Minutes
Business Meeting, In person, Toronto
Sunday May 28, 2023

Communication Science & Biology Interest Group
International Communication Association Annual Conference

Present: Baek; Bolls Bue; Cai; Cascio; Chung; Cosme; Decorte; Fahr; Fink; Fisher; Gong; Han; Harvill; Heitz; Husky; Jovanova; Kang; Lauharatanahirun; D. Lee; Y. Lee; Lim; Lin; Lugo-Ocando; Meng; Miller; Mu; Peols; Potter; Prena; Riggs; Rudnicki; Schmalzle; Scholz; Shulman; Wilcox

Old Business

Interest Group Chair Richard Husky started by welcoming everyone, introducing Amelia Couture Bue as the incoming secretary. Rob Potter, the outgoing secretary, was thanked for his service.

Attendees were reminded that the minutes from the 2022 business meeting were available online and a motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as written. This motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Huskey (re)introduced the members to the CS&B website, slack channel, and twitter account and described it as a way to push out important information to the membership as well as generate new member interest.

Membership in the IG is down from last year’s total of 188 to 173. However, our revenue is up thanks to the fundraising efforts of IG Treasurer Jason Coronel who has raised a donation from The Ohio State University to help fund the doctoral and trainee travel awards for the IG. He also raised money from Michigan State University in support of reception funding. He also secured a donation from Annenberg East to help fund IG Awards. The IG thanks you very much, Jason, for growing and stewarding our budget to over $11,600 at the time of the meeting.

Congratulations to Jacob Fisher and Dani Cosmi for their work on the successful Hackathon 2023. One of the most successful and sustaining pre-conferences in ICA history. It will be held again in ICA 2024 and all levels of coding expertise are welcome and encouraged to participate.

Also mentioned was the success of the first IG Welcome Event, which received a round of applause in support of Ralf Schmalzle and Shelby Wilcox.

Details about the conference submissions for the year (overall slightly down from ICA-Paris) and reviewing were provided. Awards were given. Details for this can be found on the meeting agenda. Pictures of award winners were taken and distributed on the CSAB slack channel.

2024 ICA Conference

---Noshir Contractor, ICA Past-President (at the time of our meeting) to discuss next year’s conference in Gold Coast Australia. Before he did, however, he mentioned that he was impressed with the attendance
numbers we had at our business meeting, particularly for an IG. Good for us. Now, details on next year’s conference:

- This is a ‘make good’ for having to cancel our commitment to the Gold Coast the first year of the pandemic.
- It will be in Broadbeach, Queensland from June 20-24 (note, later than usual for long-haul traveler attendance).
- Most will stay in the Star Hotel for $190/night; Spillover hotel is the Surf Hotel; both short distance from beach.
- Theme: Communication & Global Human Rights
  - Take stock of the contribution of the field to the study of human rights
  - Foreground current research & practice
  - Outline promising directions for communication studies
- Hybrid format for sure, but the exact percentage of that will be determined in the future. Likely larger than Toronto, Contractor surmises.
- Future conferences:
  - 2025 in Denver, CO, USA
  - 2026 is being decided (Buenos Aires, Europe, Spain being considered)
  - 2027 in Chicago, IL, USA
  - 2028 possibly in Asia
- The importance of responding to the post-conference survey to help guide decision-making surrounding future conferences.
- Contractor commented on the good job that Richard Husky does in representing CSAB
- Contractor mentioned that he hoped members of the IG didn’t feel ‘slighted’ by his Presidential Address comments that identified the US-centricity of CSAB. He said there are lots of reasons why this may be the case (e.g., international scholars doing work in the spirit of CSAB being housed in departments other than Communication), and that this was not to put down the division; he is ‘a big fan’ of the IG and hopes we become a division soon.

Contractor left the meeting.

Husky provided new information about ICA and the IG.

- ICA is getting bigger and the organization is starting to strategically plan for what ICA should look like 10-15 years from now, a Positioning Committee is being headed by Cynthia Stohl and will be asking for input from members.
- The IDEA committee is looking for ways to make ICA more accessible, affordable, and available for people internationally.
  - An element of this is reclassification of the Tier system of countries.
  - Developing regional chapters/hubs. ICA is looking for ways to expand and improve these.
  - Future conference model: Americas -> Europe -> Americans -> Asia/Oceana in a four year cycle
- Journal of Communication is looking for articles that are related to the work that is done in CSAB. Husky is an Associate Editor, and he would be glad to provide a ‘sanity check’ for whether an article that an IG member is working on would be considered by JoC.
• CSAB has new officer openings, self-nomination is possible:
  o Vice Chair (Chris Cascio is stepping up to Chair)
  o Student and Early Career Rep (Shelby Wilcox’s term is ending)
  o International Liaison (Ralf Schmalzle’s term ends after 2024)

• Discussion of internationalization efforts
  o 75% of the IG members are from US was the total presented by Contractor
  o Current data is 69.46% from US
  o While we originally had only 4 non-US countries represented in Contractor’s data, we now have more—including from Africa.
  o About 55% of our ICA submissions were from US, but other countries (Netherlands, China, etc.) are also represented.

Ralf Schmalzle discussed internationalization efforts:

• The officers would have felt the need to discuss this concern in the IG business meeting even if CSAB hadn’t been mentioned in the Presidential Address.

• We have no representation from India, Africa, and South America
  o Some of that may be due to the lack of neuro/physiological equipment in these countries; but we don’t to be a technologically-defined group
  o A campaign is being designed with Key Performance Indicators being the number of eyes/ears that perceive the campaign through the different channels and how that translates into increased membership and paper submissions
    ▪ But, after that...what do we do as a follow up to getting the word out (regional hubs, for example).
    ▪ Ralf took names after the meeting of people who were interested in helping him brainstorm follow-up steps to improve internationalization. He will be contacting them over the summer.

• Brainstorming commenced about different ways we could lead the charge of. Richard committed IG budget to doing so.

New Business:

• CSAB needs to have more member involvement in the HackAThon. See Jacob or Dani for more information and register for this as ICA 2024 approaches.

• A request was made for better instructions for pre-registered conference papers, both for submitting scholars about what they are and for reviewers about how to judge them.