

**ANNUAL REPORT 2011**  
**ECREA'S SCIENCE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMUNICATION SECTION**

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The Science and Environment Communication Section engaged in two main activities in 2011. One was the symposium entitled *Visualising Science and Environment* held at the University of Brighton on 17-18 November 2011 and was organised by SEC (Julie Doyle, Anabela Carvalho and Louise Phillips) in association with Media Research Group, Faculty of Arts, University of Brighton. The other was the successful submission of a proposal for a book to be subsidised by ECREA in Intellect's ECREA Book Series (*Citizen Voices: Performing Public Participation in Science and Environment Communication*) and the subsequent editorial work on the book with a view to submission of the finished manuscript to Intellect on 31 January 2012. The book is the product of a collaboration between SEC and the NordForsk Network for the Study of the Dialogic Communication of Research. In the following we first describe these two main activities and then the other activities in which we engaged.

**Main activities**

The *Visualising Science and Environment symposium* explored the visual dimensions of science and environmental communication by addressing questions of knowledge, understanding, practice and power, through the visual. We received over 50 submissions for presentations of which 33 were selected for the 8 panels which were held over the 2 day symposium. There were 60 attendees, with presentations from international academics and practitioners, from the social and natural sciences, design industry, NGOs and the creative arts. Julie Doyle gave the keynote address. The absence of parallel panels meant that attendees and participants could listen to everyone's presentations and contribute to all the discussions. The symposium was highly successful, with the organisers receiving many letters of thanks from satisfied participants who were inspired by the collaborative and friendly nature of the symposium.

*Citizen Voices: Performing Public Participation in Science and Environment Communication* builds bridges across the fields of science and technology studies, environmental studies and media and communication studies in order to provide theoretically informed and empirically rich accounts of how citizen voices are articulated, invoked, heard, marginalised or silenced in science and environment communication. It is edited by Louise Phillips, Anabela Carvalho and Julie Doyle. Most of the contributors base their chapters on papers presented at the ECREA conferences in Barcelona in 2008 or Hamburg in 2010.

### **Other activities**

SEC is planning the publication of a series of papers from the Visualising Science and Environment symposium in the Praxis section of the journal *Environmental Communication: A Journal of Nature and Culture* in 2012.

SEC is pursuing the possibility of publishing an edited collection of papers from the Visualising Science and Environment symposium with Palgrave Macmillan (having been approached by Palgrave).

SEC is collaborating with the Department of Journalism and Communication Studies, University of Hamburg in the organisation of a pre-conference on 23 October 2012 at ECREA 2012, "Communicating Climate Change III - the Audience Perspective: Changing Climate, Changing Media & Changing Audiences".

The Section continued to collaborate with the International Association of Environmental Communication.

Throughout 2011, the Section continued to disseminate information to its members and to wider audiences by means of its website and mailing list.

Louise Phillips, on behalf of SEC's Executive Team  
January 2012