

# Gender and Communication Section Report 2007

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## 1. Section History/Organisation

The Gender and Communication Section has been approved by ECREA's executive board in December 2006. The section has one chair and two vice-chairs:

- Claudia Alvares; Lusofona University - Department of Communication, Arts and Information Technologies - Portugal
- Sofie van Bauwel; Ghent University - Department of Communication Studies - Belgium
- Tonny Krijnen; Erasmus University Rotterdam - Faculty of History and Arts - The Netherlands

The chairs have regular communication exchange. The section now has 29 members and 11 countries are represented within the section.

## 2. Activities.

Within its 10 months of existence, the section has:

- a. set up a SECTION-WEBSITE;
- b. CO-ORGANISED THE CONFERENCE: 'Equal Opportunities and Communication Rights: Representation, Participation & the European Democratic Deficit' (11-12 October 2007, Residence Palace, Brussels - Belgium);
- c. promoted the establishment of a WOMEN'S NETWORK which will probably be operational early 2008;
- d. presented a BOOK-PROPOSAL 'DEMOCRACY, DIVERSITY AND THE MEDIA' together with the Communication and Democracy Section of ECREA.

## 3. Future Plans.

- a. The section will PARTICIPATE IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNICATION CONFERENCE (ECC) to be held in Barcelona, 26-28 November 2008. The second business meeting and section bureau election will be organised during the conference.
- b. COST-PROPOSAL: The COST-proposal aims to raise funds for networking with an emphasis on connecting groups with specific expertise. Thus, the rationale behind COST is that there is an internal group with specific expertise that needs funds for networking. The Gender and Communication Section is discussing the possibility of submitting a joint Cost-Proposal with the 'Diaspora, Migration and the Media Section'.

- c. Active RECRUITMENT of members for the section.
- d. BOOK PROPOSAL; The section is preparing a new book-proposal.