

**Southern States Communication Association Executive Council Meeting
Friday, November 13, 2009; 2:00 –4:45 p.m. Chicago Hilton, Meeting Room 5J
2009 NCA Annual Convention, Chicago, Illinois
Patricia Amason, University of Arkansas, presiding**

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Welcome**
- 3. Approval of Minutes of SSCA Executive Council Meeting, Norfolk, VA
(Published on the SSCA Web Page at
http://www.scca.net/files/SSCA_Executive_Council_Meeting.pdf)**
- 4. Approval of Agenda**
- 5. Officers' Reports:**
 - 5.1 President – Patricia Amason**
 - 5.2 Vice President – Thomas Socha**
 - 5.3 Immediate Past President & Nominating Committee – Jerold Hale**
 - 5.4 Vice President Elect – Frances Brandau-Brown**
 - 5.5 Executive Director – J. Emmett Winn**
 - 5.6 Marketing Director – Kelli Fellows**
 - 5.7 SCJ Editor – Mary Stuckey & Ken Cissna**
 - 5.8 NCA Legislative Assembly Representatives – Brigitta Brunner, Michael Eaves, and Tom Sabetta**
 - 5.9 NCA Nominating Committee Representative: Roseann Mandziuk**
- 6. Standing Committee Reports**
 - 6.1 Committee on Committees – Patricia Amason**
 - 6.2 Constitution – Karyn Brown**
 - 6.3 Finance – Trudy Hanson**
 - 6.4 Local Arrangements – Dick Ranta and Mike Leff**
 - 6.5 Minority Recruitment and Retention – Jason Hough**
 - 6.6 Publications – Joann Keyton**
 - 6.7 Resolutions – Billy Wooten**
 - 6.8 Resource Development – Todd Goen**
 - 6.9 Time and Place – Charles Howard**
- 7. New Business**
- 8. Announcements and Adjournment**

Minutes

- 1.0 The meeting was called to order at 2:00 by President Amason**
- 2.0 Dr. Amason welcomed all present and thanked them for attending**
- 3.0 The minutes for the last meeting were approved.**
- 4.0 The agenda was approved.**

5.0 Officers' Reports

- 5.1 President Amason described her initiatives and asked for feedback to be sent to her.**
- 5.2 See attached written report**
- 5.3 Past President Hale explained the charge of the Nominating Committee and its progress and explained that slate of candidates would be finalized in the coming weeks.**
- 5.4 VP Elect, Dr. Brandau-Brown reminded all present of the coming deadline for the UHC submissions (December 11, 2009). She explained that she had already received one submission. He also announced that her university had graciously provided SSCA with funds to host a UHC reception at the Memphis convention. She closed by asking all to encourage their UHC students to come to the reception in Memphis.**
- 5.5 Executive Director Winn gave the membership and Financial Review reports and answered questions concerning the reports.**
- 5.6 Marketing Director, Dr. Kelli Fellows, explained that she would be reminding to purchase convention ads and exhibit space for the convention and handed out promotional materials for the 2010 convention in Memphis.**
- 5.7 See attached written reports**
- 5.8 See attached written report**
- 5.9 No report**

6.0 Standing Committee Reports

- 6.1 Committee on Committees: Dr. Amason thanked all the volunteers who were named as new committee members and praised them for their quick response times.**
- 6.2 No report**
- 6.3 No report**
- 6.4 Local Arrangements Committee: Dr. Mike Leff introduced the President of the University of Memphis Communication graduate students organization, Melissa Thompson, and explained that the University of Memphis is ready to with local arrangements to help our members have an enjoyable convention experience in Memphis. He also encouraged members to feel free to contact Dr. Dick Ranta or himself with questions.**
- 6.5 No report**
- 6.6 Publications Committee: Dr. Joann Keyton described the progress in the search for a new editor for the journal and updated the members on the proposal for a new journal with a working title of *Qualitative Research in Communication (QRC)*.**
- 6.7 No report**
- 6.8 See written report attached**
- 6.9 See attached written report. The motion to choose New Orleans as the tentative site for the 2014 convention was passed.**

7.0 No new business

- 8.0 Appropriate announcements were made and the President adjourned the meeting.**

Vice President's Report
SSCA Executive Council Meeting (at NCA)
11/13/09, Chicago, IL
Thomas J. Socha, SSCA Vice President, Old Dominion University



Memphis Convention Planning Timetable Update

- Draft #1 of the Convention Program of the 80th Annual SSCA Convention completed and posted on SSCA website and Memphis Convention website (11/06/09): 646 participants, 140 programs.
- Program of the 20th Annual Theodore Clevenger Undergraduate Honors Conference of SSCA to be completed by Frances Brandau-Brown (SSCA VP-Elect) and sent to Tom Socha on 1/12/10. The [TC-UHC Call](#) is located at the SSCA website.
- Draft #2 of the Convention Program to be completed by Tom Socha and sent to SSCA on 1/15/10 (minor changes can be accepted until 1/25/10)
- Final Draft of the Convention Program due to SSCA on 2/1/10
- **Convention Pre-Registration deadline is March 5th**

April 7-11, 2010—Come to Memphis, Sing the Blues, Be Happy! *Peabody Hotel*

Early Convention Highlights:

- **Vice President's Plenary Lecture Series**—Three Happy Hours for the Communication Mind (Jim Baesler, Doug Kelley, & Larry Frey)
- **Civil Rights Panel** --*Rhetorical Genealogy, Memory and the Speeches of Fannie Lou Hamer* with an appearance by this civil rights' activist's daughter.
- **Positive Communication Experiential Meditation Session**—*Dr. Christine Kiesinger, George Washington University*
- **Workshops!** *Teaching the Course on Conflict Management (McCorkle & Reese), Developing Positive Communication Curriculum (Socha at al.), Building an Individual Strengths Curriculum in Communication (Duncan & McClendon), and more.*
- **Birth of a new SSCA Interest Group**— Ethics and Philosophy of Communication
- **SSCA Outreach Sessions for Graduate Students and Early Career Faculty** (Turner, Tardy, Socha). See Socha's article in the Fall [Connections](#) Newsletter for further details.
- **A most memorable SSCA awards luncheon speaker!** Dr. Terry Lindvall: *The Laughter of God: Toward a Rhetoric of Good Humor*. Be sure to get those SSCA awards luncheon tickets early!

Memphis Notes:

- Eat barbeque of the God's across the street from the Peabody Hotel at [Rendezvous!](#)
- Experience [Beale Street!](#)
- Groove at [BB Kings](#), rock with the [King](#), or pick up your new Les Paul Custom at [Gibson!](#)
- Savor your incredible room at [Peabody](#) Hotel.

Thanks to: Maria Dixon, David Sutton, Rich Mercadante, Pat Arneson, Sheree Keith, Rick Falvo, David Lee, Monette Callaway-Ezell, Cole Franklin, Alison Miller, Jacqueline Burluson, Bill Edwards, Mary Jackson-Pitts, Jason Edward Black, David Nelson, Kerry Owens, Chris Poulos, Mindy Chang, C. Wesley Buerkle, Emmett Winn, Jerry Hale, Trish Amason, Frances Brandau-Brown, Janet Fisher (Conference Direct), speakers (Jim, Doug, Larry, & Terry), the good folks at the Peabody Hotel along with the U of Memphis (Dick Ranta & Mike Leff), and all who support this historic [positive communication](#) effort that I cannot name in one-page!

Editor's Report

NCA

November, 2009

1. In September, I was invited to Philadelphia to meet with T&F; a productive and enjoyable set of meetings; I recommend that the new editor do this as early as possible in his/her term.
2. All issues for v74 (2009) on time, and within budget. The 2009 acceptance rate was 14%. We received 159 submissions (this does not count Cissna's special issue).
3. In 2010, we move to 5 issues/ year. All those issues are filled; two special issues: 75(2) Race and the Academy, edited by Katherine Hendrix; 75(4) Qualitative Methods, edited by Ken Cissna. Acceptance rate for filling the 2010 issues was 13% (this does not count Cissna's special issue). We received 135 submissions as of September 22, 2009.
4. I expect to be able to turn over new submissions to the new editor as soon as they are ready to receive them. I spoke with T&F about how to manage the turnover on line through MC, and we're working on putting procedures in place.

November 1, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Patricia Amason, SSCA President SSCA, Mary Stuckey, *SCJ* Editor, Tom Socha, Frances Brandau-Brown, Jerry Hale, J. Emmett Winn, Carl Cates, Joann Keyton, Marty Medhurst, Pat Arneson, and the Members of the SSCA Executive Committee

FROM: Ken Cissna

SUBJ: Special Issue(s) of *SCJ* on “Qualitative Research in Communication”

As not all of you have been with us for this whole process, let me begin by summarizing what has been described previously in my reports, and then bring you up to date about the most recent activities.

After being asked to serve as Guest Editor for a special issue of *SCJ* on “Qualitative Research in Communication” in April 2008, I prepared a call for papers and recruited Associate Editors and Editorial Board members. I established an October 15, 2008, deadline for submission of manuscripts.

I received 118 manuscripts. I rejected 32 of those without review, some because they were inappropriate methodologically for the special issue, others because it was clear immediately that they were too weak to have any chance of being published (especially as the number of submissions soared), a few because the manuscripts as submitted were not even close to the APA style and the authors declined to make changes. The other 86 were each sent initially to three reviewers, and with very few exceptions, the Associate Editors and members of the Editorial Board received 3 or 4 manuscripts to review. I began sending them to reviewers in July, and had them all to the reviewers by mid-November 2008.

Getting 86 manuscripts through this reviewing process took some time. The last decision letter to an author was sent in early May 2009. Although that may seem unconscionably slow, keep in mind that some reviewers received 4 manuscripts to review, and that after the reviews were completed, I had to make decisions about all 86 and write letters to their authors. Most heard well before then.

Of the 86 that were sent to reviewers, I rejected 66 and invited 20 to revise and resubmit their manuscripts (16.9% of the original 118). Had I known earlier that I would have only one issue, with no possibility of a second, I expect I would have invited fewer authors to revise and resubmit. Of those, 18 authors revised and resubmitted their manuscripts. Those manuscripts were re-sent to the Associate Editors and Editorial Board members in September 2008, and I now have all but a handful of the reviews back.

I expect I will be able to make decisions regarding the 4 or 5 to accept for the special issue between now and the end of the year. The issue will also contain a number of book reviews, which are being coordinated by Book Review Editor Cris Davis. The issue is slated to appear in September 2010, as volume 75, number 4.

Legislative Assembly met Wednesday, November 7. One item discussed was the preregistration policy. The preregistration policy has been in use for two years now. This past year 700 participants were dropped from their slots due to failing to preregister for the conference. The previous year it was 500 participants. While some people did register for the conference after the preregistration date there was no data available about how many people that was.

NCA officer elections have been moved up to January from the summer. However, there would still be a month to vote. As a point of interest there are three nominees for 2nd Vice President, however, the position still required 51% of the vote.

The dues increase/registration fee increase was not approved at Legislative Assembly. The torture/solitary confinement resolution was not passed either. There was some question about whether or not NCA should take a stand on political issues. Similarly the resolution to drop the short course fees failed. Short courses will still be billed separately.

Legislative Assembly met on Saturday, November 10 to further discuss the preregistration policy. Many assembly members tried to voice their unhappiness about the preregistration policy and the ways in which the NCA officers were handling the situation. The assembly left without completing the surveys the NCA officers had wished to finish. In December we were notified via e-mail that the preregistration policy had been dropped for the 2010 conference.

SSCA Time & Place Committee

Chair: **Charles Howard** (Tarleton State University)
 Members: **Debbie Phillips** (Muskingum College),
Janet Fisher (ConferenceDirect)

Date recommendation for SSCA 2014- April 3, 2014- April 6, 2014

Top 3 Cities for Consideration:

New Orleans, LA – 6 hotels

Savannah, GA – 2 hotels

Orlando, FL – Kissimmee 2 hotels; Buena Vista./Disney area 2 hotels; Orlando/Univeral- I-

Drive areas 11 hotels

Eliminated from consideration:

Fort Worth- Lack of hotel interest; Limited number of hotels fit SSCA's needs; Only one hotel interested and presented a proposal

Mobile- Limited number of hotels fit SSCA's needs, accessibility difficult- Pensacola and Mobile airports located quite a distance from properties, lack of dining, attractions etc Within close proximity.

Cities & Hotels Ranked Order of Preference:

New Orleans (1st)

Attractions: French Quarter, City tour, Mardi Gras World tour (they now have a new museum) and World War II Museum with a 4-D amphitheater opening in November 2009.

*SSCA recommends selecting a property located in the French Quarter for convenience and security reasons.

SAVANNAH (2nd)

Attractions: River Street (Restaurants/shops), Paula Deen's Restaurant, Telfair Museum, Tybee Island Beach, Historic Squares

*SSCA met at the Hyatt in 2008. T&P Committee contemplated whether it was too early to return to this destination.

ORLANDO (3rd)

Attractions: Disney- Epcot, Magic Kingdom, Animal Kingdom, Hollywood Studios, Downtown Disney; Universal Studios, City Walk and Adventure Island, I-Drive (restaurants, tourist-type shops)

Report of the Resource Development Committee
Southern States Communication Association Executive Council Meeting
National Communication Association Convention
13 November 2009

The RDC is pleased to report that the T. Earle Johnson – Edwin Padgett Distinguished Service Award is now fully funded! Last year at this meeting, the award balance was \$693 and the current award balance is \$6,424. That represents a total of \$5,731 raised last year. Of that amount \$2,115 comes from Caring Connections (CC), and the remainder (\$3,616) comes from direct member contributions. CC set a presale record for the past convention, but our sales at convention were down – most likely a result of the economy and smaller conference attendance. Of the direct member contributions, \$2,000 came in from Tom Frenz, while \$1,616 came from the general membership. This contribution from the general membership exceeds the approximately \$400 decrease in CC money this year, and indicates that the inclusion of the option of a contribution on the membership/conference registration form has been beneficial. Further, this leaves us with only two of the ten awards not funded at the \$5,000 level.

This year, the focus of the committee is raising money to fund the Outreach Award. The current balance of the Outreach Award is \$575. The goal of the RDC is to fund this award within the next two years.

At the past two executive council (EC) meetings, the EC indicated a desire for the Resource Development Committee (RDC) to begin pursuing funding for the Clevenger Undergraduate Honors Conference (UHC). Since the issue was first raised by the EC, the RDC has discussed how best to raise additional funds for the UHC while simultaneously continuing to raise funds for the association awards. Currently, we have added UHC to the award funding cycle of CC as well as to the award section of the registration form. We have discussed a variety of methods for raising additional funds for UHC, but before we adopt any fundraising strategy, we have two concerns to refer back to this body.

First, there is a lack of a clear plan as to how these funds will be used to further UHC. The RDC is currently not willing to launch a fundraising effort until we can provide potential donors details regarding how the monies will be spent. Fundraising is a difficult process, made even harder by the current economic condition, and the committee wants to ensure that it can maximize its fundraising efforts. Some suggestions for the use of the funds are defraying registration costs, covering the UHC breakfast, travel grants, and additional UHC awards. While these were recommendations made to the RDC, it is not within the scope of the committee to determine how any monies raised will be spent. Therefore, we request information regarding the exact purpose for these funds from the EC before beginning any type of fundraising campaign.

Second, an additional concern is the comingling of UHC funds and the award funds. While the committee understands that this maximizes the interests earned from our current investments, we are concerned that potential donors will ask questions about how their donations would be invested and that the current investment strategy may be counterproductive with regard to UHC funds. While some individuals would have no qualms about donating monies that essentially went into a general fund, other individuals may not be willing to donate except to a fund

specifically for UHC. As with the previous issue, this is beyond the scope of the RDC. Therefore, we request that the EC refer this matter to the Finance Committee for further consideration or consider the issue itself.

In a related vein, the RDC notes that the current awards investments are growing quite large. We are ecstatic about this as the award balances represent the hard work and contributions of many of our members. However, we anticipate a time when these balances will exceed the maximums insurable by the FDIC. Therefore, we would request that the Finance Committee and EC develop a plan for multiple award accounts (maybe even an account for each award). Our concern is for the future and ensuring the monies for the awards continue to grow and provide the income they were intended to do. We believe that it is in the best interest of the association to begin thinking about the future of this money now rather than later.

The final item the RDC wishes to bring before the EC relates to the way in which the committee functions. Constitutionally, the RDC is a standing committee. However, the committee does not currently function according to the rules for appointment/membership specified in the constitution for standing committees. Indeed, the committee can find no evidence that the RDC ever functioned according to these rules. Currently, the chair of the RDC serves a three-year term and the membership of the committee rotates. The incoming chair serves on the committee one year prior to beginning his or her duties as chair, and the committee consists of more than three members. When the discrepancy between the committee's function and the constitution came to the attention of the RDC, the committee discussed the problem in detail. Ultimately, the recommendation of the committee is that the current function of the committee continue as the process of fundraising as well as running CC is something that requires continuity of leadership. The committee believes that rotating the chair of this committee yearly could actually hamper the work of the RDC, and it would most definitely increase the costs of CC. Therefore, we recommend that the EC refer this matter to the Constitution Committee for consideration.

As always, the RDC welcomes all suggestions regarding methods for further resource development.

Respectfully submitted,

Todd Lee Goen
Chair, SSCA Resource Development Committee