The International Environmental Communication Association

Biennial Report
2021-2023



A message from the Chair of the Board

The mission of the International Environmental Communication Association (IECA) is to foster effective and inspiring communication that alleviates environmental issues and conflicts and solves the problems that cause them. We are an organization of people who seek in diverse, but connected, ways to be agents of change in our local and global communities. We use communication in all its forms to highlight environmental harms, and to seek solutions. Internationally interconnected by the IECA, our members strive to be agents of transformational change.

We have worked towards this mission over the past two years in a variety of ways, while as an organization, still recovering from the impacts of COVID-19. Disconnected by pandemic travel restrictions, we connected online in 2021 for our first online conference. This was a successful foray into the dimension of online-only – though we likely all missed the serendipitous conversations and collaborations that coming together in person brings.

The IECA has also faced financial challenges. This has driven the need for a thorough re-think of the model on which the organization has run since its inception. We have embarked on an era of organizational change. This is a new chapter for the IECA in which we aim to become financially stable, to offer more value and interest to our members, and to be more relevant to a wider set of stakeholders, globally. We have started a new "Sounds like Sustainability" webinar series, which presents conversations with global sustainability leaders and thinkers, and we will soon start offering a variety of short course study offerings and other training opportunities, relevant to our field. We are building greater outreach and larger networks through social media. And, to represent ourselves in a more contemporary way to the world, we are currently working on a new website.

The IECA has also had a change in executive director leadership, with the departure of our previous Executive Director, Mark Meissner. We are using this moment to re-think the staffing model the IECA, pursuing a model that is more financially sustainable and makes our key focus our members. The IECA is currently ably staffed by interim Executive Director, Katie Hunt, and the search for a longer-term ED will begin shortly.

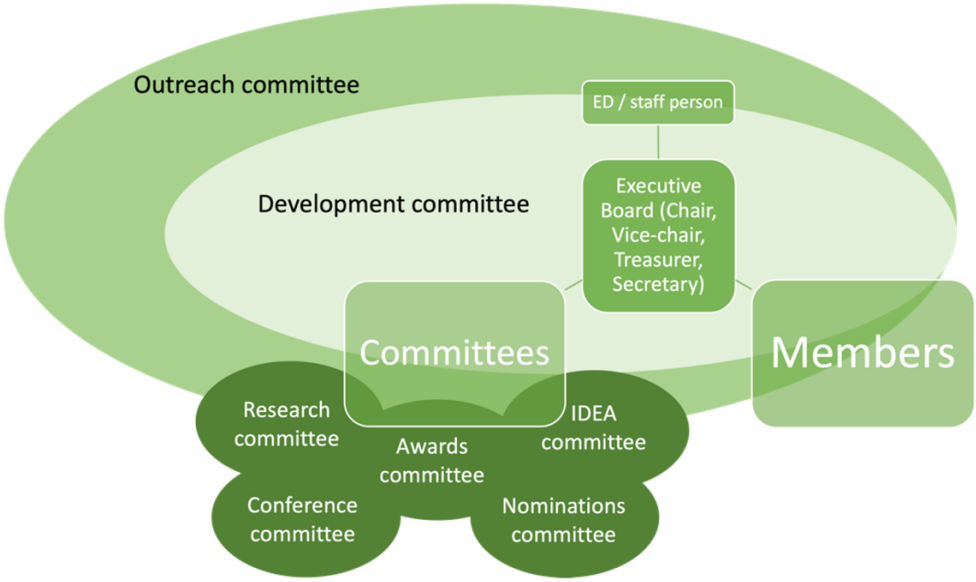
As an international association with members from all around the world, IECA facilitates a wonderful transdisciplinary network of practitioners, artists, professional communicators, and those who teach and research in academic settings. We value the dialogue between these spheres, and with this report, we want to stimulate this dialogue further, telling you about the activities of the organization over the past two years to inspire us all. We hope that this will help us to collect our thoughts for reimagining the IECA into the future.

Franzisca Weder, Chair of the Board

Our IECA: Board and committees

The IECA is a charitable organization registered under 501 (c) (3) of the US Internal Revenue Code. As such, it is authorized to carry out its activities for charitable, educational and scientific purposes.

The IECA is led by a Board, currently of 13 members. We also have a Board Executive, which constitutes the Board Chair, the vice-Chair, the Treasurer and the Secretary. The Board is assisted by committees, constituting both Board members and non-Board IECA members. This image represents the various different spheres of the IECA, which run the organization for our members, including the various committees involved in this task. The work of some, for example, the Research Committee, is quite discrete, whereas the Development and Outreach Committees work right across the organization.



ED/staff:
Katie Hunt

Executive Board:
Franzisca Weder (outgoing Chair)
Gabi Mocatta (vice-Chair, incoming Chair)
Mira Rochyadi-Reetz (Secretary, returning)
Steve Depoe (Treasurer, returning)

Current Board:
Catherine Bruns (returning)
Sibo Chen (returning)
Robert Cox (outgoing)
Shirley Ho (returning)
Hanna Morris (returning)
Tadesse Amera Sahilu (outgoing)
Jen Rae (outgoing)
Leonor Solis (outgoing)
Anke Wonneberger (returning)

New incoming:
Kundai Chirindo
Bruno Takahashi
Etsuko Kinefuchi
Dara Wald (vice-Chair)

Journal editor:
Shirley S. Ho (outgoing – 31/12/23)
Phaedra Pezzullo (incoming – 1/01/24)

Our IECA: Our vision

Our vision is to be a thriving, well-supported, and collaborative professional nexus of people and organizations whose environmental communication teaching, research, projects, campaigns, creations, and other activities are helping to achieve environmental health and justice.

In the sections below, we elaborate on how the various apects of the IECA's management are working towards this vision.

1. Membership Trends 2023 Report

For the IECA, as a professional nexus of practitioners, teachers, scholars, students, artists, and organizations, members, the broad knowledge they bring and the diverse activities they undertake are essential. Membership is also crucial because this is primarily what funds our organization. IECA members are indeed the lifeblood of our organization. The legitimacy and sustainability of the IECA depends on our ability to cultivate a professional community, attract and recruit new members, and offer benefits our members find meaningful and relevant to their professional interests.

Membership generally tends to increase during conference years and decrease in off-years. However, recent years show a slight downward trend in the total number of individual members. Several factors contributed to this decline, including pandemic-related stress and stagnated outreach. Efforts made since January 2023 since the commencement of the new interim executive director include: extension of the winter membership renewal period, founding/lifetime membership campaign (spearheaded by the IECA Treasurer) and the membership renewal drive for COCE 2023. These generated four new Lifetime memberships, 26 additional members in the Regular category, and a 33% increase in the number of Student members.

The following table summarises membership numbers since the organisation was founded in 2011.

IECA Membership Summary- Updated as of June 1 2023

Membership Category	# of Individuals												
Year	**2011**	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**	**2023**
Lifetime	n/a	n/a	1	6	9	13	17	17	18	22	22	24	28
Supporting	n/a	n/a	11	12	19	23	27	23	22	13	9	12	11
Regular	199	191	154	164	203	161	217	157	235	169	196	150	178
Modest Means	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	27	41	42	64	34	40	26	28
Student	67	52	60	60	157	129	142	42	122	42	76	36	48
Professional	n/a	9	23	21	59	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Organizational*	7	2	20	40	41	43	54	48	48	41	48	44	41
Lower Income Country Regular	18	12	16	18	22	26	47	32	44	27	36	45	47
Lower Income Country Student	9	7	8	6	7	6	7	6	4	4	4	n/a	n/a
Lower Income Country Professional	n/a	2	1	4	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lower Income Country Organizational	1	0	0	0	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Explorer	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	40	0	70	1
Complimentary	0	1	0	0	3	4	3	2	4	4	9	6	12
TOTAL number of individuals	**301**	**276**	**294**	**331**	**521**	**432**	**555**	**369**	**561**	**396**	**440**	**413**	**394**
*Total number of organizations	8	2	6	10	9	9	11	9	9	8	9	9	9

Katie Hunt, Interim Executive Director

2. Partnerships

In the past two years we have explored various new avenues for partnerships. Since 2021, we have been able to strengthen established relationships to the International Communication Association (ICA), where the IECA has a panel slot at the ICA conference every year. A call comes out each year for panel proposals, and this panel can be organized by any IECA member(s) In 2023, the panel was entitled "Engaging Authenticity in Environmental Communication Through Arts-Based Research and Pedagogy", led by Geo Takach as representative IECA member.

The IECA is an official non-governmental organization observer to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. We foster this link through ongoing engagement with the UNFCC Conference of the Parties (COP) which members can apply to attend. In addition to this, our to-date loose collaboration with the Public Communication of Science and Technology Network (PCST) was strengthened. Anke Wonneberger attended the conference early in 2023 and represented the IECA at the closing panel on possibilities for collaborations. We agreed on a closer collaboration, especially in the space of public engagement.

Our collaboration with the International Association of Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) has also been strengthened. IECA is now an institutional member and IAMCR is offering 10 free IAMCR memberships to IECA members. Furthermore, we have two NEW collaborations, firstly with the "Communicating Green" Environmental Communication Center in Skopje, Macedonia, and with Scientists4Future International. In addition to the shared public outreach and engagement, we're also developing collaborations on training opportunities and coursework with the Environmental Communication Center in Skopje.

Franzisca Weder, Chair of the Board.

3. Treasurer's Report

Steve Depoe became Treasurer of the IECA in June, 2022, succeeding Barb Willard in that role. IECA thanks Barb Willard and her predecessors (Hollie Smith, Jen Schneider) for their tireless efforts on behalf of the organization.

The financial status of the organization can be summarized in the following points:

- The organization has never achieved financial stability due to a number of factors: a) lack of a business plan at launch in 2011; b) high staff costs (as a percentage of the annual budget and annual revenues); c) inadequate diversity of revenue streams (over-reliance on membership dues and conference fees); d) a website that quickly became outmoded and not optimally functional and was neither upgraded nor replaced, requiring a large proportion of staff hours for maintainance, and 3) flat-to-declining membership numbers, particularly in non-conference years.
- The pandemic significantly weakened the IECA's financial position, resulting in three bad years in a row. In 2020 the organisation had a net loss of ~$45k and 2022, a net loss of ~$27k, which were especially calamitous.
- IECA ended 2022 with its lowest carry-forward cash balance (~$17k) since 2014.

The IECA Board has responded to this financial situation with the following steps:

- The Board passed a 2023 budget that allocated up to $13k for a new website platform that will include a new member management system and learning management system. This new website should come online by the end of the summer of 2023.
- After reaching agreement with Exec Director Mark Meisner to end his term at the end of 2022, we hired Katie Hunt as Interim Exec Director starting January 1, 2023. A Board-authorized task force recommended a reshaping of the staff position (more focused job description, lower costs), which the Board approved at a special meeting in May 2023. A search for a new "Association Manager" will begin in June 2023.
- The Board approved a plan from the Development Committee to launch a new series of online, on-demand education and training courses that will re-open this revenue stream and help IECA fulfill its mission of promoting ethical environmental communication around the world. The first of these courses is scheduled to launch in September.
- As part of negotiating a new affiliation agreement pertaining to the journal *Environmental Communication*, the IECA Research Committee opened a conversation with publisher (and copyright holder) Taylor & Francis, concerning possible remuneration for the significant amount of labor undertaken by individual authors, reviewers and editors, and the IECA overall on behalf of what is now the flagship journal in the EC field.

We aim for these steps to consolidate the way the organization works, and to diversify both our income streams, and the way the world sees us. We believe that such efforts will help to stabilize and turn around the financial position of the IECA, so that it can be sustainable and in a healthy financial state, well into the future.

Steve Depoe, Treasurer.

4. The Journal

Our journal, *Environmental Communication*, has progressed well over the last two years. Based on the Taylor and Francis metrics report of September 2022 the current journal metrics are as follows:

2021 Downloads: 241K
2021 IF: 3.389
2021 Citescore: 5.0
Median days Submission to first decision: 8
Median days acceptance to online publication: 32
Acceptance rate: 20%
Impact factor best quartile: Q2
2021 Citescore best quartile: Q1

In addition, two most recent issues published in EC are: Volume 17, Issue 3: Special Issue on "Environmental Debates in the Time of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Media, Communication, and the Public". Co-Edited by Shirley Ho, Norie Singer, Janet Yang, Senja Post, Tsing-Jen Shih, Liang Chen, Silje Kristiansen, and Bruno Takahashi. Volume 17, Issue 4: A regular issue which includes 1 advanced review article and 6 research articles. For the year 2023, there are 4 more remaining issues to go, which hopefully, will include the 2 special issues: 1) New Technology and Environmental Communication: Challenges, Opportunities, and Emerging Agendas (SI Editors: Liang Chen and Jolie Shi) and 2) The Authority of Science in a Crisis Narrative. Scientific Expertise, Knowledge and Advocacy in Environmental Communication (SI Editors: Franzisca Weder and Sarah Kohler).

Shirley Ho, Editor, *Environmental Communication*

5. The IECA Task Force

Chair: Gabi Mocatta
Members: Fran Weder, Steve Depoe, Dara Wald, Kundai Chirindo, Etsuko Kinefuchi, Katie Hunt

The Task Force was formed in early 2023 with two key tasks in mind:

- to choose a new website platform and enable the development of a new website and learning management system for the IECA, and
- to envision the role of the new staff person for the IECA, to explore different models of staffing, to write a job description, and to bring potential staffing options to the board for consideration and voting.

The Task Force undertook an audit of the current site and also polled members on how they perceived the site, with recommendations for changes and thoughts on what should stay. The Task Force then chose website and Association Management provider, YourMembership to provide the website platform, learning management system and design work. Katie Hunt is currently working closely with the YourMembership team to build the site – which will be launched later in 2023. This will be a completely new "look and feel" for the IECA, and importantly, a much more streamlined and efficient way to run our virtual spaces as an association, freeing the IECA staff person to take on other tasks.

As this report was being written, a strategy for advertising for our new staff member was being formulated, and a Search Committee was being put together. This committee will have the task of adevtising for, evaluating applications and interviewing for the IECA's new staff person. We plan for that process to begin from late June 2023.

Gabi Mocatta

6. Board Committees

All board members are part of a hands-on board that helps keep the organization running. This means that every board member is part of a committee, and some board members chair committees. Board members and all committee members are volunteers. If you would like to volunteer your time with any of these committees, please get in touch (gabi.mocatta@theieca.org). Here, we share some insights into the work of the various committees over the past two years.

a) Conference Committee

Chair: Anke Wonneberger

Members: Pete Bsumek (chair of local conference committee), Emma Bloomfield (program co-chair), Pieter Maeseele (program co-chair), Yvonne Love (arts submissions and curation), Catherine Bruns (chair of graduate student pre-conference committee), Steve Depoe, Barbara Willard, Franzisca Weder, Gabi Mocatta, Andrea Martinez (local conference committee), Alison Bodkin (local conference committee), Katie Hunt (ex officio), Mark Meisner (ex officio, until December 2022)

Starting in the fall of 2021, the Conference Committee has been working toward the 17th biennial Conference on Communication and Environment (COCE 2023), taking place from June 5-9, 2023 at James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia. The conference is being hosted by the School of Communication Studies at James Madison University with Pete Bsumek as chair of the local

committee. This year's conference theme is "Many Voices, One Planet: Accounting for the Past and Narrating Sustainable Futures." This theme offers a platform for environmental communication research, practice, arts, and activism dealing with the diversity of voices that raise concerns about our planet. Addressing questions of diversity and inclusion, the theme emphasizes the need to reconcile the many injustices of the past and present in order to move forward and create narratives about just and sustainable futures.

While we are grafeful to finally being able to meet again in person at COCE 2023, the IECA continues to support virtual participation. This is made possible via the digital conference platform, Four Waves, which allows hybrid sessions, virtual poster presentations and meeting spaces. At the time of writing, 242 attendees have been registered of which 74 will attend remotely.

Invited speakers include: Alexandra Lawrence (Senior Advisor for Climate, Office of Global Operations at the Peace Corps), Steven David Johnson (conservation photographer and Professor of Visual and Communication Arts at Eastern Mennonite University), Laurie Moberg (Open Rivers editor and project manager of Environmental Stewardship, Place, and Community Initiative at the University of Minnesota). In addition, we have invited the following artists: Rebecca Rutstein, Deirdre Murphy, Yvonne and David Love, and Julia Clift.

Several key goals of the IECA such as the aim to bridge environmental communication practice, arts and science as well as supporting graduate students and young professionals are reflected in the conference program. For the first time, the first conference day is dedicated to a range of workshops in addition to the Graduate Student Pre-Conference. Moreover, organized excursions and field trips during the conference aim to expand the conference experience with additional possibilities to learn and meet people outside of panel sessions. Fundraising was another cornerstone of planning this conference and we thank all our partners and supporters that have helped us tremendously in making this event possible.

b) Future Conferences Task Force

Members: Anke Wonneberger, Steve Depoe, Barbara Willard, Franzisca Weder, Gabi Mocatta

In March 2023, the IECA Board assigned a temporary task force to review and decide on proposals to host COCE 2025 and to initiate the COCE 2025 planning process and future conference planning. Based on the earlier IECA Board decision to consider the initial offer of the University of Tasmania submitted in 2019 to host COCE 2021 (which had to be moved to virtual due to the pandemic), the group has reviewed the original proposal and has worked with the host committee toward a revised proposal for COCE 2025. We are happy to be able to officially announce during COCE 2023 that the next conference will be held at the University of Tasmania, Hobart, Australia, in 2025. In addition, the group has prepared a new call for COCE 2027 to be announced in Virginia.

Anke Wonneberger

c) Research and Publications Committee

Chair: Steve Depoe
Members: Kundai Chirindo

Editor Search Committee members: Steve Depoe (chair), Kundai Chirindo, Silje Kristiansen, Ed Maibach, Tema Milstein, Gabi Mocatta.

The Research Committee has engaged in two tasks since the start of 2023. Initially, it undertook the search for new journal editor. Taylor & Francis and the IECA Board jointly decided that 2023 would be

the last year of Shirley Ho's editorship of *Environmental Communication.* Thanks to Shirley for her many years of service on behalf of the journal. A six-person search committee conducted a search for the next editor of *Environmental Communication*. Seven individuals applied for the position. The committee deemed four of the applicants as qualified, interviewed two of those candidates in March 2023, and identified Phaedra Pezzullo as the preferred candidate. Professor Pezzullo was approved as the Editor-Select by Taylor & Francis, and now awaits a contract before starting on a three year term as Editor beginning on January 1, 2024.

Additionally, the Research Committee worked on negotiations towards a new affiliation agreement with Taylor & Francis. While the IECA does not own the copyright to the journal *Environmental Communication*, the organization has reached previous affiliation agreements with Taylor & Francis that provided IECA members with significant discounts for online subscriptions to the journal as well as the opportunity to conduct searches for journal editors as needed. The current agreement expired at the end of 2022, and the two parties continue to operate on a temporary extension of that agreement. The research committee is negotiating with the company over the following issues:

- moving the journal from the Earth and Environmental Sciences portfolio to the Communication, Cultural and Media Studies portfolio.
- formalizing the relationship between the company, the association, and the editor position (reporting responsibility, annual evaluations, sharing of annual publisher report).
- devising a means of remuneration for the association for the significant amount of intellectual labor its members undertake on behalf of the journal (Taylor & Francis currently owns the copyright).
- exploring ways to enhance open-access publishing opportunities by lowering article processing charges (APC) for IECA members, including members from low-income countries.

Based on a letter transmitted by IECA and co-signed by leaders of the Environmental Communication Divisions of NCA, ICA, IAMCR, ECREA, and AEJMC-COMSHER, Taylor & Francis has agreed to move the journal to the Communication, Media and Cultural Studies section of the company's journal collection. We are now in communication with Fiona Richmond of T&F concerning the other items on our negotiating list.

Steve Depoe

d) Outreach Committee

Chair: Sibo Chen (replaced Michaeleen Gallagher in June 2022)

One of the biggest challenges of COVID-19 was the impact of curbs to international travel and networking. Universities restricted their support for conference participation, research travel and memberships so that all professional associations faced challenges. This situation also offered opportunities to create a new understanding of what assocations, like ours, do, and stand for.

Impacted partly by COVID, the outreach committee has been on hiatus, but we will resume planning and producing content to attract new members once the new IECA website is launched in June-July 2023. In particular, we are currently exploring the possibility of featuring research by IECA members and friends on our new site following the new website launch. In the meantime, we have enacted our oureach through increased engagement on social media: particularly Twitter and LinkedIn.

In terms out outreach, we also added the IECA Webinar series 'Sounds like Sustainability' led by Franzisca Weder. The first webinar took place in April 2022. This was started as a series, and was developed with input from the Outreach Committee. The intent is to create more content around IECA themes, and invite more engagement. Sounds like Sustainability aims to provide practitioners, scholars, artists and other interested folks the chance to learn about and discuss key topics in the practice of environmental and sustainability communication. This work crosses over with the work of the Development Committee. There have been 10 webinars to date. The webinars were envisioned and established by the Outreach Committee – witch Michaeleen Gallagher as chair.

Sibo Chen and Franzisca Weder

e) Nominations and Elections Committee

Chair: Gabi Mocatta
Members: Franzisca Weder, Steve Depoe, Tema Milstein

One of our core values as an organization is to support and facilitate people who are willing to serve as IECA Board members. To that end, the IECA's biennial elections were held in late 2022, preceded by a call for members to self-nominate for Board roles. Nominations were called for in October 2022, with the member voting period held online at the beginning of November. The vote winners were: Dara Wald (vice-Chair); Bruno Takahashi, Kundai Chirindo and Etsuko Kinefuchi. Thse three new board members will join the board to replace outgoing members in June 2023. The IECA thanks all the members who put their names forward to serve, and congratulates those who were elected. The rest of the Board looks forward to working with you.

Gabi Mocatta

f) Awards Committee

Chair: Robert Cox
Members: Hanna Morris, Carrie Packwood Freeman, Elja Roy, Jennifer Inaba, and Joshua Trey Barnett.

In 2022, after the pandemic, the Awards Committee was reconstituted with a strong, diverse membership. After reviewing relationships with allied organizations, it proposed IECA join the International Media and Communication Research Association as an "institutional member." As a result, the Committee designated three IECA members and five students (including international members) as "Representatives" to IAMCR, enabling them to register for IAMCR conferences at reduced member costs and apply for its *Climate Communication Award*.

During 2023, the Committee selected four awards for the Conference on Communication and Environment: top papers as well as top poster and art awards. These are to be awarded during the 2023 conference. Finally, the committee has begun to draft two new (non-COCE) IECA awards. The first is a Global South award recognizing a scholar, artist, or practitioner who is engaged in significant environmental communication research, artistic production, or practice. The second is a Project Proposal award in support of a student or emerging scholar in an important research or artistic project furthering environmental communication.

Robert Cox

g) Graduate student representative

Chair: Catherine Bruns
Members: Josh Ettinger, Patrick Jamar, Cassandra Troy

Since taking on the role of IECA Graduate Student Representative in January 2022, the Grad Student Rep has participated in quarterly Board Meetings, served on the Conference Committee, chaired the Grad Student Pre-Conference Planning Committee, and advocated for IECA graduate students within and beyond the Association.

As always, the primary focus of the Grad Student Rep has been to design, promote, and facilitate a Graduate Student Pre-Conference that supports the research, teaching, and professional development of environmentally minded graduate students. With the assistance of a high-caliber Pre-Conference Planning Committee, the 2023 COCE Graduate Student Pre-Conference (to be held Monday, June 5) includes two roundtable discussions and two hands-on workshops with eight leading voices in environmental communication. Although the decision to hold the Pre-Conference exclusively in-person did yield a smaller number of registrants, the Pre-Conference Planning Committee is confident that this modality will provide graduate students the high-quality, interactive experience they need to achieve success within and beyond academia. Many thanks to the Pre-Conference speakers, attendees, and planning team members involved in this event.

The term of the 2022-24 Grad Student Representative expires in January 2024; all eligible graduate students are encouraged to reach out in-person or via email at Bruns146@umn.edu with questions or to express interest in taking on this position next term.

Catherine Bruns

h) Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Committee

In 2022, the IECA IDEA committee drafted a vision statement – a living document that aims to provide clarity around terminology used in the planning and development of the IECA Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access guidelines and activities. This statement is the first step of the work of the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Committee of the IECA. The committee aims to address Goal 3 of the IECA Strategic Plan: Foster diversity and inclusion (specifically in terms of geography, socio-economics, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexuality, discipline, and career trajectory) within environmental communication. We recognise the complexities and nuances of language across contexts, timescales, disciplines and cultures and invite others to contribute feedback and content. We welcome the opportunity to extend this work to other languages, notamment en français.

The committee conducted several working groups to brainstorm on the vision statement and membership questionnaire. The questionnaire will provide some guidance and understanding on how the to the membership perceive the IECA so far when it comes to diversity and inclusion. We want to use the survey data as an input to create a strategy or actions that could conducted by the IECA in to be more inclusive in the future.

With many IECA changes and developments in the past year, the IDEA committee has been on hold and will be picking up its work again soon including redrafting our action plan and sending out the questionnaire to members to inform the final iteration of the vision statement.

Jen Rae

i) Development Committee

Chair: Steve Depoe
Members: Etsuko Kindefuchi, Nan Li, Soenke Lorenzen, Kristin Timm, Franzisca Weder

Since the Fall of 2022, the Development Committee has been working on developing a new revenue stream for IECA based on offering education and training courses to a variety of audiences. These new courses wouldd replace the "Environmental Communication: Research into Practice" course that had been offered twice a year by former IECA Executive Director Mark Meisner. IECA has contracted with an outside vendor to create a new Learning Management System (LMS) that will allow the organization to offer on-line, on-demand courses leading to badges and certificates. Target audiences include non-academic practitioners, K-12 educators and others. Initial courses to be offered will include: Intro to EC: Foundations (Steve Depoe), Intro to EC: Applications (Steve Depoe), and Sustainability Communication (Franzisca Weder). Depoe and Weder are donating their time and materials related to these courses to IECA. The committee has discussed collaborating on course marketing and delivery with non-profit organizations such as Greenpeace as well as other educational institutions such as the Institute for Communication Studies (Macedonia). IECA will issue a call for proposals for additional courses before the end of 2023.

Steve Depoe

7. In closing

As an international association with members from all around the world, IECA seeks to be different. Instead of an academic or professional organization, we are a transdisciplinary network of practitioners, artists, professional communicators, and those who teach and research in academic settings.

In the future, we want to use the relationships and connections within our network and beyond to open up more conversational spaces where we can meet and debate about how to communicate about and for a socio-ecological transformation towards more regenerative human-nature relationships. We are looking forward to reimagining the IECA into the future with you.

IECA Open Board Meeting at COCE 8 June 2023

Please read this report, and bring any questions or comments with you to the Open Board Meeting at COCE 2023 (on the ground or online) – or get in touch:
franzisca.weder@theieca.org; gabi.mocatta@theieca.org; steve.depoe@theieca.org; katie.hunt@theieca.org