

Communication Law and Policy Section Report of Activities 2016

Once more, the CLP section has had a successful and active year: aside from putting together a strong program for the ECC in Prague, preparations for the next section workshop in 2017 are already in full swing. Moreover, the section management team was renewed at the business meeting during ECC.

Events

For the **6th European Communication Conference in Prague** (November 9-12, 2016), the CLP section put together an interesting and varied program. Thanks to the high number of submissions to the section the section was granted a total of ten sessions (eight sessions with individual paper presentations and two panel sessions) which is more than ever before. In addition, the CLP section contributed five poster presentations to the poster session.

Paper and poster presentations covered a wide range of topical issues in communication policy. Given the high number of submissions, the quality of sessions – both individual presentations and panels – has been extraordinary again. Section members and management were very pleased and impressed with the quality of work presented, the intensity of discussion and the number of participants in CLP sessions.

In line with the section management best practices adopted at the ECC 2014 in Lisbon, the section program was jointly put together by the section program chair and the other members of the management team in order to introduce some checks and balances. In case of widely diverging results by reviewers, section management initiated a third review to guarantee a fair procedure. Moreover, submitters had access to review results. Section management would like to take this opportunity to thank all submitters, reviewers, presenters and session chairs for their important work.

Publications

Another book originating from CLP section activities was published this year. The volume **“European Media Policy for the Twenty-First Century”** edited by Seamus Simpson, Manuel Puppis and Hilde Van den Bulck was published in Spring 2016 by Routledge. The book contains papers coming out of the Salford Workshop in 2013.

Simpson, Seamus/Puppis, Manuel/Van den Bulck, Hilde (Eds.) (2016): European Media Policy for the Twenty-First Century. Assessing the Past, Setting Agendas for the Future. New York/London: Routledge. ISBN: 978-1-13-885650-9

Business Meeting

A section business meeting was held during the ECC in Prague. The management team reported on activities during the last year, including the last workshop in Ljubljana in November 2015, new publications and the preparation of ECC.

The CLP section again advertised its **best student paper award**. Unfortunately, nobody submitted a full paper this time around. Section management nonetheless thanked the award committee consisting of chairwoman Maria Löblich (FU Berlin), Amit Schejter (Penn State & Ben Gurion University of the Negev) and Christian Herzog (Leuphana University) for their willingness to help out.

The outgoing chairman Manuel Puppis (U of Fribourg) conducted the **election** of a new section management team. Hilde van den Bulck (Chair), Sally Broughton Micova and Marko Milosavljevic (Vice Chairs) were unanimously elected for the period 2016-2018. After the elections, the new management team thanked the outgoing chairman for his service.

Nikola Belakova was introduced as new **YECREA's representative** for the section, as Sarah Anne Ganter steps down from this role. The management team thanked her for her service.

Moreover, members were informed about the decision to hold the next **workshop** in September 2017 at the University of East Anglia. The workshop will be jointly organized with the "Media Industries and Cultural Production" (MICP) section. Sally Broughton Micova will be in charge of the organization. As last time, a special YECREA session for young scholars is planned. In addition, a special session with representatives from industry and policymaking will be organized as well.

Finally, during the business meetings some members raised the issue of **geographic diversity** among presenters. The new section management team will try to gather more information.

Up-to-date information about the section – including pictures from the last workshop – is always available at <http://commlawpolicy.wordpress.com/>

Manuel Puppis (Outgoing Chair)
Hilde Van den Bulck (Vice Chair / Incoming Chair)
Sally Broughton Micova (Vice Chair)

Fribourg/Antwerp/Norwich, December 2016