



2010 Yearly Report to the ECREA Executive Board

1. Establishment – Organization

The Communication History Section was approved by ECREA executive board in October 2009.

Section Management Team:

Klaus Arnold, University of Trier – Department of Media Studies – Germany (Chair)

Paschal Preston, Dublin City University – School of Communication – Ireland (Vice Chair)

Susanne Kinnebrock, RWTH Aachen University – Institute of Language and Communication Studies – Germany (Vice Chair)

YECREA-Representative: Christian Schwarzenegger, RWTH Aachen University – Institute of Language and Communication Studies – Germany

2. Activities

In the year 2010 the section ...

- **Increased its membership** throughout the year. The section has now 82 members (November 2010).
- **Co-organized a workshop “User Generated Content. Historical perspectives on the participation of audiences in social communication”** with the Historical Section of the German Communication Association (DGPuK) and the Center for Research on Contemporary History (ZZF) Potsdam (3-5 June 2010, Potsdam). The workshop hosted by the ZZF was the Inaugural Conference of the Communication History Section. The keynote speaker was Paschal Preston. The call for papers drew 33 proposals, of which 20 were selected to be presented at the workshop. The conference was attended by 45 participants.
- **Launched a website** with news and information about the section and its activities (<http://www.ku-eichstaett.de/ecrea>).
- **Organized two Business Meetings** (June 4th Potsdam/Workshop “User Generated Content”, October 13th Hamburg/ECC10).
- **Organized the section program at the 3rd European Communication Conference (ECC10)** in Hamburg. The section received 50 proposals. The abstracts were reviewed by 14 reviewers. At the ECC10 the section could present 8 panels (22 individual presentations, 3 panels) and 5 posters.
- **Informed its members** and other interested scholars about section activities and relevant calls or workshops via email.

YCREA Section Activities in 2010 included ...

- **The co-organization of a young scholars' workshop on transnational and comparative approaches to communication history** (June 3rd, Potsdam). The outcome of the workshop will be published in a special issue of the journal *medien&zeit* (media&time) in December 2010.
- **Efforts to popularize the section and YCREA** among PhD-Students and to foster peer contact and counsel for young scholars in the section.

3. Future plans

The Section plans...

- **To publish selected papers from the “User Generated Content” workshop.**
- **To guest edit a special issue of the Austrian journal “medien&zeit” (media&time)** in which the question “What is Communication History?” will be posed and “European answers” to this question will be invited as contributions.
- **To edit a hand- and textbook on the “History of Mass Media in Europe”.** In this project it is not intended to assemble several parallel national media histories but to look at certain problems or historical situations all European countries had to face in an integrated and transnational manner. To organize this major project one or two workshops will be held 2011/2012.

Klaus Arnold