

ECREA Philosophy of Communication

Section Report 2007

1. Chair and Vice-Chairs

The Section's Chair and Vice-Chairs were endorsed during the first business meeting of the Section, in February of this year. Chair: Colin Grant (Guildford). Vice Chairs: Tino Meitz (Muenster); Johan Siebers (London and Preston). The Objectives and Modus Operandi were also accepted by those present.

2. Activities

The Section has managed and further developed its website (www.philosophy-of-communication.eu) at which notices, information and minutes of meetings are published regularly

The Section has had two business meetings, one in February and one in November. Minutes and records of attendance are available from the Section Website.

The Section has organised a symposium, in February, at the University of Central Lancashire, on the topic of "Paradigms in the Philosophy of Communication", and its first international conference at the University of Surrey, in November, on the topic of "25 Years of Universal Pragmatics: Fact or Fiction?". The Symposium was organised jointly with the section's first business meeting. The Conference was the first major presentation of the Section to the European community of researchers, with some 50 participants from many EU member states.

At the second business meeting the Section decided to translate the home page of the Section's website into a number of languages other than English to strengthen diversity and attract researchers from a variety of cultural and linguistic backgrounds. The section also decided to start organising decentralised meetings or workshops around specific topics of interest to smaller groups of researchers in the coming year. Membership involvement is growing, with 38 members registered currently.

The Section aims to publish a collection of articles in 2008 in the Section's book series, *Interdisciplinary Perspectives in Communication* (series editor Colin Grant), published by Peter Lang, Oxford. Further monographs by section members have appeared this year and are planned for future publication.

3. Finances

A budget report for 2007 is available. The section has remained cost neutral in 2007 by the attendance fee structure for its conference, a gift from the University of Central Lancashire for the domain name registration of the Section's website and a grant from the University of Surrey for unforeseen costs relating to the conference. In future the section will actively

review the financial situation. The Section is entirely dependent on external funding and sponsorship.

Johan Siebers
18 December 2007.