Call for Papers

The ISCA 2019 Annual Conference

Hadassah Academic College, Jerusalem, Israel

April 16, 2019

The Israel Communication Association (ISCA) invites proposals for papers and panels from scholars and graduate students around the world for its 23st Annual Conference, to be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2019, at the Hasassah Academic College, Jerusalem

Critical thought and research in media studies in Israel today

In this year's annual ISCA conference, we seek to examine the notion of **critical thought and criticism** in various contexts relating to the role of media and its research. We find this theme urgent in light of vitality of critical theories, approaches, and methods at times when the freedom of speech and the public's right for and access to information are continually and systematically under assault in Israel.

We encourage submission of proposals that address media's roles and the roles of media studies and media research in a critical fashion, and how these may partake in a critical rendering of governmental agencies and other powerful institutions. The spectrum here is wide, and includes also a critical view of the media – from how the covers news to the ownership-structure and monopolies and reforms in the media market. We encourage critically interrogating current issues and topics, including "fake news" and political and other biases in media reporting, power and influence in the age of new media (big data, the web's platformization, etc.), alternative media outlets' criticism on mainstream media, media activism, and more. These proposals can speak to the power relations maintained by the media structure, and to concepts that pertain to hegemony, exclusion, and silencing in and by the media. We will also be happy to receive and self-reflexive and self-critical papers that question our own roles as media scholars, and what our research may offer in terms of critically addressing structural changes in Israel's media structure and functioning. Submissions that do not address the conference theme are welcomed as well.

Location, Accommodation and Sightseeing

The Hasassah Academic College is located in the heart of the city of Jerusalem. It can be easily reached by train, buses and taxis. ISCA and the Hasassah College will assist foreign participants if needed to find appropriate accommodation close the college. For all inquiries, please contact ISCA's Secretary Mr. Ori Malkin: isca2019conf@gmail.com

Further details concerning to location and transportation can be found at:
https://www.hac.ac.il/en/about/location/location/

Language

Most of the conference will be held in Hebrew. Non-Hebrew speaking scholars and graduate students are welcome to present their papers or panels in English.

Timetable

Deadline for submission: December 1, 2018

Notification of acceptance: December 14, 2018

Submission of full presentation/paper: April 1, 2019.

Conference hours, at the day of the conference (April 16, 2019): 9:00-18:00

Special Requests:

Participants with food allergies, vegans or other food requirements, are asked to contact the ISCA's Secretary Mr. Ori Malkin: isca2019conf@gmail.com

Same apply to participants with all sorts of accessibility requirements.

Submissions

Proposals for papers or panels may be submitted in the following tracks:

(1) individual papers, empirical or theoretical

(2) thematic panels

(3) roundtables

(4) new books.

Guidelines

1. **Individual Papers**

   a. Abstract of 800 to 1500 words in English or Hebrew. The abstract should not include any recognizable details of the author(s). The abstract should indicate whether it refers to an empirical or a theoretical paper.

   b. Abstract of an **empirical paper** needs to include the following:

      i. Theoretical background.

      ii. Research design and methods.

      iii. Findings.

      iv. Contributions to research in communication.

      v. Selected Bibliography (up to one page, not included in the word count), according to APA guidelines.

   c. Abstract of a **theoretical paper** needs to include the following:

      i. Theoretical background.

      ii. Main arguments and findings.

      iii. Contributions to research in communication.

      iv. Selected Bibliography up to one page, not included in the word count, according to APA guidelines.

   d. On a separate sheet, please state the following: title of the paper, name(s) of author(s), affiliation and contact information. In addition, please indicate whether the paper was already presented elsewhere.

   e. A shorter abstract of about 150 words for each paper should be submitted for the conference brochure.

f. Upon acceptance for presentation at the conference, the authors will be asked to submit their full presentation/paper to panel's chair by April 1, 2019.

2. **Thematic panels**

   a. Thematic panel typically includes 4 presenters, a chair and a discussant.

   b. Please provide brief description of the topic and its importance (500 words) and abstracts (800-1500 words) for each of the papers. These abstracts should not include any recognizable details of the authors.

   c. On a separate sheet, please state the following: title of the paper, name(s) of author(s), affiliation and contact information. In addition, please indicate whether any of the proposed papers was already presented elsewhere.

3. **Roundtables**

   a. Roundtable is a panel on a specific communication topic. It typically includes 6 participants, a chair and a discussant. Participants are not required to submit papers. It may include both scholars and professionals such as journalists, spokespersons, or PR experts.

   b. A roundtable proposal should include a topic, an abstract (500 words) explaining the topic's importance and the expected contributions of the panel to communication research, affiliations and contact details for all the participants.

4. **New Books Panel**

   a. ISCA members who published a book in the fields of media and communication during 2018-2019, may apply for the new books panel.

   b. Each proposal should include the book's table of contents.

   c. Authors will present their books in the new books panel.

Awards

1. **Best Book:** ISCA members who published scholarly books in Hebrew or English during 2018-2019 are invited to apply for ISCA's best book award. Applicants should submit a digital copy of the book.

2. **Best Paper:** This award will be given to researchers whose paper receives the highest score in the individual paper track.

3. **Best Student Paper:** This award will be given to a graduate student whose individual paper receives the highest score in the individual paper track. A paper written by a research student together with a faculty member is eligible for this award. This award is given in memory of Dr. Yuval Sahchal in the presence of his family members.

Additional Guidelines

1. Applicants are allowed to propose up to two papers. In case both papers are accepted for presentation at the conference, the author can present only one of them, unless the second paper is co-authored.

2. All proposals will undergo a blind review by at least two reviewers. Selection of papers for presentation in the conference is based on these reviews and final decisions by the conference committee.

3. All participants are required to pay the conference registration and membership fees. Link for registration and membership is https://www.fee.co.il/cong2019eng

All proposals and abstracts should be sent via electronic form, available at:

https://goo.gl/forms/UaU7riO3hzz3ihl22

If you have any questions, special needs or require special assistance, please contact the ISCA secretary, Mr. Ori Malkin: isca2019conf@gmail.com

Deadline for submission (Non Israeli Scholars): December 1, 2018

Notification of acceptance: December 14, 2018

We look forward to seeing you at our 2019 annual conference!

The conference committee:

Prof. Chaim Noy (Chair), Dr. Aya Yadlin-Segal , Dr. Alina Bernstein and Mr. Ori Malkin