Our members have spoken in the recent ICA elections. We welcome our new vice chair Sophie Lecheler (U of Vienna) and our new secretary Nayla Fawzi (LMU, Munich). They will start their assignments after the meeting in Prague.

In this newsletter you will find more information on:

* Pre- and post-conferences in Prague
* Other up-coming events
* Call for nominations: Best Article Award
* Call for nominations: The 2018 David Swanson Award
* Call for Special Issues: Political Communication

* Pre- and post-conferences in Prague

This year our division co-sponsors a wide variety of 6 pre-conferences and 1 post-conference that are of interest for scholars in political communication. Below you find an overview, a list with the complete call for papers and deadlines for submission can be found on our website: http://politicalcommunication.org/ica-division/upcoming-ica-conferences/

1. Global Perspectives on Populism and the Media

This pre-conference will be held at the Central European University in Budapest Hungary May 22-23. Contact: jsonnevend@newschool.edu

2. Refugees, Religious Threats, and Political Radicalization: Theoretical and Empirical Perspectives

This pre-conference will be held at the Hilton Prague, May 23. Contact: hajo.boomgaard@univie.ac.at

3. Voice and Voices: Exploring Tensions Between Plurivocity and Univocity

This pre-conference will be held at the Hilton Prague, May 24. Contact: f.cooren@umontreal.ca

4. “The participatory turn” ten years later: Engagement, Authenticity and Resistance

This pre-conference will be held at the Hilton Prague, May 24. Contact: participationpreconica18@gmail.com

5. Global Media and Human Rights

This pre-conference will be held in Prague, May 24. Contact: miyase.christensen@ims.su.se
6. Making sense of Election reporting: new directions, new challenges?

This pre-conference will be at Charles University Prague, May 24. Contact: CushionSA@cardiff.ac.uk and jacksond@bournemouth.ac.uk

7. Lobbying and Democracy: The Voice of Communication

The post-conference will be held at Charles University in Prague, Tuesday May 29. Contact: oyvind.ihlen@media.uio.no

The full list of all ICA pre-conferences and post-conferences is posted here: http://www.icahdq.org/?page=2018PrePostconf

* Other up-coming events

Cut the Bullshit! Communication, Populism and Electoral choice in the new media environment, 20-22 June 2018 (Italy)

More info here: www.audencia.com/communication-populism

11th Central and Eastern European Communication and Media Conference - CEECOM 2018: Communicative Space - Political Space, 30 May - 1 June 2018 (Szeged, Hungary)


* Call for Nominations: The Kaid-Sanders Best Article of the Year Award

Every year the ICA Political Communication Division awards the best article published in our field. The award will be given based on nominations using the following criteria:

- Each person can nominate one article, which may include self-nominations.
- The nomination should include a short rationale (min. 100 words) for why the article is nominated.
- The article deals with an aspect of political communication in the broad sense.
- The article is published in 2017 in a journal that deals with communication, political science, journalism, or public opinion (see list at the end).

This year’s award committee consists of Scott Althaus (chair), Carsten Reinemann, Regina Lawrence, Václav Štětka, Fei 'Chris' Shen. The award committee judges each article on several criteria including the importance of the topic it addresses, theoretical depth, the strength of evidence it presents, and the significance of its conclusions. The committee will also consider the overall contribution to the field of Political Communication.

Deadline: February 1, 2018. Late submissions will not be accepted. All nominations should be emailed to salthaus@illinois.edu
The award for the winner (a 1000$ cash prize) and the first runner up (250$) will be given during the division’s business meeting in Prague.

*The 2018 David Swanson Award for Service to Political Communication Scholarship*

The Service to Political Communication Scholarship Award recognizes those distinguished in their sustained contributions to the field as planners, editors, and leaders and in other roles that require time and energy, innovation, and personal dedication. The award honours David Swanson, one of the founders of political communication who gave exemplary service to the ICA Political Communication Division and APSA Political Communication Section. In his memory, the ICA division presents the award every other year. The joint award committee includes representatives of the ICA division and APSA section. This year committee consists of Tamir Sheafer (ICA), Shanto Iyengar (ICA), Barbara Pfetsch (ICA), Stuart Soroka (APSA), Talia Stroud (APSA).

Nominations are now open for the 2018 David Swanson Award. Please send your suggestions to the committee chair Tamir Sheafer (tamir.sheafer@mail.huji.ac.il), by March 1, 2018. Include the name and a brief letter describing the service to political communication.

Past Recipients of the David Swanson Award.
2016 Shanto Iyengar
2014 Patricia Moy
2012 David Paletz
2010 Doris Graber
2008 Wolfgang Donsbach
2006 Ann Crigler

*Call for Special Issue/Symposium in Political Communication*

Political Communication is launching a call for the publication of a symposium or full special issue on one or more current topics of broad interest to our readership and members of the political communication divisions in the ICA and APSA.

A symposium will typically comprise 3-5 short papers of around 4000-5000 words each, with a short introduction of no more than 1000 words by the symposium editor(s).

A full special issue would comprise of 6-8 articles (around 8,000 words in length). Other (hybrid) models may be proposed to the editors.
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Find more info on the requirements here: http://explore.tandfonline.com/cfp/pgas/upcp-call-for-special-issue-symposium-in-political-communication

The deadline for the submission of proposals is 1 March 2018. Proposal should be sent to c.h.devreese@uva.nl.

* If you have any information that you want to include in the next newsletter, please let me know: peter.vanaelst@uantwerpen.be If you have an announcements that need to be distributed more quickly, send it to our social media editor Björn Buß (bjoern.buss@uni.leuphana.de).

Do not forget to renew your ICA membership, and certainly also renew your membership in our division.

Best wishes, Peter Van Aelst
Chair of ICA Political Communication Division