



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR
MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION RESEARCH
ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES ETUDES
ET RECHERCHES SUR L'INFORMATION ET LA COMMUNICATION
ASOCIACION INTERNACIONAL DE INVESTIGACION
SOBRE LA COMUNICACION SOCIAL

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May 7, 1998

Dear Colleague,

Enclosed is the Report of the President prepared for the Glasgow conference. You will also find a number of documents related to our last General Assembly in Sydney and our upcoming General Assembly in Scotland. Please bring these documents with you to Glasgow. The possibility to reproduce documents at the conference is very limited, and we greatly appreciate your cooperation.

The Report of the Treasurer will be prepared in time for the Glasgow conference. With this report, you will also find the 1998 Membership Directory and a special directory of IAMCR's women scholars, both of which were prepared by the IAMCR Treasurer's office.

We look forward to seeing many of you in Glasgow this July.

Cordially,

Hamid Mowlana
President

Gertrude J. Robinson
Treasurer



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Report of the President

1998

In this, my final report as President of IAMCR, an association and community for which I have had the honor and pleasure to serve over the past four years, I leave you with a few notes and with memories of the future for which I have worked. This report is based on the President's Column from the March 1998 IAMCR newsletter, with further updates on our most current activities.

In an attempt to envision a different future for our association as a community, I proposed in my first presidential address that we treat seriously the proposition that the present is the prologue of all history. Instead of framing the past as the prologue of the present and retreading the well-worn path of where we have been, where we are and where we are going, I choose an alternative route, a different narrative with which to inform the memories of the future. We cannot simply resolve the problems of the future by providing a rational structure to the past. We need new attitudes toward collective symbols and new ways and thoughts for facing them creatively. There are past facts, present options, and future possibilities, but there are no past possibilities and there are no future facts.

The stories which shape our lives are multidimensional, as are the histories which have informed my experience with IAMCR over the past three decades. My ties to IAMCR are, and have always been, multicultural. Influenced by the ever more diverse cultural tapestry of our international association, my observations of the world never stop changing. Not only has IAMCR afforded me the opportunity to engage in dialogue with scholars from different backgrounds, but this conversation has provided me with insight concerning the values which inform communication research, as well as a desire to develop discursive forms and fora through which to organize this dialogue. Not only are we an association of communication scholars, but we are a community of scholars whose growth is contingent on our own communication. As we continue to grow as a community, the narratives of our association will become increasingly polyphonic, giving voice to and orchestrating the diverse symbols and values which guide communication research.

IAMCR'S INTELLECTUAL PATH AND RESEARCH AGENDA

If, as a research association, we are to foster an environment hospitable to the critique of progress, denoted by the one-dimensional framework of technological and economic development, then we must build and reflect on our association in a way which does not perpetuate the binary oppositions of past narratives. Until very recently, the narratives which guided our intellectual discourse were framed by the political and philosophical oppositions of the Cold War. The image of the post-World War II era which influenced the direction and activities of IAMCR for more than three decades of its history are not dead, for they still have their adherents. The debates between "administrative" and "critical" paradigms continue. However, neither of these paradigms have the power to energize our membership's imagination in any collective sense. Today, we have no comforting images of greatness and progress that speak to us all. The unshakeable god-like belief in ideologies that determine all historical events down to the smallest detail is no longer a living intellectual faith, and the alternative belief -- that individuals alone could direct history toward the ultimate goal of a good society -- is equally shattered.

As critical theorists, we need to recognize that, by definition, there is not one critical framework, but many forms of critique, spanning different epistemological schools of thought. Critical theory is self-reflexive and dialogical, demanding that intellectual communities maintain a critical posture toward their own assumptions and discursive structures. As communication theorists, we must remain critical of our own disciplinary framework, deconstructing the ideological formations which gave rise to communication as a field of study.

As denoted by the often used and confused slogan, "communication revolution," our field of study is poised on the edge of a future which, by definition, is beyond our comprehension and control. Despite this uncertainty, I feel that we have common roots in some dominant vision, a sort of shared dream uniquely fitting our historic period: searching for a new meaning of community and the values with which to create a new sense of culture. Our dream is that many of our current underlying structures, assumptions, and practices about community and society must undergo immense recasting.

Be it in the name of a functional or dialectic materialism, the iron clad time-laws of the social sciences and the mechanism of economic reductionism do not provide us with a means of envisioning the values and meanings which ground peoples and cultures in webs of communication and community. The social sciences fail to explain, let alone predict, the events and changes which have made a difference in our time. The collective memory and social solidarity of peoples and cultures continues to defy deterministic laws and linear equations. The field of communication is bursting with energy and movement, but this energy and movement is not confined to the scientific study of information and material production, the interactions of political elite and national actors, or the metric scales of policy analysis and the behavioral sciences. The revolution in communication should be a revolution from below, mobilizing the cultural, ecological and spiritual connections of global communities.

Underlying the emerging power base of these communities is the ethical challenge of communication theories and practices which promote and preserve the difference that relates. Not only were the social sciences incapable of grounding themselves in the universal regulations and constancy of the natural sciences, but paradigm shifts in the natural sciences

have cast a suspicious eye on the positivism, reductionism, determinism and mechanism to which the social sciences continue to cling. With developments in the physical and natural sciences -- from the fields of ecology, cybernetics and medicine to theories of complexity and self-organization -- the sciences have shifted their focus from a mechanistic to communicative framework. We must envision and bring to fruition a communication theory which is not grounded in economics and the social sciences, but reconceptualizes economics and the social sciences from the perspective of communication. We have yet to answer the questions which humanity has been struggling with since time immemorial: what is communication? The ferment in the field of communication is not conceived as a theory or discipline, but instead as a paradigm shift which will transform the framework of the physical, natural and social sciences. This paradigm shift will redirect the focus of intellectual discourse toward the differences that connect knowledge -- its values and symbols -- across geo-political and disciplinary divisions.

Alongside the paradigm shift in the sciences, we have witnessed, over the last decade, a profound transformation of the arts and humanities. Be it under the name of postmodernism, deconstruction, multiculturalism, feminism or subaltern studies, the social and symbolic construction of identity and community is no longer confined to those texts canonized under the "classics of Western civilization." Be it with a deconstructive reading of the Western philosophical corpus, a postmodern reading of popular culture, or with the new philosophical and epistemological developments of alternative areas of inquiry, the values and symbols which inform the arts and humanities have become dialogical, bridging disciplinary and geo-political divisions.

We search for meanings and values which are not simply a new and improved version of the past. The problems and challenges inherent to the history of the present demand a re-reading of the past and the remembering of futures past. The end of the Cold War is not to be confused with the end of history or the triumph of liberal ideology, but instead with the emergence of different histories and other voices. The crisis of historic master-narratives accounts for the revolutionary crack in time, in which the past, present and future overlap, bringing to the fore those problems and challenges which have defined cultures and civilizations from time immemorial.

There is a progressive loss of mastery over our own destiny as machines and digital information and communication theory are used to explain our everyday life. Ironically, in societies that are known as "information rich," a dangerous level of information deprivation often exists. To combat elitism and poverty of information, we in academia must provide an intellectual forum in which planners can be criticized and challenged and new ideas can enter the social imagination. Five centuries have passed since the invention of the printing press, yet by the end of the 1990s, one-fifth of the world's adults lack the capacity to take advantage of this invention. Although the percentage or proportion of the population affected is diminishing slowly, the number of illiterates is greater today than it was twenty years ago. Is this included in our discourse on human rights or are we simply interested in the number of those who use the Internet and whose commercial publications and discourse are supposed to be protected as a matter of universal rights?

IAMCR AND GLOBAL ISSUES

As a research organization committed to the challenges and problems of the increasingly divisive and turbulent sphere of our global information-communication (dis)order, our work is cut out for us. Not only must we reflect on and intervene in the political conflicts, challenges and opportunities inherent to the economics of our evolving communication infrastructure, but we must not allow ourselves to be swept away by the currents of change. The future denoted by our "information era" and "communication revolution" fails to account for, and even obliterates, the memories which ground peoples and communities in their social, cultural and spiritual lifeworld. The tragedy of our so-called new world order is informed and misinformed by a mass mediated and commodity culture which subjugates and enslaves peoples to the abstract and operational imperative of technological demands. How are we, as an association and community reflexively embedded within this technological discourse, to work through the socio-symbolic disintegrations of our era?

Our current problems will not simply pass away. The history of future communication must give voice to the ghosts of the past: the ghosts which, without voice, explode onto the scene with blood shed in the name of nationalism and ethnicity. Can we hear the silent cry of those victimized by the technological and economic warfare of our information and communication revolutions? Can our communication paradigms and theories account for the specters which haunt our era, calling forth other histories or the history of others? If, on the one hand, we must address the challenges and problems of communication from the history of the present, on the other hand, we must return eternally to the questions which transcend the limited perspective of the fleeting present. Any attempt to understand the epic proportions of our historic moment must expand its spatial and temporal horizons, shifting the focus from disciplinary knowledge to the perspective of civilizations. The sense of information and communication objectified and monopolized by our industrial civilization is only one form of information and communication, framed by theories of economic growth. Information in the form of skill and knowledge preceded capital formations, and in many ways characterizes all stages of human history.

The will and desire of communication is grounded in the ecological connections of human nature, and will not abide by the all-too-human constructs of the nation-state and the governmentality of its socio-political institutions. Uprooted from the organic ground and transcendent values of collective memory and social solidarity -- that is, the symbolic horizon which links communication and community -- the political identifications conjured by the nation-state system can only imprison us within our nationalistic biases, limiting our capacity to grow, and moving us along a road to nowhere. The politics of a knowledge which remains wedded to the nation-state model can only become defensive and reactive toward the multiple and hybrid identities inherent to our global web of communicative and cultural relations. We must transcend the bureaucratic model which has guided the design of our association. IAMCR is a research organization, not a governmental organization. To transcend the narratives of real politics and encourage IAMCR along a new vision, we must think of our association not in terms of a nation-state system or federations, but instead as a global-communal house where we can all congregate around the noble and universal nature of our discipline. In my opinion, IAMCR's growth, health and welfare depends not on the pyramid of bureaucratic structure, but on how we build a global community of scholars. We

should strengthen our regional cooperation, but always remain a truly global association, accessible to all.

As an international organization embedded within the field of communication, the many challenges which face the history of the present are reflected by our own association. The symbolic nature of our communication ecology is not reflected upon from without, but instead shapes and informs the languages, meanings, values, norms, communities and cultures mediated there within. This web of relations was coalesced a number of times in the history of our association, including at the 1994 General Assembly in Seoul, Korea. The changing nature of international relations in all of its dimensions and the expansion and energy within our association demanded that IAMCR open itself to cultural, political, economic, and social alliances no longer confined to the hegemonic sphere which characterized the past. Since I was first nominated as President, I have continued to ask myself why I should accept this task, a task full of burden and challenge. Reflecting on my association with IAMCR, I concluded that my election to the presidency was an invocation called forth by our membership for change, symbolically drawing a bridge between northern and southern hemispheres. For the first time in the history of IAMCR, a person whose hybrid background was not tied to a single nation, and whose intellectual position was rooted in both Western and Islamic civilizations, was elected to the presidency. In this position, I would work to influence the future of IAMCR as an open-ended dialogue, inspiring the next generation of scholars and leaders, irrespective of culture and language, to participate fully in the growth of our community.

IAMCR'S ACTIVITIES DURING THE LAST FOUR YEARS

Over the past four years, we have worked to bring the communication revolution home. Our accomplishments can be summarized under five headings: (1) globalization, (2) democratization, (3) decentralization, (4) cooperation and (5) innovation. Much has been done in all of these areas, but I have chosen to highlight some specific accomplishments here:

- Decentralization and democratization of IAMCR are at the top of our accomplishments, bringing reform to the administration and operation of IAMCR. Not only have the changes led to large budgetary savings, but they have, more importantly, institutionalized the division of responsibility among members of the Executive Board and the entire association.
- A balanced budget and new fiscal policies were established, enabling the association to cut its operating budget in half compared to four years ago, even as it provides new services. This was accomplished by the process of decentralization itself, as well as by acquiring grants and assistance from the institutions affiliated with the President and other members of the Executive Board. The association has saved thousands of dollars in office rent, insurance, electricity, cleaning, computer services, machinery, supplies, and secretarial/staff costs. For the first time in IAMCR's history, we have a budgetary surplus, providing security for our administrative operation and peace of mind for the incoming President. The IAMCR balance sheet for June 30, 1997 indicates that the

association has total assets of \$101,645, ensuring that the association has a financial cushion as its presidency moves to Barcelona. Approximately \$47,000 was added to the reserves in the two years between 1994 and 1996, when substantial operating savings were achieved.

- Another first for IAMCR was the Treasurer's new role and responsibility for IAMCR's budget. All checks issued were signed by both the President and the Treasurer, providing an added measure of security and accountability. The Treasurer's office now collects membership dues and publishes the membership directory, assuring that the directory more accurately reflects our current and active members.
- All members of the Executive Board assumed specific responsibilities, including the Secretary General, who edited the newsletter and conference abstracts. His office gradually became the center for compiling conference papers and distributing association news.
- IAMCR's statutes were amended to meet the requirements and challenges of our membership. For the first time, the President and the Executive Board were elected through postal voting, allowing broader voter participation. Membership fees were decreased for all, with new reduced rates for members from lower income countries. IAMCR's membership directory was updated and streamlined, providing more accurate membership information that reflects our current and active members.
- The IAMCR brochure is now published in three languages (English, French, Spanish), which were widely distributed, and the Spanish language acronym of IAMCR became part of our official logo. The unity of our broad field of media and communication research was combined with the diversity of voices from members that span the globe. IAMCR is truly an international organization, striving to be a global one. The association does not belong to any one country, either constitutionally or in actuality, allowing a sense of ownership by all.
- IAMCR broadened and increased its membership, acquiring more new members from the Asia-Pacific area, as well as Latin America, Africa and the Middle East. This development and diversification of our membership, especially in Africa and Asia, was recognized by the Director-General of UNESCO when we were elevated to the new category of NGO with "formal consultative status" with UNESCO.
- Women represent an increasing number of members and decision-makers in IAMCR. More women now serve on IAMCR's International Council, Executive Board, and Sections than ever before. The women's caucus, which unites female scholars across areas of specialization, is one of the association's most active and inspiring groups. The Treasurer's office has prepared a directory of women scholars and their academic accomplishments and interests, which will be distributed shortly.

- IAMCR diversified not only in the areas of geography, culture and gender, but also in conference sites. We moved to new areas across the globe to hold our conferences -- Seoul, Portoroz, Sydney, Oaxaca and Glasgow. Our conferences include more plenaries, with sessions extended from ninety minutes to two hours to allow more discussion and viewpoints on critical issues.
- To enhance the efficiency and coordination of conferences, an Academic Coordinator for each biannual and off-year conference was appointed by the President. The Academic Coordinator worked closely with the National Organizing Committees and the Section Heads to organize stimulating and timely conferences.
- The association's last four conferences received a large amount of international and foundation grants to support the participation of members from lower income countries. Indeed, at the Sydney and Oaxaca conferences, the number of people who were able to participate with the help of these grants was the largest in my recollection.
- IAMCR's conferences and publications addressed some of the most fundamental issues of our time, including human rights, gender, civil society, privatization of telecommunication, multiculturalism, and globalization, as well as the impact of emerging technologies on all of these. During the last four years we have made considerable improvement on our discourse on human rights and, with the cooperation of the Human Rights Committee, we initiated plenaries and special panels to discuss the problems and policies of human rights in every continent, plus a special edition of the *Journal of International Communication* devoted to the subject. We will observe the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights through the provision of an appropriate workshop and other activities in Glasgow.
- IAMCR increased its visibility and its views on crucial issues through new and revitalized publications. The association's International Communication Section now publishes IAMCR's first periodical, the *Journal of International Communication*. IAMCR's book series, combined with the new format of conference abstracts and programs, gave IAMCR a more comprehensive publication portfolio. Two new volumes in the series will be published this year.
- IAMCR's international exposure and its linkages with other professional and non-governmental organizations has been expanded to the degree that we now have formal relations with some forty international and regional organizations. Not only was our NGO status renewed with UNESCO, the United Nations Economic and Social Council, the International Labor Organization, and the World Intellectual Property Organization, but for the first time we were granted NGO status with the Council of Europe and the Organization of European Security and Cooperation. We have also applied for NGO status with the Organization of the Islamic Conference and have received a positive reply to complete the documentation. More and more of our members actively represent IAMCR at international and regional conferences of these and other organizations, increasing our global presence and activism.

- In a time of significant changes in media and communication, the Twenty-First Century Commission examines upcoming issues and directions for the field. All sections are analyzing their work and making preparations for future developments and challenges. The Commission will present its recommendations for discussion at the Glasgow conference.

- Cyberspace, with all its conveniences and frustrations, had a huge impact on IAMCR during my presidency. The advent of new technologies enabled our members and our governing bodies to communicate more efficiently and more often than ever. The new IAMCR website provides centralized information and a number of special Section websites enhanced cohesion and communication. But our global membership also served to remind us that we must remain aware of the impact of the move to cyberspace on those who, by choice or circumstance, are not participants in the virtual society.

As an association and community, we should all take pride in the accomplishments for which we have worked. I would like to thank all of our membership for their support. I would also like to thank both the past and present International Council and Executive Boards for their cooperation, advice and initiatives. I am grateful to all the Section Presidents, without whose professional and intellectual contributions we would not be where we are. Our present Treasurer and Secretary General have been the most involved with the changes taking place in IAMCR; without their dedication, cooperation and hard work, I would not have been able to carry out these tasks. It is on this note that I recommend that, as we change the presidency every four years as required by our statutes, we retain our Treasurer and Secretary General if they wish, as their specific tasks have become essential to the continuity and stability of our administrative structure.

The last several months have been an active period for IAMCR. In addition to preparing for Glasgow, I represented the association at two important conferences in Europe and the Middle East. At the UNESCO General Conference in Paris in November, in my speech before the committee on communication and culture, I emphasized the central and critical position of research to the UNESCO program, especially in light of new developments in communication technologies and the changing nature of the world communication structure. The summit of the fifty-five heads of state of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, which took place in Tehran in December, provided an opportunity to meet and recruit new members from Asia, the Middle East and Africa. During the conference, I was invited to participate in related sessions on youth and media and a symposium on film and cinema. I was pleased to see a number of IAMCR members representing their own national delegations at both of these important conferences. Vice President Michael Palmer attended the UNESCO Extraordinary Conference of NGOs in Paris on IAMCR's behalf. Dr. Ruth Teer-Tomaselli, an IAMCR member from South Africa, represented the association at UNESCO's Seventh Conference of Ministers of Education of African Member States in Durban.

LOOKING FORWARD

The upcoming conference in Glasgow promises to be an exciting and stimulating gathering. The conference committee has worked hard to arrange a fine program which includes a number of plenaries on important topics. I look forward to welcoming you to Scotland this summer and I hope you will make every effort to join me. During the past year, Secretary General Naren Chitty and I have also been working with our colleagues in Leipzig, Germany and Singapore, where the 1999 and 2000 conferences conferences, respectively, will be held. We look forward to their reports and presentations on the plans being laid for these two exciting conferences.

This past year, as I participated in the Oaxaca gathering, visited the conference site in Glasgow, took part in the UNESCO General Conference in Paris, and spoke at the Organization of the Islamic Conference in Tehran, I came to realize that the challenges which face the domain of world communication concern the building of bridges across space and time. This cannot be done on the abstract level alone. We must force the communication revolution to live up to its name by focusing, with a genuine desire, to address the deepening social and communication crises of our time.

The memories of the future for which I have worked require a reconceptualization of our discipline and the association itself, accounting for the forms and meanings of the kind of community we wish to be. I leave you with the memories of a future which is not only yet to come, but which returns to haunt us with forgotten memories. If we are to address the notion of "IAMCR in the Twenty-First Century," we must take and make the time to engage in new dialogues with the voices of all cultures and civilizations. As an international association and multicultural community, what we have to learn about communication is not simply reflected by our study of the outside world, but by our reflection on and transformation of our own culture. As we approach the millennium, may we not forget the histories which continue to shape the desires and hopes of peoples from different backgrounds and continue to build a community which brings these stories into the shared vision and dreams of the communication future-past.

Hamid Mowlana

President

May 1, 1998

**IAMCR/AIERI/AICS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF THE XXth MEETING, 21 AUGUST 1996
WESLEY CENTRE, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA**

1. Opening

President Hamid Mowlana opened the meeting.

2. Agenda

The agenda for the General Assembly was adopted.

3. Minutes of the meeting of the XIXth General Assembly on 7 July 1994 at Seoul, Korea.

The minutes of the meeting of the XIXth General Assembly were approved and signed as a correct record of that meeting.

4. The 1996 XXth Scientific Conference

The President thanked the Australian organizing committee and the local staff for its successful work that had brought 430 participants from 60 countries to the conference (as of this date). Special thanks were extended to Professor Virginia Nightingale, as the chairman of the committee.

5. Report of the President

President Mowlana presented his report and provided a number of additional comments in regards to the Women's caucus, individual section newsletters, the establishment of the Human Rights Committee. He acknowledged Naren Chitty for associating the Association with the Journal of International Communication, as well as those representing the Association at various other meetings and conferences. He noted that IAMCR was able to raise funds in support of some 40 delegates from the low income countries, including Eastern Europe and the former republics of the Soviet Union, and that this was one of the largest amounts of financial assistance the Association had mustered for a long time. He extended the Association's thanks to a number of national and international organizations including UNESCO, the Australian Agency for International Development, the Australian National Commission for UNESCO, the Swedish International Development Agency, and the Canadian International Development Agency. He thanked Mr. Henrikas Yushkiavitshus, the Assistant Director General of UNESCO for giving up his travel funds to provide assistance for other participants.

President Mowlana extended his congratulations to the new Executive Board and thanked all the members who participated in the postal election.

6. Report of the Treasurer

The report of the Treasurer, including the report of the external accountant, were presented to the General Assembly and were approved. Treasurer Gertrude Robinson noted that operating funds had increased substantially in the last two years with current assets at \$88,252. She noted that expenses had risen in the past year due to increased costs. An announcement was made that beginning in 1997, credit cards would be accepted for membership payment in Canadian dollars.

7. Report of the Secretary General

None.

8. Comments of the President-Elect

President Mowlana congratulated President-Elect Manuel Pares I Maicas and invited him to the podium. President-Elect Pares I Maicas congratulated the new Executive Board and thanked all members of the Association for their participation, stating that he looks forward to working with the new Executive Board in developing and extending the Association's activities.

9. Reports by Vice-Presidents

None.

10. Election of the International Council Members

Kaarle Nordenstreng distributed a list of 30 names prepared by the ad hoc nomination committee as an advisement to the General Assembly based on criteria including gender equality, geographic distribution, professional and academic experience, and a limit of one term already served. President Mowlana described the voting procedures. Frank Morgan motioned that the President call for additional nominations to be added to the slate of 30 names produced by the nomination committee, to close at the resumption of the session. The motion was seconded. George Gerbner opened the floor for further nominations in agreement with Morgan's motion. Written nominations were given to the Deputy Secretary General. President Mowlana announced that the International Council will take place on Thursday, August 22 in the morning.

11. Report of the Legal Committee and Change of Statutes

Philippe Maarek reported that the Legal Committee had met two times in the past year. He noted

the change of statutes based on principles approved in Seoul including the change of the Association's name to the *International Association for Media and Communication Research* and editions were made based to clarify the translations. President Mowlana called for a vote. The changes were approved unanimously.

**12. Report of the Technical Election Committee
Election of Executive Board Members**

Janet Wasko reported the results of the postal ballots and tally from the Teller's Committee which were acknowledged by the General Assembly. Pares I Maicas (President-Elect) - 270 votes, Naren Chitty (Secretary General - 141 votes), Ole Prehn (Deputy Secretary General) - 220 votes, Gertrude Robinson (Treasurer) - 255 votes, Elizabeth Fox (Vice President) - 199 votes, Carmen Gomez Mont (Vice President) - 197 votes, Olga Linne (Vice President) - 177 votes, Michael Palmer (Vice President) - 178 votes, John Sinclair (Vice President) - 192 votes. A total of 626 ballots were mailed to members and 292 ballots were counted. Suggestion was made that nominations be accepted through other means besides registered mail, such as e-mail. Questions were clarified regarding the procedure and eligibility for postal voting. President Mowlana thanked the Technical Election Committee.

13. Provisional Report of the 21st Century Study Commission

On behalf of Aggrey Brown, Chair of the special committee "IAMCR in the 21st Century," Naren Chitty summarized the provisional report of the commission, calling for further suggestions.

14. Report of the Human Rights Committee

Shalini Venturelli reported on the activities of the committee and stated that the Journal of International Communication, with the cooperation of the committee will publish a special issue on human rights.

15. Future Conferences and Meetings

Tony Lavender made a presentation on the 1998 Glasgow, Scotland conference. President Mowlana asked for approval of the Glasgow conference proposal; the General Assembly accepted it unanimously. Carmen Gomez Mont made a presentation on the 1997 off-year conference in Oaxaca, Mexico. President Mowlana asked for approval of the Mexico conference proposal; the General Assembly accepted it unanimously.

Wolfgang Kleinwächter announced a proposal to host the 1999 off-year conference in Leipzig, Germany. Awatef Abd El Rahman made a presentation on the conference in the year 2000 to be in Cairo, Egypt. President Mowlana asked for approval of the Cairo conference proposal *in principle*; the General Assembly accepted the proposal unanimously.

16. Election of New Presidents of Sections

Jürgen Wilke was recommended as president of the History section. Nicholas Jankowski was recommended president of the Local Radio and TV section. Frank Morgan was recommended president of the Professional Education section. The General Assembly unanimously approved the new section presidents as recommended.

17. Admission of New Members

The list of new members prepared by the Treasurer's office and ratified by the International Council was taken *ad notam*. There were 72 new individual members, three institutional members

18. Honorary Life Memberships Honorary President

The assembly resolved unanimously to grant George Gerbner and Herbert I. Schiller lifetime honorary memberships to the association, and Cees Hamelink the status of an honorary president of the Association. President Mowlana noted that Walery Pisarek was also recommended and that he will be honored in the next Association meeting.

18. A. O. B.

K. Eapan thanked President Mowlana with open recognition for obtaining the travel grants for members to attend the Sydney conference. Shelton Gunartne made suggestion to improve of the association World Wide Web page.

President Mowlana closed the meeting.

Signed:

President, IAMCR

Secretary-General, IAMCR

PROVISIONAL AGENDA MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, July 29, 1998

2:00PM

Strathclyde University

Glasgow, Scotland

1. Opening
2. Agenda
3. Minutes of the Meeting of the General Assembly in Sydney, Australia, 1996
4. Report of the President
5. Report of the President-Elect
6. Report of the Treasurer
7. Reports of the Committees
8. Report of the IAMCR Study Commission
9. Reports of the Sections
10. Election of Section Presidents
11. Admission of New Members
12. Future Conferences and Meetings
13. Changeover of Presidents
14. A.O.B.