

Rhetoric & Public Address
 Minutes from the Annual Business Meeting
 April 25, 2015 -- 12:30 p.m.
 Philadelphia, PA

- I. Call to Order (Tim Barney)
 - a. In attendance: Tim Barney, Benjamin Bates, Christine Hirsch, Bonnie Jefferson, Kim Hannah, Heather Ferrara, Michael Stutz
- II. Old Business
 - a. Distribution of minutes and agenda
 - i. Approval of minutes
 - b. Report on Programming
 - i. Tim Barney, Program Planner 2015
 - ii. Highlights
 1. Panel on President's House site in Independence National Historical Park by Roger Aden
 2. ASHR Collaboration (Michelle Gibbons)
 3. Spotlight on James Klumpp (with ASHR and Argumentation & Forensics)
 - iii. Submissions
 1. 28 papers submitted, 27 papers programmed (6 programmed into ASHR collaboration panels)
 2. 4 panels submitted, 4 panels programmed (1 co-sponsored with Burke Society and Argumentation & Forensics)
 3. Reviews 2 essays per reviewer (3 panel submissions per reviewer)
 4. Planning not ideal
 5. Close to 100% acceptance (executive decision, given amount of panel slots this was possible)
 - a. Panel slots will not be lost if not used up, based on bylaws
 6. Ideas for increasing submissions
 - a. 2014 was RSA year so submissions were low (21 papers)
 - b. High membership during conference registration but lower submission rates
 - i. Perhaps some competition with Media Communication, Political Communication
 - ii. Perhaps a division name issue (Rhetoric and Rhetorical Criticism)
 - iii. Multiple avenues for submission for scholars
 - iv. Perhaps co-programming with other divisions
 - v. Perhaps include "media" in call for papers
 - vi. Encourage general submission guidelines across the interest groups to decrease the length for call for papers (too much detail)
 - vii. Information to programs and chairs about the mission of the RP&A interest group
 - c. Undergraduate submissions

- i. Encourage undergraduate submissions and if programmed, practice transparency so respondent knows it is an undergraduate paper
 - iv. Thanks to everyone who served as reviewers, chairs, and respondents
 - c. Report from Executive Council
 - i. J. Kanan Sawyer (First Vice President)
 - 1. Thank you for your work
 - 2. Appreciation for efficient communication with Tim Barney
 - 3. Encouragement to ask for help and assistance
 - 4. Possible revision of Interest Group structure in the future to encourage cooperation
 - 5. Undergraduate Showcase was advertised to chairs and programs in the Eastern states (even outside of Rhetoric programs) to nominate students
 - 6. Possible creation of inter-Interest Group panels for interdisciplinary papers
 - 7. Explains process for co-sponsored panels
 - 8. Programmed 5 VP panels and gave the rest to co-sponsored panels
 - 9. Discusses ethical issues of multiple author submissions, 1 paper panel and 1 paper rejected
 - 10. Encourages communication of authors with chairs to discuss paper/panel fit
 - d. Awards
 - i. Three top paper awards
 - 1. “Attitudes of Social Justice Unionism: The Meritocratic Myth as Symbolic Clout in the 2012 Chicago Teachers’ Strike“ by Michael J. Steudeman, University of Maryland, College Park (Top Competitive Paper)
 - 2. “Beyond the Spectacle: Rethinking Affect and Marginality in Situationist Psychogeographies” by Piper W. Corp, University of Pittsburgh (Runner-up for Top Competitive Paper)
 - 3. “A Queer Rhetorical Analysis of Heteronormativity in HBO’s ‘Looking’” by Martin M. Casiano, Boston College (Top Undergraduate Debut Paper)

III. New Business

- a. Distribution of sign-up sheet (review, chair, respond) for those in attendance
 - i. There will be a sign-up via email for those not in attendance
- b. Michael Warren Tumolo, Jill Weber (Co-Program Planners 2016)
 - i. 107th ECA Convention: Baltimore 2016
 - ii. Conference Theme: [R]evolution
- c. Mission Statement for R&PA (drafted by Tim Barney)
 - i. Ask for revisions and comments from R&PA members
 - ii. Corrections to statement:
 - 1. “We celebrate a rich tradition of studying classic speeches and speakers while also encompassing visual, material, and performative media and the recovery of often historically marginalized voices and movements.”

2. “Through a diversity of lenses, R&PA Interest Group examines tensions between ‘text’ and ‘context’ as they touch upon perennially important debates around history, power, ideology, ethics, and social change.”

- d. Ideas for R&PA’s contribution to the 2016 theme
 - i. Star Spangled Banner panel (flag, visual rhetoric)
 - ii. Beatles song (Revolution)
 - iii. Presidential Election year (potential co-sponsorship with Political Communication)
 - iv. Unrest and upheaval in the police system and race issues (roundtable with scholars and/or local NAACP presidents)
 - v. History of Rhetoric (perhaps spotlight panel with)
 - vi. Revolution of Class (rhetorical dimensions of ownership Elizabeth Warren)
 - vii. Revolution: Revisiting the Rhetorical Situation (spotlight panel with Richard Vatz)
 - viii. Evolution of [Public] Address
 - ix. From Aristotle to Polymedia: Public Address on Media (blogging, #Aristotle, etc.)
 - x. Reexamining classical public address speeches through contemporary media
 - xi. Signs and technology (evolution of technology, rhetoric of science); e.g., framing of global warming
 - xii. Evolution of Marriage Equality debate (arguments, potentially with Law & Ethics)
- e. Elections for Future Conventions
 - i. 108th ECA Convention: Boston 2017
 1. Election of a new chair
 - a. Michael Stutz by unanimous consent
 - ii. 109th ECA Convention: Pittsburgh 2017
 1. Interested in co-planning
 - a. Valerie Schrader and Christine Hirsch

IV. Comments for the good of the order

- a. Encourage early paper submissions to respondents
- b. Forward late submission to USC
- c. Christine Hirsch receives a pink Barbie convertible as a gift for her service
- d. Giuliana Sorce will continue to serve as R&PA Secretary for 2016
- e. Thank you to Tim Barney for his service

V. Move to adjourn