

Report of the ECREA Radio Research Section, 2011

Section conference held in Braga, Portugal, 14-16 October

The Radio Research Section were guests of the Institute of Social Sciences at the Braga campus of the University of Minho in September, for the 2011 section conference entitled RadioEvolution. A record number of 94 delegates from all over Europe and such other countries as Brazil and Canada attended the three-day conference, which was held in the modern Institute of Education building. Conference organisers Madalena Oliveira, Pedro Portela and Section Vice-Chair Stanislaw Jedrzejewski ensured the event was a resounding success, with many of the delegates commenting on the friendly and relaxed yet businesslike atmosphere, as temperatures outside soared to thirty degrees Celsius.



Plenary sessions included keynote speakers, academic panels and industry round tables, and the rest of the programme was organised around parallel sessions in three seminar rooms. In total there were 80 papers given at RadioEvolution and many of them will soon be available in a special ebook. The conference sponsors included

Radio Renascença, Portugal's leading national radio broadcaster. On the conference fringe, a traditional rustic cocktail of local breads, meat and wine and a graduate of the university performing fado over dinner ensured delegates enjoyed themselves, and a visit to the nearby historic town of Guimarães – next year's European Capital of Culture – rounded off the event in style.

At the closing ceremony, Section Chair Guy Starkey thanked the hosts for their excellent organisation and their hospitality.

The conference web site is still online at <http://radioevolution2011.wordpress.com/> and features the programme, abstracts and photographs.

Section YECREA representatives

At the 2011 section conference in Braga, we thanked the two YECREA representatives, Judith Purkarthofer and Petra Pfisterer of the University of Vienna for their work over the past two years, as they had decided to stand down in order to focus on completing their studies. Helen Wolfenden of the University of Salford agreed to take on the role and was welcomed by a meeting of young scholars.

First book from the Radio Research Section



A new book consisting mainly of conference papers from the Radio Research Section 2009 conference in Cyprus has just been published by Intellect Books. Taking its title from the section conference organised by Vice Chair Angeliki Gazi at the Limassol campus of the Cyprus University of Technology, *Radio Content in the Digital Age: The Evolution of a Sound Medium*, features fifteen edited papers written by twenty-four authors. The papers are divided into three sections,

Convergence, Content and Community, which reflect some of the current issues facing radio and radio research at the present time.

An introduction, 'Radio and the Digital Age', is the work of the three editors of the book, the two Vice Chairs and the Chair of the section, Angeliki Gazi, Stanislaw Jedrzejewski and Guy Starkey. The contributors are: Blandine Schmidt, Jose Luis Requejo Aleman, Susana Herrera Damas, Pedro Portela, Carmen Peñafiel Saiz, Maria Papadomanolaki, Tiziano Bonini, Elsa Moreno, Maria del Pilar Martinez-Costa, Avelino Amoedo, Vesa Kurkela, Heikki Uimonen, Josep Maria Martí, Xavier Ribes, Maria Gutiérrez, Luisa Martínez, Belén Monclús, Frank Byrne, Pascal Ricaud, Rosemary Day, Hilde van den Bulck, Bert Hermans, Mojca Plansak and Etienne L. Damome.

A full listing of the chapters is to be found at <http://www.ecrea.eu/news/article/id/144>

Call for proposals for ECREA 2012, Istanbul

Following the successful section conference at the University of Minho in September 2011, the Radio Research Section invites proposals for ECREA 2012.



Preparations are underway for the fourth European Communications Conference, to be held in Turkey at the İstanbul Bilgi University from 24-27 October. The call has already been published on the conference web site at <http://www.ecrea2012istanbul.eu/> and proposals should be submitted *via the conference site*. The full text of the call is as follows:

Abstracts are welcome from across as wide a range of interests related to radio as possible. We do not wish to limit the focus and scope of members' research in the medium, and the panels will be organized thematically once abstracts have been peer-reviewed and accepted. Whole panel proposals are also welcome, although please note that there will inevitably be pressure on the available timeslots in the programme. Panels and papers could be situated in the following fields as they relate to radio: audience studies; community radio; audio content (programming and genre); audio narratives; radio identities; parallel web and mobile platform content; digitisation; new or revised research methodologies; social networking and user-

generated radio. Papers in languages other than English are very welcome, but in the absence of funding for translation services, paper proposers are encouraged to consider ways of communicating their research to as wide a range of participants as possible. This may involve showing a PowerPoint in English or another of the widely-used European languages.

Professor Guy Starkey,
Chair, Radio Research Section,
November 2011