

ECREA section for Interpersonal Communication and Social Interaction Activity Report 2011

The ECREA section for Interpersonal Communication and Social Interaction organized a three-day conference 8-9 September at Belfast, Northern Ireland. This was the second ICSI Section Conference and it was hosted by the School of Communication, University of Ulster. The chair of the organizing committee was Professor Owen Hargie. This biennial Conference enabled academics in the field of interpersonal communication and social interaction to come together for a specialised, intensive, three-day period to exchange ideas, learn about one another's research, and develop, maintain and further our networks.

This Belfast Conference was a truly international event. It attracted wide interest, with 144 paper submissions being received from a total of 32 different countries spanning all 5 continents. In total, 86 papers were accepted (an acceptance rate of just under 60%). In addition, 19 Poster presentations were accepted. The presented papers and posters represented and reflected a very wide spectrum of topics within the ICSI domain. There were two keynote speakers: Professor Peter Schulz (University of Lugano, Switzerland) lectured on "Social interaction in the health context" and Professor Monica Whitty (University of Leicester, UK) lectured on "Computer mediated communication: An analysis of online dating". Moreover, the network of young scholars, YECREA, had a meeting of its own.

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Chair of Section for Interpersonal Communication and Social Interaction