

## **Minutes of meeting for the ICA computational methods interest group business meeting**

Washington DC, May 25 2019

Chair: Wouter Van Atteveldt

Vice-chair: Cindy Shen

Secretary: Matthew Weber

The meeting was called to order at 5pm.

### **Updates from the ICA Board Meeting**

Wouter Van Atteveldt provided an overview of ICA 2019 and reported on paper acceptance and submissions. Overall, there were a record number of submissions to the conference in 2019. In addition, looking forward in 2019 there is a regional conference in Bali and the call for submissions is still open. More information can be found here: <http://ic.aspikom.org/wp/>

ICA is adopting a new logo. In addition, the paper authorship rule is being changed; you can have as many co-authored papers as you want, but you can only have three lead-author papers. There is a new interest group on human-machine communication. There is, in addition, a new code of ethics that was adopted.

### **Interest Group Business**

A status report was given updating the IG from 2018. A motion was moved to approve the minutes from the prior year and unanimously approved.

The current state of the budget is healthy, and there is \$4,472.48 currently in the coffers. Given the excess funds, here is an opportunity to provide small pots of funding to increase international participation.

We've been over 5% membership since 2018 and we can apply for division status. This will be subject to a board vote but is a step forward. This conference we had 115 submissions and a 50% acceptance rate – mostly in 6-paper session schedules submissions.

Top papers were awarded as follows in no particular order.

The Network Dynamics of Conventions  
Joshua Aaron Becker

The Dynamic Relationship between News Frames and Real-World Events: A Hidden Markov Model Approach  
Frederic Rene Hopp, Jacob T Fisher, Rene Weber

The Temporal Turn in Communication Research: Time-Series Analyses Using Computational Approaches  
Chris Wells, Dhavan V. Shah, Jon C. Pevehouse, Jordan M. Foley, Ayellet Pelled, JungHwan Yang

The Electoral Dimension of Disinformation: Political Astroturfing on Twitter  
JungHwan Yang, Franziska Keller, David Schoch, Sebastian Stier

### **Preconference Report**

Josephine Lukito gave a report on the preconference report, which was held at George Washington University. The pre-conference was focused on young scholars. One of the outcomes from the preconference was discussion of a need for minigroups focused on specific topics and/or methods. Frederic Hopp, Nate TeBlunthuis and Josephine are organizing minigroups to drive education about particular topics and to create momentum to drive forward division engagement.

### **Discussion Items**

A new journal – Computational Communication Research (CCR) – has now launched with four articles. Thanks to the submissions from the IG membership for the first issue. A question was asked about how the conference was used to funnel articles to the journal. Wouter clarified that the call for conference and the journal are separate processes. The journal wants work that looks at new methods (and innovative methods, including tool and data descriptions), but also looking for interesting work on methods application and theory.

A question was asked clarifying the connection between the conference and the editorial process. Wouter clarified that there was no link. Additionally, there was a discussion about the review process and the intention to publish works that are being refined for publication. Should there be an intent to accept an article, the blind review would be dropped to allow the reviewers and authors to engage and to discuss publication.

Renee Weber talked about the potential for this system to enhance the publication process. There is an underlying goal to be innovative and push forward the review process. For those with suggestions, please reach out to the editors.

A motion was made by Wouter to declare CCR to be an official journal and to contribute a sponsorship fee of \$500. A motion was made by Wouter to vote. The motion was seconded by Matthew Weber and passed unanimously. A motion was made to vote on the fee for the next year; seconded by Josephine Lukito and passed unanimously.

### **ICA 2020**

Claes De Vreese visited to talk about ICA 2020 in Brisbane, May 21 – 25, 2020. There will be traditional housing options beyond the traditional conference hotel; half of the conference rooms will be in the hotel, and half will be in a conference center a 5-minute walk away. The hotel rate is \$190/night. There will be other options as affordable as \$45/night.

There will be tips on the website as to how to book your flights (e.g. booking to Sydney and then looking for other flight options from Sydney to Brisbane). The theme for 2020 is Open Communication as a gateway to think more broadly about open science communication.

### **Continued Discussion**

A call for nominations for ICA International Liaison for the IG, as well as a call for Vice Chair, was announced.

In addition, an issue was raised to launch a Diversity and Inclusiveness Task Force.

Two proposals were put forth – (1) to form a new TF with interested members (2) to have the internationalization liaison chair the task force

A question was raised as to whether or not the diversity and internationalization TF should be paired together. An issue was raised about having an ex-officio matter – a proposal was raised to allow the task force to decide its own governance.

A report and recommendations will be provided at ICA 2020. There are funds available to support this initiative. A check in was proposed for 6-months from now. The focus is on representativeness, diversity, and inclusiveness.

Task force nominees include:

Dani Madrid Morales [dmmorale@Central.UH.EDU](mailto:dmmorale@Central.UH.EDU)

Tim Schatto Exkerodt [tim.schatto-eckrott@uni-muenster.de](mailto:tim.schatto-eckrott@uni-muenster.de)

Svenja Boberg [s\\_bobeoz@uni-muenstes.de](mailto:s_bobeoz@uni-muenstes.de)

Mariken van des Velden [m.a.c.f.vander.velden@vu.nl](mailto:m.a.c.f.vander.velden@vu.nl)

Jianing “Janice” Li [jli724@wic.edu](mailto:jli724@wic.edu)

Harry Yam [harryyam@iu.edu](mailto:harryyam@iu.edu)

Alvia Zhou [alvinyxz@upenn.edu](mailto:alvinyxz@upenn.edu)

Jo Lukito [jlukito@wisc.edu](mailto:jlukito@wisc.edu)

An open call will be sent out to recruit participants to the task force.

The issue of a logo was raised and Jacob Fisher UCSB ([fischej@email.uscb.edu](mailto:fischej@email.uscb.edu)) volunteered to help design a logo.

JwangHwan announced a special issue that’s been completed at IJOC and will be forthcoming. Matthew Weber announced a post-doc opening at UMN: <http://matthewsweber.com/postdoc-opportunity/>

Reception was announced for Sunday at the Mad Hatter from 6pm – 9pm.