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Editor Blaine Goss, New Mexico State University

Looking Back: Talk about Negotiating Third Spaces in San Francisco!

Mary Jane Collier, University of Denver

Close to 800 of us participated in the 2005 convention in San Francisco! As the Chinese New Year celebrations were being held throughout the city, we opened the 2005 convention with the theme of “Negotiating Third Spaces.” The theme was designed to encourage us to recognize and work with multiple views and perspectives, come together to understand and work in new ways, and envision and take steps toward futures characterized by humanity and social justice. There were ample opportunities leading up to and throughout the convention to apply the theme!

How did we Negotiate Third Spaces during a Labor Dispute?

A continuing labor dispute involving our convention hotel, the Argent, and boycotts endorsed by the local union, mayor, and several faculty associations brought to light issues of ethics and justice, hotel profits, and concerns about labor policies and practices. Starhawk, who was scheduled to join us for the Convention Kickoff/Opening Ceremony Saturday night and Keynote Dialogue on Sunday morning, was also committed to honoring the boycott. During the convention WSCA members brought concerns about working with future convention hotels with labor disputes to the Legislative Assembly on Monday evening. Two requests were made. The first was to add stronger language to the force majeure clause of the legal contract WSCA signs with hotels in order to enable WSCA to more easily move our convention to an alternative hotel when appropriate. The second was for increased information sharing and early involvement of the membership in such decisions.

During the discussion at Legislative Assembly, Sue Pendell, Executive Director of WSCA, described the steps that had been taken by Ron Lustig, Mary Jane Collier, and the Executive Director, beginning in November, 2004, to investigate options for responding to the labor dispute. Since many representatives who were in the Legislative Assembly meeting said they appreciated hearing this description, I summarize it again here.

Why did we stay with the Argent Hotel for the WSCA 2005 convention? How did WSCA officers arrive at that decision?

President Ron Lustig placed the topic of the labor dispute involving the Argent Hotel on the agenda of the WSCA Executive Council meeting at NCA in Chicago in November, 2004. Mostly

because of the possibility that WSCA would have been held financially liable for breaking the contract with the hotel, the recommendation of the Executive Council was to proceed with the convention at the Argent as planned. When the California Faculty Association voted to support the boycott, and other associations began to move their conventions to alternative sites, the President, Executive Director, and President Elect took several steps. We initiated conversations with management representatives at the Argent hotel, consulted legal counsel about our contractual obligations and options, began to explore possibilities for alternative convention hotels, contacted representatives from the union, UNITE HERE Local 2, and conducted research about the issues driving the labor dispute. After extensive discussions (and several sleepless nights) we decided that attempting to move the convention hotel in January would have entailed too great a financial risk for WSCA. The fourteen hotels involved in the labor dispute had formed a bargaining unit, and if taken to court, WSCA would have been liable for the contracted costs of a promised minimum number of sleeping rooms and the food and beverage minimum. (These are standard guarantees built into convention hotel contracts in exchange for things like waiving meeting room rental fees and obtaining lower rates for sleeping rooms.) In mid-January Ron Lustig sent the email message to WSCA members which included a reminder about the hotel reservation deadline and gave an update on the status of the labor negotiations.

What were other Convention Highlights and Memorable Third Spaces?

On Saturday, February 19, there were workshops on community service learning and on-line instruction; preconferences addressed “third spaces” by focusing on social protest, social justice, and social activism; student-to-student engagement in the basic course; and interrogating feminisms. Julie Yingling coordinated an expanded and extremely successful Undergraduate Scholar’s Research Conference, and a well-attended Graduate Student Workshop.

We created a third space by moving the convention opening and keynote events with Starhawk to the W Hotel, a block from the Argent. Starhawk, the author or co-author of ten books on political activism, spiritual practice, ecological sustainability, and issues of power and group collaboration, introduced the convention theme in an opening ceremony. Starhawk and a faculty team of Bryant Alexander, Patricia Geist Martin, Wenshu Lee and Anne Marie Todd, led us in rituals of visioning professional, political and personal third spaces. On Sunday, the team performed a dialogue “Transformative Third Spaces in Communication Scholarship and Praxis.” This was followed by Starhawk’s keynote address and visual illustrations of third space programs. She described communities creating public art and spaces to gather, urban projects on sustainable gardening, working with youth at risk, and creating spaces for the homeless. At the closing of the keynote/dialogue audience members took away seeds to symbolize the need to plant and grow our visions of third spaces. Don’t forget to plant and nurture your seeds!

There are still other examples of third spaces during the convention. Coordinators and chairs of several sessions found creative ways to honor the boycott and positions of the union workers, and the need for presenters and performers to hold their scheduled sessions, by finding alternative spaces to meet in nearby non-profit association offices, and sunny locations in the park. Finally, we have strengthened the force majeure clause of contracts with future hotels so it now includes language related to labor disputes, and recommendations for transparent deliberations are under discussion.

Finally, I wish to thank a list of folks without whom the convention would have never been possible. My sincere appreciation goes to **Starhawk** for inspiring us to infuse spiritual, environmental, and political activism into our professional and personal lives. My heartfelt thanks also go to the faculty team of **Bryant Alexander, Patricia Geist Martin, Wenshu Lee and Anne Marie Todd** for your creative insight, trust in the collaborative process, and willingness to perform together. **Jennifer Huynh Thi Anh Morrison**, my convention planning assistant, was both patient and persistent with planning details. The local hosts, **Karen Lovaas, Amy Kilgard, and Geri Merrigan, and all the faculty and students from San Francisco State** deserve our thanks for the local events, registration staffing, and ensuring that we had what we needed. **Sue Pendell**, Executive Director, was a marvel of professionalism, attention to detail, and support. **Julie Yingling** was an exemplary Second Vice President. I am thankful to have worked with **Leah Vande Berg**, whose smile and spirit will endure in our hearts and memories. I am extraordinarily grateful to **Gust Yep and Wenshu Lee**, who began two years ago to be my sounding board for ideas and engage in dialogue about the theme, keynote speaker, and convention events. I thank **Ron Lustig**, President of WSCA; he is a model of dedication to the association as he works to ensure our professional and financial sustainability. And finally thanks to all who attended sessions, presented and performed your work, and contributed to an outstanding convention. Now, onward and upward to new spaces and places and our 2006 convention in Palm Springs!



Thanks to John Cagle for the pictures from 2005 WSCA San Francisco. For more shots go to <http://comm.csufresno.edu/05wsca/wscafeb2005pix.htm> .

Looking Back: 2nd Annual USRC at the 2005 WSCA Conference

Julie Yingling, Humboldt State University (retired)

Saturday, the 19th, 2005 was a great day to meet new and old friends, share stimulating ideas, and even glimpse the Chinese New Year's parade as it wound through downtown San Francisco. The Undergraduate Scholars' Research Conference had a successful second run with 43 student papers in 11 panels. These were chosen from a field of 77 submissions reviewed by 14 readers.

Most of our student scholars attended the opening ceremony and the awards celebration as well as their own and other panels. The Executives' Club funded continental breakfast in the morning, and Sage Publications funded refreshments for the awards ceremony. All presenters received a certificate of accomplishment from the Coordinator and a gift book voucher from Margaret Seawell of Sage Publications. Bill Eadie, on behalf of the Executives' Club presented the

certificates and special WSCA awards of \$25 to the authors of the top papers listed below.

- *Philosophy of Communication Award*
Olga Zaytseva, CSU Stanislaus, Critical Investigation: Interplay between Technology, Property, and Society.
- *Empirical Media Analysis Award*
DesiRae Nelson & Gwen Parks, College of St. Benedict, Timid, Sexual or in Charge? Gender Imagery in MTV Music Awards.
- *Scholarly Rigor/Rhetorical Analysis Award*
Sara Ann Mehlretter, Boston College, Holding Out for a Hero
- *Scholarly Rigor/Quantitative Analysis Award*
William Grove & Braden Gottier, University of the Pacific, Emotional Intelligence vs. Risky Behavior.
- *Critique of Popular Culture Award*
Mike Cuseo, University of Puget Sound, Survival in the Media Age: “Family Guy” and the Imperative of Cultural Literacy.
- *Potential to Affect Practice Award*
Tiffany Taylor, College of St. Benedict, “Trix Are for Kids,” But Are They for All Kids?: Gender Representation in Children’s Food and Toy Commercials.

Many thanks to the paper reviewers who gave of their time over Christmas break: James K. Ah Yun, Kevin Ayotte, Dawn Braithwaite, Michael Bruner, Caren Deming, Bill Eadie, Lawrence Frey, John Hammerback, Heather Hundley, Kevin Sandler, Robert Trapp, Bryan Whaley and David Zuckerman. Thanks also to our faculty respondents who prepared careful remarks for student papers and moderated the panels: Kevin Ayotte, Caren Deming, Bill Eadie, Ken Frandsen, Lawrence Frey, Laura Hahn, Scott Paynton, Robert Trapp, Bryan Whaley and David Zuckerman. We could not have had such a pleasant experience without the support of the WSCA Executives’ Club, WSCA Executive Council, and Sage Publications. Finally, I thank the many students and faculty mentors who went out of their way to ensure that the research was well executed and the papers well written.

The USRC is fast becoming a WSCA tradition. Students were very appreciative to have an outlet for their work and a venue in which to discuss it. They appreciated the opportunity to meet both faculty and other students and to engage in lively interaction about research and about communication as a field of study. One student wrote to me after the conference from his journal notes. He had met Dr. Mal Sillars on the shuttle from the airport. “We talk about research, interests, my plans for grad school. I am in good company; I am part of the academy.”

Interpersonal Division News From SF

Thanks to the efforts of Division Chair Vince Waldron, members of the Interpersonal Communication division enjoyed a strong submission of 53 competitive papers. We were pleased that students were first authors on many of the papers. The Top Paper this year was entitled, “The Ex-Files: Investigating Trajectories, Turning Points, and Adjustment in Post-

Dissolutional Communication.” Authors were Jody Koenig Kellas from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and Dawn Bean, Ka Yun Cheng, Cherakah Cunningham, and Zoë Stagg, all of San Francisco State University. Alan C. Mikkelson and Lisa Farinelli from Arizona State University presented the Top Student Paper: “The Influence of Attachment Styles on Relational Outcomes in the Adult Sibling Relationship.” Tiffany Lewis from the University of Washington was recognized for her debut paper, “Listening to Another’s Distress in Everyday Relationships”. Thanks to all who contributed to our success this year.

2005 WSCA Distinguished Service Award Speech Honoring Dr. Leah Vande Berg

John Oetzel, University of New Mexico

I am honored to have chaired the Distinguished Service award committee this year. It provided me a wonderful opportunity to see the accomplishments and dedication of previous award winners. The Distinguished Service Award was established in 1979 and was first awarded in 1980. Its purpose is to honor “persons who have made considerable and longstanding contributions to WSCA and the communication field.” Today we once again offer our appreciation to these individuals for their commitment to all of us. Would all of the past Distinguished Service Award winners please stand, and will you all please join me in expressing our appreciation to their service?

This year’s recipient is well deserving of this award and continues the long tradition of excellent service to WSCA and the discipline. Her (or is it his?) vitae is impressive: 5 books, 41 articles or book chapters, and 59 scholarly papers to start. This individual has served as an associate editor, editorial reviewer, or guest editor for such prestigious publications as *Quarterly Journal of Speech*, *Journal of Communication*, *Communication Monographs*, *Journal of Broadcasting and Electronic Media*, and *Women’s Studies in Communication*. This individual is a member of 6 professional associations and served on 14 different committees for MA or PhD students (some of whom are sitting in the audience today). In addition, this individual’s service to her department is impressive, serving on just about every department and university committee imaginable including curriculum committee, graduate committee, Presidential search committee, and in the Women’s Studies program to name a few.

This individual’s commitment to WSCA is legendary—serving in just about every capacity possible including Interest Group chair, vice chair, secretary, paper reviewer, panel chair, panel respondent, member of the Executive Council, and editor of *Western Journal of Communication*.

Despite all of these impressive accomplishments and depth of service, perhaps the written nominations provide more insight into this individual’s contributions to the discipline. One colleague stated, “I am always moved to hear the extensive work and commitment of Distinguished Service Award winners. This award typically highlights the conference for me and instills my pride in being a member of WSCA. It is with this in mind that I am nominating this individual as an especially worthy candidate for this prestigious award.” This individual’s service, leadership, and administration is impeccable... I cannot think of anyone else more deserving of this recognition.”

Another colleague noted, “the model she offers though the work she does in professional and university organizations inspires not only those of us fortunate enough to work with her daily, but also her students, former students, and her colleagues in the wider academic community.” This person went on to say, “She has put a fire in our hearts. She is a catalyst, encouraging all of us, students and colleagues alike, to achieve our best. She gives us a vision of something more than just routine teaching and scholarship that makes the world of learning and sharing knowledge a shining environment.”

In sum, these comments help to illustrate what we have come to know and expect—her dedication and commitment to the discipline, WSCA, and its members were inspiring. I didn’t mention that she also served as First Vice President for WSCA and would have become President at the end of the next convention. I only personally met her this past year, but I easily understand why so many people talked in such glowing terms about her. I can see clearly why so many are so sad to not have her here today since she passed away this past December. I am very honored to present the 2005 WSCA Distinguished Service Award to Dr. Leah Vande Berg of California State University, Sacramento. Accepting the award on her behalf is her husband, Nick Trujillo, from California State University, Sacramento.

WSCA 2005 Award Winners

Distinguished Service Award: Leah Vande Berg, California State University Sacramento.

B. Aubrey Fisher Award for the Outstanding Article in *Western Journal of Communication*: Kathleen S. Valde and Kristine L. Fitch for “Desire and Sacrifice: Seeking Compliance in Designated Driver Talk.”

Model Teaching Program Award for the outstanding community college communication program in the west: De Anza Community College, Cupertino, CA.

Model Teaching Program Award for the outstanding elementary/secondary school communication program in the west: Granite Bay High School, Granite Bay, CA.

WSCA Debut Paper Award: Sheryl Marie Hurner, University of California Davis, for "Developing Discursive Space Through Song: Identity Formation in Protest Music." (presented by the Executives Club)

Feminist Scholarship Award: Christina R. Foust for "A Return to Feminine Public Virtue: Judge Judy and the Myth of the Tough Mother" (presented by the Organization for Research on Women and Communication).

2006 Palm Spring Convention – Plan NOW

The planning team has visited the Riviera Resort and was thoroughly impressed with their hospitality and the meeting space. The resort has a huge pool, tennis courts, pool tables, putting green, and plenty of bar space!

Remember deadlines for all submission are September 1, 2005, BUT do not let summer pass you by without thinking about a submission. Send Panels and competitive papers to the Interest Group planner; send preconference proposal on the theme of (Our) Time (Together) to Susan Owen and Peter Ehrenhaus and workshop proposals to Dennis Alexander.

Heather Hundley and the crew as California State, Santa Bernardino are going to be great hosts with a variety of things to do. Bring your walking shoes, swimming suits, and short sleeved shirts; we are going to the desert!

Mark your calendar for WSCA February 18-21, 2006.

WSCA 2006 - Discourse in the Desert!

Heather Hundley & Donna Gotch, California State University, San Bernardino

As the local hosts, we are excited to welcome all WSCA members to engage in Discourse in the Desert for the February 2006 convention in Palm Springs. Plans are being made for fun in the sun as convention goers should be enjoying warm winter weather (average February temperature 45-74 degrees). Palm Springs is located 110 miles east of Los Angeles, 273 miles south of Las Vegas, and 280 miles west of Phoenix. If you'd rather fly, the Palm Springs' "resortport" receives up to 60 flights a day, or travelers can fly into the next closest airport, Ontario International, and drive 70 miles east to the conference destination. February is the peak season in Palm Springs, and there will be plenty of activities for conference goers. Some major attractions include the aerial tramway (a rotating tram car that climbs 2,643 feet in 10 minutes), museums, jeep tours, spas, shopping, and theaters. For outdoor enthusiasts and environmentalists Joshua Tree National Park is only an hour away. We look forward to hosting you in '06!

CFP: 3rd annual WSCA UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARS RESEARCH CONFERENCE

WSCA Second Vice President Lisa Flores solicits submissions for the Undergraduate Scholars' Research Conference, to be held on Saturday, February 18, 2006 at the WSCA 2006 Palm Springs convention. Undergraduates are invited to submit papers reporting original research (i.e., critical investigation, experimentation, or analysis leading to the discovery or creation of new facts, theories, or interpretation or significant revisions of already existing ones, or the practical applications of these new or revised conclusions). Diverse philosophical, theoretical and methodological approaches are welcome.

All authors on papers submitted must be undergraduate students at the time of submission. For those students whose papers are accepted, WSCA will pay \$15 of the \$25 USRC registration. An awards ceremony follows the last presentation.

Paper submissions must be received by WSCA Second Vice President Lisa Flores by December 6, 2005; authors will be notified of paper acceptance by January 17, 2006. Send papers to Lisa

Flores, Department of Communication, 255 S. Central Campus Drive, Room 2400, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT 84112 or via email to lisa.flores@utah.edu.

Interpersonal Division

As we look forward to Palm Springs, members are encouraged to send ideas for program panels to Mark Bergstrom (Bergstrom@admin.comm.utah.edu). The division's call for papers will be accessible on our website, which is linked to the WSCA web site (www.westcomm.org.)

ORWAC

In keeping with the conference theme "Cherishing our Time Together," ORWAC encourages submissions that embrace the concept of time, broadly and transformatively, rather than in a pure linear sense. Because of the increasingly diverse nature of our discipline, we encourage submissions and panels that embrace the idea of dialogue and are reflective of increasing the dialogue(s) among feminist scholars and those that are interested in women and research from a variety of communication fields and perspectives.

REMEMBERING

Everett Rogers

Dr. Everett Rogers, Professor of Communication & Journalism and Regents Professor at the University of New Mexico, lost a prolonged battle with cancer on October 21, 2004. Dr. Rogers touched the lives of many throughout his long and distinguished academic career. As a scholar, his impressive body of work has provoked social change, inspired new ideas and insights, and influenced the research of countless others. His most significant contribution, however, is the living legacy of his students. Almost 47 years of his life was dedicated to the fulfillment of his role as teacher and mentor.

The Department of Communication and Journalism at the University of New Mexico has established the *Everett M. Rogers Memorial Scholarship* to continue his tradition of assisting graduate students in the pursuit of excellence. Scholarships from this endowment will be awarded to deserving UNM graduate students for such things as travel to conferences, tuition, and research funding.

You are invited to help support this fund as a tribute and testament to this extraordinary scholar, mentor, and friend. If you wish to make a cash contribution, please make your checks payable to UNM Department of Communication and Journalism/Rogers Memorial Scholarship and mail to the Department of Communication and Journalism, MSC03 2240, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131-1171. If you want to contribute a gift, please contact John Oetzel, Chair of the Department at (505) 277-1905.

John "Sam" Keltner, 1918-2005

A Personal Remembrance by Dave Natharius

John "Sam" Keltner, Professor Emeritus, Oregon State University, died on January 13, 2005, from asperation pneumonia. He was 86 years old. He is survived by his wife, Maria. I know she would love to hear from you about Sam. Her e-mail address is: keltnerm@peak.org

Sam was President of the WSCA in 1972 and received the WSCA's Distinguished Service Award in 1996. Sam's contributions to our discipline are many, some of which have gone unheralded. He also served as President of the Central States Speech Association in 1952-53. His book, Group Discussion Processes, examined the interaction dynamics of groups 3 years before Berlo's acclaimed Process of Communication. Sam published the first book on interpersonal communication in 1969, 2 years before the wave of interpersonal texts began. His major contributions these past many years have been in the area of bargaining, mediation and arbitration, an area in which he was still active up until just before his death. He was instrumental in developing the Peace and Conflict Communication Division in the NCA.

I first met Sam in the fall of 1971 when he came to Fresno as President -Elect of WSCA to examine the site for the 1972 Convention. I knew he was coming and I reserved a hotel room for him but he showed up in his motor home which he parked in the new Fresno Convention Center parking lot and used it as his lodging and office. I was immediately struck by his energy and his unusual (I might even say "bizarre") ideas for the upcoming convention. He wanted every meeting room to be equipped with overhead and slide projectors and he even wanted to have temporary TV monitors installed in the convention center halls so people could see what was going on in the respective meeting rooms before they entered. It is easy to say now that he was, indeed, a visionary, but at the time he seemed to be just a bit "over the top."

In 1975, I began my ten year involvement as a facilitator in Sam's annual intensive summer workshop in Interpersonal and Small Group Communication, offered at the Menucha Conference Center near Portland, Oregon. These workshops, which grew out of his interpersonal and group communication courses at Oregon State University, became nationally known for their innovative integration of laboratory teaching and learning. For me, these workshops became my personal summer pilgrimage for learning more about myself and how to be a more effective teacher of communication.

I loved to see Sam in action. He was energetic, enthusiastic, dynamic, and completely committed to the experiential learning processes of the workshop. Most of all, he clearly loved and respected all of us who participated as facilitators for the workshop processes.

I asked him once how he got his nickname "Sam." He simply explained that, years ago, in an intensive interpersonal encounter workshop, he had continual disagreements with another man that came to shoving and pushing. He couldn't understand why the man was so angry at him. So he asked the man what was driving his anger and the man said: "You're a great guy, I

just don't like the name John - John is where you go to take a crap." So, John said: "OK, just call me Sam."

Sam Keltner was an incredibly complex person and yet the previous story exemplifies his ability to get to the root cause of conflicts. His lifelong dream was to end war and find common ground for all conflict parties, whether individuals, corporations, governments, or nations. As a visionary, he truly believed that all international conflicts could be resolved, or at least managed without the need for war. I can imagine how the current Iraqi war must have saddened him immensely. I, myself, had several conflicts with Sam; a few were never resolved. What I learned from him was that sometimes conflicts are not resolved, but the respect for the other person need not be diminished and communication could always be on-going. Sam always had my greatest respect.

I learned much from Sam Keltner: about respect, about collaborative teaching and learning, about constructive confrontation, about choosing ways of reaching agreement without compromising personal values or beliefs. I know much more about myself as a result of my connection to him, and I know that there are many of my colleagues who also experience the deep connection to Sam that I do. He will be loved and remembered for many years to come.

Gifts in Sam's memory may be sent to either: Community Outreach Inc., 865 N.W. Reiman Ave., Corvallis OR, 97330 or to Linn-Benton Mediation Services, 250 Broadalbin St. S.W., Albany, OR 97321

Thank you! Sue Pendell, Executive Director

My term as WSCA Executive Director ends June 30, so I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your support during the last four years.

Thank you to all of you for the lovely crystal bowl and the plane gift certificate presented to me at the convention luncheon, and a special thank you to those who contributed to the wonderful hotel gift certificate—what a surprise that was!

I could not have carried out my duties as WSCA Executive Director without the help of so many of you—you who served on committees, as Interest Group officers, as Local Hosts, and on the Executive Council. Additional thanks to the Presidents with whom I worked—Dawn Braithwaite, Sandra Petronio, Kathy Adams, Connie Bullis, Ron Lustig, and Mary Jane Collier.

A special debt of gratitude goes to my Assistants over the years—Cara Buckley-Ott, 2001-2002; Scott Simpson, 2002-2004, and Allison Searle, 2002-2005. We did it!

Finally, my thanks to my colleagues—faculty, staff, and students, in the Department of Speech Communication at Colorado State University, for their support.

Mark Bergstrom of the University of Utah takes over July 1 as WSCA Executive Director; please join me in wishing him great success in his endeavors for the Association.

From Dan Canary, Editor of WJC

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