

Minutes of the 2018 ICA Political Communication Division Business Meeting

68th Annual ICA Conference
May 25th 2018, Prague, 17 - 18:30pm

Division Chair: Peter van Aelst (U of Antwerp)

Vice Chair: Kimberly Gross (George Washington U)

Secretary: Thomas Zerback (LMU Munich)

Student and early career representative: Shannon McGregor (U of Utah)

1. News from the ICA (Peter van Aelst)

- 3400 participants registered for the Prague conference (+400 compared to San Diego 2017).
- ICA is financially (very) healthy.
- In addition to the travel grants, 2 extra free waivers will be given to students – scholars from Tier B-C countries.
- Lance Holbert will be editor of the Journal of Communication
- New fellows to be announced on May 26th
- New ICA committee discussed the 5 authorship rule resulting in the following proposal / alternatives:
 - Establish a rule that can be checked – respected.
 - Get rid of the 5 authorship rule?
 - Impose a new rule about first authorship (eg. Max 2)
- With regard to the PolCom division, the following questions were briefly discussed:
 - Are multiple submissions by the same author an issue in our division?
 - Who will be most affected from the rule?
 - Will getting away from the 5 authorship rule lead to less diversity?
- Christian Baden asked to clarify the assumed link between getting rid of the rule and more diversity. The common sense was that such a link is difficult to establish. Skipping the rule might even make it worse.
- Candidates for the upcoming ICA presidential election are announced:
 - Karin Wilkins (University of Texas, Austin)
 - Claes de Vreese (University of Amsterdam)
- ICA has given an overview on the upcoming Annual conferences:
 - 2019 Washington DC
 - 2020 Gold Coast, Australia
 - 2021 Denver
 - 2022 Paris
 - 2023 Toronto
 - 2024 Asia (Tokio, Beijing)
 - 2025 Hawaii
- ICA President-Elect Patricia Moy introduces the upcoming ICA Annual conference from 24 to 28 May 2019 in Washington: Unlike former conferences, ICA will start on a Friday and end Tuesday due to another convention in the conference hotel. Meeting rooms will be all in the hotel again, but due to the other convention there will be no space for pre-conferences. Rooms will be \$170 a night. Roomblock will open March 1st (the day when the final program is released).
- Yariv Tsfati announces that there will be a WAPOR meeting in Toronto prior to ICA, so that attending both events might easily be possible.

2. News from the division (Peter van Aelst)

- The 6th edition of the International Summer School of Political Communication and Electoral Behavior will take place in Milan (9-14 July, 2018). Organizers are the Department of Social and Political Sciences of the University of Milan (Gianpietro Mazzoleni) and the PolCom Division. With 29 participating PhD candidates from countries all over the world and 12 eminent speakers the summer school has been a tremendous success again. Three travel grants were handed to students from Argentina, Brazil, and India. The division thanks Gianpietro Mazzoleni, as chief organizer.
- The division served as a co-sponsor of 7 pre- and post-conferences at this year's ICA Annual Conference:
 - Global Perspectives on Populism and the Media
 - "The participatory turn" ten years later: Trust/Distrust and Engagement/Disengagement
 - Refugees, Religious Threats, and Political Radicalization: Theoretical and Empirical Perspectives
 - Voice and Voices: Exploring Tensions Between Plurivocity and Univocity
 - Making Sense of Election Reporting: New Directions, New Challenges
 - Global Media and Human Rights
 - POST conference: Lobbying and Democracy: The Voice of Communication
- There is a new Joint Publications Committee, including
 - Patricia Moy (Chair, ICA),
 - Frank Esser (ICA),
 - Sebastian Valenzuela (ICA),
 - Eike Mark Rinke (ICA)
 - Kathleen Searles (APSA),
 - Ann Crigler (APSA),
 - Emily Thorson (APSA)
 - Ex officio: Johanna Dunaway, (Chair, APSA Pol Com), Peter Van Aelst (Chair, ICA Pol Com), Claes de Vreese (Editor, Political Communication), and Björn Buß, (APSA-ICA Webmaster/Social Media Manager)as members.
- Division membership and finances overview (Peter van Aelst): The Political Communication Division is financially among the wealthiest ICA divisions.
- Budgeted overview 2018:
 - Membership numbers are stable around 729
 - Division is financially (very) healthy
 - The division had the following incomes: \$5,500 ICA, \$32,000 royalties Taylor & Francis (total income = \$37,500)
 - The division had the following expenses: \$3,000 travel grants, \$2,000 awards/plagues, \$10,000 conference (business meeting and reception), \$13,100 summer school Milan, \$1,700 PhD event, \$2,500 support PolCom editorial assistant, \$1,200 social media editor (total expenses = \$33,500)
 - Starting 2017, the social media editor receives an allowance for his work (see expenses).
- Total budgeted: \$37,000 (Sept 30th 2017) + \$4,000 (2018) = €41,000 (expected fund per Sept. 30th 2018).

3. Website and social media (Björn Buß)

- Björn gives an overview on the impact and reach of the Division's Twitter and Facebook sites from Jan 1st 2016 to 1th May 2018: Today, we have 2,678 Twitter followers and 2,969 fb group members. Both numbers have increased constantly over the last two years (Twitter 2016: 795); Facebook 2016: 1547). The gap between the two platforms is shrinking.
- In 2018, most Twitter followers come from the US (37.3%), followed by the UK (12.4%) and several other (mostly) European countries (Germany: 6.3%, Canada: 3.8%, Italy: 3.1%, Austria: 3.1%, Netherlands: 2.9%, Switzerland: 2.1%, Spain: 1.9%).
- Björn reports on the ongoing work regarding the division website and diversity:
 - Diversity of facebook postings is increasing regarding gender, career level, and postings from non-western countries.
 - A substantial and important part of posts are those sharing relevant PolCom articles from our journal's archive and from other sources for recent events and political and social developments (e.g. elections, scandals).
 - Björn invites all division members to post content on the social media websites themselves (which is possible, but rarely done).
 - The social media department is thankful for ideas and suggestions. Just get in contact with Björn Buß (Leuphana University Lüneburg, Center for the Study of Democracy: bjorn.buss@uni.leuphana.de; twitter:@poli_com #PolComm; FB: fb.com/groups/politicalcommunication.org

4. Report of the student and early career representative (Shannon McGregor, U of Utah)

- Shannon invites students and early career researchers to join the student pre-conference 2019 in Washington, which is held every other year.
- She also reminds of the possibility to apply for the division's travel grants.
- The early career representation is always open to new ideas to support students and their interests. Do not hesitate to get in touch!

5. Report on the journal (Claes de Vreese)

- In honor of founding editor Doris A. Graber a forum is currently in the make (Eds. Holli Semetko and Ann Crigler)
- The attendees commemorate Doris A. Graber with a moment of silence.
- Claes de Vreese (Editor) thanks the members of the current editorial team: Kim Gross, Tamir Sheafer, Jesper Strömbäck (Associate Editors), Mike Wagner (Forum Editor) and Anna Brosius (Editorial Assistant)
- Other news from the journal:
 - The Forum has proven to be timely and popular (e.g. T&F Almetrics high with Kreiss & McGregor piece. Ideas can be sent to Mike Wagner (forum editor)
 - Special issue finishing: New Approaches to Methods and Measurement in the Study of Political Communication Effects (Guest Eds: Yanna Krupnikov & Kathleen Searles)
 - Special issue Cfp "Beyond Fake News" (Guest Eds: Deen Freelon & Chris Wells). Deadline: October 15, 2018.
- Journal key facts:
 - Current IF (new June 2018): 5Y 2.89, 1Y: 2,47
 - May 2016 – May 2017

- 312 submissions (stable)
- Acceptance rate in past year: 12%
- Desk rejects: 41% (stable)
- Average time submission to 1st decision: 55 days

6. Program planner report (Kimberly Gross)

- We had a total of 389 submissions for the 2018 conference, including 22 panel- and 367 Paper submissions. This was considerably more than in San Diego 2017 (340 papers, 15 panels), Fukuoka (349 papers, 16 panels) and Puerto Rico (312 papers, 8 panels).
- Acceptance rate for paper submissions was 49% (179 papers) and 36% (8) for panel submissions. San Diego 49% / 40%, Fukuoka: 49% / 44%.
- There was a total of 42 sessions, plus the business meeting, the reception and the interactive poster session. (San Diego: 40, Fukuoka: 41)
- Papers were distributed across 33 countries, with a large share stemming from the US and Europe: US 72, Germany 22, Netherlands 19, Switzerland 14, UK 14, Israel: 11, Denmark: 9, Austria 7, Hong Kong: 4, Norway: 4, Sweden: 4, Russia: 4, China: 3, Chile: 3, Canada: 3, Singapore: 2, Australia: 2, Finland: 2, Hungary: 1, Belgium: 1, Brazil: 1, Cuba: 1, Ecuador: 1, India: 1, Indonesia: 1, Italy: 1, Kenya: 1, South Korea: 1, Macau: 1, Portugal: 1, Spain: 1, Czech Republic: 1, Poland: 1
- A record number of 350 reviewers volunteered (San Diego: 273, Fukuoka: 261) reviewing 3.0 papers on average. 205 people filled in the political communication reviewer survey or volunteered through ICA website prior to reviewer assignment. Many, many more responded to my personal appeals to review.
THANKS TO ALL REVIEWERS FOR VOLUNTEERING!
- For the first time outstanding reviewers were rewarded. Congratulations to:
 1. Christian Baden
 2. Knut De Swert
 3. Emily Vraga
- Top Student Paper Awards go to:
 - *Hidden Voices of Citizenship: Political Dissent in Rural Texas*
Emily Van Duyn, University of Texas at Austin
 - *How Opinion Polls Influence Political Parties: Revisiting the Arena Framework*
Per Oleskog Tryggvason, University of Gothenburg
 - *Setting the Transgender Agenda: Intermedia Agenda-Setting in the Digital News Environment*
Thomas Billard, University of Southern California
- This year **best paper** awards went to:
 - *"Flirting" for Coalition Participation? Exploring Parties' Communication Strategies in Parliamentary Debates*
Mariken van der Velden, University of Zurich
 - *Agenda Divergence in a Developing Conflict: Quantitative evidence from a Ukrainian and a Russian TV Newsfeed*
Olessia Koltsova & Sergei Pashakhin, National Research University School of Higher Economics
 - *Switching On and Off: Rethinking Partisan Selective Exposure*
Jin Woo Kim, Dartmouth College & Eunji Kim, University of Pennsylvania
 - *Social bots in Germany's 2017 National Election Campaign: Theoretical, Empirical and Methodological Implications*

Tobias Keller, University of Zurich & Ulrike Klinger, Freie University Berlin

- The **top poster** award went to:
 - *Community Attachment, Communication Mediation and Nonprofit Participation: An Integrated Community Communication Approach to Understanding Nonprofit Involvement*
Wenlin Liu, University of Houston & Seungahn Nah, University of Kentucky

Congratulations to all winners!

7. Travel grants (Thomas Zerback)

- This year the division awarded a total of \$3,000 of travel grants to the following students: Yang Yunkang, Alon Zoizner, Gabriella Hauser, David Yossi, Ashley Lee, Caroline Avila

8. Awards: Kaid-Sanders Best Article of the Year (Carsten Reinemann)

- The winner was selected among previously nominated papers by a special committee. Committee members were: Scott Althaus (chair), U of Illinois, USA; Regina Lawrence, U of Oregon, USA; Carsten Reinemann, U of Munich, Germany; Václav Štětka, U of Loughborough, UK; Fei 'Chris' Shen, City U of Hong Kong, HK
- There were 10 nominations overall (one not eligible), 9 entered the process.
- Nominations reviewed according to: (1) importance of the topic/findings (2) their re-framing of how we think about issues and how we ask questions, (3) theoretical innovation (4) methodological innovation, (5) bridge-building across subfields within political communication.
- Next step: Individual ranking of short-listed articles on criteria, discussion and consensus on winner.
- Philipp Müller, Christian Schemer, Martin Wettstein, Anne Schulz, Dominique S. Wirz, Sven Engesser, & Werner Wirth (2017). *The Polarizing Impact of News Coverage on Populist Attitudes in the Public: Evidence from a Panel Study in Four European Democracies*. Journal of Communication. Congratulations!

9. David Swanson Award (Tamir Shaefer)

- Award Committee: Tamir Sheaffer (chair), Shanto Iyengar, Stuart Soroka, Barbara Pfetsch, Natalie J. Stroud
- Winner: Claes de Vreese for his distinguished and sustained contributions to the field. Congratulations!

10. IJPP book award (Rasmus Kleis-Nielsen)

- Meanwhile in its fourth year, the book award handed by the International Journal of Press/Politics honors distinguished books in the field that were published in the last 10 years.
- This year's winners are: Erik Albaek, Arjen van Dalen, Nael Jebril, & Claes de Vreese (2014). *Political Journalism in Comparative Perspective*. Communication, Society and Politics Series. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Congratulations!

11. Thanks to all the volunteers working for the division, especially Václav Štětka & Ondrej Pekacek

12. Tribute

- The division gratefully remembers and thanks Doris Graber for her exceptional work and engagement for the division and the journal.

13. Reception: The reception took place at Dvorak embankment

14. For the first time in the history of the division, the members elected an all-female leadership

- Chair: Kimberly Gross (George Washington U)
- Vice-chair: Sophie Lechler (U of Vienna)
- Secretary: Nayla Fawzi (U of Munich)
- Student and early career representative: Shannon McGregor (U of Utah)