



Eastern Communication Association

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Deadlines

Early bird convention registration

MARCH 30, 2007

Application materials for *QRRC* editor

APRIL 10, 2007

Fall newsletter deadline
SEPTEMBER 1, 2007

From the ECA President:

Hello ECA Members and Friends,

The spring has come upon us. It has begun in many places throughout the east coast with much precipitation and without much fanfare. Nonetheless, there is good news. The ECA convention is almost here. As you well know, we will host this year's convention April 25-29 in Providence, Rhode Island. The theme is "Intersections," and 1st VP and convention planner Rich West has plenty of exciting events in store for you.

The theme is appropriate for where we are right now as an association and discipline. We are at the intersection of print/paper and electronic technologies. How we do reviewing for journals, how we serve you as members, and how we respond to these innovative shifts are critical dimensions to our future success. Because of technology, we are also at the intersection of what was a private/colloquial dissemination of intellectual products and we are now transitioning to a much more expansive public dissemination with our "feet held to the fire" with respect to how applied our research can become. We have never had more recognition and visibility as a discipline within the healthcare, information systems, and corporate domains. The National Institutes of Health, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and other federal agencies and private foundations are calling for social and behavioral research that can inform policy decisions. We are at a critical juncture, but it is how we respond to it that will determine our future success. Finally, as an association, we are at an intersection in terms of our history. Next year Sara Chudnovsky Weintraub will be hosting our convention in Pittsburgh before we return to Philadelphia for our centennial celebration. Plans are already underway for that convention. A state-of-the-art anniversary volume edited by James Chesebro will in effect (due to Oxford University Press' buyout of Roxbury Publishing) be published by one of the most prestigious presses in the world. Additionally, we will have a convention like none other that will be planned by our newly elected 1st VP Elect-Select Candice Thomas-Maddox. When you see her, please congratulate her. Much is in store from now until 2009 and beyond. We thank each one of you for your commitment to ECA. Without dedicated members who support our journals and conventions we would not be able to function as we do. Until April 25th, enjoy the weather, be productive, and farewell!

Ron Jackson

President, Eastern Communication Association

ECA 2007: *Intersections*

A Note from Vice-President Rich West:

As the clock ticks and we move closer to ECA 2007 in Providence, Rhode Island, I'm reminded about the time when I was an altar server for the Easter Sunrise Service. The year was 1973. It was about 5 minutes before mass began. Fr. Drendel, in a guttural voice that only Fr. Drendel could articulate: "West, if we screw up today, it's because we didn't think. And when you don't think of the little things, you screw up!"

Well, trust me: In addition to about 30 talented and exhausted Interest Group and Associate Program planners, I've been thinking...about both the little and the big things...as we approach the 98th annual meeting of the Eastern Communication Association. By now, I trust your travel plans have been finalized and hotel reservations have been made. Providence, as you will note if you visit the city's website (www.providenceri.com), is inescapably charming and architecturally exquisite. The Westin—a smoke-free hotel—with its ornate lobby, lavish fitness center, roof-top heated indoor pool and whirlpool, and oh-so-Heavenly Beds, is ready for us! With nearly 200 programs, short courses, and business meetings, this will be a convention to be remembered for some time. Although the program provides more details, there are a number of unique features of this convention that merit a brief note:

Programming Highlights

*All-Convention Town Hall Debate (Friday morning)

ECA is proud to host four Past Presidents of the National Communication Association (Judy Pearson, Jim Chesebro, Isa Engleberg, Judith Trent) who will engage in a fun and spirited debate about the extent to which our discipline should embark upon a campaign to make our research available to the popular press (e.g., *USA Today*, Montel, Maury and so forth). Co-sponsored by Bryant University (RI) and the University of Miami (FL), this is a must-see convention event, complete with light refreshments. You will get ample opportunity to participate in the debate—both nonverbally and verbally! Come see what we mean.

*Spotlight on Scholarship (Friday and Saturday)

After asking Betsy Bach to assist me in this area, ECA is proud to highlight the scholarship and legacies of James Darsey, Patrice Buzzanell, and Donal Carbaugh.

*Basic Communication Course Conference (Thursday all day)

Timothy Mottet has put together outstanding programming that dedicates itself to issues, controversies, and activities related to teaching and administering the basic course. Steven Beebe, an award-winning teacher and all-around great scholar and person, will keynote.

Reception Highlights

*ECA Welcome Reception (Thursday evening)

The Mayor of Providence, Honorable Donald Cicilline, will be on hand to

ECA Website

<http://www.ecasite.org>

Check out our website for the latest ECA news, membership renewal and electronic access to our journals.

Contact Us:

ECA Executive Director
Danette Ifert Johnson

djohnson@ithaca.edu

Congratulations!

- To **Ronald C. Arnett**, 2006 recipient of NCA's Robert J. Kibler Memorial Award
- To **Kathie Cesa**, ECA Administrative Assistant, who has earned the Certified Association Executive (CAE) credential from the American Society of Association Executives
- To **Dale Herbeck**, 2006 co-recipient of NCA's Franklyn S. Haiman Award for Distinguished Scholarship in Freedom of Expression
- To **James Kimble**, 2006 recipient of NCA's Karl R. Wallace Memorial Award
- To **Raymie McKerrow**, 2006 recipient of NCA's Douglas W. Ehninger Distinguished Rhetorical Scholar Award
- To **Jean Ann Streiff**, 2006 recipient of NCA's Marcella E. Oberle Award for Outstanding Teaching in Grades K-12

welcome us to Providence. With primary sponsorship by the University of Southern Maine, displays of Mediterranean food, Italian Antipasto platters, and various international and domestic cheeses, breads, and fruits will be available for reception-goers. A cash bar is also available.

*Chocolate Lovers Fling (Friday evening)

Okay, so you like chocolate! Thanks to the University of Southern Maine, an informal chocolate hour will take place with devil dogs, chocolate-dipped fruit, chocolate chip cookies, Hershey's kisses and candy bars, and chocolate milk!

*President's Reception at the Federal Reserve (Saturday evening)

In lieu of a VP reception, I have put all available resources into one large reception honoring the commitment and work of President Ronald Jackson and other past leaders and members of ECA. This reception will take place in a former bank built in 1901 and is about a block from the hotel.

Of course, a number of other features of ECA 2007 will be in place, including a \$1000 raffle on Sunday morning, sponsored by Taylor & Francis, a "Community Intersections" Panel, sponsored by Bryant University, and two "Cawfee Tawk" Cafés, sponsored by Thomson/Wadsworth Publishers and Villanova University. Director of Marketing, Jason Wrench, has been a Program Planner's dream in securing sponsorship and financial underwriting of activities/events. Please also plan on attending the Exhibits Area and visit publishers and consult the literature of many graduate school programs from all regions of the country! If you are interested in having your graduate program represented with literature, please contact Jason immediately (wrench@ohio.edu).

Obviously, you should go to the ECA website for more information on the convention, including programming and registration information.

So, in the end, we will have an outstanding convention with a continued tradition of knowing when to balance our hard work with the need to play! Thanks in large part to the diligence of our Interest Group and Associate Program planners, the deference of convention participants, and the attentiveness of Executive Director Danette Ifert Johnson to every single inquiry I have made, the "Intersections" of our scholarship, teaching, service, home, and office lives will be the topic of conversation in Providence in just a few weeks!

Call for Editor, *Qualitative Research Reports in Communication*

ECA members are invited to submit nominations or self-nominations for Editor-elect of *Qualitative Research Reports in Communication*, Volumes 10-12 (2010-2012). All candidates who meet the membership requirements set forth in the ECA Constitution, Article III and the Bylaws, Article IV, are eligible to apply. *QRRC* is published annually. Questions about the position may be addressed to the current *QRRC* editor, Susan Drucker.

Nominees should be able to secure institutional support for this position, including financial support, secretarial support and release time as

appropriate. Nomination materials should include:

- A letter of application
- Copy of current vita
- A letter of institutional support
- Three letters of recommendation

Nomination materials are due by April 10, 2007. Please send nomination materials by electronic mail to:

Dr. Danette Ifert Johnson
ECA Executive Director
djohnson@ithaca.edu

If letters of institutional support or recommendation cannot be sent electronically, please send them in paper form by April 10, 2007 to:

Dr. Danette Ifert Johnson
ECA Executive Director
407 Muller Center
Ithaca College
Ithaca, NY 14850

Exciting Short Courses to Be Offered in Providence

Eight exciting short courses will be offered at this year's convention in Providence. The registration fee for each short course is \$15.00. Pre-registration is encouraged but onsite enrollment is possible if seats are available. To pre-register, see the convention registration form at www.ecasite.org. Descriptions of the short courses appear below.

- **Short Course #1 – Teaching Basic Communication Courses: Accepted Truths, Old Chestnuts and Shunned Theories**

Instructor: Isa N. Engelberg, *Prince George's Community College*
Offered: Saturday, April 28th, 9:00-11:00am

Basic communication course content includes many accepted truths (some of which have been deemed questionable or invalidated by contemporary research) and old chestnuts (some of which are sacrosanct but often flawed or dated). Legitimate but challenging theories and research are often sidestepped or overly simplified. This short course invites participants to examine and strengthen their basic communication courses by integrating contemporary theory, research and practices. Topics include: Public Speaking as Fear #1, Group Roles, Leadership Contingency Theory, Mehrabian's Nonverbal Communication Research, Informative Communication Theory, Argumentation, Persuasion Theory and Emotional Support Strategies.

Student Poster Sessions

Please support ECA's future by attending the Undergraduate and Master's Student Poster Sessions on Friday, April 27th from 2:00-3:15pm and on Saturday, April 28th from 1:45-3:00pm.

- **Short Course #2 – Intersecting Theory and Experience through Service-Learning**

Instructors: Sara Chudnovsky Weintraub, *Regis College*
Daniel A. Panici, *University of Southern Maine*
Offered: Friday, April 27th, 3:00-5:00pm

At the intersection joining theory and experience, thought and action, higher education and community, stands one practice – service-learning. There is an expanding discourse suggesting that service-learning is the core element of the higher education mission. This short course will provide an overview of service-learning and a rationale for its inclusion in the communication curriculum. Examples of service-learning projects will be explored and participants will have the opportunity to design projects for their own courses. Participants will be given information on how to begin and/or integrate service-learning at their own institutions, how to gain support from the administration for service-learning initiatives and how to assist students in reflecting on their experiences to increase the connection between service and learning.

- **Short Course #3 – Teaching a Course or Unit on Argumentative and Aggressive Communication: Taking Action and Changing Lives**

Instructors: Theodore A. Avtgis, *West Virginia University*
Andrew S. Rancer, *University of Akron*
Offered: Saturday, April 28th, 8:15-10:15am

This short course will enable teachers and trainers to develop a course or unit on argumentative and aggressive communication. The information presented will be geared toward fostering an awareness and identification of both constructive (argumentative) and destructive (verbally aggressive) forms of communication. The course will provide a framework from which students can be trained to increase their motivation and ability to argue and decrease their tendencies toward verbal aggressiveness. Materials will be provided to develop a semester course or separate module on argumentative and aggressive communication for courses such as interpersonal communication, communication and conflict or communication and personality. For professional practitioners, this material can be utilized in a unit on superior-subordinate communication in the workplace. Pedagogical strategies for teaching, syllabus construction and the use of ancillary materials will be provided.

- **Short Course #4 – Teaching the Undergraduate Course in Interpersonal Communication: Connecting Theory and Action**

Instructors: Candice E. Thomas-Maddox, *Ohio University – Lancaster*
Melissa Bekelja Wanzer, *Canisius College*
Kristen Campbell Eichhorn, *Towson University*
Offered: Friday, April 27th, 3:00-5:00pm

This interactive short course offers participants a variety of sample

ECA General Business Meeting

Please plan to attend ECA's General Business meeting, scheduled for Saturday, April 28th, 5:00-6:45pm.

syllabi, in-class activities, assignments, ideas for integrating service-learning, media suggestions, assessment instruments and teaching strategies. The instructors have over 34 years of combined experience teaching interpersonal communication and have published a new text that adopts a fresh approach to the role of culture, media, research and technology in interpersonal relationships throughout the lifespan. Participants in the short course will receive complimentary copies of Eichhorn, Thomas-Maddox and Wanzer's *Interpersonal Communication: The Basics and Beyond*, courtesy of Kendall Hunt publishers.

- **Short Course #5 – Teaching Philosophy of Communication: Intersections across the Curriculum**

Instructors: Pat Arneson, *Duquesne University*
Annette M. Holba, *Plymouth State University*
Offered: Friday, April 27th, 3:00-5:00pm

This short course is designed to provide instructors with materials and resources to teach a "Philosophy of Communication" course at the undergraduate or graduate level. Participants will receive a binder containing documents, pedagogical strategies, and instructional tips for structuring the course. Information will also be provided for addressing philosophy of communication in other courses, such as interpersonal communication, organizational communication, and communication theory. Participants will receive a complimentary copy of Arneson's edited book *Perspectives on Philosophy of Communication* (Purdue University Press, 2007).

- **Short Course #6 – Learning through Participation and Analysis in the Intercultural Communication Classroom**

Instructors: Nancy Hoar, *Western New England College*
Mindy Chang, *Western New England College*
George Wharton, *Curry College*
Offered: Thursday, April 26th, 8:15-10:15am

This short course explores two experiential techniques for teaching intercultural communication and involves the presenters and audience in demonstrations of these techniques. The first segment involves the participants in an original goal-oriented simulation using two hypothetical cultures to illustrate Hofstede's dimensions of cultural variation. The second involves participants in the game Barnaga and includes a brief discussion of how students in three different universities responded to this game. The short course will include didactic and experiential components.

- **Short Course #7 – Communication Skills for Teachers for Whom English is a Second Language**

Instructor: Victoria Lichterman, *New York City College of Technology*
Offered: Saturday, April 28th, 3:00-5:00pm

This course is designed to meet the needs of teachers for whom English is the second language. The course will include the following: (1) Support for the teacher in the process of assimilating into the classroom and faculty, (2) Suggestions that allow these teachers to

exchange information with peers and mentors to solve problems peculiar to their situation, (3) Recommendations for reading and practice materials that confront issues facing the ESL teaching population, (4) Practical direction in speech production that will result in immediate progress, and (5) Information that will allow ESL teachers to understand and use the advantages that they bring to the classroom that the English only teacher cannot.

- **Short Course #8 – An Introduction to Social Network Analysis**

Instructor: Robert Whitbred, *Cleveland State University*
Offered: Thursday, April 26th, 8:15-10:15am

Social network analysis continues to emerge as an importantly area both conceptually and methodologically. Scholars in a variety of fields and interest areas within communication have “intersected” in their common interest in networks. This workshop provides a basic introduction to social network analysis designed for anyone who has interest in this area and has very little or no background in social network analysis. Topics covered include how network and more traditional approaches differ, how network data differ from “traditional” data, different types of networks, how network data are typically collected and basic types of network measures. During this workshop, we will also discuss practical implications of social networks using empirical data.

Human Communication Call for Manuscripts

The Editor of *Human Communication* (a publication of the Pacific and Asian Communication Association) is seeking submissions of manuscripts to be considered for publication in the 2007-2009 issues (Volume 10-12) of the journal. Quantitative and/or qualitative research papers which center on communication interactions between humans will be considered for publication. Papers which focus on communication between people from differing cultures and/or between people within a given culture are encouraged. Manuscripts which deal with interpersonal communication, intercultural communication, political communication, instructional communication, organizational communication, nonverbal communication, health communication, group communication, persuasive communication, relational communication, family communication, communication traits, the biology of communication, and manuscripts which deal with comparisons or contrasts between the communication of people from different cultures are particularly appropriate for submission. The submission of critical/cultural manuscripts, manuscripts which center on critiquing the work of other scholars, and manuscripts that do not focus on human communication are not encouraged.

Submissions to the editor of *Human Communication* should be submitted electronically in English to the Editor (Virginia P. Richmond) at DRVPR1@UAB.EDU. The manuscript should be single spaced in WordPerfect or Word. It is anticipated that most submissions will be evaluated in no more than 10 work days. It is anticipated that brief (5-10 printed pages) and longer (11-30 printed pages) articles will be published. All submissions

should adhere to the guidelines of the APA Style Manual. Beginning with the tenth volume the journal has become an "electronic first" journal. That is, each issue is published electronically on a quarterly schedule. Hard copy of selected articles will be produced in normal book/journal format and distributed to members of PACA at the end of the volume year.

To view or download recent issues of the journal go to <http://paca4u.com>. Click on "Journal."

Mentoring Workshop, *Creating and Negotiating Academic Life: Strategies for Getting Published*, to be presented in April

The First Vice President and the ECA Distinguished Research Fellows are pleased to sponsor a mentoring workshop on April 26th, facilitated by James W. Chesebro of Ball State University, Deborah Borisoff of New York University and James C. McCroskey of University of Alabama - Birmingham, senior scholars in the discipline who have extensive editorial experience with journals and who have published numerous books. Participants are encouraged to bring sample ideas, reviews of articles in progress, questions related to the book prospectus process, etc. Due to the hands-on nature of this workshop, it will be limited to 15 attendees. There is no fee for this workshop, but interested persons should pre-register using the convention registration form available at www.ecasite.org.

Fall 2006 Election Results

Congratulations to the following people elected to serve the Association during the Fall 2006 election.

First Vice-President Elect-Select: **Candice Thomas-Maddox**

ECA Rep. to 2008 NCA Nominating Committee: **Cindy Lont**

ECA Rep. to NCA Legislative Assembly (K-12): **Jean Ann Streiff**

Mark Your Calendar for ECA 2008: May 1st-4th