

# CONNECTIONS

FALL 2009

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SOUTHERN STATES COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION

## Convention blends 'all avenues' of discipline

One of the most rewarding experiences of my career was planning the 2009 SSCA convention. The theme, Crossing Ideologies: Communication and Collaboration in a Changing World, challenged members to explore how in our ever-increasingly diverse world, we are being called upon at an unprecedented rate to build connections among communities of scholars and practitioners within our own discipline as well as others.

Whether our academic homes are labeled as more traditional "speech communication" departments, we are housed in more contemporary "communication" departments, or we are members of academic units outside of the communication field, we typically study and teach related themes, utilize similar methodologies, ask common questions, confront many of the same obstacles, and respond to shared challenges.

I was astounded at the number of sub-



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missions that addressed these commonalities and emphasized work with significant interdisciplinary foci.

It was remarkable seeing the pages and pages of program submissions transformed into scheduled sessions blending together all avenues of our discipline and beyond.

The countless hours of schedule switching, proofing, editing, and adjusting were well worth my time as we had a wonderful convention in Norfolk.

Capturing some of the most memorable moments at the convention I recall the

spotlight presentations focused on health communication issues with an international focus provided by Rajiv Rimal, Maria Elena Figueroa, Marc G. Bouley, Stella O. Babaloo, and J. Douglas Storey of Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health and on health communication education in Belize offered by Joy Hart and Kandi Walker of the University of Louisville.

Also spotlighted were highlights of the contributions in health communication research made by Jim L. Query of James Madison University, the interdisciplinary research conducted in collaboration with Purdue University's Department of Communication and the Regenstrief Center for Healthcare Engineering applying communication and engineering principles in efforts to improve patient care and implement more effective use of telehealth measures.

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## SSCA selects Cates as Executive Director-Elect

The Southern States Communication Association has appointed Carl M. Cates as the executive director-elect. Cates will serve as director of the organization from 2010-2015.

Cates is a professor and head of Communication Arts at Valdosta State University.

"It is an honor to be selected for this key role in the Southern States Communication Association," Cates said. "I look forward to working with our leadership team to build on the efforts of those serving before us."

In 1996, Cates received the Outstanding New Teacher Award for SSCA and in 2006 received the States Advisory Council Administrator of the Year award. As an SSCA member, he has



**CATES**

served on standing committees including Constitution, Finance, Nominating, Resource Development, various ad-hoc committees, and the selection committee for the Outstanding New Teacher Award. In addition, he has served as program planner for the ACA interest group and the Intercultural Division, and as reviewer, panel chair and respondent for various divisions.

His teaching and research interests include communication theory, leadership, debate and listening. He has presented more than 50 paper or panel sessions in addition to six articles, one book chapter and a co-authored textbook. During his time at VSU, the Communication Arts Department has added three new degree programs in addition to a doubling of students and faculty members.

A former president of the Georgia Communication Association, he continues to assist with the national revivication of the Association for Communication Administration. Cates also serves as president of the Rotary Club of Valdosta.

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## Don't miss early bird ad deadline

I realize that it is still several months before our exciting 2010 convention in Memphis but it is not too early to start planning your group's advertisement for the 2010 Convention Program.

Having an advertisement in the convention program is a great way to highlight your colleagues, faculty, students, and programs.

You can also use advertisements to thank folks who have done a great job!

SSCA Convention Program advertisements are a great bargain (surprisingly inexpensive really) and this year we are offering Early Bird discounts on half-page and full page ads (see the order form in this newsletter).



**J. EMMETT WINN**

**Executive Director**  
Southern States  
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[director@ssca.net](mailto:director@ssca.net)

We are expecting record breaking attendance at the Memphis convention so this means that hundreds of your colleagues, faculty, students, and prospective faculty and students will see your advertisement.

The Early Bird discount deadline is Dec. 15, 2009 so don't delay.

## Personal thank you ads available for 2010

Summer is a lovely time to step back from the hustle of the traditional academic year, and allow your creative side to wander.

Whether you are developing a new course in your mind, writing up the results section of a tucked away research study, or deciding how to develop a grant that involves research at a tropical destination, we are all connected through a collective sigh of relief that the academic year is over.

I encourage you to take this special time to think about your potential contributions to SSCA's annual conference this year in Memphis.

The conference will focus on the positive aspects of communication and what better time to illuminate such ideas than over summer!

When I think about things that make me happy, I immediately think of conducting research.

Whether it is the beginning of a new quantitative research study or questioning the findings of an ongoing project, research brings me joy. And sharing that research at SSCA's annual conference makes me ecstatic.

Presenting my study, discussing alternative research approaches, or analyzing findings with colleagues, the research presentations are positive communication encounters for me.

What about you? Are you working on a study you are anxious to share with your colleagues? Do you have a study that you have pushed to the side that you are ready to finalize?

I encourage you to take this time to



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engage in preparation for positive communicative experiences – get that paper ready for submission to SSCA in Memphis!

Another thing that makes me happy is spending money. I know, I know – trite statement that for those of you who know me, do not find surprising.

While I enjoy spending money, I find even more pleasure in spending it on gifts for someone else!

In order to extend such joy to the members of SSCA, I am planning a special advertising opportunity in the convention program.

Beyond traditional advertising for departments in the conference program, I am working on a special section that will enable members to celebrate and recognize those individuals or things that make them happy.

Think of it as your own personal thank you ad in the program.

The premise is to support the conference theme and enable other members to join in our collective joy of the attributes of SSCA, our members, colleagues, and other aspects of the study of communication that are positive.

And the affordable price will make you happy as well!

### SSCA DIVISIONS

- Applied Communication
- Communication Theory
- Community College
- Freedom of Speech
- Gender Studies
- Instructional Development
- Intercultural Communication
- Interpersonal Communication
- Language and Social Interaction
- Mass Communication
- Performance Studies
- Political Communication
- Popular Communication
- Public Relations
- Rhetoric and Public Address
- Southern Forensics

### INTEREST GROUPS

- Association for Communication Administrators (ACA)
- American Society for the History of Rhetoric
- Ethnography
- Kenneth Burke Society

## CONNECTIONS

**VOL. 27, NO. 2**  
**FALL 2009**

Connections is the official newsletter of the Southern States Communication Association (SSCA). It is published two times a year by the Department of Communication and Journalism at Auburn University.

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# Convention

Continued from page 1

Similar interdisciplinary work was described by Rachel Holloway of Virginia Tech.

Donna Smith, George Nagel, Helen Woodman, and Christine Conley-Sowels from Ferris State University led a successful workshop on critical thinking across the curriculum.

The Gender Studies Division honored Carole Blair from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill as their spotlight scholar whereas the Communication Theory Division spotlighted the scholarship of Pamela Kalbfleisch from the University of North Dakota.

Joshua Gunn of the University of Texas provided a provocative description of the trend of distinguishing the discipline from its traditional "speech" orientation to a greater emphasis on "communication." Pete Kellett led an informative spotlight discussion with a group of students from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro focused on collaborative responses to incidences of campus-related hate speech.

The career of National Communication Association First Vice President Dawn O. Braithwaite was spotlighted prior to her delivering the luncheon address on Saturday.

Her address included an interesting walk down memory lane highlighting the major milestones in the evolution of NCA beginning with its foundation as the National Association of Academic Teachers of Public Speaking in 1914.

She also discussed the current NCA initiatives for identifying where the NCA membership envisions the organization and the discipline to be five years from now when NCA celebrates its 100th anniversary.

The showcase of the convention was the Plenary Address, "Opportunities for Trans-disciplinary Collaboration and Community Participation in Communication Research" delivered by Gary L. Kreps from George Mason University.

Kreps spoke about approaching research through integrating cross-disciplinary methodological and theoretical perspectives resulting in unique analyses and conceptualizations.

Using health communication as a model, Kreps demonstrated research and practical applications linked among areas such as public health, psychology, epi-

demology, medicine and allied health areas along with communication.

Health communication outcomes aid in the quality of life through practices involving the reduction of health-related risks and the lowering of morbidity.

Research focused on health communication targets the full range of health-related issues from prevention and detection to diagnosis and treatment and beyond to concerns such as survivorship and those related to the end of life.

Successful health communication intervention efforts from go beyond these issues to include more direct involvement in taking preventative measures, decision-making regarding treatment options, adhering to therapeutic courses of action, and in seeking social support.

A model health literacy program was described in which such collaborative and interdisciplinary actions are being tested. Kreps' address provided an excellent representation of ways in which communication researchers across the spectrum of areas of interest may work together and with scholars from other disciplines in attempting to solve significant societal problems in our ever-changing and complex world.

Tom Socha, SSCA Vice President, planned a highly successful Theodore Clevenger Undergraduate Honors Conference.

Seventy-five students were programmed to participate in the conference representing 13 schools from across nine states. 71 papers were presented.

Our successful convention would not have been possible without the work, support, and patience of Emmett Winn, our Executive Director, and of his staff. My many thanks also go to Janet Fisher of Conference Direct.

Her assistance with coordinating the convention schedule with the hotel staff made the convention go smoothly. Janet along with Jennifer Adams were a tremendous help in the last few days before the program went to press by catching those last-minute edits.

I am excited about the 2010 convention in Memphis! I am certain Tom Socha will plan a great convention centered on his theme of Positive Communication. In these difficult economic times, we need to focus our attention to what brings us happiness.

What comes to my mind is hearing about good scholarship, seeing friends old and new, watching ducks waddle, hearing some blues, and tasting delicious barbecue!

## Call for Papers

80th Annual SSCA Convention  
April 7-9, 2010  
The Peabody Hotel  
Memphis, Tenn.  
Positive Communication

SSCA members and guests are invited to reflect on communication's role in happiness and in living meaningful lives (eudemonia, Aristotle).

Founding positive psychologist, Martin E. P. Seligman, asked, "Can there be a psychological science ... about the best things in life? Can parents and teachers use this science to raise strong, resilient children ready to take their place in a world in which more opportunities for fulfillment are available? Can adults teach themselves better ways to happiness and fulfillment" (M. E. P. Seligman, 2002, *Authentic Happiness*, New York, Free Press, p. 29)?

Since then, positive psychology has made tremendous progress addressing such questions (e.g., *The Positive Psychology Center*, University of Pennsylvania, <http://www.ppc.sas.upenn.edu/>).

As communication scholars and educators we now ask: What does communication leading to happiness look like across the contexts of relationships, groups, organizations, cultures, publics, and media? What is the status of research and education about communication processes considered to be positive (e.g., comforting, communication activism, dialogue, empathic listening, forgiveness, humor, negotiation, nurturing communication, positive emotional communication, prayer, pro-social media, service learning, spiritual communication, supportive communication, and so on)?

How are positive character-traits such as curiosity, valor, honesty, fairness, humility, appreciation of beauty, gratitude, hope, playfulness, and more communicated, and affect communication? What is communication's role in the development of positive character traits (e.g., C. Peterson & M. E. P. Seligman, 2004, *Character Strengths and Virtues: a Handbook and Classification*, New York, Oxford University Press)?

What might positive mass media look like? What might positive communication pedagogy look like (e.g., C. Peterson, 2006, *A Primer in Positive Psychology*, Oxford University Press)? And, since we will meet in Memphis—will singing the Blues make us happy?

The Call for Papers for all divisions and interest groups will be posted on SSCA's Web site: <http://www.SSCA.net> with a preliminary due date of Sept. 11, 2009. Ideas and questions pertaining to the conference should be directed to Dr. Thomas Socha, SSCA Vice President-Elect, Department of Communication & Theatre Arts, Old Dominion University, [tsocha@odu.edu](mailto:tsocha@odu.edu), (office: 757-368-4114).

Conference Web site: [http://www.odu.edu/~tsocha/ssca\\_memphis/ssca-memphis-2.shtml](http://www.odu.edu/~tsocha/ssca_memphis/ssca-memphis-2.shtml)

# Looking forward to 80th annual SSCA convention, 20th annual UHC

In Memphis, we have much to celebrate: SSCA's 80th annual convention; the Theodore Clevenger Undergraduate Honors Conference's 20th annual meeting; the outstanding contributions of our outgoing SSCA Executive Director, Emmett Winn; the first conference in the communication field to focus on positive communication; and much more.

In Memphis, we have much to learn: insights from hundreds of papers and panels advancing the conference theme and beyond; new ideas from the Positive Communication Plenary Lecture Series—Happy Hours for the Communication Mind that include: Opening the Mind, Engaging the Body, and Igniting the Spirit: Prayer as Religious/Spiritual Communication (E. James Baesler, Old Dominion University), Forgiveness and Reconciliation: Restoring Personal and Relational Health (Douglas Kelley, Arizona State), and Promoting Positive Social Change and Justice through Communication Activism Scholarship (Larry Frey, University of Colorado). Lecture series attendees will have a chance to win autographed copies of these authors' books!

In Memphis, we have much to savor: an incredible hotel—The Peabody—a world-class travel destination featuring beauty, history, charm, and awesome ducks; the barbeque of the Gods; music for the soul as well of the King; a blast from the past at Graceland; and maybe even some baseball. In Memphis, Dean Dick Ranta, Department Chair, Mike Leff, the ever-popular Mike and Susan Osborn, and all the wonderful folks at the University of Memphis will be our guides to the good life.

Before you come to Memphis, be sure to screen the movie, *The Firm*, and cheer when you see Dick Ranta in the film (You might bring along your copy and ask Dick for his autograph!).

In Memphis, we have lots of good work to do: volunteering to become an officer of a division or of the association; volunteering to serve on a committee; writing and communicating thoughtful responses to papers; being good listeners and asking really good questions at panels; participating positively in association meetings; writ-



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ing caring connections notes; participating in "Investing in the Development of SSCA Graduate Students and Early-Career Faculty" forums, checking out the latest in books and texts at the great exhibits while enjoying a cup of coffee, and much more.

So, come to Memphis. Sing the blues. Be happy. And, don't miss what could be SSCA's largest and most fun convention.

## *Investing in the Development of SSCA Graduate Students and Early Career Faculty*

In Memphis (2010), SSCA's Theodore Clevenger Undergraduate Honors Conference (TC-UHC) celebrates 20 years of supporting the first scholarly steps of communication undergraduates.

Many TC-UHC students continue their communication education in graduate programs at SSCA institutions as well as institutions across the nation.

SSCA's two decade investment in communication undergraduates is significant and unique in the communication field, and is one way that SSCA helps with the vital task of developing future communication scholars.

Of course, SSCA also invests in the next stage of communication scholarly development of its graduate students and early-career faculty by providing an outlet for the review and presentation of scholarly papers at its annual convention, by recognizing high-quality research and teaching with awards, and by sponsoring a refereed publication outlet (and maybe more).

Two questions: Is SSCA doing all that it can to support scholarly development after the TC-UHC? Are there other ways that SSCA might invest in the development of its graduate students and early-career communication scholars?

Today, we all must make wise choices about how to optimally manage disappearing travel budgets and limited time, but graduate students and early career faculty face particularly difficult choices about how to manage professional participation and convention attendance.

And, as they face these choices, I would like to make sure that they continue to view SSCA membership and participation as an

Please see **MEMPHIS**, page 7

# Have an idea for future SCJ special feature?



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As I hope you noticed, my first issue of SCJ included a "special feature," that was culled from a panel at SSCA's 2008 meeting honoring Michael Osborn.

I included this work in SCJ because I believed that it was important enough to merit an even wider audience than it garnered at the very well-attended panel at the conference. I think there are other panels, honoring other scholars, that would also make fine "special features" in future issues. I'd like to ask your help in locating such work.

So here's what I'm thinking a 'special feature' ought to be: an essay by a leading scholar in the field, whose work has had a history of influence. Ideally, this scholar would reflect on what brought them to their insight, and how s/he sees that insight now. It can be as much a rumination on the field as on the scholar's place in it. It should be accompanied by an essay or two that extends the work by applying it to a specific phenomenon, as James Darsey's essay provided an analysis of metaphor.

These contributions are not subject to the review process, and are invited rather than refereed contributions. They do not have to be originally conceived as conference panels, although such panels are an obvious place to begin.

I am especially interested in featuring scholars from across the discipline; I'd like to include as many such features as I can, as I consider them an important means of introducing that work to those who may not know of it as well as an opportunity to remind others of its importance and, of course, of honoring those who have produced it.

So if you have ideas for such features, please send me an email: mstuckey@gsu.edu. Please make the case for the significance of the work being honored and for the scholars being included. I'll run the ideas past members of the editorial board in the relevant area, and then choosing among the nominations. There is no deadline, but be aware that the issues fill quickly.

# Spotlight on Howard Dorgan's contributions to SSCA

BY ROBERT E. FRANK

Picking subjects for this column is no easy task. There are so many deserving people who have served this association and our discipline over the years.

But I think everyone will agree that the Howard Dorgan is worthy of being featured. Having decided to feature the third individual to have served as our journal editor, executive director and president in this issue of *Connections*, I made a phone call to Howard Dorgan.



**DORGAN**

What a pleasant way to spend a Sunday afternoon! Howard retired a few years back from Appalachian State University as a professor of communication. In our 45 minute conversation, Howard gave an overview and a lot of insight into his accomplished career.

To many people the concept of Appalachia carries a lot of negative stereotypes. Our popular culture continues to make negative comments and at times to downgrade the area as populated with "hillbillies" or degenerates.

I must admit when I came to eastern Kentucky 12 years ago, I did not know what to expect. But like Howard discovered almost 40 years ago, I found that Appalachia is a beautiful land with a lot of wonderful people. Howard has spent his academic career studying and writing about the people of Appalachia, particularly their religious practices.

While not a native of Appalachia, Howard roots are definitely southern. Born in Louisiana, he lived there until at the age of 14 his family moved to El Paso, Texas. After graduating high school, he enrolled and graduated in 1952 from Texas Western College, now University of Texas—El Paso, having majored in theater. In 1957 he received his M.A. from the University of

Texas—Austin.

Following his time in Austin, he ventured to the northwest for a few years, taking an interim position at the University of Idaho for one year. Liking that part of the country and having met a special lady, Howard took a job teaching high school and worked at establishing a regional theater.

After five years later, Howard with his bride returned to Texas to teach speech and theater at El Paso High School. Like most high school speech and theater teachers, his job required coaching debate and directing plays. With his introduction to debate Howard's interest switched from theater to speech. By producing several state debate championship teams, Howard attracted the attention of Lamar College. Thus began his academic career in speech communication.

After coaching debate successfully at Lamar for three years, Howard realized he needed a doctoral degree. This decision led him to Louisiana State University where under the tutelage of Waldo Braden he earned his Ph.D. in 1971. Once in the graduate program Howard discovered a love for research and writing. Finding all the papers of the United Confederate Veterans archived at LSU, his dissertation a rhetorical analysis of these papers.

With the advice and encouragement of Braden, Howard accepted a position at Appalachian State University. Braden had told him that Appalachia was a very religious area with some interesting churches — perhaps he might want to look at the way the preachers delivered their sermons.

On his first weekend after moving to Boone, Howard related how he tuned in that Sunday morning and heard the Rev. Roscoe Green preach a sermon.

Thus began his research into Appalachian religion, a research agenda that resulted in more than 40 articles and four books. During our conversation Howard spoke at some length about his last book, "In the Hands of a Happy God" that focused on the "no-Hellers," a small Baptist sub denomination.

He was also heavily involved with the

publication of the *Encyclopedia of Appalachia*, serving as the section editor for religion.

Lucky for our association, Braden also encouraged him to become involved with what became SSCA. And become involved he did!

After serving in various interest groups and committees, Howard began accepting the top leadership positions. In 1981, he became editor of *Southern Communication Journal*; in 1985, he became executive director; and in 1991, he served as president. In 1995, in recognition of his dedication and service to SSCA, he received T. Earle Johnson - Edwin Paget Distinguished Service Award.

When asked what special memories he had about Southern, he chuckled and said that most people would say it was his dancing. Yes, Howard and Dwight Freshley were renowned for their dancing abilities. Howard also was proud that he helped the association get computerized during his time in leadership positions.

We were not the only association to benefit from Howard's dedication and service. He said there were two professional associations that held a special place in his heart. The other was the Appalachian Studies Association. Howard also held every major office in that association as well.

Howard and Kathy Dorgan continue to live in Boone. Their son is a state auditor in North Carolina.

Many of us know his daughter Kelly, who followed in his footsteps and is an associate professor in communication at East Tennessee State University.

Two years ago Howard had a small stroke. He said his memory was still pretty good and after listening to him reel off details of the past 40 years, I can attest to that. He did lose his ability to walk, but with physical therapy he is now able to walk again.

Howard, thanks for your service and dedication to SSCA.

Our association, our discipline and Appalachia are better off for your work!

## Call for Nominations

The SSCA Nominating Committee seeks self- or other nominations for two offices: (a) Vice President-Elect and (b) SSCA 4-Year College/University Representative.

The Vice President-Elect plans the Undergraduate Honors Conference in 2011, plans the 2012 annual convention as Vice President, serves as President in 2013, and serves as immediate Past President and chair of the Nominations Committee in 2014.

Representatives to the NCA Legislative Assembly are elected to three-year terms. Candidates for the NCA Legislative Assembly should be committed to attending the NCA and SSCA conventions during the three-year term of this position. The Legislative Assembly member elected this year will represent four-year college/university community.

Send nominations to Jerold L. Hale (SSCA Immediate Past President and Nominating Committee Chair) by October 1 at [jhale@uga.edu](mailto:jhale@uga.edu).

## Encourage student participation in 20th UHC

If it had been suggested that I would be in charge of planning the Theodore Clevenger Undergraduate Honors Conference (UHC) back in 1991 when I was an overwhelmed undergraduate participant, I would not have believed it.

The UHC was one of the most memorable events of my undergraduate career. It was a rewarding experience because it enabled me to meet faculty and students from other institutions that shared an enthusiasm for their research.

Please encourage your students to submit papers to the UHC so that they can be a part of this wonderful academic experience.

In addition to exciting your students' academic interests, the UHC will provide students an opportunity to meet with representatives from graduate programs and network with scholars who share similar research interests. This can be an invaluable experience for those students considering graduate school. It might also demystify the process of scholarship and cause some who had not actively considered graduate school to more fully explore the possibilities.

The UHC will also give students a chance



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to showcase their own work by making presentations and getting both respondent and audience feedback. All participants will be recognized at the UHC breakfast and the author(s) of the top paper will receive a plaque and a \$100 cash award.

As you start to plan your convention activities, I hope you will put several UHC panels on your agenda. Your support and input is vitally important to creating a supportive and productive scholarly experience for the UHC students. If you would like to take a more active role by being a paper reviewer or panel respondent, please contact me at fbb@shsu.edu.

## Generous members fully fund Johnson-Paget Award

In the last newsletter article that I wrote, I reported that the balance of the T. Earle Johnson – Edwin Paget Distinguished Service Award was \$693.

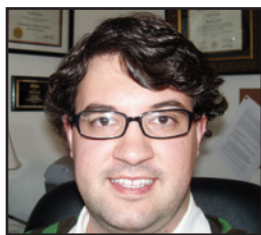
I am ecstatic to report that the current balance of this fund is \$6424. This dramatic increase is due to your support of Caring Connections and to your direct contributions to the award fund.

The monies raised this year speak to the generosity of SSCA's membership, and make the job of the Resource Development Committee much easier. For that, the entire committee is incredibly grateful for your support!

Caring Connections set a preconvention sales record this year! Through Caring Connections, we have raised thousands of dollars, but more importantly, we have cemented the relationships that make our association strong.

I had the opportunity to speak with several members of the field who attention our convention for the first time this year. Many of these individuals received Caring Connections from you and wanted to know more about their purpose.

Overwhelmingly, these first-timers were impressed with the generosity of our members as well as with their dedication to the



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association. Caring Connections is a great way to show your dedication to SSCA as well as to show your appreciation for friends and colleagues. Thanks so much for your support of this effort!

The award we're working to fund this year is the Outreach Award. The current balance of this award is \$575. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to the association's Award Fund.

One of the reasons our association remains strong is that we have members dedicated to ensuring the financial future of our organization. Help us make this year's fundraising efforts more successful than last year's! As always, if you have any questions or suggestions about the work of the Resource Development Committee, please do not hesitate to let me know.

## Call for Papers

### Theodore Clevenger Undergraduate Honors Conference in Communication

Deadline for Submission: Dec. 11, 2009

Undergraduate students are encouraged to submit papers for the Theodore Clevenger Undergraduate Honors Conference (UHC) to be held in conjunction with the 2010 Southern States Communication Association (SSCA) convention April 7 – April 11, 2010, in the Peabody Hotel in Memphis, Tenn.

Papers may address a variety of theories, topics, concepts, and methodologies of study in communication.

Although desirable, papers need not specifically address the convention theme, "Positive Communication."

Students currently enrolled as an undergraduate are eligible to submit a paper. In the case of multiple-authored papers, one student must be designated as the submitting/presenting author of each paper and no student may present more than one paper. Students may submit only ONE PAPER.

Submissions from anyone other than the author(s) will disqualify the paper from review.

Papers must be double-spaced in 12-point font and with one inch minimum margins. Submissions should not exceed 25 pages (including all references, figures, tables, and appendices), should avoid sexist language, and should include an abstract of 100-150 words. Except for the title page, the identity of the author(s) or the author(s)'s institution should not appear anywhere in the paper. IMPORTANT NOTE: AV equipment will NOT be available for presentations.

Note: All UHC authors (not just the lead author) are expected to attend the convention. Submitting a paper implies that all authors intend to participate in the convention if the paper is accepted for presentation. All UHC authors are expected to support SSCA by registering for the conference and paying the \$50 UHC registration fee, which includes UHC and SSCA convention registration, admission to the UHC Awards Breakfast, and one issue each of the Southern Communication Journal.

The author(s) of the top-ranked paper will receive a \$100 cash award and plaque. All UHC participants will be recognized at the Undergraduate Honors Conference Awards Breakfast.

Papers should be submitted by the author(s) as a Word or PDF format to Dr. Frances Brandau-Brown, Sam Houston State University at Brandau.Brown@gmail.com. The subject line of the email must contain the phrase "UHC Paper Submission."

The email message should have two files attached. File #1: A submission letter requesting review of the UHC paper that includes the paper's title, author(s)'s name(s), institutional affiliations, mailing addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses. File #2: the paper that begins with the title/abstract on page 1. In the event that the paper addresses the convention theme, please note this in the submission letter. SSCA reserves the right to disqualify any paper.

Papers must be received by Dec. 11, 2009, to be considered. Please share this Call for Papers with your students and encourage them to submit their work to the UHC.

Southern States Communication Association  
 Early Bird Convention Program Advertising Order Form  
 Memphis, TN \* April 7 to 11, 2010  
 SSCA TAX ID NUMBER 540-92-3925

**Convention Program Advertising:** Advertising in the Convention Program is an excellent way to increase visibility of your institution or organization among attendees and we are happy to offer you the following Early Bird Discounts for ads received with payment by December 15, 2008.

**Be sure to reserve your EARLY BIRD ad by December 15, 2009!**

(Note: SSCA reserves the right to refuse ads).

- a. Half Page                      \$225 (\$50 off the regular price)
- b. Full Page                         \$275 (\$50 off the regular price)
- c. 2 Full Pages                     \$375 (\$100 off the regular price)

Total Ads: \_\_\_\_\_ Total for Early Bird Ads: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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# Memphis

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integral part of their development as communication scholars.

To this end, during the SSCA convention in Memphis, I will be sponsoring two Vice-President’s forums where we will begin to gather information about SSCA’s investments in the development of its graduate students and early career faculty and begin to imagine new ways to invest

in their futures.

I have asked Kathleen Turner (Davidson College) and Chuck Tardy (University of Southern Mississippi) to each lead a forum on “Investing in the Development of SSCA Graduate Students and Early Career Faculty.”

I invite graduate students, early-career faculty, and all who are interested, to stop by one or both of the forums to dialogue and dream about how SSCA might build on its existing investments and create new opportunities for graduate students and early career faculty.

Next year, as SSCA president, I will create an ad hoc committee whose purpose will be to develop recommendations about SSCA’s investments in its graduate students and early career faculty.

My hope is that SSCA will continue to be known not only as a communication association that advances scholarship, but also as THE association where all communication scholars, from undergraduates to senior scholars, come to develop and grow.

Please drop me an email if you have ideas, suggestions, or would like to help with this project: [tsocha@odu.edu](mailto:tsocha@odu.edu).

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