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Editorial

Welcome to the second edition of Studies in Communication Sciences for the year 2007. This issue dedicates its special thematic section to research on *visual communication*, based on the call published in issue number one of this year. In addition to the research papers selected for the thematic section, there are also, as always, articles in the general section that address topics ranging from the use of blogging in corporate communication, argumentation issues in communication, to integrated communication management. We encourage you to submit either to the current or forthcoming calls for paper or to the general, "open" section of the journal. As stated in our mission, we particularly encourage submissions that cross disciplinary boundaries or that make a sub-discipline or specific research issue within communication sciences accessible to scholars from other domains within the field.

The experiences with the call for papers on visual communication have shown us that there is great interest in the topic and that communication researchers are examining this complex field from a variety of angles. In total, we have received 27 submissions for the call on visual communication of which six have completed the double blind review and revision process in time for publication in this issue. The double blind review process has proven to be highly demanding and time consuming, both for us as editors and co-ordinators and for the authors, but of course especially for the reviewers themselves. We would thus like to express our gratitude to the many colleagues who have acted as reviewers. Several of the submitted papers are still in the review and revision process, and we envision that future editions of SComS will include articles based on the original call regarding visual communication in the general section.

While the thematic section in this issue is dedicated to research on visual communication, the laboratory section of this issue focuses on the *teaching* side of the topic. It contains a series of experiences and approaches regarding the teaching of visual communication in a university

setting. It also includes a concise and hopefully useful directory of relevant internet sites.

In the final section of this edition you will find several pertinent book reviews as well as a calendar of upcoming events. We encourage our readers to become involved in these two sections, be it as book reviewers or by providing pointers to interesting upcoming conferences or research workshops.

We hope that you will find interesting and stimulating insights in the papers contained in this issue, both within and beyond your area of expertise. Should you have comments, observations or general feedback to this number, please contact us at info@scoms.ch.

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