



IMPORTANT DATES YOU WANT TO KNOW!

- **February 2014 newsletter submission deadline:**
January 15, 2014
We welcome member news and notes as well as book announcements! Send to twang@montevallo.edu.
- **Deadline for submission for the 2014 annual convention:**
October 4, 2013
See page 3 for details!
- **2014 annual convention in beautiful Minneapolis, MN: April 2-6, 2014**
Join us at the Hyatt Regency!

President's Column:

Two Big Opportunities!

CSCA President Chad Edwards
Western Michigan State University

I hope everyone is having a great start to the fall term. **Leah Bryant** and her team are putting together an amazing conference. As CSCA President, I have the privilege to plan a couple of important events at the 2014 annual meeting in Minneapolis and I would like to ask for your assistance with two of these items.

CSCA President's Undergraduate Honors Research Conference
Submissions for the CSCA President's Undergraduate Honors Research Conference are due Monday, January 13, 2014 by 5:00 pm (EST). If you are available to serve as a reviewer of papers and panels submitted to the Undergraduate Honors Research Conference, please send me (cscsca-13@wmich.edu) your name, institutional affiliation, and contact information (e-mail address and phone number) so I can add you to list of reviewers for this important event. I will send submissions out for review immediately after the deadline and will need the reviews returned no later than Wednesday, January 22. Thank you for your efforts to help these undergraduate students "elevate" and learn about the CSCA experience.

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Questions or comments? Contact Chad via email: cedwards@umich.edu.





2nd Vice-President Column: A Convergence of Scholarship

CSCA 2nd Vice-President David McMahan
Missouri Western State University

As Second Vice President, I am looking forward to the upcoming convention in Minneapolis. It will provide everyone in the association with opportunities to connect, celebrate the discipline, and take part in the many panels and activities being planned. It will also be my particular honor to develop the preconference for this convention and to begin preparations for the 2015 convention in Madison, Wisconsin.

As a candidate for office, I stressed the importance of convergence in the discipline and in the association. While many areas of convergence are beneficial, the convergence of scholarship, cultures, and academics are particularly vital to the discipline and association. Through a *convergence of scholarship*, we may provide opportunities for scholars to benefit from an awareness of what is taking place in discipline outside their areas of expertise and from opportunities to examine points of overlap in their respective areas of study. Through a *convergence of cultures*, we may recognize and promote diversity within the discipline and association. Doing so entails broadening research to include the communication of less-privileged members of societies and entails encouraging the full participation and inclusion of members from groups historically less involved in the discipline and association. Finally, through a *convergence of academics*, we may bring together scholars from all types of institutions in order to provide professional support and development opportunities for everyone within our discipline and association.

In the spirit of fulfilling campaign promises while at the same time not offering much in way of surprises . . . **Convergence** will be an aim of the upcoming preconference and the theme of the 2015 Central States Communication Association Annual Convention!

The preconference at the Minneapolis convention will focus on the convergence of interpersonal/personal relationship scholars and media/technology scholars in the examination of social media. This topic is a prime example of how many areas of the discipline overlap and how scholars from different areas of study can profit from coming together. It is also an example of a topic that students want to explore and that would

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benefit both the personal and the professional lives of students. Participants in the preconference will be presented with the most recent discoveries in the study of social media and be provided with strategies to incorporate such material in their classrooms. Additional information about the preconference will be forthcoming. In the meantime, if you have any questions or have an interest in serving as a panelist for the preconference, please feel free to contact me at the following address:
mcmahan.csc@gmail.com.

The Minneapolis convention will also provide an opportunity to promote the 2015 convention in Madison. I will be meeting with interest groups to discuss and share ideas for the conference as well as to provide a preview of the convention site and the amazing events being planned. It is never too early to start thinking about the convention, so again please feel free to contact me at the following address with any questions and ideas you may have.

These are exciting times for our discipline and our organization. I am looking forward to the next few years and am thankful to be part of this incredible association with you!

David T. McMahan

There is no “start of the school year.” Life is schooling us all the time!



Planner's Column
Get Ready to Elevate!
CSCA Vice-President Leah Bryant
DePaul University

Plans are being made for the upcoming 2014 CSCA conference, ELEVATE! in Minneapolis. It is shaping up to be a great one. Here are some highlights:

The conference hotel, the **Minneapolis Hyatt Regency**, features recently renovated sleeping and meeting rooms. The common areas are beautiful and easily accessible. And the location is ideal, situated near a rail station that runs to and from the airport, in the beautiful and thriving downtown area, accessible to various cultural and entertainment destinations.

The division chairs are receiving submissions now until the deadline of October 4th, 2013. I look forward to working with them to create an innovative and collaborative conference program. We all owe them a debt of gratitude, because without their hard work, the conference would not be possible.

The conference begins on Wednesday, April 2nd with a pre-conference program, planned by CSCA 2nd Vice-President, **David McMahan**. Throughout the conference, there will be several short courses offered. If you have an idea for short course, please let me know. I am still accepting proposals.

Plan to attend the CSCA Welcome reception on Wednesday evening and the Awards Luncheon on Friday. On Friday evening we are taking a little trip to the President's Reception at the Mill City Museum. I was not at all excited about visiting this location as a potential site for a rockin' reception. Therefore, it came as quite a shock to see just how incredible the **Mill City Museum** is. Who knew that the social, cultural, and political history of flour could be so fascinating? (It really is!) The Flour Tower ride and samples in the tasting kitchen are not to be missed. And no other location quite fit the conference theme of ELEVATE! so beautifully.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN
(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

CSCA Hall of Fame Nominations

Induction into the Central States Communication Association's Hall of Fame recognizes the highest level of service to the association through mentoring of fellow members, fulfilling the responsibilities of various offices at the interest group and/or association level, regular participation on conference panels as a presenter or respondent, and/or advancing the mission of the association through other means, such as committee service, journal editorship, and the like. Inductees must have shown a strong pattern of dedicated and continued service to the association over time; and, to qualify for induction, the candidate must have reached the rank of Emeritus Professor or be in the later stages of her/his career. No more than four individuals will be selected for induction into the CSCA Hall of Fame in any given year.

Nomination packets for a CSCA Hall of Fame candidate must include: (1) a letter of nomination that makes a compelling case describing the nominee's contributions to CSCA, and (2) a copy of the nominee's vita. More than one letter of support may be included in the nomination materials. For more information and to make a nomination, visit <http://www.cscs-net.org/>

**READ LEAH'S INVITATION, CHECK OUT THE INTEREST GROUP CALLS,
AND SUBMIT YOUR BEST WORK TO CSCA 2014!**

For the full scoop, including information about the undergraduate honors conference and other special calls, visit <http://www.cscs-net.org>. You'll want to join all of your colleagues for the excellent scholarship, best teaching ideas, and good times galore! Head to the CSCA website today and think about how you'll ELEVATE!

PLANNER'S COLUMN CONTINUED

On Saturday, we will have a good ol' Sock Hop in the hotel in a space that opens out to a terrace and overlooks a beautiful park. And for those of you who like to keep the party going, our wonderful Pub Crawl coordinator, **Adam Tyma**, will take you on a tour through some establishments, showcasing the nightlife of his home state.

And our wonderful Executive Director, **Nancy Brule**, is working on getting a shuttle for Sunday to The Mall of America.

The 2014 CSCA ELEVATE! conference is not to be missed. There will be great scholarship, teaching enrichment, social events, and cultural opportunities. And thank you all for the opportunity to work with you! I can't wait to see you in Minneapolis!

Cheers,
Leah

STARTING NEXT ISSUE: NEWSLETTER EDITOR TIFFANY WANG!



CSCA is proud to announce that our new *Central States Communication Association* editor is the talented **Tiffany Wang** of the University of Montevallo. Tiffany will begin her editing duties with the February newsletter. She and Incoming Executive Director **Jimmie Manning** have many great new ideas for the newsletter. Watch them begin to roll out in 2014!



INTERIM NEWSLETTER EDITOR: JIMMIE MANNING
Northern Illinois University



CSCA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: NANCY BRULE
Bethel University

CSCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Chad Edwards, President*Leah Bryant, Vice-President*David McMahon, Second Vice-President Mitchell McKinney, Past President*Robert Littlefield, Journal Editor*Paul Schrodt, Member at Large*Lance Lippert, Member at Large David Bodary, Finance Committee Chair*Randy Dillon, States Advisory Council Chair*Jimmie Manning, Incoming Executive Director



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