

ECREA Journalism & Communication Education TWG  
Annual Report 2019

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Activities in 2019

As in the previous years, the TWG has worked to towards improving the research into education for media professions in Europe, as well as the advancement of networks between education researchers, scholars, educators and professionals. Our annual TWG conference, as well as two publication projects, were at the center of our activities in 2019.

In May 2019, the 5<sup>th</sup> TWG conference took place at the University of Salzburg. After our conferences in Trier (2015), Pamplona (2016), Tilburg (2017), and Braga (2018), the conference in Salzburg continued to build on the experiences and results of the previous in exploring the challenges of mediatization and changes of the media industries for professional education programs. Keeping the overall title “Trial & Error” for the third time since Tilburg, this conference focused on the difficult but highly relevant relationship between education for media professions and their respective industries. Two keynotes illustrated this relationship – one from Maria Scholl of the Austrian Press Agency and one from Roman Hummel from the University of Salzburg. Like in our previous conferences, we had three traditional panel sessions for the presentation of up-to-date research on journalism and PR education, two “pitch&poster” sessions for new or ongoing research projects and best practice examples from the field, and two workshop sessions (one on teaching entrepreneurship, and one on new educational tools for professional media education). For the conference, 29 abstracts for research presentations, workshops, and best practice projects were selected from proposals from 11 countries in a double blind review process. Just a few weeks after Salzburg, many of us had again the chance to meet at the World Journalism Education Congress in Paris in July.

2019 also saw two book projects coming out of the TWG. One will be the proceedings of our 2018 conference in Braga, the second an edited volume on the state of education for media professions in Europe.

The next TWG conference will be held in Barcelona, Spain, on May 14 and 15, 2020, hosted by the University Autònoma Barcelona. In 2019, the TWG membership had again slightly risen to now 177 members (October 2019, from 165 in 2018).