

ANNUAL REPORT 2008
ECREA'S SCIENCE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMUNICATION SECTION

Activities

The main section activity in 2008 was the preparation of the 2nd European Communication Conference (ECC08), which took place in Barcelona on 25-28 November 2008. The section received over 110 abstract proposals (some organized into panels). The acceptance rate was below 50% since the section was only allocated eight panel slots at the conference. The section's participation in ECC08 was very successful with a number of high quality research papers and a substantial attendance.

During 2008, the section was also involved in developing collaborations with similar institutions, such as the Working Group on Environmental Issues, Science and Risk Communication of the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) and the Environmental Communication Division of the US National Communication Association (NCA). One of the panels held during the conference was a discussion on the future of the field of environmental communication with representatives of these organizations, amongst other scholars, where a decision was taken to develop an international network of research in the area.

During 2008, the section also worked on updating its website (www.scienv-com.eu) with information about akin institutions, events and members.

Minutes of business meeting held in Barcelona on 27 November 2008

Around 25 members of the section were present at the meeting. The Executive Team reported on the activities developed since the creation of the section. As mandated by ECREA, an election for the Executive Team was held at the business meeting. The outgoing team was the only candidate and was unanimously re-elected. The Team's composition is presented below:

Chair: Anabela Carvalho, University of Minho, Portugal

Vice-chair: Julie Doyle, University of Brighton, United Kingdom

Vice-chair: Louise Phillips, Roskilde University, Denmark

The following plans for the future were made at the business meeting:

- Prepare a proposal for ECREA's book series
- Expand the website (e.g. create a new area for work in progress)
- Create a mailing list for interested members
- Consider the organization of a workshop on science and environment communication for postgraduate students – this may start as a virtual forum for exchange of information and develop into a “physical” meeting.
- Develop ties with other sections of ECREA.