

## **ECREA Journalism Studies Section (JSS) Annual Activity Report 2016**

Arjen van Dalen, 3 April 2017

### **Membership**

At the time of the 2016 business meeting of the Journalism Studies Section (11 November 2016), ECREA had 3335 members, of whom 379 individuals subscribe to the Journalism Studies Section. At that time the JSS was the second largest section of ECREA, after Digital Culture and Communication.

### **Management team**

Until the business meeting on 11 November 2016, the JSS Section Management Team consisted of Dimitra Dimitrakopoulou (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece, Chair), Arjen van Dalen (University of Southern Denmark, Denmark, Vice Chair) and Rosa Berganza (University Juan Carlos III, Spain, Vice Chair).

At the business meeting the following new Section Management Team was elected: Arjen van Dalen (University of Southern Denmark, Denmark, Chair), Rosa Berganza (University Juan Carlos III, Spain, Vice Chair), and Folker Hanusch (University of Vienna, Austria, Vice-Chair).

During the whole year 2016, the Section's YECREA representative was Corinna Lauerer (LMU Munich, Germany).

The new Section Management Team would like to thank Dimitra Dimitrakopoulou for the great effort that she made while she served as vice-chair and later chair of the section. She was the convener of the 2014 Section Conference, professionalized the communication of the section, and was the program planner of the Journalism Studies Section panels during the 2016 ECC.

### **Conferences**

#### *European Communication Conference*

From 9th until 12th November, the 2016 European Communication Conference took place in Prague. The JSS received the highest number of submissions of all ECREA sections. 211 paper abstracts and 11 panels were received. 30 panel slots were allocated to the JSS, which meant that the acceptance rate was 56%. The submissions underwent double blind peer review and 58 reviewers took part in the review process. More information on the 2016 European Communication Conference including the program can be found here: <http://www.ecrea2016prague.eu/>.

### *1<sup>st</sup> ECREA Journalism Studies section PhD-workshop*

On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November, YECREA representative Corinna Lauerer organized the 1<sup>st</sup> ECREA Journalism Studies Section PhD-workshop. Six phd-candidates from six different European countries presented their papers during the workshop and received feedback from a respondents, and the rest of the participants. Victor Wiard, Lisa Merete Kristensen, Timon Ramaker, Katie Grosser, Chrysi Dagoula, and Ana Lúcia Nunes de Sousa presented during the workshop. Rosa Berganza, Nina Springer, Anders Olof Larsson, Gunnar Nygren, Ike Picone, and Arjen van Dalen served as respondents. The workshop took place at the Institute of Communication Studies and Journalism at Charles University in Prague, which sponsored the workshop together with the Worlds of Journalism study. The overall experience was described by the PhD candidates with terms like: “very helpful,” “valuable feedback”, “constructive yet relaxed atmosphere”.

### *Bi-annual interim Conference 2017*

During 2016, preparations started for the Section’s biennial/interim conference 2017 which takes place in Odense (Denmark) on March 23-24, 2017. The conference is hosted by the Center for Journalism at the University of Southern Denmark. The conference theme is ‘Changing audiences, changing journalism’ and the conferences focusses on the increasingly important role played by the public in the news making process, where boundaries between news producers and consumers are blurring. The empowerment of the audience poses new theoretical, empirical and normative questions. Besides papers focusing specifically on such questions, the conference features papers dealing with journalism and news work in the broadest sense. The keynote speaker ill be Professor Irene Costera Meijer from the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. Deadline for abstract submissions was October 10, 2016 and 92 abstracts were received. Thanks to 32 reviewers all abstracts underwent double blind peer review. For more information on the conference, please go to: <https://ecreajournalism2017.wordpress.com/>

### *Communication*

In 2016 the section mainly communicated through its website (<http://journalismstudies.eu/>) and through its public Facebook group ( <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ecreaJSS/>), which was launched in October 2015. The Facebook group aspires to serve as a more interactive and networking space between the Section’s members while also attract new ones. Currently, the group includes 289 members and regularly features calls for papers, announcements of conferences and positions. The number of members has more than doubled since the beginning of 2016. The communication of the Section will be updated after the re-launch of the ECREA website (due in Spring 2017).