



Newsletter March 2024 : PORTO TEACHERS' TRAINING & BOARD ELECTIONS

PLEASE SEND THE EJTA NEWSLETTERS TO YOUR COLLEAGUES

TEACHERS' TRAINING IN PORTO, 8-10 MAY 2023: THREE IMPORTANT MESSAGES

1) **Deadline for proposals** to present papers, workshops, best practices or panels within the subject of 'How to Teach Building Trust in News' (<https://web2.letras.up.pt/ejta2024/#call24>): **23 March 2024**. Send a mail with your proposal to ejtaporto@letras.up.pt

2) **Deadline for registration** for the Teachers' Training: **15 April 2024**. Registration is important because places for social activities and the free EJTA diner are limited and the Porto colleagues need the exact number of participants to secure a smooth organisation.

3) Check the **changes and updates** in the programme on the website <https://web2.letras.up.pt/ejta2024/>
There will be no pre-conference meetings on LifeLong Learning or Sustainable EJTA, but we do want to hear your constructive feedback on the **new EJTA**

website and organise an advisory meeting on Wednesday 8 May at 4 pm.

ELECTION OF TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Nikolaus Koller, President ad interim, expressed his wish to leave the EJTA Board due to professional reasons.

This has the following consequences: EJTA needs **two** new Board members and from 14 March 2024 onwards Anne Leppäjärvi is the new EJTA President and Carien Touwen the Vice-President (see message LinkedIn).

After the call in the previous Newsletters, the Director and President received five applications for Board membership and as such we'll organise elections in Porto on 9 May 2024, according to our statutes.

- The elections will be organised by written ballot, live at the Teachers' Training on 9 May 2024 in the morning.
- All members in good standing can vote for the two positions.
- Only one person per EJTA institution has the right to vote: if more staff of one institution are present, they decide beforehand who will be voting.
- Members that won't be able to join the voting in person, are encouraged to delegate their votes to another institution which is present in Porto.
- We only accept mandates if the respective member sends a mail (with the name of the institution they give their mandate to) to director@ejta.eu BEFORE 1 MAY.
- The two applicants with most votes will become the new Board members.
- The Director and Board can intervene in the voting results if regional diversity is not secured.
- The final outcome will be communicated on 9 May 2024 in the afternoon.

To help you cast your votes, underneath you find a summarised version of the five applicants' biography and motivation letter, together with their photos (in alphabetical order of their family names).

Laura Silvia BATTAGLIA AL-JALAL (Catholic University Milan – Italy)



SHORT BIO: Laura Silvia Battaglia Al-Jalal is a freelance award-winning journalist, living between Italy and Sanaa (Yemen). She has worked in Middle Eastern conflict zones since 2007 and has reported from difficult environments about criminality, human rights issues, trafficking, terrorism and the trade of weapons. Since 2010 she's been focused in particular on the aftermath of the American occupation of Iraq and, from 2012, on the Yemen post-revolution. She contributes to international print media, magazines and broadcasters. She is a radio presenter at the Italian public service broadcaster (Rai Radio 3) and the curator of the foreign affairs radio show Radio3Mondo. She has produced, shot and distributed ten video documentaries.

MOTIVATION: As editor in chief of the publications of the Master of Journalism in Milan (Catholic University) and war journalist, I always noticed a gap between academy and professionals over the years. Luckily the gap has been closed but not completely. In a world in which even democratic societies risk the danger of a centralization of power and law enforcement, I believe that the two categories must collaborate more and more closely: intellectual power must not be divided between those who think and are closed in the academy, and those who act concretely by renouncing thought, but it must be a virtuous process of exchange and collaboration that can protect the fundamental freedoms of thought, speech, expression and press.

Will COPE (Solent University Southampton – United Kingdom)



SHORT BIO: I would consider myself to have excellent academic leadership and management skills which have been evidenced in the Course Leadership of the BA (Hons) Sports Journalism degree at Solent University since 2015. I have been an external advisor for four UK universities or colleges and have been part of more than ten visits to other universities in England and Wales. Because of this, I am well connected in this country and have a broad and diverse network across sports clubs, businesses, organisations and media institutions locally, regionally and nationally.

MOTIVATION: I am hugely passionate about student mobility, maximising the potential of the international marketplace and cross border collaborations. I am a firm believer that today's young generation should open their hearts and minds in the pursuit of meeting new people, experiencing new places and diversifying their cultural outlook. I am a keen advocate of what EJTA stands for, and whilst the degree that I lead and Solent University itself has a long relationship with the organisation, I feel that now is the right time to take that to the next level and to immerse myself in doing even more. It would be an honour and privilege to help EJTA progress forward in a board member position.

Paulo FRIAS DA COSTA (University of Porto – Portugal)



SHORT BIO: Paulo Frias da Costa has a Degree in Architecture (U.Porto, 1989), a Master Degree in TV (Pompeu Fabra, 2002) and a PhD in

Communication Sciences (New University of Lisbon, 2010). After a professional journalism experience, teaching in Communication Sciences and Journalism areas at the University of Porto began in 2003. He's an Associate Professor and a researcher with published papers. Main topics are Online Journalism, Journalism Teaching and Social Media. Paulo is the Director of the Bachelor in Communication Sciences, News Academic Site JPN and responsible for Mobility agreements.

MOTIVATION: The motivation for applying to EJTA Board comes from its J-Teaching and Mobility in Europe scope. It could be a great opportunity for exchanging experiences both for the Board and the Faculty. The contribution for a stronger network with European Universities presents a way to ensure the quality of J-Teaching, such as professional practices like freedom, truth, accuracy and hope.

Cristina NISTOR BEURAN (Babeş-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca – Romania)



SHORT BIO: Cristina Nistor-Beuran is a PhD Associate Professor at the Journalism and Digital Media Department and she has been coordinating the Journalism Program in English since 2010. Her courses include *Media Relations, Media Education, Crisis Communication, Media Industries, Audio Journalism* and *European Communication*.

She was the Spokesperson of Babeş-Bolyai University and the Director of the Doctoral School of Political and Communication Sciences. In 2022, she was a Fulbright Scholar at Columbia University and since 2008 she has joined many journalism and media education related EU projects such as *Micro-Europa*, *EURANET*, *Innovative educational and media practices for an inclusive and participatory Europe* and *COPE– Covering Cohesion Policy in Europe*.

MOTIVATION: I strongly believe that media literacy education and a reconfirmation of quality professional journalism are among the most important mechanisms to counter fake news and misinformation in the digital age. Therefore, should EJTA consider developing digital and media literacy initiatives in Europe in the upcoming years (such as EUfactcheck), I would be honored to bring my contribution in this regard. By continuing enhancing European Journalism through a systemic approach, EJTA could encourage journalism students to create an objective narrative that European citizens can trust through a critical, professional, fact-based, and unbiased coverage of the EU's complex dimensions. Beside contributing to the strategic tasks, I would support the EJTA Director in the management of the association, especially in the activities related to public communication and external relations in Europe and beyond.

Adrian WARNER (University of Northampton – UK)



SHORT BIO: I am a senior lecturer in Multimedia Journalism at the University of Northampton (UON) in the UK and have been working in Higher Education since 2015. I am a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy in Britain and course leader of Sports Journalism at UON.

This follows a journalistic career at Reuters, London's Evening Standard newspaper and the BBC during which I largely focused on the world of sport and the business and politics around it.

I speak fluent French and German in addition to my native English and I have reported from 25 countries, including 14 Olympic Games and 5 football World Cups.

In addition to my academic work, I run media training courses for senior doctors and executives in Britain's National Health Service, so I have a knowledge of PR and marketing.

MOTIVATION: As a journalist who has spent a lot of his career outside of the UK, I hope I have a European and global view of our profession and our teaching. I certainly try to pass this weltanschauung on to our students in England, who now live in a country with much weaker links with the European Union. I would like to be more involved in the EJTA in order to bring more of European thinking in journalism back to my students but also to bring my organisation skills and knowledge of sport journalism teaching and affairs to the organisation.

NEXT NEWSLETTER

By the end of March 2024 another EJTA Newsletter will be sent out, with the general associational news and upcoming events. Check your mailbox and don't miss it!



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