

Business Meeting Gender and Communication Section

26 May 2008; 1.30 pm -2.00 pm
Hotel Le Centre Sheraton, Salon 2, Montréal - Canada

Present:

Claudia Alvares (chair), Sofie van Bauwel (vice-chair), Tonny Krijnen (vice-chair) and four interested ICA conference participants

Agenda:

1. Introduction and presence at the ICA
2. Official candidacy for the next term
3. Women's network
4. Barcelona conference
5. Other activities

1. Introduction and presence at the ICA

The chair thanks the ICA administrators and Sonia Livingstone for cooperation concerning the possibility of organizing a meeting at the ICA conference and facilitating room availability for the business meeting; the chair explains what ECREA is , what the section does and introduces the team of the gender and communication section.

2. Official candidacy for the next term

A. The chair announces that the present team (Claudia Alvares (chair), Sofie van Bauwel (vice-chair), Tonny Krijnen (vice-chair)) will run for a second term in the same positions. The chair explains that because the section is young, this team will have to further consolidate the work developed so far and firmly establish the section in the direction already taken.

B. The procedure has been formulated in the objectives and at the Barcelona meeting (2007). An email will be sent out to all section members (and the ECREA mailing list) in early July, requesting that all possible candidates express their interest in running for elections before the 1st of September. Candidates can express their interest in running for the position of chair or vice-chair by sending an email or letter to the section team. All possible candidates have to be a member of the section and an ECREA member (with an academic Ph.D.). If candidates are 'electable' the candidates are listed up at the end of September in an email from the section. Section members will be informed about the date of the elections by e-mail. Besides the possibility of holding elections during the business meeting at the Barcelona conference, section members can also vote by sending an email with the 'voting document' attached (this document will be sent out to section members before the first of November and members can send it in to the chair or vice-chairs before the 15th of November 2008 24.00 pm. Voting documents received later than this date will not be counted. The other possibility is to vote anonymously by the same voting document during the business meeting at the Barcelona conference itself. Results of the voting process will be communicated to section members as soon as possible after the elections via email or at a Business Meeting of the section.

3. Women's network

The gender section met (Barcelona, 25th of February) with possible candidates for establishing the women's network. These candidates drafted a view on the objectives of

the network. The women's network has to focus on the position of women within ECREA and work on building a network of female scholars. It is a structure which is not part of the gender section and is not working on content (i.e. gender and communication). The candidates are presently setting up the women's network. The gender section will ask the candidates to finalize the objectives so that the latter may be on the agenda of the next ECREA board meeting.

4. Barcelona conference

A. Tonny Krijnen is thanked for her wonderful work as a conference chair. The section had to reject more than 50% of the proposals because of the limited allocation of slots and the success of the call for abstracts.

B. The gender section is thinking about a book proposal on gender and communication on the basis of the outcome of the conference papers. If the quality of the papers is good the section will try to draft a book proposal for the next call for book proposals of the ECREA book series (December 2008). Other sections will be contacted and asked to establish a joint book proposal.

3. Other activities

A. Claudia Alvares gave her view on the possibility of applying for an EU Cost Proposal. The gender section plans to initiate a cost proposal. The ECREA 'Diaspora, Minority and Media' section will be participating in a IAMCR pre-conference on 'Mediated Networks: Engendering Diaspora and Global Citizenship'. This pre-conference aims to result in a cost proposal. Hopefully, the Gender and Communication section will be able to collaborate in this initiative.

B. Sofie van Bauwel (one of the editors of the book project on Media Agoras) contextualised this project. She expressed that the deadline for the full chapters is 1st of June and hopes that the book will be ready for the next ECREA conference in Barcelona. A leaflet will be printed and placed in the welcoming pack. She will discuss this with the other editors.

C. Tonny Krijnen explains that the Erasmus University of Rotterdam (The Netherlands) is willing to cooperate in the organization of a smaller research conference in 2009. The section will propose a conference team and will examine the possibility of co-organizing this section event with other ECREA sections.

D. The board is asked by the section whether Joke Hermes and Liesbet Van Zoonen could be made 'honorary members' of the section. Nico Carpentier adds that they could be part of the advisory board.

D. All members are asked to participate in the section and are asked for ideas on future projects.

Minutes by Sofie Van Bauwel