repeated attempts to get in contact with Rania to advance that discussion have proven fruitless, and it may be particularly difficult to advance in the context of COVID-19, which has presumably curtailed UNICEF’s activities, or at least research-related ones.

In light of these difficulties, it is proposed that the Task Force be suspended pending discussions at a later stage with UNICEF about how best to advance the relationship. This would need to take place after the COVID-19 global pandemic is concluded.
DIVISIONS & INTEREST GROUPS

Activism, Communication and Social Justice Interest Group

Chair
Anne Kaun, Södertörn U
Vice Chair
Todd Wolfson, Rutgers U
Secretary
Rosemary Clark-Parsons, UPenn
Student and Early Career Representative
Liisa Sömersalu, Södertörn U
International Liaison
Paola Sartoretto, Stockholm U
Immediate Past Chair
Guobin Yang

The past year, we work with consolidating the interest group and standardising the committee procedures for the IG awards (outstanding book award and best dissertation award). We have also worked towards recruiting a competent internationalisation liaison officer, who was elected with Paola Sartoretto.

For next year, we are planning to further consolidate the IG and further develop our communication infrastructure without members. We are currently relying mainly on a newsletter that is send to the membership approximately four times a week. We are planning to set up a website that hosts information about membership publications, initiatives by the IG as well as internationalisation efforts and matching/networking possibilities between academics and activist groups.

On the long run, we are planning to further consolidate and professionalize the group especially when it comes to internationalisation and diversity. We would like to work towards including more non-academic, activist groups in the work and events of the IG.

Student Paper Award
BEST STUDENT PAPER
WINNER:
NOMY BITMAN

Top Paper Award
BEST PAPER
WINNER:
ELISABETA FERRARI

OUTSTANDING BOOK AWARD
WINNER:
JEN SCHRADIE

CONFERENCE ALLOCATIONS
Number of research session slots allocated 13
Number of poster slots allocated 7
Number of co-sponsored sessions 0

PAPER SUBMISSIONS
Number of papers submitted 63
Number of papers accepted 32
Paper acceptance rate (%) 51

PANEL SUBMISSIONS
Number of panels submitted 13
Number of panels accepted 5
Panel acceptance rate (%) 39

ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS
Number of abstracts submitted 24
Number of abstracts accepted 11
Abstract acceptance rate (%) 46

Children, Adolescents, and Media Division

Chair
Nancy Jennings, U of Cincinnati
Vice Chair
Nicole Martins, Indiana U Bloomington
Secretary
Ine Beyens, U of Amsterdam
Student and Early Career Rep.
Cecilia Zhou, U of Massachusetts Amherst
International Liaison
Agnes Lucy Lando, Daystar U

259
Membership Number
127
Number of Reviewers

27%
Voter Turnout

• ICA-CAM Conference 2020: Nancy Jennings served as the planner for the 2020 conference. Another competitive year, we maintained a relatively high acceptance rate through creative planning. This resulted in: 5 traditional paper sessions, 1 panel session, 4 hybrid-high density sessions (which will follow the PR model that was piloted last year), 1 Research Escalator Session, and 1 interactive poster session (with ICA).

• ICA-CAM Awards 2020: CAM will once again be awarding top paper and top student papers, top dissertation, and top published article. No nominations were received for the senior scholar award. These will be recognized during the 2020 business meeting and through a special edition of the CAMmer in the Spotlight focusing on the award winners. In the year ahead, CAM will be having some discussion about these awards and whether some should be suspended due to low nominations.

• CAMmer in the Spotlight. Last year, a special issue of the CAMmer in the Spotlight featured our CAM award winners. It was very well received and we will be doing this again in 2020.

• Find A CAMmer. This new database launched and is hosted on the CAM website. Currently, there are 46 scholars on “Find a CAMmer” representing 11 different countries.

• CAM Preconference 2020. CAM co-sponsored a preconference with the Game Studies division in collaboration with the University of the Sunshine Coast. The aim of this preconference was to practice openness by facilitating a DIREcT dialogue between digital media creators and the scholars that study...
Digital media. The preconference coordinating team consisted of Jessica Taylor Piotrowski, Mark Johnson, Rabindra (Robby) Ratan, and Anna Potter. Unfortunately, the preconference was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Election. CAM is thrilled to welcome three new officers to join its ranks. Congratulations to James Alex Bonus (The Ohio State University), elected to the position of ICA-CAM secretary, Sarah Pila (Northwestern University), elected to the position of ICA-CAM student and early career representative, and Cecilia Zhou (University of Massachusetts Amherst), elected to the position of ICA-CAM International Liaison in the Fall 2019.

- CAMmber in the Spotlight. We will continue this tradition of highlighting a CAM member through the CAMmber in the Spotlight. This is a great way to showcase our members and share insight and advice with one another.

- ICA-CAM Awards. This year we will form a committee and propose changes for our awards. Due to the limited number of nominations noticed in the past couple of years, we need to evaluate the current structure of the awards and consider sunsetting some and creating new ones.

- Election. CAM will seek nominations for Vice Chair elections this fall.

Mentoring and Networking. We have established a good record for our Research Escalators. We need to continue providing these opportunities and continue to seek other ways in which CAMmbers can network with each other, both online and offline. Our social media presence has been growing and expanding with new members in our Facebook group and new followers in Twitter. A deeper evaluation of the impact of the Research Escalator sessions can be conducted and seek new ways to enhance collaborative initiatives and research with CAM members and across divisions/IGs.

Promotion and Professional Development. We have incredible leaders in our division and aspiring young scholars as well. Our division can seek and/or create professional development opportunities such as the Blue Sky Workshop concerning ethical practices with youth and children for the ICA Conference 2020. We need to continue to support and promote the current and future leaders in our field.

Diversity and Inclusion. With the official election of an International Liaison, our efforts for internationalization will continue to be enhanced. We should continue to seek ways in which to foster the development of international scholarship and provide opportunities for service and program building for a broad array of CAM members.

CAM TOP PAPER AWARD
WINNER:
JAMES ALEX BONUS & JUDY WATTS

CAM TOP STUDENT PAPER AWARD
WINNER:
DANIELLE BLEIZE, DOESCHKA ANSCHÜTZ, MARTIN TANIS, MONIEK BUIJZEN

CAM TOP DISSERTATION AWARD
WINNER:
BRAHIM ZAROUALI

CAM BEST PUBLISHED ARTICLE AWARD
WINNER:
FIKKERS, K. M., PIOTROWSKI, J. T., & VALKENBURG, P. M.

CAM TOP REVIEWER
WINNER:
DREW CINGEL

We will work to try to make the virtual conference an excellent experience for presenters and attendees, with a special focus on replacing networking and intellectual guidance activities for junior scholars, especially students who are facing a challenging job market in 2020 and beyond.

Long term, we will work to maintain a sense of community among CAT scholars and to reflect on what qualities distinguish CAT from other divisions, given that technology-related papers are found in most of the other divisions. We will also focus on improving the reviewing and feedback process for all scholars. Finally we will strive to increase representation from across the globe.

Internationalization efforts: Surveys identified pain points in our authorship and reviewing metrics which we are working at addressing.

Student/early career efforts: Special networking for early career scholars at the reception, CAT office hours, special funding for students.

FACULTY PAPER AWARD

FIRST PLACE: A Multilevel Analysis of the Network Topology Effects on Communication Disparity in Facebook, by Dongyoung Sohn & Yong Suk Choi (Hanyang U)

SECOND PLACE: Behavioral Contagion in Social Media: Effects of Social Norms, Design Interventions, and Critical Media Literacy on Self-Disclosure, by Philipp Masur (Johannes Gutenberg U), Dominic DiFranzo (Lehigh U), & Natalie Bazarova (Cornell U)

THIRD PLACE: Why Older Adults Disconnect from Digital Media, by Minh Hao Nguyen, Jaelle Fuchs, DiFranzo (Lehigh U), & Natalie Bazarova (Cornell U)

FOURTH PLACE: 360-degree video persuades high environmental-efficacy users: The interaction effects between interactivity and self-efficacy on content perceptions and behavioral intention, by Jeeyun Oh, Sabitha Sudarshan, Eunjoo Jin, Soya Nah, & Na Yu (U of Texas at Austin)
In recent years, CHD has made a concerted effort to further diversify our membership and programming. Specifically, we have sought to expand membership beyond the U.S. and Western Europe, from which the vast majority of our members hail, and ensure that there is greater representation among graduate students and early career scholars. For this reason, we are especially enthusiastic about the energy and ideas that our new officers bring, as colleagues deeply attuned to these issues and committed to helping CHD become the Division to which we aspire.

In an effort to encourage submissions from non-Western and early career scholars, we were more intentional in the language of our call for submissions and, this year, introduced a “works-in-progress” option, enabling scholars to submit research that has yet to be completed in full paper form. Based on the experiences of colleagues leading other divisions, such works-in-progress sessions facilitated submissions from new and more diverse scholars.

In terms of internationalization, of the 48 submissions received, 13 came from scholars who are affiliated with institutions outside the U.S. and Western Europe. While this does represent progress for the Division, there is still more work to be done. We still have a ways to go in terms of drawing in graduate students.

In programming this year’s meeting, we remained attentive to these issues, trying (where possible) to create a more diverse set of panels, papers, and posters that represent not only geographic and career-stage diversity but the intellectual diversity of our field as well. This is reflected in our final program.
Communication Law & Policy Division

Chair: Jasmine McNealy
Vice Chair: Christopher Ali
Secretary: Carmen Maye
SECAC: Yulia Belinskaya
Internationalization: Adrian Wong

This year’s goal was to begin to explore several topics: the CFP, journals and publications, and further increasing engagement.

We must do something about division engagement including getting graduate students more active.

We want to have a thriving division and also opportunities for members to publish and collaborate.

As a team, we, as CHD leadership, are invested in ensuring this year’s virtual conference still builds community, albeit (necessarily) in different ways. One way CHD has attempted to demonstrate its commitment to the ICA community is through the donation of this year’s membership dues to the Hardship Fund.

To address our goals of internationalization and inclusion of more early career scholars, we are planning to reach out in more direct ways to scholars in China and India, for instance, who are underrepresented in the Division. We additionally plan to create designated early career panels for ICA 2021. In an effort to raise the profile of the Division, we also plan to do more promotion over social media and other platforms. We hope this will help us restore our membership to its earlier numbers.

In addition to continuing with the above, we would like to revise the score sheet for evaluating submissions for the conference so as to ensure certain criteria were not used to disadvantage scholars. We have had less control over the specific criteria used to evaluate submissions since the move to Scholar One, however this is something we will want to pursue moving forward, in order to ensure a more equitable system of evaluation.
We are proud and happy with the energy and enthusiasm of our community, as evidenced by our growing membership and the high attendance rates of all our sessions — to the point where we have often run out of standing room space and have had to turn people away. Our members are also happy with the interest group, as evidenced in the very high satisfaction expressed in a postconference survey and the willingness of many members to play an active role in the group as elected officers or volunteers. We also believe that we fill an important and unique niche within ICA: our panels draw members from various other divisions, but with a unique focus on computational methods, and membership is relatively diverse geographically. Moreover, we find that there are people who attend our sessions that did not previously attend ICA and many tell us that they see our interest group as a “home” at ICA for the first time.

Our interest group also fits within a trend towards big data and computational methods within the broader field. This is shown in the special issues on the topic in various journals (such as Computational Methods and Measures, International Journal of Communication, Asian Journal of Communication, Political Communication) and the successful launch of our own open access journal Computational Communication Research.

Finally, we are proud of setting up the interest group as a successful organization. For all of our elections, there has been a strong list of candidates; we have good communication and information sharing; and we have organized top paper awards, travel grants, a joint reception, etc. Moreover, we have established an innovative reviewing system composed of a paper bidding phase and an automatic reviewer matching system using document similarity based on word embeddings.

In the next year, there are two main things we want to achieve. First, we want to improve dissemination of computational methods to young and interested scholars, both within and outside our group. This will take the form of organizing workshops such as the previous and upcoming SEC preconference and the past automatic image classification workshop. As the upcoming SEC preconference is a hackathon, this event will give programmers (of all coding proficiency levels) an opportunity to code collaboratively, attend or lead informal trainings about different methods, and network with one another. To incentivize participation by young scholars beyond ICA time, the SEC representative has also organized “small groups,” which are topically-focused groups led by a young scholar (these groups meet digitally). We will also set up an online space for sharing teaching materials and tools.

Second, using the upcoming ICA theme as a starting point, we want to improve the sometimes precarious position of open science within (computational) communication research. This will involve both developing and encouraging the adoption of standards and best practices and external lobbying for better data access, hopefully in collaboration with ICA leadership.

Our focus for the coming years will be on increasing outreach and information dissemination. We will strive to advance and promote cutting-edge computational tools and methods and aim to make these methods accessible to young scholars and people inexperienced with computational communication research. We also want this work to increase our impact outside the community. For example, we strongly embrace the open science movement and want to join forces with ICA leadership wherever possible to lobby for more open access, more open science, better access to (e.g. social media) data, etc. We will also work to make tools, teaching resources, and tutorials available to the broader community. Finally, in the interest of increasing diversity, accessibility, and sustainability, we would love to collaborate with ICA on providing more virtual conference attendance opportunities and workshops, such as video panels & tutorials.

Internationalization efforts: The newly elected Internationalization Liaison is currently making plans to further extend our international outreach, both to less participating countries within these regions (e.g. Southeast Asia, Southern/Eastern Europe) as to other regions (South America, Africa). We are especially considering (co-)hosting a regional conference in either of those regions.

Student/Early Career Efforts: We are currently considering how to move forward with the preconference organized by the SEC officer. There is also budget for organizing training and dissemination activities to help more people get started with computational methods, the SEC officer is working out a plan for achieving this on the short and medium term.

Other membership efforts: The secretary and social media officer (whose position will be vacant this year) are working to improve our membership communication. We also have a new logo design.

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<tr>
<th>Conference Allocations</th>
<th>Panel Submissions</th>
<th>Abstract Submissions</th>
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<tr>
<td>Number of research session slots allocated</td>
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<td>Number of co-sponsored sessions</td>
<td>Panel acceptance rate (%)</td>
<td>Abstract acceptance rate (%)</td>
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**Membership** 299  
**Number of Reviewers** 112  
**Voter Turnout** 28%
The past year’s goal was to increase our Division’s visibility and make sure that we continue to attract a variety of papers from the most diverse group of scholars in the world. I think we have been able to accomplish both to a certain extent. Although this year’s conference was going to be held in Australia creating a more expensive overall conference experience for many people, our Division was still able to attract a decent number of papers and panels. However, there were still a significant number of papers and panels being submitted and accepted from scholars who represent the global north. In terms of visibility, our Division has kept a Twitter and Facebook profile actively. Although the Division website is not as well kept as possible simply because it is not as user friendly. We might need to look at better platforms to move our Division page to so that it would make it easier to update and easy to generally keep up. We would also like to promote our calls more to scholars from the global south to increase their participation in our Division.

We would like to start a fund to award the best dissertation and best article/chapter examining aspects of ethnicity and race in communication.

Internationalization efforts:
Promoting our call more to scholars from the global south.

Student/Early Career Efforts:
Having scholar-to-scholar initiative for student/early career scholars to meet established scholars

Other membership efforts:
Keep the newsletters coming and highlighting member achievements.

We would like to start a fund to award the best dissertation and best article/chapter examining aspects of ethnicity and race in communication.
The main goal for 2019 was to establish a new FSD award for emerging scholars doing feminist work, and secure funding for it, including the transfer of some money from the Teresa Award Fund to establish the new award. Both matters were approved by members in the 2019 election. Funding will also come from the proceeding of a book project based on contributions by the past 10 Teresa Award Winners.

FSD will work in further securing funding for the new emerging scholar award and moving forward with the Teresa Award book. For the 2021 conference, FSD plans to organize a pre-conference and maintain a balanced budget, as well as maintain a diverse pool of reviewers for conference paper submissions.

The first Emerging Scholar Award should be granted in 2022. In the long term, FSD is aiming at developing strategies to grow membership and for greater media presence (including adding a web/social media officer), as well as means to increase support for student members.

Internationalization efforts: Favoring and co-sponsoring sessions that address diversity and/or ethnocentrism. Twitter account focus on news on all countries, with tweets in several languages (English, German, French, Spanish).

Student/Early Career Efforts: New emerging scholar award, as well as workshops for junior scholars.

Other membership efforts: Sharing online resources for teaching about gender and communication.

Our goal to grow the division did not seem to succeed. The entire field seems to shrinking and more seasoned scholars seem to be moving away from games. Also, we could have done better to promote and recruit.

Future Short Term Goals: Expand collaboration. Maybe work more closely with CAT.

Future Long Term Goals: Establish a mentor-mentee program (like the Mobile Research Escalator) to connect younger and older scholars. Expand the division. Combat the dwindling numbers.

Internationalization efforts: These have been difficult because our IL got a concussion and the recovery has been much slower than expected, so he has not been able to spend much time at a computer. We are hoping he will recover soon and can help reach out to international game scholars about ICA.

Student/Early Career Efforts: Our division is highly represented by students, so the SEC rep is a particularly important member of our team. We are asking her to do a survey to help understand our members’ needs and also to encourage them to become members and to cultivate their loyalty.

Other membership efforts: We were hoping to have some exciting prizes/giveaways at the conference to show what a cool division we are. We are considering shifting to a virtual prize.

TOP FACULTY PAPER
Tsfira Grebelsky-Lichtman, Ono Academic College, Israel

TOP STUDENT PAPER
Sophie Maddocks, U of Pennsylvania, USA

Student/Early Career Efforts: Our division is highly represented by students, so the SEC rep is a particularly important member of our team. We are asking her to do a survey to help understand our members’ needs and also to encourage them to become members and to cultivate their loyalty.

Other membership efforts: We were hoping to have some exciting prizes/giveaways at the conference to show what a cool division we are. We are considering shifting to a virtual prize.

TOP FACULTY PAPER
Nick Bowman, Texas Tech U
1) Danielle Burrell-Kim & 2) Bin Chen

TOP REVIEWERS
1) David Beyea
2) Yu-Hao Lee

Conference Allocations
Number of research session slots allocated 10
Number of poster slots allocated 5
Number of co-sponsored sessions 4
Number of papers submitted 78
Number of papers accepted 40
Paper acceptance rate (%) 51
Number of panels submitted 4
Number of panels accepted 3
Panel acceptance rate (%) 75

Abstract Submissions
Number of abstracts submitted 30
Number of abstracts accepted 20
Abstract acceptance rate (%) 66

Paper Submissions
Number of papers submitted 48
Number of papers accepted 30
Paper acceptance rate (%) 63
Number of panels submitted 3
Number of panels accepted 2
Panel acceptance rate (%) 66
This past year our division goals included further outreach and internationalization. We co-sponsored several preconferences to this end and encouraged submissions beyond US and Europe.

Future goals are to continue to work towards increasing submissions from regions such as Africa and other international global south regions underrepresented at ICA. To this end we will contribute to the ICA’s overall goal of further internationalization. We also aim to increase our social media presence.

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Conference Allocations

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Abstract Submissions

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Paper Submissions

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Panel Submissions

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To this end we will contribute to the ICA’s overall goal of further internationalization.

Internationalization efforts:
Shiv Ganesh past Chair of the division is currently chair of Internationalization. We have a new internationalization rep - Ambar Basu

Student/early career efforts:
Recruiting more international students and connecting with other ICA initiatives.

Other membership efforts:
Radhika Gajjala chair of the division is currently one of the members of the ICA-UNICEF Task Force. In addition, we are still partnering with African Journalism Association to give out a best paper award for a paper addressing topics related to Africa.

Our division continues to grow and as such our goal is to continue to serve our members with high quality programming, recognizing excellence in our division via awards and ICA Fellow nominations supported by the division, supporting conference attendance for our members via travel grants, mentoring junior members of our division with our mentoring program, and ensuring that there is a vibrant pipeline of leadership for the division by promoting a variety of service roles for future leaders of the division. These goals were all met this year.

Implementing our early career scholars recognition program (using funds that have rolled into our division budget from the now defunct Coalition for Health Communication); broadening our travel grant program for scholars from developing countries; maintaining high quality division programming; electing division members to the ICA Fellows; and continuing to recognize outstanding health communication research. Reconsidering the goals and functions of division programming in a world where peer-reviewed journals turn around reviews and feedback much faster and with much more detail than a conference, and where open science initiatives have accelerated the speed of research to dissemination; continuing to grow the sub-field and support our membership.

Internationalization efforts: Our Internationalization committee has been working to identify ways to broaden international representation and leadership in the division. We hope to convince a non-U.S. scholar to run for Vice-Chair in the next election.
The Human-Machine Communication Interest Group was formally approved at ICA 2019, and this was the first year the group was in existence. Key goals for the year were to promote the new interest group to the general ICA membership; grow formal membership in the Interest Group; facilitate a successful conference paper competition for ICA 2020 (main conference and pre-conference); and provide a collegial conference experience promoting the advancement of the study of HMC and the strengthening of the HMC community. To promote the new interest group, a more cohesive web presence was established. Inaugural site administrator Austin Lee developed an independent website for the group. Inaugural chair Andrea L. Guzman wrote articles for the ICA newsletter regarding the group and also provided timely updates to members via e-mail and the IG's information page on ICA's website. Guzman also established a formal Twitter presence for the group (@ICA_HMC). In addition, a Facebook page that had been previously established for HMC scholars by Jaime Banks, with several people serving as site administrator including Chad Edwards and Guzman, was made part of the official group's web presence. The website, Twitter profile, and Facebook profile all feature official ICA branding. Outreach efforts by executive officers – including Chad Edwards, Steve Jones, Sharon Ringel, and Henry Goble – and by other scholars active in HMC helped the IG to establish a respectable membership base of 150 official members by April 2020. The main conference review process was spearheaded by Chad Edwards, and the pre-conference planning was led by Autumn Edwards and Eleanor Sandry. Review processes provided informative feedback to authors in a timely manner. As of the writing of this report, executive officers and the pre-conference planners were working to prepare for a virtual conference in response to COVID-19. Although this is not the situation anyone imagined for the first conference as an official Interest Group, the IG’s leadership remains dedicated to making ICA 2020 a success for the HMC IG members. Many of the group’s initial goals of promoting the group, increasing its membership, and facilitating a positive conference experience continue to be the focus in the near future. In addition, IG leadership plans to establish and strengthen relationships between the IG and other ICA divisions and IGs. Although HMC is a newly formed IG, it already is inclusive of scholars from a wide range of national and cultural backgrounds. In accordance with ICA’s own mission, a key goal of the IG is to continue to foster inclusiveness as membership grows. The IG also values diversity in philosophical, theoretical, and methodological perspectives and approaches to research, and will continue...
to support and advance various modes of inquiry into HMC research. Many of the current IG members also have been adding to the public conversation regarding the role of HMC and its technologies (robots, AI, etc) in people’s lives and society, and finding additional ways to further engage in public dialogue remains a priority. The HMC IG was proposed with the goal of fostering a community of scholars, not merely just a group of people who are part of the same organization. We will continue to work toward helping people establish and maintain meaningful connections with scholars within the IG and the organization as a whole. Finally, it is hard to know what the full impact of COVID-19 will be, but HMC leadership remains committed to supporting IG members and ICA.

The IG wants to develop a stable membership and become more financially secure to better support ongoing research and community-building efforts. For example, HMC leadership plans to be able to consistently provide travel awards to students, Tier B/C scholars, and other scholars who may not have adequate financial resources. HMC leadership also plans to lower the cost of the IG’s pre-conference. In addition to financial support, HMC leadership plans to establish formal mentoring opportunities for students, early-career scholars, and scholars who have been historically underrepresented and minoritized with the academy. The IG also plans to eventually transition to a division.

Internationalization efforts: Growing the number of HMC IG members and expanding membership to be more inclusive of scholars of different national and cultural backgrounds as well as research backgrounds remains imperative. In addition to group outreach via organizational channels and social media, the executive committee is discussing how to further foster membership through interpersonal outreach and formal and informal gatherings at other conferences held throughout the world.

Student/early career efforts: Regarding student and early career efforts, most of our financial support to IG members has been allocated for students, such as the awarding of conference waivers to top student paper winners. During this year’s virtual conference, executive leadership will be encouraging senior scholars to provide feedback on presentations by students and early career scholars.

Other membership efforts: As mentioned under short term goals, we have established a web presence for online and social media outreach.

We wanted to develop a website and an online poster submission system, which we achieved. We also wanted to revamp outreach efforts, which we made great strides toward but have not fully accomplished. We need to work to build membership and create better communication and outreach.

TOP FACULTY PAPERS
1. Effects of Nostalgic Messages on Ad Persuasiveness: A Meta-Analysis;
2. Lifting the Curse of Knowing: How Feedback Improves Readers’ Perspective-Taking;
3. Social Distance and Attitudes Effects

1. Ying Cheng, Management, California State U, San Bernardino & Xiaodi Yan, Communication, Michigan State U;
2. Debby Damen, Marije van Amelsvoort, Per van der Wijst, Monique Pollmann, & Emiel Krahmer, Tilburg University, Tilburg, Noord-Brabant, NETHERLANDS;
3. Shelby Wilcox, Department of Comm, Michigan State U, Richard Huskey, Department of Communication, U of Florida

TOP STUDENT PAPER
How Does Presence Persuade?: Testing Competing Theoretical Claims about Effects of Virtual Reality

Ruosi Shao & S. Shyam Sundar, Donald P. Bellisario College of Communications, Pennsylvania State U

BEST POSTER
I think I can, I know I can!: Visualizing Virtual Humans to Examine Challenges in Human Interaction

David C. Jeong, USC; Dan Feng, Northeastern U; Lynn, C. Miller, USC
Reflect on the past year’s goals

1. Launch division’s Facebook page- Completed
2. Collaborate with other divisions and/or interest groups to organize and sponsor pre-conferences and sessions- Completed
3. Promote active involvement of PhD students, both as sessions chairs and reviewers- Completed

Future short term goals (to accomplish over this coming year):

1. Revise bylaws
2. Increase Facebook traffic and member participation/interaction
3. Organize undergraduate/graduate student research preconference for ICA 2021
4. Continue collaborating with other divisions and interest groups

Future long term goals

1. Increase division membership, especially from countries less represented
2. Device strategies to get more member participation and support during elections, annual conference, business meeting, etc.
3. Introduce more division awards- Best Book (single-authored or co-authored); Best Book (edited or co-edited); Best Article (or Book Chapter); Best Dissertation and/or Master’s Thesis
4. Diversify and increase division’s social media presence
5. Introduce new categories of submissions to enhance interaction and increase participation at the annual conference
6. Continue collaborating with other divisions and interest groups and promote student involvement

Internationalization efforts:
Reviewers and chairs from varied national backgrounds;
Preconference titled “Rethinking the Relationship between Migration, Media, and Technology in Times of Crises within and beyond the West” was an effort at internationalizing

Student/early career efforts:
Student involvement as reviewers and chairs

Other membership efforts:
Launch division’s Facebook page

246
Membership Number

58
Number of Reviewers

16%
Voter Turnout

TOP FACULTY PAPERS
Top 5 Papers; Cultural Contexts and Social Stigma of Suicide; Ukrainian Memory Culture in the context of media perception of the 20th-century atrocities; Re-Membering Comfort Women: From On-Screen Storytelling and Rhetoric of Materiality to Re-Thinking History and Belonging; Formatting Identity and Imagined Community through Ethnic Media Use; International students, immigration policy, and perceived internal support: Student reactions to the “travel ban”

Seungmi Kang, Soontae An, Hannah Lee; Sergii Tukaiev, Volodymyr Rizun, Yurii Havrylets, Jürgen Grimm, Andreas Enzminger, Maksym Khylo, Bogdana Nosova; Minkyung Kim, Julia Khrebtsiv, Jürgen Grimm, Andreas Enzminger, Maksym Khylo, Bogdana Nosova; Bing Xie, Chin- Chung Chao; Heidi Hatfield Edwards, EJ Molina, Dzmitry Yuran

TOP REVIEWER
Blake Allan Hendrickson

DIVISIONS & INTEREST GROUPS
CONFERENCE ALLOCATIONS
Number of research session slots allocated 7
Number of poster slots allocated 4
Number of co-sponsored sessions 1

PAPER SUBMISSIONS
Number of papers submitted 59
Number of papers accepted 30
Paper acceptance rate (%) 51

PANEL SUBMISSIONS
Number of panels submitted 1
Number of panels accepted 1
Panel acceptance rate (%) 100
Reflect on the past year’s goals: Maintain strength of the interest group; continue quality programming; identify ways to recruit new members. We generally were able to meet the first two goals; the third continues to be a point for future work.

Future short term goals: Survey membership to assess their needs and wants from the interest group; identify areas where we may be able to recruit new members from.

Future long term goals: Grow the interest group (ideally, move up to division status). Build out additional resources for people interested in teaching and researching intergroup communication.

**Internationalization efforts:** Developing strategies for reaching international audiences better.

**Student/early career efforts:** Support via student paper award. Possibility of mentoring session in next year’s conference?

**TOP PAPERS**

- It’s not easy being ‘green’: How social identities shape communication practices in sustainability communication campaigns
  - Donghee Lee, U of Florida Janice L. Krieger, U of Florida

- Do Perceived Norms Regarding Intergenerational Contact Mediate the Effects of Imagined Intergenerational Contact?; Farmers under Threat: Implications for Attitudes toward China and Perceived Risks from the Trade Dispute; Perspective taking, Self-disclosure and Stereotype Recall of Persons Who Stutter
  - Craig Fowler, Massey U; Jake Harwood, U of Arizona; Lulu Rodriguez, Iowa State U; Suman Lee, U of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Shuyang Qiu, Iowa State U; Wendong Zhang, Iowa State U; Minghao Li, New Mexico State U; Karen E. Schlag, U of Texas at Austin; Matthew Mcclone, U of Texas at Austin; Mian Jia, U of Texas at Austin; Yongwoog Andrew Jeon, U of Texas at Austin

- Reflect on the past year’s goals: This year our big goal was to revise the bylaws. We have them ready to present to our membership for some feedback at the meeting, then a vote in July.

- Future short term goals: Vote on bylaws, work on procedural manual.

- Future long term goals: Grow the interest group (ideally, move up to division status). Build out additional resources for people interested in teaching and researching intergroup communication.

- Internationalization efforts: Developing strategies for reaching international audiences better.

- Student/early career efforts: Support via student paper award. Possibility of mentoring session in next year’s conference?
In previous years, the division’s periodic newsletter has not regularly reached all members (for technical reasons). To address this issue, we sent the newsletters this year through several channels (direct emails and the division’s Facebook group, in addition to the ICA website). However, there were no changes in the communication format (a periodic newsletter and Facebook direct updates by members of the division). This might have been for development in future years (see below).

The Journalism Studies division continues to have a strong international character, and we have been making efforts to further increase the participation of scholars from countries that are underrepresented in the division’s membership through the graduate student colloquium, the body of reviewers, the elected officers, the use of conference waivers, and the award committees. This year, award committees were further diversified geographically and the committees made further efforts to solicit nominations from a more diverse set of countries. For instance, while in previous years, submissions to the Outstanding Dissertation Award were mainly from the US, this year the committee received nominations from eight countries. The newly elected International Liaison will support new and more systematic internationalization efforts in future years.

First and foremost, we aim to accelerate our efforts toward greater public engagement and internationalization. These are the two top priorities for the division, even as we also need to better clarify what it would mean to achieve success in each of these areas.

There are a number of questions for us to consider moving forward, such as:

- How do we best serve our members amid the pandemic and its disruption?
- Journalism is an essential service—a fact made apparent by the current pandemic—and yet the news industry will suffer greatly from this disruption and downturn. What does that mean for how we think about our object of study and our relationship to it?
- We have many members who do in-person qualitative research (i.e., ethnography and interviews). What does that mean moving forward if increasingly things are handled remotely, out of necessity or out of continued fear?
- How can we better assess what our members want and need from ICA generally and JSD in particular? What are the best means of soliciting their input and putting their ideas into practice?
- How can we strengthen connections with other divisions? We have obvious linkages that should be strengthened with Political Communication—but what about other divisions, such as CAT, Media Industry Studies, Communication Law and Policy, those studying international and activist communication, and so forth? How can we avoid the tendencies toward “silos” in academic inquiry?

It’s also worth examining what, if anything, we should do differently about communication via email. For example, CAT communicates all the time—is that a good thing, or no? No one seems to be clamoring to hear from us more, and yet are we becoming less relevant as a division because we email relatively infrequently?

Do we ever want to consider exploring a pedagogical component to the division—that is, anything at all related to the teaching of journalism? Ultimately, what does the next phase of the division and its membership look like? How can we better plan for the future?

Student/early career efforts: In addition to the continued annual graduate student colloquium, where students present their works and receive detailed feedback from senior researchers, last year, Thomas Schmidt initiated a social event for early career scholars (postdocs and assistant professors). Following the successful initiation of this event for early career scholars (postdocs and assistant professors), the American Political Science Association’s (APSA) Graduate Student Network, a second event was planned for the Gold Coast conference, but had to be cancelled due to the cancellation of the physical conference.

- The works-in-progress format is based on extended abstracts and was first piloted in Washington. Based on the experience in Washington and a membership survey we conducted following the conference, we decided to keep the works-in-progress sessions for the 2020 conference, but the format requirements were refined and clarified. The original intention was to re-test this format in the Gold Coast, but the virtual conference will make this difficult. This planned reevaluation will thus be postponed to the Denver conference.

- In 2019, we established a task force to define the parameters of a public engagement award and look into other ways of increasing public engagement among members of the journalism studies division. The new award was given for the first time in Washington (to two journalism researchers). The award committee was reestablished this year (with a new chair; Silvio Waisbord) and a new winner has been already elected (see above). The public engagement award is a good incentive for public engagement, but more can probably be done in this area. This year, no other public engagement activities have been initiated by the division.

- In previous years, the division’s periodic newsletter has not regularly reached all members (for technical reasons). To address this issue, we sent the newsletters this year through several channels (direct emails and the division’s Facebook group, in addition to the ICA website). However, there were no changes in the communication format (a periodic newsletter and Facebook direct updates by members of the division). This might have been for development in future years (see below).

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Language and Social Interaction Division

Chair: David Boromisza-Habashi (U of Colorado Boulder)
Vice Chair: Gonen Dori-Hacohen (U of Massachusetts Amherst)
Secretary: Natasha Shrikant (U of Colorado Boulder)

Reflect on the past year’s goals
We set out to internationalize our group of officers, and to start an internationalization newsletter

Future short term goals (to accomplish over this coming year)
Expanding and internationalizing membership

Future long term goals
Transforming out internationalization newsletter to feature researcher profiles from B/C countries

TOP FACULTY PAPER
(1) Aviv Barnoy and Zvi Reich; (2) Steen Steensen, Raul Ferrer-Conill, and Chris Peters; (3) Raul Ferrer-Conill, Erik Knudsen, Corinna Lauerer, and Aviv Barnoy.

TOP STUDENT PAPER
(1) Nicholas Mathews; (2) Sarah Kay Wiley; (3) Muira N McCammon

TOP POSTER AWARD
Caty Borum Chattoo, David Conrad, Lori Young, Aras Coskuntuncel

TOP EXTENDED ABSTRACT
Kim Christian Schröder, Chris Peters, Julie Vulpius, and Josephine Lehaff

ICA JOURNALISM STUDIES PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AWARD
Irene Costera Meijer, VU Amsterdam

THE WOLFGANG DONSBACH OUTSTANDING ARTICLE OF THE YEAR AWARD
Martin Scott, Mel Bunce, and Kate Wright

CONFERENCE ALLOCATIONS

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PAPER SUBMISSIONS

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PANEL SUBMISSIONS

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ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS

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CONFERENCE ALLOCATIONS

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<td>Abstract acceptance rate (%)</td>
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Membership Number: 125
Number of Reviewers: 73
Voter Turnout: 20%
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ) Studies Interest Group

Co-Chairs: Shinsuke Eguchi & Lukasz Szulc
Secretary: Paromita Pain
Student and Early Career Representative: Lik Sam Chan

Reflect on the past year’s goals
- We created an award committee, members of which will be elected in this year’s elections
- We increased the amount of money in Larry Gross’ travel grant from $500 to $1000
- We co-organized a preconference on “Rethinking the Relationship between Migration, Media, and Technology in Times of Crises within and beyond the West.”
- We co-sponsored a preconference on “Visual Representation and Marginality: Opening New Conversations.”

Future short term goals (to accomplish over this coming year)
- Come up with internationalization strategy
- Conduct elections for the incoming co-chair and award committee

Future long term goals
- Focus on distributing power within the interest group
- Focus on internationalization and gaining new members with the aim to become a division
- Focus on dealing with disputes within the interest group

Internationalization efforts: We elected Internationalization Officer
Student/early career efforts: He was supposed to organize a mentoring programme
Other membership efforts: We increased Larry Gross’ travel grant

Mass Communication Division
Chair: Jonathan Cohen
Vice Chair: Heather LaMarre
Secretary: Meghnaa Talapragada
International Liaison: Holli Semetko

Number of reviewers: 645
Membership number: 180
Voter turnout: 21%

Future short term goals (to accomplish over this coming year): Put some new regulations in place by changing the bylaws. For example, the election process should be tweaked. I would also like to find a better way to pass on knowledge for the role in a more systematic way (a checklist and time schedule for chairs and programmers) so that the learning curve is faster and less stressful.

Future long term goals
Try to avoid further splinter groups breaking off MCD by finding ways to make groups feel that they have a home in MCD. I started that last year by programming strings of sessions back-to-back on topics that seem to be growing (e.g., narrative persuasion) thereby acknowledging that there is a group but that it belongs in MCD.

Internationalization efforts:
Elected a liaison who is senior and very motivated.

Student/early career efforts:
Elected a representative who is part of the leadership and is consulted on issues.

Other membership efforts: Newsletter

Conference Allocations
- Number of research session slots allocated: 33
- Number of poster slots allocated: 17
- Panel acceptance rate (%): 16

Panel Submissions
- Number of panels submitted: 6
- Number of panels accepted: 1

Abstract Submissions
- Number of abstracts submitted: 92
- Number of abstracts accepted: 31
- Abstract acceptance rate (%): 34

Paper Submissions
- Number of papers submitted: 190
- Number of papers accepted: 119
- Paper acceptance rate (%): 62
**Media Industry Studies Interest Group**

**Chair:** Sora Park  
**Vice Chair:** Ramon Lobato  
**Secretary:** Christine Larson  

**Student and Early Career Rep.:** Annemarie Navar-Gill

Our goal was to strengthen the community and maintain the global diversity in membership. MIS has a diverse international membership. Two of the three officers are based outside of the U.S. Top countries for paper submissions were USA 37%, China 14%, Australia 10%, Canada 6%, and UK/Germany/Hong Kong/Korea 4%. The top faculty paper was awarded to a scholar in the U.S. The top student paper was awarded to a non-U.S. member. The top reviewer was also a non-U.S. member. This year we had planned our first reception. However, this has been postponed to next year due to the conference converting to a virtual one. This year, we elected a new Secretary, a new HDR rep and a new International Liaison Officer. New communication plans are in place including a quarterly newsletter.

With our newly elected Secretary who took the position immediately as we needed to fill the role due to a sudden resignation, we are now able to provide more services to our members. The first step is to publish quarterly newsletters, the first one to be issued in May. 2020. In light of the COVID-19 social distancing measures, we are hoping to continue to engage with the members virtually via various methods, the newsletter being one of them. We are also seeking to develop new programs for SEC members, either in form of an award that recognises and rewards their participation and contribution or by introducing small grant opportunities. These plans will be discussed at the business meeting.

Our interest group has grown steadily and the participation and engagement during the conference has been lively and active. We are hoping to become a division in the next couple of years. Media Industry Studies field is growing and evolving as the media industry is changing rapidly. Our membership is also diverse in terms of regional representation and we are hoping to provide more opportunities for members to connect and collaborate.

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<tr>
<th>PAPER SUBMISSIONS</th>
<th>PANEL SUBMISSIONS</th>
<th>CONFERENCE ALLOCATIONS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of papers submitted</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>Number of research session slots allocated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of papers accepted</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Number of poster slots allocated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper acceptance rate (%)</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>Number of research session slots allocated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of panels submitted</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Number of co-sponsored sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of panels accepted</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Panel acceptance rate (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper acceptance rate (%)</td>
<td>41</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**TOP FACULTY PAPER**

**American Electronic Data Processing (EDP) Schools in the Mid-Twentieth Century**  
Kate Mittner

**TOP STUDENT PAPER**

**Why I Left BuzzFeed:** What confessionalists from former BuzzFeed Video employees reveal about the mythologies and realities of the social media entertainment industry  
Michele Meyer

The general goals are as follows:

- To develop the opportunity for colleagues to present their work at the annual conference. This has been a long-term goal, and it is one of the main motivations associated with the development of the Mobile Comm IG. Unfortunately, it was somewhat upended by the COVID situation, but we are intending to come back stronger next year.
- To develop an escalator session for the conference. Again, the COVID situation has thrown a spanner in the works with this. We are interested in seeing how it will work out.

**Internationalization efforts:**  
We support scholars from the Global South and have sessions that are explicitly focused on this issue.

**Student/early career efforts:**  
We grant travel and fee grants to students and early career scholars. The pre-conference is also a venue where their ideas can be developed. We also co-sponsor the doctoral consortium with CAT.

**Other membership efforts:**  
Publicize our activities.
General Highlights:

• Awards: We annually give out awards for top papers, top student paper, most entertaining brief scholarly talk, and best interactive poster. We also recognize top dissertation, most outstanding member, our top five papers, best student paper, top papers, and best interactive poster.

• Participation at Annual Conference: For this year’s conference, we had over 130 reviewers, 45 panel chairs/respondents/facilitators, and numerous awards/nomination committees (in addition to the many authors presenting). We also facilitate interaction through engaging business meetings and receptions (jointly held with the Public Relations Division). We also coordinated co-sponsored panels and preconferences with various divisions and interest groups including and Feminist Scholarship, Intercultural Communication, Public Relations, and Language and Social Interaction.

• Funding Sources: We continue to seek out sponsorships (e.g., MCQ, Waveland Press, Oxford University Press, Routledge, universities). For the 2020 Conference, we were once again successful in obtaining sponsorships.

• New Members: We recognized new members at our business meetings in 2016-2019. This year, we will identify new members, add them to our listserv, and will reach out to them prior to the virtual convention. We had planned to recognize them publicly at our business meeting; we will do so in our pre-recorded business meeting.

• Website/Media: Our website/social media manager has designed and implemented a social media plan. He is seeking to make our postings more regular and our website more current and filled with data (i.e., awards). He manages our presence on the ICA website, Facebook, and Twitter. All have become important channels in our communication with our members. We are using ICA’s official membership email list and our own listserv to reach as many members (and former or future members) as possible.

Submit and Programming Practices:

• Submission Types and Acceptance Rates: As has been historically the case, our Division received primarily competitive paper submissions for the 2020 conference. Our overall acceptance rate for all individual submissions for the 2020 Conference was: 95/130 = 73.0%. Our acceptance rate for competitive papers was: 62/92 = 67.0%. Our acceptance rate for research escalator submissions was: 33/36 = 92.0%; and our acceptance rate for panel session proposals was: 2/2 = 100.0%. These acceptance rates are generally on par with those of other years.

• Innovative Programming: Due to our innovative programming – the research escalator and our Brief Entertaining Scholarly Talk (B.E.S.T.) sessions – we were able to schedule 25 more papers than with normal panels, creating more participation. Notably, these presentations, along with our interactive poster presentations (8 papers), have been of high quality and have attracted a sizable audience.

Evidence of Non-U.S. Member Activity:

• Student Travel Support: We combined the existing STAR fund with the Putnam Endowment. We now use these funds to provide travel support to students.

This year we provided this support to the top student paper authors. In the past we have also honored requests by students in special circumstances (we supported one from Singapore in 2019).

• Awards: At the 2020 Virtual Conference, one of our top papers was authored by non-U.S. scholars (Netherlands and Canada); two of our top five includes student papers from outside the U.S. (Netherlands and Hong Kong). In 2019, 2 of our top papers had authors from non-U.S. institutions (Canada and Denmark) and one of our top student papers was from Hong Kong.

• Leadership: Our current officers are primarily from U.S. institutions; one is from a Canadian institution (and the vice-chair-elect is also from a Canadian university). We continue to purposely invite non-U.S. members and chairs on our nomination (this year’s chair was from Hong Kong with members from the Netherlands and New Zealand), Jablin Award (this year’s chair was from the Netherlands with members from Singapore, Denmark, and the U.S.) Early Career Scholar Award (this year’s chair was from the Netherlands with members from Singapore, Denmark, and the U.S.) Early Career Scholar Award (this year’s chair was from the U.S. and members from Australia, the U.S., and Malaysia), and best interactive poster presentation award committees. Notably, one candidate for Secretary is from outside the U.S. as are both candidates for Graduate Student/Early Career Representative.

• Conference Participation: Approximately 25% of the total individual papers accepted are authored by scholars from non-U.S. institutions, and 100% of the sessions created from these competitive paper submissions include at least one paper from a non-U.S. author. Of the two panels submissions we accepted, one included participants from non-U.S. institutions. For the 2020 conference, 37% of panel chairs/respondents/facilitators are from outside the U.S., and 28% of our reviewers for 2020 are from outside the U.S.

• Research Escalator Priority: We continue to strive for diverse participation in this extended session, with 18 of 33 (55%) accepted papers from outside U.S. In 2020, (21 of 40, 52.5%), of accepted papers from outside the U.S. in 2019, including Australia, Canada, China, Colombia, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Kenya, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, and Singapore.
Popular Communication remains an important clearinghouse for a wide and evolving range of scholars. That said, the numbers for 2020 were somewhat lower than for 2019, in keeping with the generally smaller footprint of the Australia conference. This year, the division received 74 paper submissions and 13 panel submissions. We accepted 35 papers (7 posters, 28 papers - 47%) and 7 panels (54%). Paper and panel submissions are down a fair amount compared to 2019 (2019 figures included 130 papers and 26 panels submitted); despite these decreases, our acceptance rate is steady across the board. While we cannot know the specific causes of these fluctuations, factors that likely impact these numbers include the location of the conference and attendant geopolitics, and the growing number of divisions and interest groups that overlap with Popular Communication.

Internationalization remains a priority for our division. Because internationalization is actively factored into our selection process for panels, all of our pre-composed panels contain at least one scholar who hails from outside the United States; and considerable efforts were made to encourage papers and panels whose content deals specifically with internationalization and/ or internationally relevant issues. Based on institutional affiliation of first author, our 2020 presenters hail from eight different countries and include several first-time ICA attendees. That said, the vast majority are Tier A countries, with few Tier B and Tier C countries represented. We have been finding additional ways to enhance our international representation in the year ahead, particularly with the appointment of an international liaison, Simone Driessen of Erasmus University, Rotterdam.

Our Early Career Scholar Award has been given to Crystal Abidin, an outstanding scholar who is already a senior lecturer despite having received her degree in 2016. Abidin’s record is so outstanding that we also nominated her for the association-wide award.

Popular Communication is pleased to announce Social Media Entertainment by Stuart Cunningham and David Craig as our nomination for the association-wide Outstanding Book Award.

This year, we have successfully increased our social media presence on both Twitter and Facebook, thanks in large part to the efforts of Evie Psarras, our early career rep. Sriram Mohan, our secretary, also instituted a series of forms that have helped us better keep track of announcements from our membership.

ICA 2019 was the first time we instituted a “buddy system” for first time members. We matched up 13 veteran ICA members with 13 first time attendees. Participants praised the program, and we hope to continue it in future in-person ICAs.

We continue to examine possible alternative formats for submissions. We also are contemplating renaming our division to better reflect its current membership and emphases.
Reflect on the past year’s goals
Continuing from last year’s (2019) efforts, the main task for this year was to complete the fundraising effort for the Robert Heath Award.

The Division appreciates ICA’s approval for extending the fundraising effort till 31 January 2020. With this extended deadline, the Division is pleased to announce that this task was completed. The PR Division now will have an endowment to acknowledge outstanding research.

Future short term goals (to accomplish over this coming year)
1. To establish the guideline for the James & Larissa Grunig Thesis and Dissertation Awards.
2. To set up a book award for the Public Relations Division.

Future long term goals
1. To further strengthen cross-divisional collaboration in terms of program planning and research activities
2. To encourage research development beyond the current paradigms, and to better incorporate ideas, views, and insights from members from Africa, Latin America, and Asia.
3. To work closely with ICA on extending the engagement with members and scholars from different parts of the world.

Internationalization efforts:
The Division has been utilizing different social media platforms (Twitter, LinkedIn, and Facebook) to engage with the public relations academics from different parts of the world. The division's Facebook page has more than 1,400 members from all continents. The Division also welcomes members and non-members to share views and updates on the Facebook page.

Student/early career efforts:
1. It has been the Division’s strategic plan to organize an annual PhD Student Workshop as one of the ICA preconferences. We invite senior and prominent public relations scholars to mentor graduate students’ research development (this year’s PhD Workshop was not accepted for an onsite preconference).
2. The Plank Center for Leadership in Public Relations from University of Alabama has been annually sponsoring the Student Top Paper Awards.

Other membership efforts:
Responding to members’ wish for more involvement in the Division, the Division plans to initiate a couple of committees for members to involve in different division tasks.

TOP FACULTY PAPERS
Cultivating Relationships with Startup Employees: The Role of Entrepreneurial Leadership Communication
Rita Linjuan Men, U of Florida, Zifei Chen, U of San Francisco & Grace Ji, Virginia Commonwealth U

Internal Communication and Employee Advocacy: The Mediating Role of Organizational Identification and Employee–Organization Relationships
Patrick David Thelen, San Diego State U

Organizational Openness, Public Engagement and Organization–Public Relationships: A Meta-Analysis
Mengqi Monica Zhan, U of Texas at Arlington & Xinyan Zhao, Hong Kong Baptist U

TOP STUDENT PAPERS
More Than Being Ethical: The Role of Fit between CSR Initiatives and CEO Image in Consumer’s CSR Engagement
Keonyoung Park, Syracuse U

Effects of Perceived Psychological Distance on Publics’ Expectation and Evaluation of Corporate Social Advocacy (CSA)
Hao Xu & Eugene Lee, U of Minnesota – Twin Cities

Identifying Motivating Factors for Disaster Preparedness for Effective Government Public Relations
Jungkyu Rhys Lim, U of Maryland

JAMES & LARISSA OUTSTANDING THESIS AND DISSERTATION AWARDS
Ying Xiong (Dissertation award); Loarre Andreu Perez (Thesis award)
While the Sports Communication Interest Group is young and small, we remain consistent in terms of the number of our membership and paper/panel submissions. In the past year, we increased our collaborations with non-U.S. scholars (European scholars and Chinese scholars in particular). Currently, we’re seeking to build further collaboration with Sports Communication Association in China. In addition, the Sports Communication Interest Group has worked with the ICA head office on building partnerships between ICA Sports Communication and other Divisions/Interest Groups within ICA; Increase collaborations between ICA Sports Communication Interest Group and other external partners. Continue to discuss with the ICA head office and Board of Directors to build partnership between ICA and Communication & Sport. Continue to achieve a higher level of international membership. Revise the bylaws to be consistent with the ICA bylaws. Increase more paper submissions from student members. Continue to grow the interest group (in terms of membership and paper/panel submission); Increase collaborations between Sports Communication and other Divisions/Interest Groups within ICA; Increase collaborations between ICA Sports Communication Interest Group and other external partners.

Reflect on the past year’s goals
First, the VCS Division was able to consolidate institutionally, by electing a new Secretary and Student Representative, and, for the first time ever, an International Liaison officer. There were multiple names on the ballot for the Student Representative and International Liaison positions. At 15%, voter turnout remained below the 2019 ICA-wide average, though, despite the VCS leadership’s sustained efforts to promote voting via email and social media. The newly elected Division Secretary, Kyser Lough (U of Georgia), and Student Representative, Hanna Morris (U of Pennsylvania), will take office at the end of the upcoming virtual conference, while the International Liaison position became effective immediately upon election.

Second, as regards the 2020 paper competition, the VCS Division received a total number of 86 submissions, 81 individual submissions (paper, poster or extended abstract) and 5 pre-constituted session proposals (panel or roundtable). Although submissions thus dropped quite significantly compared to last year’s DC conference (104 submissions), this decrease is largely consistent with the overall, ICA-wide numbers for the Gold Coast conference. As such, the VCS Division’s percentage of total conference submissions remains fairly stable at 2.14%. Based on these numbers, VCS was allotted 11 sessions and 6 posters.

In terms of geographical diversity, the VCS Division continues to attract submissions from across the world. The number of source countries for submissions was 19 (members of pre-constituted panels included). However, consistent with the geographical distribution of our current membership – 47% are from countries other than the US, mostly Europe (25%) and Asia (15%) – more than half of the individual submissions (papers, extended abstracts and posters) for the Gold Coast conference came from North-America, even more specifically the US (44/81, or 54%). Most likely related to this year’s conference location, Asia became the second most represented region, accounting for 30% (24/81 submissions). The number of submissions from Europe was reduced to half compared to last year (10/81, or 12.4%). We received only one individual submission from Oceania, one from Africa, and 6 from South-America. Looking at the pre-constituted session proposals, though, 3 out of 5 came from outside the US (2 from Oceania, 1 from South-America). Looking at the pre-constituted session proposals, though, 3 out of 5 came from outside the US (2 from Oceania,
DIVISIONS & INTEREST GROUPS

1 from Europe). It should be noted that participants in the pre-constituted session proposals represent 9 different countries, with 12 (out of 30) individual presenters coming from Australia or New Zealand. There were no panel participants from Asia, nor, again, from South- America. If we look at the geographical composition of the reviewer pool for the 2020 conference, a similar picture emerges: North- America (US (52/90, or 58%), Asia (22/90, or 24%), Europe (15/90, or 17%), Oceania (1), Africa and South-America (0).

We were happy to see a further increase of the number of volunteer reviewers, resulting in a reviewer pool of 90 people. This allowed to assign three reviewers per submission and to keep each individual reviewer’s workload to manageable proportions (the average number of assignments per reviewer was 3). Finally, the VCS Division granted a Top Faculty Paper award, two Top Student Paper awards, and a Top Student-Led Paper Award. Also, one of the Division’s five conference fee waivers was given to this year’s VCS Top Reviewer (Kyser Lough, U of Georgia). The other waivers were granted to the principal organizer of the VCS Pre-Conference (T.J. Thomson), and to student participants from Tier B/C countries.

Third, the VCS Division successfully continued the pre-conference initiative for the 2020 conference. For this year’s central theme, it was decided on ‘Visual Representation and Marginality: Opening New Conversations’. The event, which was principally organized by the newly elected International Liaison, T.J. Thomson (QuT), succeeded in attracting 29 submissions from a geographically diverse range (almost a third of all submissions were from scholars working in Oceania).

In line with the VCS Division’s commitment to actively seek opportunities for cross-divisional collaboration, the 2020 pre-conference was conceived as a joined effort, with the LGTBQ IG, collaboration, the 2020 pre-conference was In line with the VCS Division’s commitment to support young scholars in developing their academic career, among others by organizing a pre-conference that explicitly targets PhD students and early-career scholars and facilitates mentoring by senior division members; by granting Top Student(-led) Paper awards, providing travel grants and reserving at least two of the five annual “conference fee waivers” for student members; and by allowing for submission types such as (work-in-progress) extended abstracts. In addition, the VCS Division initiated this year a Top Dissertation Award, recognizing outstanding research that provides an exemplary contribution to the field. The award panel, coordinated by the Division Chair, received 6 nominations. The winner will be recognized at the virtual business meeting. It is relevant to note, in this regard, that student participation for the Gold Coast conference was again high, with student(-led) papers, posters or extended abstracts constituting 50% of the individual submissions and accepted proposals (in this category).

Finally, a VCS Newsletter was distributed to the membership on a bimonthly basis, and the Division Secretary, Tim Highfield (together with the International Liaison, T.J. Thomson) created a new divisional website: https://icavisualcommunicationstudies.com/. While certain sections are still in the editing stages, the idea is to gradually develop the website into a regularly updated platform for the dissemination of relevant news items and a repository of (archival) information about the division. As such, it will constitute a useful resource for future division officers, and provide a key tool to communicate to the current membership – in addition to the Newsletter and the division’s social media presence – as well as to recruit new members. Future short term goals (to accomplish over this coming year)

- Take action to ensure membership renewal and encourage former members to rejoin in order to enable the VCS Division to sustain its current trajectory.

- Formally establish divisional bylaws. The draft version of divisional bylaws that has been prepared by past leadership teams will be discussed at the upcoming (virtual) business meeting, fine-tuned, and submitted for vote in the fall elections. Finalizing the divisional bylaws entails, most notably, clarifying the VCS Division’s mission/purpose and disciplinary scope; restructuring procedures for elections, paper competition, travel grants, and awards (including Top Dissertation Award and nominations for ICA’s Outstanding Book Award); and implementing a permanent advisory committee of past Division Chairs.

- Identify short term ‘internationalization’ priorities based on the newly-elected VCS International Liaison’s initial report. Establish a Task Force to further develop proposals at the divisional level, and seek collaboration with Internationalization officers from across the ICA in order to exchange good practices and prepare shared concerns that can be submitted to the ICA Board of Directors/Executive Committee.

- Sustain the quality of the paper review and consider how we can ensure reviews are constructive and do not incorporate feedback/ratings for factors other than those specified in the criteria/rubric (e.g., preventing comments on the relevance of the research to one nationality or geographic context, or political statements), (cf. Internationalization Report, T.J. Thomson).

- Continue divisional initiatives to support and engage young scholars, including seeking nominations for the 2021 VCS Top Dissertation Award, and encourage and facilitate the organization of a 7th edition of the VCS (Young Scholars) Pre-Conference at ICA 2021.

- Further develop the website into a central repository of key news and (archival) information about the division. As such, the website will constitute a useful resource for future division officers, and provide a key tool to communicate to the current membership – in addition to the VCS Newsletter and the VCS Division’s social media presence – as well as to recruit new members.

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- Further advance the visibility of the VCS Division and its expertise within and outside of the ICA, and develop structural, sustainable partnerships with related academic organizations, research institutions or industry partners.

- Further invest in strengthening a sense of community and fostering dialogue and collaboration within the Division through existing and new communication tools.

- Further encourage creative, innovative and/or interactive presentation formats beyond the traditional submission types.

- Continue to bolster our reputation as a venue for the highest levels of visual scholarship.

Internationalization efforts:

The VCS Division’s first-ever elected International Liaison, T.J. Thomson, contacted the six percent of our members who work in under-represented regions. He did so to see how our Division could make itself more affordable and valuable to potential members from these parts of the world (cf. Internationalization Report, T.J. Thomson).

- Identify (other) long term ‘internationalization’ priorities based on the VCS International Liaison’s initial report. Establish a Task Force to further develop proposals at the divisional level, and seek collaboration with Internationalization officers from across the ICA in order to prepare formal recommendations that can be submitted to the ICA Board of Directors/Executive Committee.

- Further advance the visibility of the VCS Division and its expertise within and outside of the ICA, and develop structural, sustainable partnerships with related academic organizations, research institutions or industry partners.

- Further invest in strengthening a sense of community and fostering dialogue and collaboration within the Division through existing and new communication tools.

- Further encourage creative, innovative and/or interactive presentation formats beyond the traditional submission types.

- Continue to bolster our reputation as a venue for the highest levels of visual scholarship.
DIVISIONS & INTEREST GROUPS

now establish a Task Force to further develop the action items identified in the International Liaison’s initial report.

Student/early career efforts:

The VCS Division continues to support students and early career scholars by organizing pre-conferences that are specifically aimed at (mentoring) junior scholars, offering travel grants, and recognizing outstanding work through student paper and dissertation awards.

Other membership efforts:

The VCS Division supports members from Tier B/C countries via the conference fee waiver procedure and travel grants. The Division leadership also makes sustained efforts to ensure membership renewal and to encourage former members to rejoin.

TOP FACULTY PAPER

Regina Marchi (Rutgers U) “Meaningful Properties: Bathtub Madonnas as Media in an Italian-American Neighborhood in Transition”

TOP STUDENT(-LED) PAPER


TOP REVIEWER AWARD

Kyser Lough (U of Georgia)

CONFERENCES ALLOCATIONS

| Number of research session slots allocated | 11 |
| Number of poster slots allocated         | 6  |
| Number of co-sponsored sessions          | 1  |

PAPER SUBMISSIONS

| Number of papers submitted | 54 |
| Number of papers accepted  | 32 |
| Paper acceptance rate (%)  | 59 |

PANEL SUBMISSIONS

| Number of panels submitted | 3  |
| Number of panels accepted  | 2  |
| Panel acceptance rate (%)  | 67 |

ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS

| Number of abstracts submitted | 21 |
| Number of abstracts accepted  | 9  |
| Abstract acceptance rate (%)  | 43 |

PUBLISHER REPORT 2020

THOMAS MANKOWSKI
Director of Publishing Operations

Circulation:

<table>
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<th>Collection (minus Migrated)</th>
<th>2018</th>
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<th>2020</th>
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ICA Journals Website

A new page was created to host content about the ICA Journals on the Oxford Academic platform: https://academic.oup.com/ica launched at the beginning of 2020 and offers a new way for the journal audiences to engage with the journals, see featured content, and explore various initiatives. This website does not replace any of the individual journal pages, but is aimed at increasing discoverability of content for the ICA Journals as a whole. Included in this new website was the creation of new landing pages such as:

ICA Journals Special Issues
ICA Journals Virtual Issues
ICA Journals Call for Papers
ICA Journals Highly Cited Articles

Journal for Communication

Editor: R. Lance Holbert

Peer Review

| Manuscripts Received Last 12 Months | 57 |
| Manuscripts Received 12-24 Months Ago | 58 |
| Manuscripts Published Online Last 12 Months | 36 |
| Manuscripts Published Online 12-24 Months Ago | 62 |

Production

| Issues Consisting of 719 Total pages published in 2019 | 6 |
| Submissions in 2019 | 745 |
| 8.1 weeks average from transmittal to Production to Online publication | 8.1 |

Circulation

| Total circulation in 2019 | 1,756 |
| Total circulation in 2020 YTD | 1,782 |

Online Usage

| Full-text views in 2019 | 222,048 |
| Increase of 15,512 from 2018 | |

Impact Factor

| 2018 2-Year Impact Factor | 3.753 |
| 2018 5-Year Impact Factors | 6.718 |
| ISI Journal Citation Reports © Ranking | 5/88 (Communication) |
### Communication Theory
**Editor:** Maria Elizabeth (Betsi) Grabe

| **Peer Review** | 40 Manuscripts Received Last 12 Months  
34 Manuscripts Received 12-24 Months Ago  
26 Manuscripts Published Online Last 12 Months  
36 Manuscripts Published Online 12-24 Months Ago |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| **Production**  | 4 issues consisting of 548 Total pages published in 2019  
168 Submissions in 2019  
7.2 weeks average from transmittal to Production to Online publication |
| **Circulation** | 1,757 total circulation in 2019  
1,782 total circulation in 2020 YTD |
| **Online Usage**| 76,236 Full-text views in 2019  
Increase of 20,316 from 2018 |
| **Impact Factor**| 2018 2-Year Impact Factor: 3.396  
2018 5-Year Impact Factors: 5.167  
ISI Journal Citation Reports © Ranking: 8/88 (Communication) |

### Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication
**Editor:** Rich Ling

| **Peer Review** | 31 Manuscripts Received Last 12 Months  
26 Manuscripts Received 12-24 Months Ago  
20 Manuscripts Published Online Last 12 Months  
27 Manuscripts Published Online 12-24 Months Ago |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| **Production**  | 6 issues consisting of 548 Total pages published in 2019  
373 Submissions in 2019  
9.2 weeks average from transmittal to Production to Online publication |
| **Circulation** | Open |
| **Online Usage**| 628,572 Full-text views in 2019  
Increase of 77,592 from 2018 |
| **Impact Factor**| 2018 2-Year Impact Factor: 4.896  
2018 5-Year Impact Factors: 7.04  
ISI Journal Citation Reports © Ranking: 1/88 (Communication); 2/89 (Information Science & Library Science) |

### Human Communication Research
**Editor:** Eun-Ju Lee

| **Peer Review** | 27 Manuscripts Received Last 12 Months  
19 Manuscripts Received 12-24 Months Ago  
14 Manuscripts Published Online Last 12 Months  
20 Manuscripts Published Online 12-24 Months Ago |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| **Production**  | 4 issues consisting of 548 Total pages published in 2019  
271 Submissions in 2019  
8.2 weeks average from transmittal to Production to Online publication |
| **Circulation** | 1,755 total circulation in 2019  
1,780 total circulation in 2020 YTD |
| **Online Usage**| 73,932 Full-text views in 2019  
Increase of 15,348 from 2018 |
| **Impact Factor**| 2018 2-Year Impact Factor: 3.534  
2018 5-Year Impact Factors: 3.669  
ISI Journal Citation Reports © Ranking: 81/88 (Communication) |

### Communication, Culture, & Critique
**Editor:** Sarah Banet-Weiser & Laurie Ouellette

| **Peer Review** | 55 Manuscripts Received Last 12 Months  
46 Manuscripts Received 12-24 Months Ago  
29 Manuscripts Published Online Last 12 Months  
42 Manuscripts Published Online 12-24 Months Ago |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| **Production**  | 4 issues consisting of 548 Total pages published in 2019  
120 Submissions in 2019  
7.4 weeks average from transmittal to Production to Online publication |
| **Circulation** | 1,754 total circulation in 2019  
1,774 total circulation in 2020 YTD |
| **Online Usage**| 41,100 Full-text views in 2019  
Increase of 12,336 from 2018 |
| **Impact Factor**| 2018 2-Year Impact Factor: 0.653  
2018 5-Year Impact Factors: n/a  
ISI Journal Citation Reports © Ranking: 81/88 (Communication) |
1. Journal Status
ISI Impact Factor: Not indexed

The current editorial team of Annals of the ICA is led by Dr. David Ewoldsen (Michigan State U), Editor-in-Chief (EIC) who took office during the spring of 2016. The editorial assistant is Ruth Shillair (Michigan State U). 2020 is his last year editing the journal.

A total of 54 manuscripts were processed between Jan 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019. Of these, 31 were new submissions and 23 were revised submissions.

The first issue of 2020 was a special issue that focused on the State of the discipline. The papers for this special issue were revised submissions. We have no accepted manuscripts for the next issue (44:3). There are currently 14 manuscripts out for review of which 0 are revisions. We are waiting for 5 revisions.

2. Review Process & Turnaround Time
When a manuscript is submitted, the editorial assistants run it through the admin checklist, making sure that it adheres to our Author Guidelines, and runs a plagiarism check within 24 hours of the submission of the manuscript. The EIC then decides whether the manuscript should be desk rejected, submitted, or forwarded to the next step. For unsolicited papers, the corresponding author is provided with specific instructions for corrections along with the Author Guidelines. For the manuscript that passes this initial screening, the EIC assigns it to one of the AEs (or himself), who serves as the action editor. At least three experts are secured to evaluate each submission and asked to turn in their review within 4 weeks. Once a minimum number of reviews (3), as designated by the AE, have been received, the AE makes a recommendation to the EIC and the EIC makes a decision.

3. Statistics and Acceptance Rates
a. Number of Submissions: 54
   - Original Submissions: 31
   - Revised Submissions: 23

b. Number of Final Decisions Made: 54
   - Accept: 22
   - Conditional Accept: 0
   - Minor Revision: 6
   - Major Revision: 9
   - Reject: 16
   - Desk Reject: 1

c. Acceptance Rate: 41%1

d. Desk Rejection Process
A manuscript that is obviously a poor fit for the Annals is desk rejected. Because the Annals is still fairly new, most of the authors have reached out to the editor prior to submitting their manuscripts. Consequently, many manuscripts that would have been desk rejected were never submitted to the journal. During the time frame of this report, 1 manuscript was desk rejected.

The acceptance rate is higher than normal because of a special issue that came out in Volume 44, Issue 1. The manuscripts for this special issue were solicited and hence had a higher rate of acceptance. While the manuscripts were solicited, they did undergo the standard review process and not all of the solicited manuscript were published.

4. Topic Areas of Manuscripts
The Scholar One system does not provide information regarding manuscript topic. Papers submitted to the Annals cover a broad swath the study of human communication, including mass communication, interpersonal communication, communication and technology, persuasion, and so forth. The table below shows a very rough classification of the topic areas based on the titles and abstracts of the manuscripts submitted during the period covered in this report.

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th># of Submissions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communication &amp; Technology (e.g., CMC, HCI, VR, SNS, videogames)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mass Communication</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Communication</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpersonal Communication</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizational Communication</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy of science/methodological</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intercultural</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journalism</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Popular Communication</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feminist</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of the discipline</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

5. Country of Origin
Country of origin was determined based on the current affiliation of the corresponding author.

```
a. Submitted Manuscripts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of Submission</th>
<th>#</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Namibia</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

b. Accepted Manuscripts

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of Submission</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>Acceptance Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Namibia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```
6. International Scholars Publishing within USA
The nationality of the corresponding author is not recorded, so we manually identified the corresponding authors as best we can. Among the 10 corresponding authors of accepted papers who are currently affiliated with a U.S. institution, 1 scholar was from outside the United States (Netherlands).

7. International Representation of Editorial Board
Again, we used the location of their affiliation to judge the international representation of the editorial board members.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of Affiliation</th>
<th># of Board Members (includes Associate Editors)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9-1. Gender of First Authors
Gender of the first authors was determined from their first names.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unidentifiable</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. Recommendations
I think the Annals is doing fine. We have not filled the page allotment for any of the issues to date. However, I believe it is more important to publish high quality work than it is to fill the pages of the journal. I should have done a better job of promoting the journal. I will say that submissions have picked up this year and at the current rate submissions should be up close to 30%. I do believe it is time for a new editor for the journal. The journal has not done as well under my editorship as I had hoped would be the case.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2019 Data Survey

Total accepted: 52
Total rejected: 79
Total number of manuscripts with final decision in 2019 (includes carryover from 2018): 131
Total carryover 2018 manuscripts that received final decision: 48

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender (based on 2019 manuscripts with final decision)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reject/Accept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male: 32 reject, 3 accept, 9% acceptance rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female: 40 reject, 16 accept, 28% acceptance rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other: 0 reject, 0 accept</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Review Process
Average time for editorial decisions: 50 days
Average number of revisions submitted for publication: 1.33
### Intellectual Category (based on 2019 manuscripts with final decision)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cultural analysis</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theoretical analysis</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discourse/textual analysis</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnography</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Cultural analysis (based on 2019 manuscripts with final decision)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Reject/Accept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Media</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>20 reject, 6 accept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race and ethnicity</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7 reject, 3 accept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feminism/gender/sexuality</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>5 reject, 33 accept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social movements/activism</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8 reject, 1 accept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global communication</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>16 reject, 1 accept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Popular culture</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audience studies</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2 reject, 0 accept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Topic (based on 2019 manuscripts with final decision)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Media</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race and ethnicity</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feminism/gender/sexuality</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social movements/activism</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global communication</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Popular culture</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audience studies</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Nationality of Institution (based on 2019 and carryover 2018 with final decisions made in 2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Reject</th>
<th>Accept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Republic of Korea</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuwait</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taiwan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Communication Theory remains highly ranked in the field of communication, ranked 3rd in the world on recent SJR lists, and 8th through ISI. We expect the impact to remain stable in the years to come.

During September 2019 the incoming editor, Betsi Grabe, took over new submissions while the outgoing editor, Karin Wilkins and her editorial team will see the manuscripts under review during their tenure through. The new editorial team will likely contribute accepted manuscripts to the third issue, 29(3), in 2020.

Editorial Teams

1. The editorial team under editorship of Karin Wilkins: Assistant Editor: Kyung Sun Lee
   Associate Editors: Shiv Ganesh (Massey U previously, now U of Texas at Austin) Ellen Helsper (London School of Economics and Political Science) Marwan Kraidy (U of Pennsylvania) Isabel Molina-Guzman (U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

The editorial advisory board is represented by 59 scholars based in 12 different countries, across several regions (mostly based in North American (64%) and European (18%) institutions, but also in African (4%), Asian (2%), Middle Eastern (5%), and Oceania (7%) regions). When categorized by gender, about one third or 32% (n=19) are female colleagues.

2. The editorial team under editorship of Betsi Grabe: Assistant Editor: Brent Hale
   Associate Editors: Mark Eisenegger, U of Zurich Sarah Jackson, U of Pennsylvania Young Mie Kim, U of Wisconsin Herman Wasserman, U of Cape Town

The advisory board is not quite finalized. Requests for continued service were sent to 31 existing board members while 37 new editorial board members were invited. The procedure for selecting the new editorial board involved recommendations from the associate editors and ICA divisional and interest group leadership. All chairs were contacted and asked to nominate editorial board members. The editorial team made selections with balance in area of scholarship, gender, and international representation in mind. The editorial advisory board will likely represent 18 different countries, across several regions (mostly based in North American (n=32; 47%) and European (n=20; 29%) institutions, but also in African (n=2; 3%), south American (n=2; 3%); Asian (n=5; 7%), Middle Eastern (n=5; 7%), and Oceania (n=1; 2%) regions). When categorized by gender, about one third or 35% (n=25) are female colleagues.

Editorial Decisions

During the January through December 2019 time period, Communication Theory received 254 original manuscripts, as well as 82 revised submissions. The 40 accepted manuscripts produced an overall acceptance rate of 15.7% percent. Most rejected manuscripts (54%) went through a review process, offering feedback to submitting authors; 46% were desk rejected. Among the revised manuscripts with final decisions during this time period, more than half (63%) were accepted. Among the original manuscripts submitted in 2019, the time from submission to rejection was 22.52 days, and the time from submission to acceptance took an average of 206.55 days. As is clear from Table 3, the monthly submission rate was relatively even, with March and October slightly lower—perhaps as authors worked on AEJMC and ICA conference papers to meet the April 1 and November 1 deadlines.

Table 1. Manuscripts Submitted in 2019: Country of Submission's Origin

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>n</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Accept</th>
<th>Revise</th>
<th>Reject</th>
<th>Acceptance Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>46.1</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The list of manuscripts published in 2019 is provided in Appendix 1. Overall, we published 23 original articles.

Global Inclusion

One of our goals is to diversify voices in this publication. It is difficult to assess position of author in terms of cultural heritage, ethnicity, and gender. The geography of the author’s institution, and here only the first author, becomes a challenging gauge for this approximation. Among the submissions during the 2019 time period, most first authors were affiliated with institutions in the US (46.1%). In addition, Communication Theory has become a popular submission destination for scholars from Israel (7.1%), and Australia. It is noteworthy though that U.S. originating manuscripts did not have the highest acceptance rate. Please see Table 1.
Table 2. Manuscript Decisions in 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decision</th>
<th># Manuscripts</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accept</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accept</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immediate Accept</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revise</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revise and Resubmit</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor Revision</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immediate Minor Revision</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immediate Revise and Resubmit</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reject</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reject</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immediate Reject</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>23.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reject - Inappropriate</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3. Manuscript Submissions in 2019 by Month

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>Aug</th>
<th>Sep</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appendix 1. Publications in 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vol./Issue</th>
<th>Author(s)</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29(1)</td>
<td>Martine, T. &amp; De Maeyer, J.</td>
<td>Networks of Reference: Rethinking Objectivity Theory in Journalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nah, S. &amp; Yamamoto, M.</td>
<td>Communication and Citizenship Revisited: Theorizing Communication and Citizen Journalism Practice as Civic Participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Campbell, S. W.</td>
<td>From Frontier to Field: Old and New Theoretical Directions in Mobile Communication Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Karpel, K.</td>
<td>Freedom Without Idealization: Non-Ideal Approaches to Freedom of Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jian, G.</td>
<td>Transforming the Present Moment through Conversation and Narrative: Toward a Hermeneutic Leadership Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Allen, J.</td>
<td>What’s the Big “D”? Contemporary Approaches to Discourse in Interpersonal and Family Communication Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29(2)</td>
<td>Post, S.</td>
<td>Polarizing Communication as Media Effects on Antagonists. Understanding Communication in Conflicts in Digital Media Societies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yanovitzky, I., &amp; Weber, M. S.</td>
<td>News Media as Knowledge Brokers in Public Policymaking Processes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chalaby, J. K.</td>
<td>Outsourcing in the U.K. Television Industry: A Global Value Chain Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fuchs, C.</td>
<td>Henri Lefebvre’s Theory of the Production of Space and the Critical Theory of Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Malin, B. J.</td>
<td>Contextual Materialism: Mereology, Sociality and the Vague Ontology of Media Objects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29(3)</td>
<td>Szulc, L.</td>
<td>Profiles, Identities, Data: Making Abundant and Anchored Selves in a Platform Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sang, Y.</td>
<td>Revisiting Copyright Theories: Democratic Culture and the Resale of Digital Goods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tukachinsky, R., &amp; Stevel, G.</td>
<td>Theorizing Development of Parasocial Engagement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lee, S. J.</td>
<td>The Role of Construal Level in Message Effects Research: A Review and Future Directions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deline, M. B., &amp; Kahlor, L. A.</td>
<td>Planned Risk Information Avoidance: A Proposed Theoretical Model</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The ICA Handbook Series is a joint venture between the ICA and Routledge. These handbooks provide benchmark assessments of current scholarship in internationally developing fields of communication research and set the agenda for future work. The series includes handbooks that focus on topical areas, methodologies, and theoretical approaches of broad interdisciplinary and international interest.

2019-2020 Highlights:

- Two handbooks published in 2019, one in press for 2020, two under contract and in preparation (see below).
- Series cover design has been updated.
- ICA member discount is now available for all series volumes (but this needs to be more visible on the ICA website).
- The current series editor’s contract runs through 2021. By mid-2021 the ICA Publications Committee should select a new series editor for 2022-25.

Handbooks published in 2019:


Previously published series volumes:


We continue to seek proposals for new volumes and welcome any suggestions or inquiries from ICA members or prospective editors. Please encourage your division or interest group members to contact me: Robert.Craig@Colorado.edu and/or Felisa.Salvago-Keyes@taylorandfrancis.com.

Further information:

https://www.icahq.org/page/Handbooks
1. **Journal Status**

**JCR (Journal Citation Reports)**  
Impact Factor: 3.534

**JCR (Journal Citation Reports)**  
Ranking 2018: 6/68 in Communication

2. **Review Process & Turnaround Time**

When a manuscript is submitted, the editorial assistant checks if it adheres to our Author Guidelines and reports the results to the EIC every Monday and Thursday. The EIC then decides whether the manuscript should be unsubmitted or forwarded to the next step. For unsubmitted papers, the corresponding author is provided with specific instructions for corrections. For the manuscript that passes this initial screening, the EIC evaluates if it fits the general scope and academic standards of HCR and either desk-rejects or assigns it to one of the AEs (or herself), who serves as the action editor. At least two experts are secured to evaluate each submission and asked to turn in their review within 4 weeks. Once a minimum number of reviews have been received, the AE makes a recommendation to the EIC and the EIC makes a decision. The statistics below show how efficiently our team has handled the review process at HCR.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time from Submission to Decision</th>
<th>Original Submissions (N = 271)</th>
<th>Accept (N = 1): less than one day</th>
<th>Minor Revision (N = 2): 57 days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>d. Desk Rejection</td>
<td>A manuscript that is obviously a poor fit for HCR and/or does not and is unlikely to meet the high standards of HCR even after substantial revision is desk rejected. In such cases, the EIC provides specific comments on the shortcomings of the manuscript that preclude it from being further considered at HCR and recommends alternative outlets whenever appropriate. Sometimes the AE recommends desk rejection, in which case the AE and the EIC both offer independent comments, identifying critical flaws. As such, desk rejection is more like an expedited review, which saves the authors’ as well as the reviewers’ time. During the time frame of this report, 175 manuscripts have been desk rejected (143 by the EIC, 32 jointly by the EIC and AEs). Some examples of desk rejected submissions are listed below.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. <strong>Statistics and Acceptance Rates</strong></td>
<td>Number of Submissions (with decision): 331</td>
<td>Revised Submissions: 60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Number of Submissions</td>
<td>Original Submissions: 271</td>
<td>Revised Submissions: 60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Number of Final Decisions Made:</td>
<td>Original Submissions: 244</td>
<td>Revised Submissions: 27</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>271 (90%)</td>
<td>Accept: 1 (0.4%)</td>
<td>Accept: 21 (78%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reject: 242 (92.2%)</td>
<td>Reject: 6 (22%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Withdrawn: 1 (0.4%)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Acceptance Rate: 7.7%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. **Statistics and Acceptance Rates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic # of Submissions</th>
<th># of Acceptance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communication &amp; Technology (e.g., CMC, HCI, VR/AR, SNS, videogames, technology adoption)</td>
<td>59 (21.00%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpersonal/Intergroup Communication</td>
<td>38 (13.52%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mass Communication (e.g., entertainment, message processing, children &amp; media)</td>
<td>32 (11.39%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Communication</td>
<td>31 (11.03%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Communication</td>
<td>22 (7.83%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persuasion</td>
<td>19 (6.76%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group/Organizational Communication</td>
<td>17 (6.05%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>14 (4.98%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methodological</td>
<td>12 (4.27%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural/Cross-Cultural Communication</td>
<td>11 (3.91%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Communication</td>
<td>6 (2.14%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising/PR</td>
<td>6 (2.14%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instructional Communication</td>
<td>4 (1.42%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>10 (3.56%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>281 (100%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. Country of Origin (based on the corresponding author’s affiliation)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Accept</th>
<th>Major Revision</th>
<th>Minor Revision</th>
<th>Reject</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emirates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td>22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Israel</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kazakhstan</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuwait</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macedonia</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Accept Major Revision Minor Revision Reject Total

Argentina 1 1
Australia 7 7
Austria 1
Belgium 5 5
Brazil 2 2
Canada 1 1
China 16 16
Cyprus 1 1
Czech Republic 1 1
Denmark 1 1
Emirates 1 1
Germany 1 3 1 13 18
Greece 1 1
Hong Kong 1 3 4
Hungary 1 1
India 11 11
Indonesia 1 1
Iraq 1 1
Israel 1 1 4 6
Italy 1 1
Kazakhstan 2 2
Kuwait 1 1
Lebanon 1 1
Macedonia 1 1
Malaysia 2 2
Mexico 1 1
Morocco 1 1
Netherlands 7 7
New Zealand 1 1
Nigeria 1 1
Pakistan 1 1
Portugal 1 1

6 Manuscripts submitted between 1/1/19 and 12/31/19.

b. Accepted Manuscripts (including manuscripts originally submitted before 1/1/19)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County/Region</th>
<th>Accept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6 An original submission that has been withdrawn (N = 1) and “In Memory of Charles R. Berger” are not included.

6 An original submission that has been withdrawn (N = 1) and “In Memory of Charles R. Berger” are not included.
7. International Representation of Reviewers (based on the affiliation)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of Affiliation</th>
<th># of Reviewers</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>72.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 27.50% of the reviewers reside outside the USA. * Those who reviewed more than once are counted only once.

8a. Gender of First Authors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Submitted Manuscripts</th>
<th>Accepted Manuscripts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>47.69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>52.31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>281</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8b. Gender of Corresponding Authors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Submitted Manuscripts</th>
<th>Accepted Manuscripts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>49.11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>50.89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>281</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Impact factor of JCMC

The impact factor for JCMC is 4.896 (from 4.000 in 2018) and the five-year impact factor is 7.04 (from 6.115 in 2018). JCMC is currently ranked number 1 of 88 in the field of Communication and number 2 of 89 in Information & Library Sciences.

Processing time for JCMC manuscripts

The editorial team of Dr. Ling, Sapphire Lin, and Ting Ting Yang meet on a weekly basis to review incoming manuscripts, consider pending decisions, and respond to author queries. In addition, the editorial team monitors the system throughout the week for pending reviewer invitations, overdue reviewer scores, and manuscript decisions that require action. Typically a manuscript is first evaluated by the EIC to determine if it is within the scope of JCMC. If this is the case, then it is assigned to an associate editor who also examines the article in relation to fit and then recommends a list of reviewers. Each manuscript is typically evaluated by four reviewers, who are vetted by the editorial team prior to their invitation. Reviewers are given four weeks to complete their submitted review.

The key statistics associated with processing time for JCMC are shown below.1

- Desk Reject (N = 224): 5 days
- Reject (N = 137): 50 days
- Major Revision (N = 23): 72 days
- Minor Revision (N = 22): 56 days
- Accept (N = 17): 18 days

Backlog

JCMC currently does not have a backlog. Papers that are accepted are usually published in the next one or two upcoming issue(s).

Special Issue

With the evolving theories, methods, and...
technologies, scholars are questioning what is research on computer-mediated communication today and what it should be tomorrow. To help clarify the scholarly domain of computer-mediated communication, the editorial team developed a call for papers for a special issue to examine the state of the field.

The call for papers for this special issue was published in February 2018 and closed at the end of March 2018. More than 70 abstracts have been submitted. Of these, 10 made it through to the first round of revision, and nine were published in Issue 1, 2020, along with an editorial by Associate Editor Mike Yao and Editor-in-Chief Rich Ling.

Plagiarism

During 2019 there have been several cases of plagiarism and data slicing. These have been dealt with by interacting with the ICA publications committee and, in collaboration with them, developing an appropriate response.

Pre-registration

Rich Ling, Lee Humphreys, Nicole Kraemer, Sonja Utz (ex officio Robin Nabi) are in the process of developing a report regarding the use of pre-registered studies for JCMC. This practice is more common in some disciplines (e.g., psychology) and in the case of particular methods (deductive quantitative studies and experimental methods).

In brief form, pre-registered studies are intended to reduce the bias whereby only “successful” studies are published. To do this, a stage 1 proposal is given a peer review before the actual empirical work. The proposal includes the theoretical framing and the proposed methods. If this is found to be adequate by peer reviewers, the study is given a qualified guarantee that upon completion, regardless of outcome, the resulting paper will be published.

The report that has been developed in this group includes a preliminary version of the instruction to authors as well as the instruction to reviewers. There are several caveats associated with the initiative. First, there is a need to underscore that pre-registered proposals/manuscripts will not receive preferential treatment when compared to other types of submissions. Second, it is noted that the manuscript management platform that is currently being used by JCMC (ScholarOne) cannot handle this type of submission. These are issues that will need to be addressed before such a system can be implemented.

Mentoring system for authors in the Global South

Since 2018, the editorial team has taken on a more proactive role in mentoring some authors in the Global South who may need guidance in academic publishing. This is done with a two-prong approach: (1) giving extensive guidance to authors from the Global South (e.g., Ghana, Nigeria, and Pakistan), and (2) sending more manuscripts out to associate editors for in-depth comments on how the manuscript can be improved instead of simply sending out desk reject letters. This is done with the hope of developing greater potential in papers that may come from underserved populations.

Reaction to the COVID-19 pandemic

The recent pandemic has meant that some authors and reviewers have had to readjust their day-to-day lives. At the same time, the situation has freed up time for some authors to concentrate on journal articles since other tasks have been set into abeyance. JCMC has been somewhat more relaxed in terms of deadlines for authors and reviewers. We anticipate that this will be the situation for the next few months.

Promotional Material on Facebook

To increase readership, the editorial office has been working with authors to develop promotional blurbs that are posted on ICA’s Facebook and Twitter profiles. These blurbs are layman abstracts that are shared on social media, so as to increase the reach and relevance of JCMC’s published papers. We have also recently integrated that requirement into the early stages of submission to ease the administrative process. In addition, they will appear on the Oxford University Press site.

Submission statistics and acceptance rate

JCMC received 378 submissions between January 1, 2018 and December 31, 2018. Approximately 4.5% of the articles were accepted for publication. Summary statistics for total submissions and decision type are provided below:

- Original Submissions: 378
- Desk Reject: 224 (59.3%)
- Reject: 137 (36.2%)
- Revise and Resubmits: 23 Major Revisions, 22 Minor Revision
- Acceptances: 17 (4.5%)

The statistics of the editorial board show people from many portions of the globe. It is noted that there are a large number that come from the United States, albeit many of these scholars are originally from another country. It is the ambition of the current EIC to reach out to scholars from around the globe in order to further develop the diversity of the editorial board.

Topic Areas of Submitted Manuscripts

The ScholarOne system for JCMC does not provide statistics regarding manuscript topics. However, JCMC author guidelines explain that JCMC is “broadly interdisciplinary in scope.” Papers received cover a wide range of topics related to computer-mediated communication and human–computer interaction, including social media, online political deliberation, social network analysis, immersive virtual environments, and video games, among a wide host of other topics. It is anticipated that the discussion associated with the special issue noted above will help to illuminate the scope and domain of the journal.
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### Country of Origin for Accepted Manuscripts & Accept Ratio

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This report covers the activities of the Journal of Communication (JoC) between January 1 and December 31, 2019. I started my Editor-in-Chief (EIC) duties on September 1, 2018 and 2019 represents my first full calendar year in the position. The first two issues of 2019 (Volume 69) consisted of works accepted for publication under Silvio Waisbord’s editorship. Volume 69, Issues 3–6 reflect the first works accepted under my editorship.

### Editorial Developments

Our editorial office has been working with the Oxford University Press team who is now headed by Senior Publisher Mireille Yanow. Ms. Yanow joined Oxford University Press in March 2019. The only significant change concerning our editorial office’s work with Oxford was a switch in the typesetting and copyediting vendor. Oxford University Press is now contracting with Cenveo and this has been a big improvement. The work of the former third-party vendor, SPI Global, was substandard on all levels. Journal of Communication was the first to switch over to Cenveo and the other ICA journals are to follow suit. Overall, Ms. Yanow has been open and responsive to our concerns, Senior Journal Manager Matthew Marusak has been terrific in overseeing the production process on the Oxford University Press side, and Brittany Hobson has been systematic in outlining and executing her marketing efforts.

One of my first acts as editor was to shape the editorial board. The editorial board consisted of 60 scholars at the close of EIC Waisbord’s term. I made a decision to keep 39 of the existing board members for purposes of continuity, but wanted to bring in a new, expansive set of scholars to increase the diversity of the group. My diversity efforts focused on epistemology, geography, gender, race, ethnicity, content specialty, and professional stage (e.g., full v associate v assistant professor). The new editorial board consisted of 100 members and has since expanded to 144 to reflect our increase in submissions (see below). There is an expectation of editorial board members performing four reviews in a given calendar year. This expectation was communicated upon invitation to join the board.

In terms of the recent expansion of the board from 100 to 144 members, our editorial office conducted an assessment of reviewer activity for the first twelve months of my editorship. Any scholar who was not on the board and completed four or more high-quality reviews during the September 2018 through August 2019 time period were automatically invited to join the board. The expertise of these scholars is clearly valued by our editorial team, they completed their service commitments well, and their level of activity equaled or exceeded that of our editorial board expectations. Thus, we were pleased to further solidify our relationship with these scholars through formal board membership.

I also expanded the number of associate editors from EIC Waisbord’s four to twelve. Once again, the focus was on diversity and sending a message to the field that Journal of Communication is a big tent publication focused on publishing works from all areas of the field. The initial set of twelve associate editors are as follows: Hajo Boomgaarden (U of Vienna), Shahira Fahmy (The American University in Cairo), Gerard Goggin (U of Sydney [now at Nanyang Technological U]), Melanie Green (U of Buffalo), Janice Krieger (U of Florida), Chul-joon Lee (Seoul National U), Roussely Maia (Federal U of Minas Gerais), Michael Sharwood (U of Maine), Adrienne Shaw (Temple U), Keren Tenenboim-Weinblatt (Hebrew U of Jerusalem), Zheng Joyce Wang (The Ohio State U), Magdalena Wojciechowska (U of California- Davis). Each of these scholars agreed to a two-year commitment and we set a limit of each overseeing no more than twenty works in a given calendar year. I have recently asked these scholars if they would like to stay on for another two years and these discussions will be ongoing through May. Most have already agreed to another two years, but a few are giving the matter further consideration due to other commitments. Overall, it has been a true pleasure working with this folk; An amazing group and there and many future EICs in this mix.

Due to our submission rate, I decided in May 2019 to increase the number of associate editors from twelve to sixteen. I had some discussions with folks at ICA and four additional scholars started as associate editors in September 2019. These four scholars are as follows: Stacey Connaughton (Purdue U), David DeAndrea (The Ohio State U), Seungahn Nah (U of Oregon), Devon Powers (Temple U).

We needed coverage in some specific content areas and these scholars agreed to the same terms of overseeing no more than twenty works in a given calendar year. They have been doing amazing work and are fine additions to our editorial team.

In terms of our editorial assistant, Esul Park, a doctoral student at Temple University, served in this role from September 2018 through February 2020. She has recently taken a position at Drexel University and Colleen Tolan, also a doctoral student at Temple University, served in this role from September 2018 and will continue along in this role for the remainder of my editorship. Dr. Compton has been doing amazing work in identifying interesting works and securing scholars to craft our book reviews. We have established a process by which two book reviews appear in each issue.

### Review Processes, Procedures, Expectations, and Timelines

I offered a summary of our processes and procedures in my editorial vision essay (Holbert [2019] listed below). As a quick overview for this annual report, I read all incoming submissions and make an initial decision of whether to desk reject or send out for external review. The current desk reject rate is 65% and three-quarters of these decisions are made within 72 hours of submission. Only a handful have taken longer than a week to generate. The desk reject decision letters are not stock. I will offer a rationale for each of these decisions. Those works receiving a more delayed decision of desk reject most often involve additional input being provided by an associate editor or an editorial board member. There are times when I seek the opinion of these folks before making a desk reject determination. Our editorial team’s mantra is respect the work. No matter the condition of the paper. This means offering timely, constructive input that will serve in some way to improve the efforts of the author(s).

If I feel a piece is ready for external review, it is most often assigned to an associate editor. There is a rare occasion when the associate editor does not feel the work is ready for external review and a desk reject rationale is crafted by the associate editor. There are instances when I serve as action editor for a piece given current associate editor workloads. The goal is to secure three external reviewers. We have built a system with ScholarOne to allow for easy identification of editorial board members. I had found a history of the editorial board members being underutilized by the journal and have placed an emphasis on our team using this value to our full potential. Associate editors first look for strong editorial board matches and expand their search from there to round reviewers for a given work. We are averaging three external reviewers per piece.

Once an external review is complete, the associate editor will either craft a decision on his or her own or consult with me on what judgment to offer. Their feedback is supplied and included in the final decision letters. I will offer my own feedback on a given work as well and all final decision letters are sent by me to the corresponding authors. As stated in Holbert (2019), authors can expect an external review decision within 90 days of submission, but...
we work internally with a goal of producing a decision letter within 60 days of submission. We meet our internal goal a majority of the time, with 68.4% of our external review decision letters being sent in 60 or fewer days since submission. Only three works have taken more than 90 days from submission date to sending of decision letter.

For authors who are extended an invitation to revise and resubmit, we offer an initial two-month revision period. Given the volume of our feedback offered in initial decision letters, authors will often ask for an additional month or two to complete their work. We have happily granted authors the time they need at this crucial stage. Our external review processes for revisions match the time frame we established for initial submissions. Roughly two-thirds of these works are given decision letters within 60 days of submission, with only a few requiring more than 90 days. The longer time periods usually involve needing to secure an additional reviewer after initial feedback is provided. If we are going to go beyond the 90-day review period, I will contact the corresponding author and explain the cause for the delay. We make every effort to make a final decision on a given work after one round of review.

Given our large number of submissions, we have developed a decision type we are calling “desk revise and resubmit.” We have used this designation on about two dozen occasions. A decision of this kind is offered if a work reveals glaring errors we feel would overshadow any potential strengths of the work. In these cases, a more extensive internal review is offered (somewhere in the 1,200-1,500 word count range) and authors are asked if they would consider making a series of good faith edits in line with what is detailed in the decision letter. Once the edits are attended to, the authors are encouraged to resubmit to the journal and the work will then be sent out for external review. We have found this process to be productive.

Traditional Special Issues
There was no special issue published in Volume 69 due to the editorial transition. However, we did produce a call for papers for a special issue on “Speaking Across Communication Subfields” with a due date of July 15 2019 (https://academic.oup.com/joc/pages/2020_cfp_special_issue). The guest editors were Associate Editors Keren Tenenboim-Weinblatt and Chul-joo Lee. The topic generated a great deal of interest with 88 submissions. Seven works were accepted and the special issue will be appearing in Volume 70, issue 3 (June 2020). Keren and CJ did amazing work as guest editors and we are certain the special issue will generate impact.

We also spent the latter part of 2019 crafting a special issue that will appear in 2021. The call for papers for this special issue, entitled “Open Communication Research”, went live on March 13, 2020. It is available at the following: https://academic.oup.com/joc/pages/open-comm-cfp. The foundational work for this issue is a piece by Tobias Deinlin and colleagues (see https://academic.oup.com/joc/advance-article/doi/10.1093/joc/jqz052/5803427) that has already garnered much interest (1,700+ page views in less than a month) and we are hoping this special issue will be successful. The guest editors for this special issue will be Associate Editors Adrienne Shaw, Michael Scharkow, and Joyce Wang.

Virtual Special Issues
We have developed a “virtual special issue” (VSI) for each issue under my editorship (i.e., beginning with Volume 69, Issue 3). As noted on the Journal of Communication web site, VSIs “contain thematic groupings of articles previously published in the journal. Virtual issues are freely accessible to subscribers and non-subscribers alike for a limited time” (see https://academic.oup.com/joc/pages/virtual_issues). The VSI themes derive from one of the works published in the corresponding traditional issue and the VSI is treated as an accompaniment. The titles for the 2019 VSIs are as follows:

Volume 69, Issue 3 “Mary Beth Oliver and the Study of Positive Communication”
Volume 69, Issue 4 “The Study of Political Deliberation, Discussion, and Talk”
Volume 69, Issue 5 “Enhancing our Understanding of Mass Communication”
Volume 69, Issue 6 “Gatekeeping”

The initial VSIs have been hugely successful and we will continue the practice of creating a VSI accompaniment for each new issue for the entirety of my editorship. Here are some activity details for the first two VSIs (as compiled by Brittany Hobson at OUP):

VSI V69, 13: “During the two-month period of promotion of the Mary Beth Oliver Virtual Special Issue, the virtual issue page received a total 2,274 page views. The included articles received a total 909 full-text views during the period of promotion, an increase of 86% compared to the total full-text views during two months preceding the promotion.”

VSI V69, 14: “Throughout the two-month period of promotion, the virtual issue page received a total 1,038 page views. The included articles received a total 403 full-text views during the period of promotion, an increase of 385% compared to the total full-text views during two months preceding the promotion.”

Impact
The 2018 two-year impact factor (IF) rests at 3.753 and the journal’s five-year impact factor (IF) rests at 3.729, but this increase did not keep pace with the field. The 2018 two-year IF is slightly higher than the 2017 estimate of 3.729, but this will appear in 2021. The 2018 IF is based on the citations patterns of works published in 2016 and 2017. The 2018 two-year IF is slightly higher than the 2017 estimate of 3.729, but this will appear in 2021. The 2018 IF is based on the citations patterns of works published in 2016 and 2017.

The zero-order year-by-submission correlation is .917. We are now basically averaging two original submissions per day over the course of a calendar year. The 2019 original submission total represents a 176% increase over the 2010 original submission total. There was a 30% increase in original submissions when comparing the 9-1-17 to 8-31-18 and 9-1-18 to 8-31-19 time periods. The 2018 to 2019 calendar year increase is 17%. The 2019 original submission total is the largest in the history of the journal.
The following is a country breakdown of the corresponding authors for the 2019 submissions. Data are offered on decisions for these works in terms of accept, reject, or pending.

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Additional Context
The table above provides a summary for the 2019 submissions only. However, we started our editorial work on September 1, 2018. Of the 232 2018-submitted works in the 9/1/18 to 12/31/18 window, we accepted 9 pieces. In terms of corresponding authors, one is based in Singapore, one is based in Germany, one is based in Hong Kong, and six are based in the United States. I would also like to note that a co-author for one of the accepted 2018 works is based in Mexico.
Of the 2019 accepted works summarized in the above table, the following countries are represented among the co-authors of the various works (above and beyond the corresponding author affiliations): Canada, China, Denmark, Ireland, Japan, Singapore, and United Kingdom.

Acceptance Rate
We received a total of 967 original submissions in my first 16 months (September 2018 – December 2019) and we accepted 42 of these original submissions as of March 25, 2020. In addition, 16 of these submissions are still pending a final decision. These figures produce a 4.4% acceptance rate (42/951 [967-16]). Our goal for 2020 is to accept six original submissions and two book reviews for each of our six issues. We have calculated this combination to be the number of acceptances we can generate while staying within the annual page limit specified in the ICA-OUP contract. This calculation is backed up with some empirical evidence. Volume 69, Issue 6 contains 6 articles and 2 books reviews and totals 157 pages. Our annual budget allows for 164 pages per issue. If we come in at the 150-160 page range for our five traditional issues, then we can better meet the inevitable issue overage that will come with our lone annual special issue. We have met or exceeded this goal for the first three Volume 70 issues: Issue 1 (6 articles, 2 book reviews accepted), Issue 2 (6 articles, 2 book reviews accepted), and [Special] Issue 3 (6 articles accepted).

Published Original Article Titles
A total of 31 original submissions were published in 2019 (titles with authors):

Volume 69, Issue 1 (works accepted under Waisbord editorship)
2. “Idols of Promotion: The Triumph of Self-Branding in an Age of Precarity” Brooke Erin Duffy
3. “Social Media Expression and the Political Self” Daniel S. Lane, Slgi S. Lee, Dan Hee Kim, Liiwe Shen, Brian E. Weeks, and Nojin Kwak
6. Editorial: Adios, Farewell, Goodbye” Silvio Waisbord
7. “Child’s Play: Assessing the Bidirectional Longitudinal Relationship between Gaming and Intelligence in Early Childhood” Karin M. Fifkers, Jessica Taylor Piotrowski, and Patti M. Valkenburg
9. “Ideological Asymmetry in the Reach of Pre-Russian Digital Disinformation to United States Audiences” Frederik Hjorth and Rebecca Adler-Nissen
13. “Reach across the Aisle: Elevation from Political Messages Predicts Increased Positivity toward Politics, Political Participation, and the Opposite Political Party” Morgan Ellithorpe, Yan Huang, and Mary Beth Oliver
14. “The Relationship between Interdisciplinarity and Journal Impact Factor in the Field of Communication During 1997-2016” King-wa Fu and Yuner Zhu
17. “Brevity is the Soul of Twitter: The Constraint Affordance and Political Discussion” Kokil Jadika, Alvin Zhou, Yphtach Lelkes
18. “Getting Tagged, Getting Involved with News? A Mixed-Methods Investigation of the Effects and Motives of News-Related Tagging Activities on Social Networking Sites” Anna Kumpel,
19. “Think of Him as The President”: Tabloid Trump and the Political Imaginary, 1980-1999” Geoffrey Baym,
21. “Social Media Engagement with Strategy and Issue Framed Political News” Natalie Stroud and Ashley Muddiman
22. “Mapping User-Centric Internet Geographies: How Similar Are Countries in their Web Use Patterns?” Yee Man Margaret Ng and Harsh Taneya
23. “From Partisan Media to Misperception: Affective Polarization as Mediator” R. Kelly Garrett, Jacob A. Long, and Minseong Jeong

Published Book Reviews
A total of 10 book reviews were published in 2019 (titles with authors) - the book reviews appear in digital form only:
1. “Fridays of Rage: Al Jazeera, the Arab Spring, and Political Islam” Robert M. Entman
2. “If Then: Algorithmic Power and Politics” Jonathan Zittrain
3. “Integrative Framing Analysis: Framing Health Toward Words and Visuals” Antal Wozniak
4. “Cyberwar: How Russian Hackers and Trolls Helped Elect a President – What We Don’t, Can’t, and Do Know” Rhys Crilley
5. “A Manifesto for Slow Media” Megan LaMesurer
6. “Political Communication and Mobilization: The Hindi Media in India” Shahrzad Shahbazi
7. “Embodiment in the Semiotic Matrix: Communicology in Pierce, Dewey, Bateson, and Bourdie” Francois Cooren
9. “Negotiating Control: Organisations and Mobile Communication” Ulrike Klinger