

ECREA, WOMEN'S NETWORK
ANNUAL REPORT 2015

“The main objective of ECREA’s Women’s Network is to assess and develop the interdisciplinary and multicultural field of female scholarship in the context of European Communication and Media Studies. Furthermore, the Women’s Network aims to research the current situation of women in higher education and academic research in Europe, identifying differences, strengths, weaknesses and areas of good practice.”

Women’s Network of ECREA has an organizing body which was elected in 2014 in Lisbon, Portugal during ECREA conference. The chair of the *Women’s Network* is *Teija Waaramaa*, [1] PhD, senior researcher of Tampere Research Centre for Journalism, Media and Communication (COMET) School of Communication, Media and Theatre University of Tampere, Tampere, Finland. The Network has two vice chairs: *Valerija Vendramin*, [2] PhD, is a senior research associate at the Educational Research Institute in Ljubljana, Slovenia and, *Tülây Atay-Avşar*, [3] PhD, is a faculty member and assistant professor of Journalism, Communication Faculty of Mustafa Kemal University, Antakya, Hatay, Turkey.

Women’s Network of ECREA has organized a workshop entitled *Selling emotions: Women’s journals and women journalists, the production and consumption of emotions* at the Institute of Communication, Tallinn University, Tallinn, Estonia, in January 30-31st 2015 [4]. No registration fee was charged. Transport, accommodation and meals were on one’s own cost. The organizing committee was the management team of the Women’s network and the former vice chair Dr. Barbi Pilvre from the University of Tallinn, Institute of International and Social Studies. Dr. Barbi Pilvre was the hostess of the workshop.

The speakers at the workshop were: Dr. Tülây Atay-Avşar, Turkey; Dr. Sanna Kivimäki, School of Communication, Media and Theatre (CMT), University of Tampere, Tampere, Finland; Dr. Laura Saarenmaa, Tampere Research Centre for Journalism, Media and Communication (COMET), School of Communication, Media and Theatre (CMT), University of Tampere, Tampere, Finland; Dr. Valerija Vendramin, Educational Research Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia, and Dr. Teija Waaramaa, COMET, CMT, University of Tampere, Tampere, Finland.

The titles of the presentations were:

Dr. Teija Waaramaa: *A theoretical perspective to emotions*

Dr. Tulay Atay-Avsar: *An NGO Experience: Flying Broom’s Local Women Journalists’ Network*

Dr. Valerija Vendramin: *Science and Education in Media: Hidden Agendas, Hidden Genders*

Dr Barbi Pilve

Dr. Sanna Kivimäki: *Belonging to the nation? Gendered nation in Finnish Magazines*

Dr. Laura Saarenmaa: *Tea Mugs and Woolen Socks. Women’s Magazines Pampering Politicians*

The participants came from Estonia, Finland, Slovenia and Turkey. The workshop gathered together Estonian female journalists, especially [5]. A vivid discussion followed the presentations. Dr. Atay-Avşar indicated the importance of relationship between empowerment of women and citizen journalism in her speech.

The management team met the next day to discuss future activities of the Women’s Network: the possibilities of joint publication and further cooperation among other things. Some preliminary evaluations of the work done were also made.

Dr. Atay-Avşar has published together with Dr. Asrak-Hasdemir an article [6] entitled *Observation about ECREA Lizbon 2014 Conference & The Special Message from Professor Claudia Alvares, the President of ECREA* on Journal of Social Sciences of Gazi University, Ankara, Turkey.

The C20 meeting was organized at Bogazici University, İstanbul, Turkey, during November 15-16th 2015. Dr. Atay-Avşar attended the *Gender Equality* sessions which are one of the four priorities of the C20 meeting. The final C20 Communiqué 2015 was endorsed by the 500 participants of the C20 Summit 2015.

Dr. Valerija Vendramin's publication and work for 2015 include: Epistemological (and some methodological) aspects of the gendered perspective in science. In Ule, Mirjana (ed.), Šribar, R. (ed.), Umek-Venturini, A. (ed.). *Gendering science: Slovenian surveys and studies in the EU paradigms*, (Sozialwissenschaften beobachten, vol. 4). Wien: Echoraum, cop. 2015, pp. 61-74; Women's Studies at the Educational Research Institute: the State of the Art and Relevance of Gender Research in Education, *Šolsko polje*, 3-4, in print. Dr. Vendramin has been active in two thematical discussions/seminars in Slovenian intellectual space: one is related to science, ethics and gender, the other to the research of gender (in)equalities in education today.

Dr. Teija Waaramaa has published two articles during the year 2015. The first publication was: T. Waaramaa, J. Niemi, J. Eerola (2015). Emotionaalisen puheen intonaatiopiirteiden graafisen representaation mahdollisuuksia. [*Transforming emotional speech into graphic musical form.*] XXIX Fonetiikan päivät 2015. [Phonetics Symposium 2015.] (<http://fp2015.aalto.fi/publication.html>.) The second publication was: Waaramaa T, Mäki-Kulmala H. (2015). Emosfääri: teoreettinen näkökulma ihmisen tunneviestintään kulttuurisessa kontekstissa. [*Emosphere: A theoretical approach to human emotional communication in a cultural context.*] Kasvatus ja aika. [Education and time.] 2/2015. Open access publication. http://www.kasvatus-ja-aika.fi/site/?lan=1&page_id=695. (Abstract in English: http://www.kasvatus-ja-aika.fi/site/?lan=1&page_id=703.)

Dr. Waaramaa also has attended several domestic conferences and seminars in Finland and two international conferences during the year 2015: PEVOC (Pan European Voice Conference) August 30th - September 1st 2015 in Florence, Italy, and ECREA/ICSI (section of Interpersonal Communication and Social Interaction) 9-12th November 2015 in Aarhus, Denmark. The two topics of Waaramaa's presentations at PEVOC were: *Gender differences in identifying emotions from auditive and visual stimuli*, and (T. Waaramaa & T. Kukkonen): *Emotion identification by people with normal hearing and people with hearing impairment*. The topic at ECREA/ICSI conference was (T. Waaramaa, K. Huttunen, M.-L. Laakso, R. Parkas, H. Hyvärinen): *Emotion Detectives – a computer game to ease emotional communication of children with communication disorders*.

During the year 2015 Women's network contributed and commented ECREA bylaws and statutes and suggested some revisions to the documents. The management team of Women's network also supported the applications of the new TWGs (Temporary Working Groups) of ECREA.

The next workshop or panel and the biennial business meeting of Women's network will be held at ECREA conference in Prague, the Czech Republic in November 9-11th 2016. There, a new management team will be elected for 2 years' time. The conference website is available here: <http://www.ecrea2016prague.eu/>.

According to the earlier alignment Women's network concentrates on the problems and questions raised in the discussions at international conferences and meetings, and on political issues in

general. One of the essential interest areas of Women's network is the gender issue in communication studies, within universities, polytechnics, colleges, and research centres in Europe. Women's Network of ECREA will continue this alignment also in 2016.

In February 2016, the Women's Network had 176 members.

References

- [1] https://solecris.uta.fi/crisyp/disp/5_/en/cr_asiatunt/edi/tab/fet?stack=push&cro=2220343118362136262436322528382821242721232118233622232528292838273822292738393739283727351836321717&verkko=1 (Retrieved: 23 Nov. 2015)
- [2] <http://www.pei.si/sifranti/PersonalPage.aspx?id=50> (Retrieved: 18 Nov. 2015)
- [3] <http://www.mku.edu.tr/main.php?page=readpage&id=7402&location=ifgazete>
<https://mku.academia.edu/TulayATAYAVSAR>
- [4] <https://prezi.com/4ap46lorrr8/an-ngo-experience-local-women-journalists-network-by-tulay-atay-avsar-phd-mustafa-kemal-university/>
<http://naistoimetajad.blogspot.com.tr/2015/01/rahvusvaheline-seminar-emotsioonide.html>
- [5] <http://naistoimetajad.blogspot.com.tr/2015/01/rahvusvaheline-seminar-emotsioonide.html>
- [6] <http://sbdergi.gazi.edu.tr/images/ECREA2016.pdf>