ECREA Journalism Studies Section (JSS) Annual Activity Report 2018
Arjen van Dalen, Folker Hanusch, 28.1.2019

Membership
In January 2019, 569 ECREA members subscribed to the Journalism Studies Section (up from 416 in January 2018, a 37% increase in membership). The Section has the second largest number of members, following ‘Digital Culture and Communication’.

Management team
Until the 2018 business meeting the Section Management Team consisted of 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). At the business meeting, a new Section Management Team was elected, consisting of Folker Hanusch (University of Vienna, Austria, Chair), Evelyn Runge (Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel, Vice-Chair) and Sergio Splendore (Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy, Vice-Chair).

Conferences
In 2018, the biennial ECC took place in Lugano (Switzerland). 215 abstracts and 8 panel proposals were submitted to the Journalism Studies Section of the ECC, making it the division which received the largest number of submissions. 111 reviewers reviewed the abstracts. The acceptance rate was set by ECREA to 57.7%. At the ECC the Journalism Studies Section featured 5 accepted panel proposals, 24 other panels and 5 posters. The ECC 2018 conference featured several pre-conferences organized by members of the Section.
During 2018, preparations took place for the upcoming section conference, titled “Breaking Binaries: Exploring the Diverse Meanings of Journalism in Contemporary Societies. The conference takes place on 14 and 15 February, 2019 at the Department of Communication of the University of Vienna and includes a PhD Workshop on 13 February. Folker Hanusch is the convener of the conference. Professor Karin Wahl-Jorgensen, Cardiff University, UK will be keynote speaker and the keynote is titled Breaking boundaries: Journalism studies, emerging media ecologies and the new emotional politics. There was a great response to the Call for Papers. All submissions underwent double-blind peer review – thank you to all who helped out. Acceptance rate was 61% (72 full papers, 10 high-density). The conference will feature one themed panel session, one high-density session, 17 regular paper sessions and a dinner at a local “Heurigen”. Further details can be found at https://ecreajournalism2019.univie.ac.at/.

YECREA activities
After the successful first edition in 2016 in Prague, the Second Journalism Studies Section Phd-workshop will take place in Vienna 13th of February 2019. Preparations for this Phd workshop took place in 2018. 16 submissions from 11 countries were received following a Call for Papers. The submissions underwent blind-peer review and six candidates from six countries were accepted. The workshop is sponsored by the Journalism Studies Center in Vienna and the Worlds of Journalism Study.
After the Second Journalism Studies Section Phd-workshop, Corinna Lauerer will step down as YECREA representative of the Section. Sandra Banjac and Phoebe Maares from the Journalism Studies Center at the Department of Communication, University of Vienna will take over. The Section Management Team thanks Corinna for her work and welcomes Sandra and Phoebe as new representatives.

**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 had 496 members a the time of the 2018 Business meeting (up from 403 in February 2018). 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.