

Minutes of the Division and Interest Groups of the Southern States
Communication Association 77th Annual Convention

March 28th-April 1st, 2007
Marriott Louisville Downtown
Louisville, Kentucky

Please note: all minutes that were submitted to the Executive Director are posted below. If a Division or Interest Group does not have minutes posted below it is because it did not submit those minutes to the Executive Director in time to have them posted.

Association for Communication Administrators Interest Group Meeting
Southern States Communication Association Business Meeting
Thursday, March 29, 2007
Louisville, KY
12:30 p.m.-1:45 p.m.

Attending:

Janie Harden Fritz	Duquesne University	harden@duq.edu
Ronald C. Arnett	Duquesne University	Arnett@duq.edu
Katherine Hendrix	University of Memphis	khendrix@memphis.edu
Leeanne M. Bell	Duquesne University	leeannebell@hotmail.com
Roger Smitter	NCA	

Meeting opened by Janie Harden Fritz, Vice Chair elect, reporting for Renee Edwards; report was as follows:

“ACA interest group
Report of the Vice Chair

I received four program proposals and two abstracts for papers. These were evaluated by a panel of four reviewers, all with administrative experience (two as dept. chair). Based on this review, I submitted three panel proposals to the Vice President and all were accepted for presentation.

The Vice President judged one panel about SACS accreditation to be especially important for our members and programmed it into a double slot on Thursday. Unfortunately the first half of it conflicts with the business meeting.

I apologize that I cannot be at the convention to deliver this report in person. A family commitment arose in February that could not be rescheduled.

Respectfully submitted,
Renee Edwards”

Leeanne Bell took minutes. Ronald C. Arnett was elected Vice-Chair for the 2009 convention.

Discussion: What happened to the Journal of the Association for Communication Administration and why is it gone?

1. Important to our discipline
2. Journal stopped in 2001 due to lack of leadership (reported by Roger Smitter)

3. Carl Cates is trying to get the journal up and running

Questions discussed: What is the legal standing of A. C. A.? Does ACA keep monies or does NCA? Should the ACA meet at NCA or SSCA or at their own convention?

Apparently NCA still holds an account for ACA and has back issues of journal.

Arnett suggested that this journal helps people in higher administration; Katherine Hendrix agreed and was interested in the status of the journal (she came to meeting for just this reason).

Primary purpose: We are an organized structure.

Arnett: Delighted to be part of the process; we need to move people in our discipline to provost positions; there are 20-25 members of discipline listed as “higher ups”

One function of ACA: Resources for people who are thinking about presidencies/provost positions.

Another function: Structural/curricular

Various kinds of themes for journal: “Special Issues”

Visibility of our discipline

Administrative/PR function

Put information in people’s hands to show what we do

Refereed journal articles more persuasive; therefore, ACA journal should be refereed publication.

Scholarly refereed doesn’t fit in the timely issues always, so there could be a special section, such as Scholarship of Teaching, including conversations that are timely that need to be addressed.

For next convention (2008, Savannah): two slots available.

Call for papers will go out.

Possible themes/programs:

Meeting of department chairs – needs assessment

Panel of Presidents (of institutions of higher education from the communication discipline) in the South

Connect to fundraising

What would you expect to tell people who are coming in?

What do you need from communication department chairs?

Who are the presidents? (Roger Smither has a list)

How do you get there? Tell the story of their rise; small colleges vs. large university route

Example: Tim Hines State University of West Georgia

Fritz will plan next year; Arnett will plan following year

Meeting adjourned at 1:22 p.m.

Communication Theory Division
2007 SSCA Convention
Meeting Minutes
Louisville, Kentucky
Friday, 30 March 2007
SSCA Minutes

Cole Franklin called the meeting to order at 10:31 am and welcomed all members. There was a motion from the floor to approve the minutes, which received a second, and subsequently, the members of the division voted to approve the minutes from last year's meeting.

REPORTS

Chair's Report

Cole Franklin reported the results of the association elections, noting that Trish Amason is the new vice-president elect. He also reported that the 2011 convention site will be in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Vice-Chair's Report

Sherry Ford reported that the division received 20 competitive papers submissions and four panel submissions, which represents an increase from the previous year. The division received three time slots and requested a fourth, which was granted. This allowed the division to accept nine papers and two panels.

- The top paper award for the division went to Will Power and Paul Witt. Will Powers distributed copies of the top paper to individuals who were unable to attend the top paper panel the previous evening. He also thanked Jim McCroskey, Ralph Benhke, Margaret Fitch-Hausser, and wife Lois Powers for their support and assistance.
- The top student paper for the division and division's nominee for the Bostrom award went to Todd Lee Goen.
- There were no nominations for an outstanding theorist award.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Given the complete and utter dearth of nominations for the division's outstanding theorist award, the officers reminded members to consider this award for next year. There was some disagreement as to whether or not the division should form a selection committee for this award. After consulting

the division bylaws and past presidents attending the meeting, Cole Franklin clarified for the membership that the selection committee for this award consist of a committee of the division officers with the division chair serving as the chair of the committee. Sherry Ford invited members to submit nominations for next year. Discussion then ensued as to how best to continue this valuable tradition. The following suggestions resulted:

- a. An e-mail call to the division members for the outstanding theorist award.
- b. Contacting specific division members and asking them to nominate someone.
- c. Consulting the list of previous winners in the hope that members might think of persons deserving of this honor.
- d. A panel of previous winners to talk about the state of theory.

2. Many members expressed dismay at the number of panels granted the division. Several members noted that the acceptance rate for the division was lower than most NCA divisions for the previous year. Lynne Webb made suggestions for obtaining more panels in future years. Several members noted the need for continued encouragement for submission of both papers and panels in the future.

3. Joy Hart distributed a survey for members regarding electronic submissions for future conferences. She is a member of an ad hoc committee investigating the use of an electronic submission system for future SSCA conventions. A lively discussion of the costs and benefits of moving to an electronic submission system.

4. Several members discussed potential for panels for next year. There was a suggestion that the division actively seek to co-sponsor panels with other divisions. Division members decided that the division should definitely have a Communication Theory Scholar Spotlight Panel. One suggestion for this panel was to bring together previous recipients of this honor for a round table discussion.

ELECTIONS

Vice-Chair Elect

The division elected Stephanie Coopman to this position by acclamation.

SSCA Nominating Committee Representation

Given a change to NCA's constitution, there was no need to elect someone for this position. Division immediate past chairs will now serve in this capacity. Cole Franklin will serve as the division's representative next year. He encouraged members to submit names of individuals interested in serving the association to him.

Division Nominating Committee

The division elected Lynne Webb, Ryan Lloyd, and Steven Weiss as members of the division nominating committee. Webb and Lloyd will serve as co-chairs. Cole Franklin charged the members of the committee to develop a slate of candidates for next year's election.

There was a motion to adjourn and a second from the floor. Hearing no objections, Cole Franklin adjourned the meeting at 11:25 am.

2007-2008 OFFICERS

Chair: Sherry Ford, University of Montevallo

Vice-Chair: Monette Calloway-Ezell, Hinds Community College

Vice-Chair Elect: Stephanie Coopman, San José State University

Secretary: Todd Lee Goen, University of Georgia

Immediate Past Chair: Cole Franklin, East Texas Baptist University

Respectfully submitted,

Todd Lee Goen
Division Secretary

Community College Division
Southern States Communication Association
Louisville, Kentucky
31 March 2007

I. Robin Jensen, chair, called the meeting to order at 8:05.

II. Self-introductions were made and the following members were present:

Richard Falvo, El Paso; Catherine Gragg, San Jacinto; Deborah Hefferin, Broward; Robin Jensen, St. Pete; Richard Quianthy, Broward; Greg Rickert, Bluegrass; Paula Rodriguez, Hinds; Roger Smitter, NCA; Pat West, Mississippi Gulf Coast.

III. The minutes of the 2006 meeting were approved. Roger Smitter noted that the NCA online publication changed the name from Comzine to Communication Currents and can be accessed at Communicationcurrents.com

IV. Reports

Chair: Robin reported on problems with allowing/funding attendance at SSCA. Suggestion was made to ask Emmit Winn to write a letter to SPC administration.

Vice-Chair: Paula reported on the ComCol programs presented at the conference.

V. There was no unfinished business.

VI. New Business:

A. Election of officers: Vice-Chair is Catherine Gragg, Vice-Chair-Elect is Rick Falvo, and Secretary is Pat West

B. Paula will contact Judy Carter to find out the status of our Website and whether she will continue as Web Editor.

C. We need to nominate a Community College person to be SSCA rep to NCA. Paula will take names to the nominating committee.

VII. Division Awards: Robin discussed the Community College Division Outstanding Educator Award. There was no award given this year. She has streamlined the procedures and will chair the committee next year. Paula made a motion, and it was seconded, to make the Immediate Past Chair responsible for chairing the selection committee. Motion passed.

VIII. The following programs were suggested for next year

- A. GIFTS: Paula Rodriguez (Chair facilitates this session)
- B. Impacting the Human Condition through Service Learning: Rick Falvo
- C. How have Community Colleges Changed? Richard Quianthy
- D. Changing Identities Following Disaster: Pat West

IX. Announcements

The division thanked Robin and Paula for their hard work on behalf of the division this past year.

Remaining ComCol programs were announced.

X. The meeting adjourned at 9:10.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Hefferin

Ethnography interest group meeting
Southern States Communication Association
Louisville, Kentucky
31 March 2007

The meeting was called to order shortly after 3:00 p.m.

In attendance:

Mary Helen Brown – brownm@auburn.edu
Elissa Foster – commscholar@hotmail.com
Rebecca (Becky) Kennerly – rkennerly@georgiasouthern.edu
Art Bochner – abochner@cas.usf.edu
Lisa Tillman – ltillman@rollins.edu
Tom Frentz – tfrentz@ark.edu
Cris Davis – cdavis2@uncc.edu
Michael Arrington – michaelarrington@uky.edu

The first order of business was to elect officers. Tom Frentz was elected to serve as chair, Cris Davis was chosen to serve as vice chair, and Michael Arrington was elected to serve a two-year term as secretary. Rebecca Kennerly was elected to serve as vice-chair-elect. Tom Frentz will attend the nominating committee meeting as our representative in 2008

Rumblings suggest that SSCA might be considering creating a second journal. Tom has been asked to chair the committee, and he requested our thoughts about the journal as a journal of ethnographic research. The popularity of the journal *Qualitative Inquiry* leads us to believe that an ethnography journal would find a sufficiently large audience. It was suggested that we solicit feedback from the NCA ethnography division.

The division also discussed putting together a listserv; secretary Arrington agreed to take the lead on this.

Talk turned to ideas for next year's conference. Panel suggestions included a top papers panel, a spotlight panel on the work of Carolyn Ellis, a spotlight panel on Della Pollock, a panel on Georgia's hate speech and anti-immigration laws, a panel of ethnographies of academic departments, a panel on subversive/transgressive ethnography, and a panel on political ethnography and social change/activist ethnography. The 2008 SSCA conference theme is "Communicating to change the human condition." The division expressed an openness to alternative forms of conference presentations (e.g., documentary films). Lisa Tillman volunteered to head a committee on writing up something on performing department culture.

The idea of a preconference (on ethnographic studies of Savannah) was suggested; Elissa Foster agreed to contact Stacy Holman Jones to discuss the idea further.

After Tom Frenz encouraged members to spread the word about the ethnography division, The meeting adjourned at 4:09.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Irvin Arrington, Secretary

**Minutes Instructional Development Division
SSCA**

Business meeting:

Saturday March 31 4:30

- 1 Meeting called to order by Chair Richard Quianthy.
2. Introductions
3. Approval of 2006 Minutes (Secretary Quinton Moser did not attend meeting—minutes will have to be approved at next meeting.)
4. Reports:
 - A. Chair-Richard Quianthy
 - B Vice Chair-Ryan Loyd
 - C Secretary/Web Editor (not at meeting)
5. Unfinished Business-none
6. New Business
 - A Election of Officers
 1. Vice-Chair Elect—Deanna Dannels
 2. Other
 - a. Nominating Committee—Ryan Loyd will look into this.
 - b. Website update—Ryan Loyd
7. 2008 Convention Program-Deb Hefferin
8. Announcements-None
9. Adjourned 5:15

Respectfully Submitted by
Richard Quianthy, Acting Secretary

INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION DIVISION
MARCH 30, 2007

The meeting began at 12:06 PM.

Mary Rucker gave her perspective on issues at the Executive Council Meetings that, in her opinion, affected this division.

1. Students who submit papers to the Undergraduate Honors Conference must attend the convention and pay the appropriate fees.
2. Proper training of vice-chairs in putting programs together makes things run more smoothly.
3. There is discussion of changing the name of the journal, but it will probably not happen this year. Some discussion of the membership ensued on the pros and cons of the current journal name.
4. How can SSCA increase the visibility of minorities and retain same as members? Mary was unclear as to what was being proposed.

Vice Chair Stephen King reported that there were 18 papers submitted for this conference of which 11 were accepted. Seven programs were proposed of which one was accepted. Stephen thanked those members who reviewed the papers and those who served as chairs of programs and/or respondents.

Each division has \$75. You can award a certificate and a check, but not a plaque and a check, as plaques costs too much money. It is unclear as to just what the spending guidelines are.

Richard Quianthy was elected by acclamation to the position of Vice Chair Elect.

There was some discussion as to who was actually our representative on the nominating committee. Mary Rucker will talk to Charles Tardy and get the information and serve this year.

Next year's convention theme is Communicating Change in the Human Condition. The membership made suggestions as to possible programs for next year's conference to Dominique Gendrin, who is the Vice Chair in charge of the program.

The membership thanked Stephen King for putting together the program for this year. They also thanked Mary for her efforts for the division.

The meeting ended at 12:57PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Hope Bock
Secretary

Interpersonal communication division meeting
Southern States Communication Association
Louisville, Kentucky
31 March 2007

In attendance:
Todd Goen
Patricia Amason
Abby Brooks
Monette Ezell-Calloway

According to Abby Brooks, Jerry Hale (the 2008 conference planner) says we can request not to have our business meeting scheduled against another division; lots of interpersonal division members are also communication theory members, so Abby will suggest that we not have our business meeting slotted at the same time as communication theory, gender studies, or applied communication. Hale also encouraged sharing panels (e.g., with the aforementioned divisions).

The first order of business was to elect officers. Todd Goen was elected to serve as vice-chair-elect, and secretary Amber Walker (who was unable to attend) was chosen to serve another year as secretary. s vice chair, and Michael Arrington was elected to serve a two-year term as secretary. Rebecca Kennerly was elected to serve as vice-chair-elect. Tom Frenz will attend the nominating committee meeting as our representative in 2008.

The division congratulated Abby Brooks, who defended her dissertation earlier in the week.

Abby is working on the division's 2008 call for papers. In addition, she has been proactive in seeking reviewers for the 2008 conference. It was suggested that we obtain the list of division members online and ask for volunteers to review. Abby is interested in hearing our suggestions for roundtable topics and other panel ideas (e.g., spotlight scholar panels).

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Irvin Arrington,
Interpersonal Division Chair

Kenneth Burke Society Interest Group
March 31, 2007
8:00 AM
Louisville, KY Marriot

Chair: Elena Strauman, College of Charleston (absent)
Vice-Chair: Kim Golombisky, University of South Florida
Vice-Chair Elect: Christina Moss, North Carolina State Univeristy
Secretary: Wesley Buerkle, East Tennessee State University

Symbol-Using Animals: Kim Golombisky, Betty Dupont, Mary Evelyn Collins, Bob West, Andy King, Christi Moss, Wesley Buerkle, David Cratis Williams, Zac Gershberg, and Emmett Winn.

I. Inventor of the negative

A. Meeting called to order by Kim Golombisky, bringing us out of the of our groggy 8:00 AM lumbering.

B. That we would not be without from the 2006, Andy King took the minutes in Dallas. Our hearts were gladdened by his refusal to allow to slip quietly into that good night without record of our efforts. The minutes were quickly approved. The society heartily thanks him for his assistance—we were all inspired.

II. Separated from Our Natural Condition

A. As the planner for 2008 & 2009 Christi Moss will attempt to not have our panels opposite divisions with similar interests, especially Rhetoric & Public Address (RPA) and American Society for the History of Rhetoric (ASHR).

B. In an effort to dissolve the unnatural divisions between the KB society, RPA, and ASHR, Christi will attempt co-sponsored panels.

C. The group would desire having a top-paper panel immediately proceeding the business meeting that we might encourage others to easily effortlessly slide from one Burke event to another, a veritable Burke-palooza.

D. Emmett Winn asked the group if they felt comfortable with SSCA putting membership and association information and details on the website. We all agreed, we shall not stand apart from others, but embrace transparency.

III. Goaded by the Spirit of Hierarchy

A. As of the meeting we have 110 members, including the honorable J. Emmett Winn.

B. Kim put together four panels, all of which were well attended, sometimes to the point of filling all chairs. Even the student panel on the first day drew attention from SSCA membership. But for the efforts of Kim, the Burke Society would have been reduced to two sessions. By the public support received at our panels, Kim's efforts were not wasted.

C. Awards winners were recognized

1. Slavica Kodish, “Are We Killing the Mockingbird?: Making Sense of the Avian Flu Scare” left everyone terrified by poultry—we fear next year she will scare us all off of beef by analysing mad-cow disease discourse.
2. Anna Turnage, “Scene, Agent and the Comic Frame in the Duke Rape Case.” Ms. Turnage’s paper also won the Bostrom Award, demonstrating that Burkean scholarship is thriving in quality as well as quantity.
- D. While no elections are needed for this year we will be needing a new secretary after next year. Zac Gershberg has been encouraged to defend his dissertation before the next election rolls around.

IV. Rotten with Perfection

- A. Possible panels topics for next year are already in the works
 1. Burke as an early eco-critic (an especially good choice for Savannah)
 2. Revisiting Burke’s Definition of Man/Human in relation to 2008 convention theme
 3. A workshop on teaching Burke
 - a. People can include syllabi and other resources
 - b. Possibly the workshop can include faculty and students sharing their perspectives of what does and does not work
 4. Burke and Ontology
 5. Performing Burke (actually, reading/performing Burke)
- B. Christi beseeched the crowd to follow through on these great ideas and propose panels that she might fight for their inclusion in the program.
- C. Everyone is reminded of two places for Burkeans to share their work
 1. The online Burke journal (www.kbjournal.org)
 2. The seventh triennial meeting of the Kenneth Burke Society, June 29 through July 1, 2008 at Villanova University

Language and Social Interaction
Saturday morning, March 31, 2007

The Chair, Christine Davis, called the meeting to order.

Nominations were held for open positions.

Slavitsia was nominated for Vice Chair Elect and elected.

Almeida was nominated for Secretary and elected.

The Chair gave information from the Executive Committee.

1. The 2008 Conference will be held in Savannah, GA.
2. The Committee is considering a second journal, but will study the issue for another year. There is a need for a qualitative journal for full-length papers.
3. The Committee is considering renaming SCJ—because people think SCJ only publishes about Southern communication. It is also harder to sell to persuade people that it is well-known, and respected in the field for tenure decisions. SCJ currently has a 10% acceptance rate, which is very low.
4. Division awards—This year each division gets cash for plaques.
5. The advertising director will be changed to marketing directing.
6. The Committee is setting up guidelines for awards, e.g., who we would accept money from, and naming awards after the donor.
7. The committee is deliberating electronic submission—should it be All Academic. There is an advantage for scheduling conferences, but some disadvantages as well. A survey is being conducted of SSCA member opinion at this conference.
8. Budget problems—SSCA had a deficit last year, but we're in good shape right now.
9. The theme next year will be "Communicating the change in the human condition."

People signed up to be readers/reviewers.

This year, we had two panels of papers, and two panels.

We get three guaranteed paper panels, and a fourth if on the convention theme.

We currently have 59 people in the Division.

Preregistration at this year's conference was 252.

The new Vice-Chair, Heather, started discussing next year's panels.

She said that at least one should be on the conference theme.

We discussed asking Ken Cissna, a Buberian scholar, to be a spotlight scholar as this would be congruent with the conference theme. The title could be "Dialogue and the Human Condition."

This year the immediate past chair serves for one year after their term as the Nominating Committee representative.

Linda Vangelis now serves as the Chair of Language and Social Interaction.

The meeting was closed.

--Eugenie Almeida, Secretary

Mass Communication Division

2006-2007 Officers

Chair: Tony DeMars, University of North Carolina, Pembroke

Vice Chair: Melissa M. Smith, Mississippi State University

Secretary: Justin Young, Tougaloo College

Web Editor: Tony DeMars, Sam Houston State University

MCD Business Meeting, March 29, 2007 in Louisville, Kentucky.

Signed in: Tony DeMars, Melissa Smith, Dennis Robertson, Myleea D. Hill, Mary Jackson Pitts, Darrell Roe, Karyn Brown, Wendy Hajjar, Barry P. Smith, Gerald-Mark Breen and Ibrahim Bani Abdo.

DeMars called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m. The minutes from the 2006 meeting were unanimously accepted as posted on the SSCA and division Web site.

Melissa Smith reported that the division had eight panels accepted for the 2007 conference, plus the business meeting slot. She said that the division received 15 faculty paper submissions and seven graduate student submissions. From those submissions, eight faculty papers and four graduate student papers were accepted. There were three submissions for the Production Showcase, all of which were accepted. Smith said that the division received four panel submissions, all of which were slated to be presented at the conference. Smith thanked the 17 reviewers who worked to review papers submitted for the conference, and especially thanked them for making additional comments that could be of use to the authors as they revise papers.

DeMars gave a brief report on items discussed at the Executive Council meeting held earlier that day. He reported that the organization is considering launching another academic journal, but that the proposal is still under discussion. He said there was no particular focus yet for the new potential journal, but that several ideas had been discussed. He also reported that there was discussion about changing the name of the conference's existing publication, the Southern Communication Journal, because it gives the impression that it only publishes regional work. The journal, however, has a much larger focus and was noted as having a 10 percent acceptance rate.

DeMars also discussed the survey taken by SSCA prior to the conference regarding electronic submissions. He said that the discussions regarding using a paid service to manage submissions were still ongoing and that no decision had been made. He also noted that an ad hoc committee had been established to solicit endorsements and possible sponsorship of conference sessions. In addition, DeMars said that discussions were underway regarding the

Clevenger Undergraduate Honors Conference and monies allotted to the yearly event. DeMars also stressed that there are no cash awards for papers, but that plaques are given to top-paper award winners. He also announced that site chosen for the 2011 conference is Little Rock, Arkansas.

In new business, DeMars recommended an update of the division's bylaws regarding a clarification of the election process. He noted prior situations in which the bylaws may have been violated, and suggested that the division might want to clarify or change the existing rules. He suggested that a committee of three people be appointed to review the existing bylaws and make recommendations for review by the division members. After much discussion, Karyn Brown suggested that one person be responsible for reviewing the bylaws and then providing a report to the division. Barry P. Smith was charged with this duty. He will review the bylaws regarding the division's election process, send a report and then solicit feedback from division members.

DeMars also noted that the person chosen as secretary for the division the previous year, Justin Young, was not present at the meeting. DeMars said he had not heard from Young about not attending and asked the membership if they thought Young's absence from the meeting and uncertainty of his availability meant it would be unlikely that he would be able to fulfill the duties of the vice chair, which included attendance at a planning session for the next year's conference. That session was slated for Saturday, and the assumption by his absence from the MCD business meeting was that Young would not be able to attend. Mary Jackson Pitts made a motion Young be removed from the vice chair position because he would be unable to fulfill the duties. Dennis Robertson seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Robertson then moved that Wendy Hajjar be the program planner for 2008 and attend the meeting on Saturday. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

There were several recommendations regarding paper submissions for the division. Melissa Smith recommended limiting the number of papers that can be submitted by one author, as multiple submissions from one author were received for the 2007 conference. After much discussion, the division voted that only one first-author submission will be accepted by the division. Smith also recommended setting a page limit on papers submitted to the division, as several papers of more than 40 pages were received in the 2007 submissions. The members present voted to set a limit of 25 pages on submissions, including tables and references. It was also noted that the division call for papers should include instructions for authors to remove personal information from the "properties" menu in Microsoft Word. Smith noted that several submissions for the 2007 conference included the author's name in the properties file, and she had to remove all of the information.

DeMars asked for suggestions to improve the Production Showcase, which highlights creative productions by both faculty and students. Melissa Smith noted that all of the submissions for 2007 were done by students, and she suggested that efforts be made to get information regarding the showcase to people who teach broadcasting in schools in our region. Other suggestions included having the showcase after hours or off site. DeMars and Hajjar said they would work together to try to improve the showcase for the 2008 conference.

Karyn Brown noted that Jean DeHart, the Advertising Manager for SSCA, wanted feedback about what SSCA officers can do to encourage membership in the Mass Communication Division. She urged members to send their suggestions to DeHart.

DeMars stated that a topic for future discussion might be changing the name of the division. He noted that other divisions have a more specific emphasis, and that some people aren't sure what types of research would be acceptable in the Mass Communication Division. Melissa Smith noted that the fragmentation of SSCA divisions had also eroded membership in Mass Communication, as divisions such as Public Relations and Political Communication had taken away some of our previously active members.

Karyn Brown was re-elected as the division's nominating committee representative. Myleea D. Hill was nominated and accepted as Secretary by acclamation. Barry P. Smith was nominated and accepted by acclamation as the division's Web site editor.

Pitts commended DeMars and thanked him for his service to the division. DeMars expressed thanks to Melissa Smith and acknowledged her work in planning the conference.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

Recorded by Melissa Smith, vice chair.

Political Communication Division Business Meeting Minutes

Monette Callaway-Ezell called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm on Saturday, March 31, 2007. The agenda was approved. After the correction of Bob Frank's name in the minutes, the minutes were approved.

In the absence of the Chair, Vice-Chair Monette Callaway-Ezell presented the Chair's report. She reported on SSCA's change in the way the nominating committee is composed. Monette noted that some results were available from the electronic submission surveys.

Monette presented the top paper award to Nadia Aljabri from Virginia Tech.

Norma Cook was elected as Vice-Chair Elect.

On behalf of the Bylaws Committee, Bob Frank presented the bylaws for discussion. After discussion, and a few changes, the bylaws were approved.

Barry Smith presented the Vice-Chair Elect's report. He reported on the convention theme for Savannah. Ideas for political communication panels for the 2008 SSCA convention were discussed.

Melissa Smith, Webmaster, asked that anyone who had taken pictures please send them to her for the website.

The nominating committee for the division was elected. Members are Karyn Brown, Jean DeHart, and Bob Frank. Bob Frank will chair the committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Popular Communication Division
March 30, 2007
12:00 PM
Louisville, KY Marriot

Chair: Wendy Hajjar, University of New Orleans
Vice-Chair: David Silverman, Valley City State University
Vice-Chair Elect: Mike Eaves, Valdosta State University
Secretary: Wesley Buerkle, East Tennessee State University

- I. General Business
 - A. Meeting called to order by Wendy Hajjar
 - B. 2006 minutes submitted and approved
 - C. As of the convention's start we have 75 members

- II. Other Business
 - A. David Silverman reported on planning the 2007 panels.
 1. David put together six panels, with help from a variety of members.
 2. As last year, the division went to an electronic submission system. It all seems to be running smoothly.
 3. This year we went without respondents and found discussion still flowed nicely in the room after the presentations were complete.
 4. Discussion of the submission policy began
 - a. Concern was raised regarding multiple submission from one author. A general consensus formed that only two should be allowed, ideally only as first author on one.
 - b. Both Wendy and David noted minor problems with the electronic submission process, namely author identity is found in the paper itself or the electronic file properties. A new submission guideline policy should be drafted.
 - B. Awards were given
 1. Donna R. Miller and David C. Bruenger for Top Faculty Paper, "Decivilization: The Compressive Effects of Technology on Culture and Communication"
 2. Joseph A. Watson for Top Student Paper, "Genre, We Have A Problem: How Camp Landed Snakes On A Plane"
 - C. The theme for 2008 Savannah, GA was briefly discussed. Wendy reminded and announced that SSCA will meet in Norfolk, VA in 2009, Memphis, TN in 2010, and Little Rock, AK in 2011.
 - D. As a matter of staying on track with our goals, the association members should review our bylaws and suggest amendments as necessary.
 - E. Wendy reported SSCA pleased with the new publisher.
 - F. A second journal is still being discussed by SSCA.

- III. New Business
 - A. Wesley Buerkle elected as vice-chair elect.

- B. John Saunders elected as secretary.
- C. Discussion of next year's theme took place. Topics suggested:
 - 1. A cooperative panel with ethnography
 - 2. Sony Wii
 - 3. Networking issues
 - 4. MMPOG/MMPORPG (Massive Multiplayer Online Games/ Massive Multiplayer Online Role Playing Game)

Rhetoric and Public Address

Minutes of March 30, 2007

“24,5”

The following takes place between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Previously on 24.5

Last year’s business meeting left us gasping with unresolved dilemmas. Would Chair Rosanne Mandziuk, her tasks being finished, even bother coming? Would then Vice Chair Jim Kuypers shed the black and loosen up? Would then Vice Chair-Elect Ken Zagacki sport a different polo shirt, but still show those great forearms? Would our new Vice Chair-Elect Ann Burnette, whose existence was somewhat in doubt, she not even having been present for her own coronation, be here now? Could I, hearing less and less every year even with help, make any sense of what happened this time around? And could Ron Carpenter stay awake through the entire meeting?

Reader discretion advised

Jim Kuypers was better—although he should have listened to his wife. She allegedly told him that the cream-colored, raw silk sport coat he wore, while certainly fashionable and breezy, was a bit much for this early in the season. “But it’s one of my favorites,” Jim told me he whined to her, and so he wore it against her better judgment. And that choice, as with all subtle wardrobe choices in the spy business, gave us a bit, but took a bit away too. What it gave us was a more—what?—a more “accessible Jim”—a chair more “there for us”—feeling our pain even as he caused it by sharing what went on at the Executive Council meeting. With a gentle reminder that bigger is better (Rhetoric and Public Address is still the largest Division in SSCA), Jim passed the baton to Ken Zagacki.

No problem here. This year the “study in gray” was gone—well—sort of—Ken wore a loose-fitting polo (taupe this year) and nondescript gray pants (you can’t change too much too soon). But—the forearms were still there—rivaling those of Steve Garvey (oh—go look it up!). Ken rehearsed the number of paper submissions (I think it was 22), the number of panels (I think it was 5), and the total number of programs (I think it was 10).

While he was saying something about needing more visual aids, I took the opportunity to look around the CRU (Counter Rhetoric Unit) room. Much to my dismay, Ron Carpenter, who had been doing quite well up to here, had dozed off. Gwen Brown was giving Ken loads of positive feedback by

nodding her head vigorously to most everything he said, but her nods, somewhat like Richard Nixon's smile, as just a nanosecond late.

And then things got a little dicey. Ken was noting that the asterisk had been left off of the Top Three Papers in Rhetoric program and so no one knew which one of the three was really best. Being the respondent on that panel, I just naturally assumed that none of them were all that hot, but before I could suggest that, David Cheshier, co-author of one of the Top Three papers and normally quite introverted and under control, leaped to his feat, charged to the front of the room, jerked the "Best in Show" plaque out of an astonished Ken's hands, and hissed, "It's mine, goddamnit, and nobody better say otherwise!" Well—like--hell—nobody was about to confront this kind of raw passion—and so Mary Stuckey and David did, indeed, win the "Best in Show" paper. Nervous applause followed. Unreal.

I think Ken had more to say, but he was so unnerved by this assault from David that he just sat down as the virtual Ann Burnette stood up and became real. Ann Burnette—in the flesh—as opposed to last year—when she was little more than a fleeting image on somebody's hard drive. But there she was in an extremely tasteful black blazer, a hot peach blouse, pearls coyly hanging where they usually do, and glasses rakishly pushed up on her head and buried in her hair. She began, as all Vice Chair Elects must, by asking for ideas for next year's conference in Savannah.

Now this is where I usually catch a few z-z-z-z's. There is nothing, trust me here, nothing more boring than people scrambling to imagine panel ideas for the following year. But I am in this spy business, and so here's what I heard. Realize, of course, that many of these "panel ideas" were code phrases for meetings later on in the day. "How about 'The Rhetoric of Savannah'?" Mary Evelyn Collins asked (nobody answered). "How about something on the election year?" someone else asked. Ummmm—sure—why not? "How about the rhetoric of cobblestone?" (no—really!). Somebody else tossed in, "Let's have a Spot Light panel for somebody." Man, I'm dyin' here. The good news was that Ron Carpenter woke up in here somewhere. I asked Kathie Turner, she being my ears when mine don't work, whether anybody said anything important enough for me to remember, and she said, "Not a chance." I trust Kathie on stuff like this.

We were now close to the high point of our meeting. Jim pushed Ann aside and took control of things again—as only he can do. In a gentle tone that belied an underlying hostility, Jim told us that many of the paper submissions were too long—some as much as 40-50 pages. He thought—rightly I think—that people were simply submitting chapters out of dissertations or old book chapters they once published but that were now out of print, and that that practice had to stop. And so—get this—we actually made a motion, seconded it, and, by Goddess, voted to limit the length of papers. Is that cool or what!?

Now—the tough news here is that we didn't say what that limit should be, and so I'm not certain how much force this decision will have, but hey, we made it. That, in and of itself, is minor miracle in parliamentary procedure.

More drama just ahead. It was now time for the “election” of a new Vice Chair Elect. I put “election” in quotations because, for the past 8 years, we have not “elected” anybody to this post. Actually elections are hard, entailing cutting little squares of paper, making sure everybody has a pencil/pen, spelling the names of nominees correctly, and, hardest of all for rhetorical types, correctly counting the votes. So we don't do that anymore. Instead, we simply appoint by acclamation some poor soul who didn't show up.

And we almost did that again. After reiterating the pivotal criteria (alive, in control of over 35% of his/her faculties, and still able to talk), somebody nominated David Cratis Williams, who, naturally, wasn't present. Just as we were about to anoint him, Bob Frank, who had been mute up to this point, jumped up from his front row seat, and, perhaps inspired by David Cheshier's earlier outburst, screamed, “No damnit! I deserve to do this thankless task at least once before I retire!” Wow!! Talk about commitment. We hoisted Bob on our shoulders, carried him around the room three times (once for each criterion of the job that he satisfied), and then just thanked him for being so selfless. Somewhere—David Cratis Williams owes Bob Frank a drink (or two) of his choice.

Piggy-backing on Jim's complaint about the length of paper submissions, Charles Howard, the current book review editor for SCJ, said that many of the reviews he received were actually longer than the books they reviewed. I don't think we did anything about that, save empathize, but I do think Charles felt better for having shared.

And then, before we knew it, Jim adjourned the meeting, and, like shadows in fog, we all just disappeared.

The world of clandestine activities has always lived in our Division—behind code names, fertile figures, enigmatic enthymemes, significant forms of public dress, and a wild assortment of nods, winks, frowns and smiles. This meeting was no exception. I have here, as I must, given you only the main text of what I heard and saw, but, as you surely know, the real meanings, the various subtexts, are known to only a few who guard them with their tenure. A fragile business, this rhetoric conspiracy.

Ah yes, no Rosanne Mandziuk. We all hoped foul play wasn't involved.

Respectfully submitted,
Jack Bauer

Southern Forensics Business Meeting

Approval of 2006 minutes

(Our secretary could not join us at the last minute. These will be posted for review as soon as possible).

Introductions

Acknowledgement of officers

Chair report- Jason Hough

- Membership update

- Executive Council highlights

 - Nominating committee changes

 - Chair report to Executive Council

 - Addition of second journal

Vice-chair report- Darren Goins

Vice-chair elect report- Tyler Thornton

- Vice-chair elect garnered input for the upcoming planning committee.

Acknowledgement of top paper winners

- Jason Hough, John Brown University, top paper

- Crystal-Lane Swift, top student paper, Louisiana State University

Acknowledgement of current officers

Nominations and election of new officers

- Vice-Chair elect: Brian McGee, College of Charleston, was elected.

Nominations and selection for coach of the year

- Nominations included Jason Hough, John Brown University (declined nomination), Tyler Thornton, Cameron University

Tyler Thornton was selected as coach of the year

Charge for Caring Connections

- Chair challenged the division to support Caring Connections

Charge for 2008 undergraduate paper presentations

- Chair challenged membership to submit undergraduate honors papers concerning argumentation and/or forensics.