ICA 2017

San Diego, United States of America

Minutes of meeting ICA Computational Methods Interest Group Business meeting

Recorded by Frederik De Grove

(Opening remarks: past year achievements)

1. Online presence

2. Member recruitment
   - 28 April we had 166 members (we come from 37 members).
   - Now we are 188 members.
   - 20/31 divisions.
   - In order to become a formal division we need about 200 members.

3. Conference planning
   - 98 submissions.
   - With acceptance rate of 57%.
   - 13 sessions at ICA.
   - About 60 people attended the preconference.

4. There will be two special issues on computational methods
   - You are encouraged to submit your work.
5. Budget and expenses
   - We get rather limited budget based on 35 members.
   - Special thanks goes to Nathaniel Poor for his generous contribution regarding drinking tickets.
6. Election of vice-chair and secretary
   - A new vice chair needs to get elected and takes office immediately after ICA 2017.
   - New secretary will take office next ICA.
7. Coming years
   - Direction to go?
     o What are we / who are we for?
       ▪ Share your opinion e.g., on call for papers whether you think they cover the idea of computational methods.
     o Session formats
       ▪ What about current session formats? What is the direction we have to take?
       ▪ Some say there are too much presentations per session.
       ▪ Hard to tell difference between high density versus traditional setup.

- Congrats for tool sessions.
- Tool demo sessions were extremely productive -> do we need more tool demo sessions.
- We need more tools.
- What about the traditional reviewing for tools?
  - They need to take traditional review process.
  - Review part light?
  - What about authorship -> whoever developed the tool should write the paper -> we should not completely discount people who have experience with well-established tools.
  - Make reviewers do review and post it on the website.
  - We should make distinction between presentations of tools and interactive sessions.
  - Crowdsourcing -> let the public vote on which tool they would like.
  - What about open source and commercial tools? -> no agreement. Some think this is acceptable others think they are not. Let's be explicit about where it comes from.
  - Tool demo together with preconference.
  - Feedback on tools is a pro as tool builders.
  - Call for balance between tools and the use of computational methods.
  - Organizing blue sky workshop -> we need contribution of everybody.
  - What about sharing datasets -> data rich vs data poor.
  - More co-sponsoring -> we should reach out to more groups within ICA to share our methods.
- Review process
  - Not many reviewers for a lot of papers.
  - Proposal:
    - If you submit paper, you will also need to review.
    - You can indicate which one you would like to review
      - Ica system does not really allow it.
- Regional conferences and preconferences.
- Working group for tool repository.
- International conference of computational social sciences -> we can get discount to register.
- Announcement about annals of the ica
  - Organize symposium on computational methods -> you can self organize or email us to organize something.
  - Suggest your library to subscribe to this journal.