

ECREA
Journalism and Communication Education TWG
Annual Activity Report 2015

Management Team:

Dr. Michael Harnischmacher, U of Passau, Germany (Chair)
Prof. Dr. Carlos Barrera, U de Navarra, Spain (Vice Chair)
Dr. Harmen Groenhart, Fontys U, The Netherlands (Vice Chair)

Activities in 2015:

After having officially elected a first management team and launched the TWG at ECC 2014 in Lisbon in November of that year, the Journalism & Communication Education TWG has held its first workshop conference with 18 participants in March 2015 at the University of Trier, Germany. The theme of the conference, "Communication Programs in Search for Identity", reflected the difficult situation of many programs in higher education that aim to educate students for entering media professions. Participants from five different countries discussed the question how to cope with the constantly changing media market with regard to technological, organizational, practical and ethical challenges.

After a business meeting during the 2015 IAMCR conference in Montreal, the management team decided to expand on this theme, which had been agreed upon to be one of the most pressing issues by all participants at the Trier conference.

Our second conference, which will take place May 19 and 20, 2016, at the University of Navarra, Pamplona, Spain, will focus on the question how innovation can and should be implemented in media education curricula. The Call for Abstracts was sent out in December 2015 and posted on the TWG's website at <https://ecreaeducation.wordpress.com/>.

The TWG has reached out to other professional and research organizations in the realm of professional media education (EJTA, WJEC...) in order to expand its network. At the end of 2015, the Journalism & Communication Education TWG had 74 members.