

## Report of the Radio Research Section, 2009

### Section Conference held, Limassol, Cyprus, 14-16 October

During the year, the main activity was focused on the organisation and management of the successful conference *Radio Content in the Digital Age*, hosted by our Vice Chair Dr Angeliki Gazi and her colleagues at the Cyprus University of Technology in Limassol, Cyprus, 14-16 October.

The 'Pefkios Georgiades' Auditorium provided an excellent venue for the three-day conference, held during a mid-October heat wave that meant delegates enjoyed temperatures up to the mid-thirties.



Pictured left are some of the delegates after the closing ceremony, with some of the vintage radio sets which formed part of a display at the registration and help desk.

The organisation of the conference was excellent, with abstract submission, peer review and scheduling of a wide range of papers by academics and presentations by practitioners all achieved in a timely manner. Papers were submitted in advance so delegates could receive copies electronically.

An opening session featured welcome addresses from Professor Nicolas Demertzis, Dean, School of Applied Arts and Communication, Cyprus University of Technology, Professor Elpida Keravnou Papailiou, Rector, Cyprus University of Technology, Professor Guy Starkey, *Chair, Radio Research Section, ECREA* and Makis Symeou, Chairman of the Board of Governors, Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation.

Keynote speeches were given by Raina Konstantinova, Director of the Radio Department at the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) and Peter Lewis, London Metropolitan University, United Kingdom.

The majority of the programme, consisting of over forty individual papers, was organised in the following panel sessions

- Online Community Radios and New Ways of Interaction
- Mapping the Radio Content in the Digital Age
- Radio content and new communication technology environment

- Radio content in Europe and in other countries
- “Post Radio” and Social Changes
- Alternative Radio and Ways of Social Participation
- Convergence, Digitalization, Intermediality and New Medium
- Radio Content in the Digital Age
- Community and Local Radios in the Digital Environments



A formal act of closure took place with the following speakers, Nicolas Tsapatsoulis, Deputy Coordinator, Department Communication and Internet Studies, Cyprus University of Technology and Prof. Stanislaw Jedrzejewski, Vice Chair, Radio Research, ECREA, Kozminski University, Poland. On behalf of the section, Vice Chair Stanislaw Jedrzejewski thanked Angeliki Gazi, the Cyprus University of Technology,

institutional sponsors and the peer review panel for their work and support in organising the conference.

Throughout the conference, audio of the proceedings was streamed live over the internet.

Further information is available at <http://www.radiostudies.eu/>

### **Young researchers’ coordination meeting held, Cyprus, 16 October**

A coordination meeting for young researchers in the section was held during the *Radio Content in the Digital Age* conference by our representatives to the ECREA Young Scholars Network, Petra Pfisterer and Judith Purkarthofer of the University of Vienna. Ideas were discussed for supporting young scholars working in the field of radio, including through the section web site, where a reading list wiki is to be developed in order to identify relevant literature in the field.

### **Web Site**

Webmaster Dr Irene Giannara has been working during the year to improve the site, update contents and expand its features. She also produced the conference web site for *Radio Content in the Digital Age*. Work on the site is, of course, time consuming, so it is ongoing.

### **Representation at other radio conferences**

Section members, including the Chair and Vice Chairs, have participated in a number of other conferences during the year. Of particular note were *The Radio Conference 2009: A Transnational Forum* at York University, Toronto, in July and *Vers la Post Radio; enjeux des mutations des objets et formes radiophoniques* organised by the Groupe de Recherches et d'Etudes sur la Radio in Paris in November. In each case members raised awareness of the section among delegates, who were invited to join ECREA and the section.

### **Call for papers for ECC10**

The section is already preparing for the 3rd ECREA European Communication Conference, to be held in Hamburg, Germany from 12 to 15 October 2010. The following call was published on the ECREA web site, and members have been promoting it through other means:



Following its successful conference at the Cyprus University of Technology in October 2009, the Radio Research Section invites proposals for ECREA 2010. Abstracts are welcome from across as wide a range of interests related to radio as possible. We do not wish to limit the focus and scope of members' research in the medium, and the panels will be organized thematically once abstracts have been peer-reviewed and accepted. Whole panel proposals are also welcome. Panels and papers could be situated in the following fields as they relate to radio: audience studies; community radio; content (programming and genre); digitisation; new or revised research methodologies; social networks. Papers in languages other than English are very welcome, but in the absence of funding for translation services, paper proposers are encouraged to consider ways of communicating their research to as wide a range of participants as possible. This may involve showing a PowerPoint in English or another of the widely-used European languages.

In common with other sections, the timetable for submission is as follows:

- 28 February 2010: Deadline for online submission
- End of April 2010: Notification of acceptance
- 15 September 2010: Deadline for submission of full papers (for online publication)

Professor Guy Starkey,  
Chair, Radio Research Section,  
January 2010