

Leading Research Environment Newsletter
Issue 5 – Spring 2018

Global Media – Politics of Mediated Communication

Welcome to the fifth issue of the biannual Research Newsletter published by the Department of Media Studies' Leading Research Environment in Global Media Studies and Politics of Mediated Communication (LRE)*. The LRE Guest Professor Anu Kantola from the Department of Social Research and Media and Communication Studies at Helsinki University visited us during April. On April 10, Kantola delivered her *Global Media Café* public lecture entitled "In the Mood for Power: Media, Emotions and Power". In her talk, Prof. Kantola emphasized the importance of connecting media studies with "a sociology of emotions" in understanding the linkages between the power elite and mediatization. Her research is based on a project entitled "Modern Styles of Power in Finland, 1945-2015", in which she studied representations of power figures in Finnish magazines during this period. Prof. Kantola's Higher Seminar, held on April 12, was entitled "Hidden and Connected: How do Affluent Participate in Public Affairs?". Drawing upon a paper, the seminar presentation discussed how wealthy classes participate in public affairs. The research presented was based on interviews conducted in Finland.

The highlight of the Spring-term LRE activities was the ICA-preconference entitled "Global Media and Human Rights" that the LRE members organized in Prague on May 23-24. The preconference was co-sponsored by five ICA divisions: ERIC (Ethnicity in Race and Communication); Political Communication; Environmental Communication; Global Communication and Social Change; Philosophy, Theory and Critique. The keynote talks were delivered by the past LRE Guest Professors Lilie Chouliaraki of the London School of Economics, and Silvio Waisbord of George Washington University. The first day of the preconference included four sessions and seven presentations. The second day was constituted of two keynote talks and five sessions. A total of thirty-two papers were presented during these two days and the event was well-attended.

Our Fall 2018 LRE Guest Professor Shakuntala Rao, professor at the Department of Communication Studies, State University of New York, will be visiting us during September. Prof. Rao's *Global Media Café* Public Lecture will take place on September 26 and is entitled "No Country for (Women) Journalists: Lives of Women Covering Politics and Sexual Violence in Indian Media". Her Higher Seminar is scheduled for September 20 and is entitled "Integrating Amartya Sen's Capabilities Approach to Media and Journalism Studies". The lecture will underline the importance of incorporating Sen's work in the area of economics to media and journalism studies.

September is also the month when we will submit our four-year LRE report to the faculty. This includes a compilation of the LRE output since the beginning of 2015, and, importantly, the publication list of all LRE researchers in the department, including those dated 2018.

**Steering Committee*: Miyase Christensen (dir.), Anna Roosvall, Ester Pollack, Alexa Robertson, Kristina Riegert, Christian Christensen and Kari-Andén Papadopoulos. *Assistant to the Steering Committee*: Martin Karlsson and Rebecca Bengtsson.

As we look forward to welcoming our new LRE post-doctoral researcher Greta Gober who will join us in October 2018, we take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the previous post-doctoral researcher Florencia Enghel, whose term ended at the beginning of 2018, and wish her our very best in her current and future research.

As we start the Fall term, and as always, JMK researchers are most welcome and encouraged to propose and host *Global Media Cafés*. These could take the form of mini conferences, symposia, seminars or colloquia.

Wish you all a happy Fall!

LRE Steering Group