

Report of TV Studies Section

Conference 2012

In total, we had 53 individual paper proposals submitted, 1 poster and 4 panels. All proposals were peer reviewed by two of our members. We were impressed by the high standard of the submissions. The pre—formed panels were particularly strong, leaving only 20 places for the individual papers. As a result, we asked some presenters to transform their papers into posters. In total, the quality of the papers promised to be very high. Papers ranged from reality TV, via news to sports and TV drama, whilst many also engaged with questions about the social and public role of television in the convergence era, the role of scheduling in post-linear television and the changing audience perceptions of television. Presenters came from all over the world, though most were from Europe.

The section sessions went extremely well with a good level of quality and a vivid debate. A few points should be emphasized: the fact that many papers crossed both theoretical and applied approaches showing the potential impact this area of research might have at the societal and economical levels; many different theoretical frameworks were present in the different works, ranging from U&G theories, to reception theories and mediatization theory; and a variety of subjects and genres was covered with a focus on local examples and projects that enrich the European dimension of the section work.

The business meeting was attended by 10 members and 1 member via Skype. One of the outcomes of the meeting is the cooperation with the Media Industries and Cultural Production TWG, with whom the section will have a common conference on “Television Production” in October 2013 hosted by the University of Aarhus in Denmark.

The management team of the section was re-elected.

Collaboration with Critical Studies in Television

Our collaboration with *Critical Studies in Television* is now taking shape. Next year, the journal will re-launch with three issues, instead of the current two, and each year, one issue will be themed. The first of these themed issues will be edited by Dr Andrea Esser from Roehampton University, London, and will be on Television Formats. Dr Esser is one of our members and has encouraged other members to submit their essays to the issue.

Our collaboration with *Critical Studies* means some significant changes to the journal in terms of the organisation of the journal:

- Dr Simone Knox (Reading) and Dr Elke Weissmann (Edge Hill) have joined the operational board and will be directly involved with the running of the journal. The editorial position will be for five years to allow for the long-term planning of the journal’s direction and strategy.

- At the same time, the journal is in the process of establishing an advisory board which is made up of our members, including the section chair and vice-chairs. This means that the advisory board will change regularly to reflect the changes within ECREA.

There are also changes to the journal in terms of content:

- *CST* used to be focused on television fictions; this focus is now dropped. Any topic in the area of television research will be considered for publication.
- There is a concerted effort to include more European research on television, largely by two means: on the one hand, members are strongly encouraged to send in their research to the journal. Articles will be published in English, but there is the option to have the article published in another language on the website. The work of ECREA members will be handled by the two ECREA members on the operational board and send out for peer review to the advisory board or other ECREA members. This is why it will be vital that members update their information on the ECREA database as we will use the information about expertise in order to recruit peer reviewers.
- Submissions of articles will happen via an online system.
- The second means of including more European research is via the book review section. We would like to include more books that are published in languages other than English. So if there are books that members think need reviewing and that members would like to review, they should simply get in touch with either Simone (s.knox@reading.ac.uk) or Elke (elke.weissmann@edgehill.ac.uk). Again, the book reviews will be published in English in the journal, but can be published in another language on the website.
- We will also ‘talent spot’ for good papers via our annual conferences – so presenting a paper might be the first step towards having your paper published.

The collaboration with ECREA will be made visible via several means, including on the website and in the journal directly.

The journal publishers, MUP (Manchester University Press) are also currently investigating the potential to offer financial perks to members (a reduced subscription fee to the journal, for example). They are currently costing this.

Interaction with section members

During the past year the section has reinforced the interaction with section members namely by maintaining a regular contact via mail on different subjects like a call for editors of a “to be” journal of the section and the promotion of dedicated events. The use of the section mailing list is something we want to reinforce in the future namely considering that in 2013 the section will organize its own conference.