MINUTES of the Business meeting on Thursday, 11.7.2019 at 2 p.m. -3.30 p.m. in Room Farmacia 231, Complutense University of Madrid
Chair: Nelson Ribeiro

AGENDA
2. Report on the submission and reviewing process for the 2019 Conference
3. Feedback on the 2018 conference from section members and participants
4. Suggestions of topics for the Beijing Conference
5. Book Media and then Dissemination of Fear
6. Future Projects

1. Nelson Ribeiro and Gideon Kouts presented a brief report about the meetings of the IC and the Heads of Sections and Working Groups.
The next IAMCR conference will take place in Beijing on July 12-16, 2020. Some concerns were expressed regarding China’s policy in issuing visas to participants who might want to speak on topics such as freedom of expression and other sensitive matters in China.
The Executive Board and the Local Organizing Committee announced that they will do whatever possible to help participants in their applications but they cannot guarantee what will be the final decision of the Chinese government officials.
An election committee was created that will be responsible for the elections that will take place in 2020 for the new IAMCR Executive Board.

2. Nelson Ribeiro reported that the Section received a record number of 119 submissions, which represented an increase over 100% compared to the Oregon conference. All papers were reviewed by 2 reviewers. Whenever there was a lack of consensus abstracts were sent to a third reviewer. After the review process 77 abstracts were accepted (acceptance rate: 65%). After one last minute withdrawal (due to the situation in Hong Kong) 59 papers were presented in 12 sessions (9 in English and 3 in Spanish).

3. The feedback on the sessions organized by the History Section was positive and members considered that the panels had been well organized. Attendance of the sessions achieved sometimes “historical” records for the section and varied between 12 and 70.

4. Members were encouraged to suggest topics for next year’s call for papers. History of popular journalism, along with topics already included in the 2019 call were suggested for the Beijing conference.
5. Nelson Ribeiro informed members about the current status of book on *Media and the Dissemination of Fear* in which several section members will participate. The book has now been officially commissioned by Palgrave and will be co-edited by Nelson Ribeiro and Christian Schwarzenegger. The first drafts of the chapters are due on 30 November 2019 and the book is expected to be published in 2020.

6. Members suggested other topics for future books to be published by the section. Two ideas were particularly welcomed by those present: media and propaganda (idea already accepted by Routledge, after discussion with Gideon Kouts) and media and representations. Nelson Ribeiro informed that the state of these projects would be eventually submitted to the new section heads that will be elected in Beijing in 2020. The current heads were asked if they would run for a second term and were incentivized to do so. Both promised to consider it positively.