



IAMCR International Council Meeting  
UNAM Cultural Centre – Mexico City - July 20, 2009, 2.00 p.m. – 5 p.m.

## Report from Publications Committee

*Prepared by Marjan de Bruin and Claudia Padovani*

### Report of Activities July 2008 – July 2009

In July 2007 Thomas Tufte resigned as editor of the IAMCR Hampton Press Book Series. IAMCR's Executive Board and the International Council invited us, Claudia Padovani and Marjan de Bruin, to become joint editors for this series. We agreed and reported in Stockholm about developments in the first year, which mainly involved restructuring the work for this Committee.

What follows is Report of activities July 2008 – July 2009.

During the year under review we:

1. Cleared the remaining backlog
2. Improved the procedures and forms of the Publications Committee
  - a. New text for Call for Proposals and Manuscripts
  - b. New Evaluation form for reviewers
  - c. Increased pool of peer reviewers
3. Increased the visibility of the IAMCR/Hampton Books series
  - a. Updated the online List of published titles in IAMCR/Hampton Books series
  - b. Posted online guidelines for authors
  - c. Issued new CFP to Sections and Working Groups, posted online.
4. Guided potential authors in preparing and submitting their proposals, organized the peer-review of proposals:
  - a. Resulting in contracts or requested contracts (5 cases)
  - b. Resulting in contract and manuscript submitted (1 case)
  - c. Several proposals in preparation (4 cases)
5. Met – as editors – online to discuss the Committee's weaknesses to be addressed
6. Discussed future plans

### DETAILS

#### **1. Clearing the backlog from the past**

Some of these proposals had been sitting for a while and it was difficult to trace some of the original proponents (see Report to IC 2008). We managed to catch up with most outstanding issues but in the process 'lost' one who could not wait.

## **2. Improving the procedures and forms of the Publications Committee**

### *a. New text for Call for Proposals and Manuscripts (see attached)*

An improved Call for Proposals and Manuscripts was issued in 2008, including specific guidelines on what proposals should contain. On several occasions we had to refer proponents to these guidelines in order to receive comprehensive and complete proposals that could be submitted for peer review. Manuscripts cannot be submitted without an accompanying proposal. The new guidelines for proposals and manuscripts have been published on the IAMCR's website.

### *b. New Evaluation form for Reviewers (see attached)*

We further improved the response form used by reviewers which had been adjusted during our first year. Reviewers can now use a structured form for assessment. The new form allowed us to collect comparable comments as well as precise indications for evaluation. It also includes a space for more detailed comments and suggestions which, on several occasions, helped proponents to refocus their text.

### *c. Increased pool of peer reviewers*

All reviewers, formerly engaged with the activities of the Committee, re-confirmed their willingness to act in the course of 2007-2008. Because of the variety in the content of submitted proposals we increased the list of reviewers taking into consideration the specific expertise needed. We also paid more attention to geographical representation. For a complete list of the current pool is attached. Between 2007 and July 2009 we increased the pool by 50%.

## **3. Increasing the visibility of the IAMCR/Hampton Books series**

### *a. Updated online list of published titles in IAMCR/Hampton Books series*

In our first year as Editors we posted on the IAMCR website a partial list of titles published by the Association and Hampton Press. This we completed this list. Two titles offer direct links to the publisher. No new titles have been produced since July 2006, though several are in preparation:

*Democracy and Communication in the New Europe: Change and Continuity in East and West.* Farrell Corcoran & Paschal Preston (Eds.), 1995.

*Globalization, Communication and Transnational Civil Society.* Sandra Braman & Annabelle Sreberny (Eds.), 1996.

*The Global Journalist: News People Around the World.* David Weaver (Ed.), 1998.

*Propaganda in the 20th Century: Contributions to History.* Jürgen Wilke (Ed.), 1998.

*Theoretical Approaches to Participatory Communication.* Thomas Jacobson & Jan Servaes (Eds.), 1999. (Sales: US\$23, 495.30)

*Consuming Audiences? Production and Reception in Media Research.* Ingunn Hagen & Janet Wasko (Eds.), 2000. (Sales: US\$29, 503.25)

*Global Trends in Media Education: Policies and Practices.* Tony Lavender & Birgitte Tufte (Eds.), 2002.

*Spaces of Intercultural Communication: an Interdisciplinary Introduction to Communication, Culture, and Globalizing Localizing Identities.* Rico Lie, 2002. (Sales: US\$17, 253.15)

*From the Margins to the Cutting Edge: Community media and empowerment.* Peter M. Lewis and Susan Jones (Eds.), 2006. (Sales: US\$60, 530.00)

*Ideologies of the Internet*. Katharine Sarikakis and Daya Thussu (Eds.), 2006.  
(Sales: US\$75, 180.35)

b. *New online guidelines for authors posted online*  
(see attached).

c. *New CFP and Manuscripts to Sections and Working Groups posted online*  
(see attached).

#### **4. Guided potential authors in preparing and submitting their proposals, organized the peer-review of proposals**

##### **a. Contracts or requested contracts (4)**

Andrew Calabrese & Claudia Padovani – *Communication Rights and Global Justice. Reflections on the Short history of a social movement*.

Proposal received in January 2008. Contract requested April 2008. Manuscript is being prepared. Expected date for sending manuscript: December 2009.

Nuria Almiron – *Journalism in crisis. Corporate media, banking and financial capitalism*.

Contract requested October 2008. The author arranged translation of her Spanish language manuscript into English. Hampton is double-checking on the language quality, but a contract should be issued soon.

Andrea Baker – *Youths and net-radio: exploring sub-cultural models of audiences*.

Proposal received in February 2009. A contract was requested in June 2009 and should have been issued by Hampton in early July 2009. The manuscript should be with Hampton by August/ September 2009.

Peter Putnis, Jürgen Wilke and Chandrika Kaul – *International Circuits of News: Historical Development and Impacts*.

Peter Putnis et al. submitted a proposal in December 2006 and resubmitted in February 2007 to the previous editor. The current editors received the revised proposal in May 2008. Hampton has been advised (June 2008) to issue a contract, which was received during IAMCR Stockholm, July, 2008. The date for delivery of the manuscript was April 30, 2009. Putnis et al have advised us that there will be a delay of a few months.

##### **b. Contracts and manuscript submitted (1)**

Cesar Bolaño, Guillermo Mastrini and Francisco Sierra (eds.) -

*Political Economy, Communication and Knowledge. A critical Latin-American perspective*. (with a Prologue by Armand Mattelart).

Contract was issued and manuscript is currently with Hampton. Bolano et al is ready for copyediting and will be assigned shortly.

##### **c. Proposals in preparation (5)**

*Deliberative democracy and media*.

The committee has been in touch with the proponent and received a proposal according to the new guidelines in late 2008. The review process took place in 2009. Suggestions have been shared with the proponent who is working on a revised version.

*Digital Television and Digital Convergence – a South American perspective*.

Proposal was sent to reviewers and is currently being revised by the proponent, according to suggestions and comments made by reviewers and editors.

*International image-making: The management of a nation's portrayal.*

Reception of a PhD thesis with interest in publishing. The editors asked for a proposal (January 2009). Comments have been shared with proponent who informed us not to have been able to work on it (July 2009) but is still planning to do so.

Proposal to translate into English the volume *Theory of the Social Technique of Information*, by Fattorello. The original proposal was not consistent with the IAMCR series. The proponent is currently on leave for health reasons and it is unlikely this process will proceed quickly.

*Democracy and the Press*. Initial proposal received on February 6, 2009. Revised proposal – according to guidelines – requested on February 7, 2009.

## **5. Met – as Editors – online to discuss the Committee's weaknesses to be addressed**

a. Clearing the backlog of proposals has taken some time. Due to earlier difficulties in the management of the Committee a number of proposals have been lost. Among these<sup>1</sup>:

Aliaa Dakrouy - *Is Communication a basic human right? An intellectual history*. Proposal submitted July 2008, just before the change in editorship. Misunderstandings compelled the author to go with another publisher in order to have the book ready in time for the IAMCR conference in Mexico.

b. We have constructed a simple database capturing relevant information on each proposal. This database needs refinement. Factors militating against this included: the time to complete all exchanges with proponents; coordination between Editors who both have senior responsibilities at their universities (one of us had serious family health problems and was on compassionate leave, which caused delays in December 2008/January 2009); occasionally long intervals in exchanges between proponents and Hampton. However, the Editors have managed to get back on track and there are no unaddressed issues.

c. Your committee is working on a more detailed document to publicize all steps in the publishing process and to explain the role of the series Editors, reviewers and Hampton Press.

d. The turn around time in reviews varies between three weeks and six months. A larger pool of reviewers should make the process more efficient.

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<sup>1</sup> Older proposals that had been lost in July 2008: Chris Paterson – *Making Online News*. The former editor of the series received this proposal. The author was contacted immediately after the Paris meeting in 2007 to share the two positive reviews, recommending publication. However, by that time, the proponent had received an offer from another publisher and was not interested anymore in IAMCR/Hampton Press's Series.

Gholan Khiabany. - *Iranian Media and The Paradox of Modernity: Media, Religion and State since 1979*. The former editor received this proposal in autumn 2006; no review process had started. When contacted by us, Gholan Khiabany had a different publisher.

e. The point should also be made here that your Committee needs to be strengthened by adding more members. This would allow us to spreading the workload more efficiently and improve the flow of publications.

During the course of the year the shortage of (wo)manpower made it very difficult to follow up on proposals. Assessing complex and important research work takes time, information, energy and specific expertise. It is clear to us that the volume of submissions will increase as we make the process more efficient. This means that if the proposals are to continue being accorded the appropriate attention we must have a larger committee and a greater number of reviewers to deal with them. The need for this should be clear when it is realized that your committee had to deal with the production of ten (10) proposals in nine month – ach proposal requiring extensive and sensitive treatment.

## **6. Discussion of future plans**

During last year's IC discussion in Stockholm it was clear that the IC recognized the strategic value of this committee for a scientific professional association such as IAMCR.

As anticipated at that time, we propose that the Committee – enlarged – will be more pro-active manner in fostering and supporting members' publications.

Our priorities are:

- a) Encouraging more work by young scholars
- b) Soliciting more innovative scholarly works (in terms of approaches, methods, topics addressed)
- c) Paying increased attention to specific themes of interest to the Association (e.g. IAMCR-UNESCO agenda for research developed in December 2007)
- d) Exploring the option of an IAMCR scholarly journal (perhaps online?). This issue was raised in Stockholm but has not been elaborated upon. We suggest to re-address this, especially in the context of cooperation between IAMCR and ICA, ECREA etc. and against the background of the journal survey results.

In Stockholm the IC agreed that the Committee needs be enlarged and strengthened if it is to operate as more than turnstile to Hampton. It should be one of the major channels through which IAMCR communicates to the outside world, by making visible and accessible the knowledge produced by IAMCR members.

We ask:

- The IC to mandate the Committee to identify suitable candidates for membership.

We would suggest:

- In the interest of efficiency and good management that the IC commit itself to approving the – to be proposed – candidates through electronic consultation.

## **ANNEX 1**

### **IAMCR Hampton series**

#### **Call for Book Proposals and Manuscripts**

The IAMCR Book Publications Committee invites the submission of book proposals and manuscripts for the IAMCR Book Series with Hampton Press.

#### **WHO can submit?**

All IAMCR members in good standing are welcome to submit a proposal or manuscript. However, priority will be given to young scholars and scholars who have not yet been widely published in the English language.

#### **WHAT do we accept?**

Submissions on all subjects and perspectives covered by and discussed within the IAMCR are welcome. Sections may endorse book proposals or working groups if they arise directly out of the sections' ongoing work. Collective efforts by IAMCR members are welcome.

#### **HOW do you submit?**

##### ***Book Proposals - template***

A proposal should be between 2500-3000 words (max) or 10 pages in length. The following information has to be provided:

1. Name and address (regular and email) of the corresponding author or editor (clear indication of main editor if more than one)
2. Tentative title of proposed book
3. Tentative table of contents (including the full list of authors in case of an edited volume).
4. Rationale for this proposal
5. Main research topic and list of key words
6. Particular issues/themes to be discussed.
7. Research methods or perspectives presented or discussed
8. Short bibliography
9. Scientific contribution/volume positioning in relation to relevant literature
10. Target audience
11. Time frame for the completion of the manuscript.
12. Why does this manuscript fit within the IAMCR book series/What does it have to contribute.

##### ***Manuscripts***

A manuscript should be between 200 and 300 pages in length. The information requested for proposals has to be included in the accompanying letter, following same guidelines as above.

## **EDITING style and guidelines**

IAMCR Hampton series adopts the APA style for manuscripts. Please follow instruction on APA style from the following urls

<http://apastyle.apa.org/>

<http://webster.comnet.edu/apa/>

<http://www.liu.edu/CWIS/CWP/library/workshop/citapa.htm>

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

## **WHERE do you submit?**

Book proposals and manuscripts can be sent by regular mail or, preferably, by email, to:

Marjan de Bruin - IAMCR Book Publications Committee  
c/o full info

[marjan.debruin@uwimona.edu.jm](mailto:marjan.debruin@uwimona.edu.jm)

and Claudia Padovani - IAMCR Book Publications Committee  
c/o Department of Historical and Political Studies, University of Padova, via  
del Santo 28, 35123 Padova, Italy

[Claudia.padovani@unipd.it](mailto:Claudia.padovani@unipd.it)

## **ANNEX 3**

### **IAMCR Hampton series**

#### **Reviewers**

<b>Name + country</b>	<b>E-mail address</b>
Andrew Calabrese, USA	andrew.calabrese@colorado.edu
Arnold de Beer, South Africa	asdebeer@sun.ac.za
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