

Activities

The main activity prepared and carried out in 2014 was the contribution of the Section to the 5th European Communication Conference – ‘Communication for Empowerment: Citizens, Markets, Innovations’, that took place at the Lisbon Congress Center on 12-15 November. The Section Programme Chair was Annika Egan Sjölander.

The Section was awarded six panels by the conference organizers and chose to use two of them for proposed panels, both dealing with the global problem of climate change. The six panels that the Section organized were very successful with a high scientific level and good attendance. The Section also organized a poster session. Compared to the last ECC conference, the section had two fewer slots this time, which unfortunately meant that a large number of high-quality submissions had to be rejected. The management team considers this a regrettable loss in terms of potential co-learning and exchange of experiences and therefore urges the ECREA Board to monitor and review such development, and when possible, specify the criteria for the allotments given to the different sections in the future.

Dissemination of information to members and other interested publics via its website and mailing list is another important commitment that the Section continued to fulfil in 2014.

Minutes of business meeting held in Lisbon on 14 November 2014

The Section's business meeting was held during the ECREA conference in Lisbon with the following agenda:

1. Welcome and opening
2. Activities since ECC Istanbul
3. Elections of new SEC Section Management Team
4. Next ECREA SEC workshop in 2015 and other ideas for future workshops/activities
5. Experiences from this and previous years ECC conferences regarding late cancellations of paper presentations
6. Procedures for SEC members voting via e-mail in future elections
7. Other issues raised by members

The management team reported on the activities developed in the two previous years with a particular emphasis on the workshop it organized in Uppsala, Sweden, in 2013.

As mandated by ECREA, an election for the management team was held at the business meeting. After voting, a new management team was elected consisting of:
Chair: Annika Egan Sjölander, University of Umeå, Sweden
Vice-Chair: Pauliina Lethonen, University of Tampere, Finland

Vice-Chair: Pieter Maesele, University of Antwerp, Belgium

The business meeting included an open discussion of future plans for the section, mainly relating to 2015.

Future plans

In 2015, the section plans to:

- organise a research meeting for Section members immediately before or after the biannual NordMedia conference for media and communication scholars arranged by the Nordic research associations in cooperation with Nordicom. The Section members think it makes good sense to use the fact that many travel to the same place. The NordMedia 2015 conference is hosted by the Department of Media, Cognition and Communication at the University of Copenhagen between August 13th to 15th. The conference attracts more than 300 researchers mostly from the Nordic countries, but is also gaining international attention. The theme of the 2015 conference is *Media Presence – Mobile Modernities*. For more information see: <http://nordmedia2015.ku.dk/>
- continue to develop forms of cooperation with other relevant research organisations, and sectors in society outside of the academy with a common interest in science and environmental communication.

SECs' Executive Team
March 2015