

ECREA Journalism Studies Section (JSS) Annual Activity Report 2020

Folker Hanusch, 17.2.2021

Membership

In January 2021, 461 ECREA members subscribed to the Journalism Studies Section (compared with 492 in January 2020 and 569 in January 2019).

Management team

The Section Management Team consists of Folker Hanusch (University of Vienna, Austria, Chair). Vice-Chairs are Evelyn Runge (Cologne University, Germany) and Sergio Splendore (Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy). The Section's YECREA representatives are Sandra Banjac and Phoebe Maares (both University of Vienna).

Conferences

Due to Covid-19, the main annual conference in Braga needed to be cancelled, although decisions about acceptance and rejection of papers were already made. These have been carried over to the postponed conference in 2021. Similarly, in line with general ECREA procedure, there were no management team elections in 2020, with the current team agreeing to stay on for another year. New elections will be held at the Braga conference in 2021.

Further, in August we made the decision to postpone the sectional conference, which had been planned for Utrecht in early 2021. The call to postpone was made before the deadline for the Call for Papers, so no decisions about acceptances had been made. The Utrecht team led by Yael d'Haan had already attracted a keynote speaker, who will hopefully be available for the postponed conference. The management team has been liaising closely with the organizers in Utrecht, and we currently envisage the postponed conference to be held in February/March 2022.

YECREA activities

YECREA usually also coordinates its activities for the main ECREA conference, which was postponed. Hence, there are no activities to report.

Communication

The first means of communication of the section is through ecrea.eu. Here one can find information about the working of the section. Section members will receive the Institutional mailing list. This mailing list is used to spread news which is relevant for the section as well as conference calls, call for publications and position openings. On the forum on the ECREA website it is possible to discuss the topics of mailing list.

The second means of communication is a public Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ecreaJSS/>), which currently has 1049 members (up from 750 in February 2020). This group is not limited to ECREA section members and can be used for immediate dissemination. The Facebook group aspires to serve as an interactive meeting place between the Section's members, and also serves to attract new ones. The group regularly features calls for papers, announcements of conferences and positions.