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From WSCA President Sara Hayden

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of many people, the 78th Annual Western States Communication Association Convention was a rousing success. When I chose the convention theme, I did so with the understanding that “promoting social justice through our work” might be a goal we share in the abstract, but articulating precisely what that goal entails – to say nothing of enacting it in our daily lives, our workplaces, and our communities – is anything but simple or straightforward. My hope was that through conversation with one another we could promote reflexivity about our work and a renewed commitment to use our knowledge and skills to make the world a better place. I was gratified by the sincere effort, careful consideration, and good will that the membership put into discussing this important topic. I owe special thanks to a group of people who took on leadership roles including Suzanne Daughton, who headed up the pre-conference “Promoting Social Change through our Work.” Suzanne brought together a group of diverse and passionate scholars who shared their guiding philosophies and strategies for enacting change. Thanks also to “Miss Scarlett,” played by Susan Owen, along with her troop of imaginary friends, who both challenged and entertained us at the Kickoff Event. I also appreciate the work of keynote speaker Katha Pollitt, who invited us to reconsider the “opt-out revolution” widely reported in mainstream news. While these events were perhaps the most visible, I was also impressed with the quality of the programs and panels. Thanks, then, to all who took part in those and especially to the Interest Group chairs and vice-chairs who did the hard work of organizing the selection of those panels.



As is typical of WSCA conventions, we balanced work with play. From Friday night’s no-host reception to Sunday evening’s parties and Sock Hop, we had ample opportunities to enjoy one another’s company and admire each others’ dancing skills. Special thanks again are in order, this time to Valerie Manusov and her wonderful, efficient team of local hosts. Visible in their bright blue tee-shirts sporting the convention theme and logo, this group of faculty and students cheerfully oversaw the registration process, guided members to meeting rooms, planned and orchestrated the sock hop and other fun events, and offered advice on restaurants, coffee shops, and other local sites. The members seemed particularly pleased with the raffle opportunities the local host team brought to us – although most of us are now jealous of my colleague, Dr. Steve Schwarze, who won the massage! Thanks, then, to everyone for helping to make the convention a success. I look forward to doing it all again next year in Colorado!

From Seattle Local Host Valerie Manusov



By all accounts, the Seattle Conference was a success. We should, however, have thought about selling the blue t-shirts, as they were much requested and could have been a source of revenue for WSCA student funds!

But overall, the feedback we got was that the raffle was a fun diversion, the walks (particularly the one to the International District, which happened to coincide with the activities of the Chinese New Year) were a great addition, the poker party (frequented primarily by current UW students...hmmmm) could be something to add to future conferences, and the sock hop once again showed the talents of many WSCA members.

Thanks again to all those who helped with the local host activities, particularly registration. And thanks to all of the members who took the time to share with my students and the others working at the conference their positive opinions. Now, onto Denver!

Seattle Memories

(thanks to John Cagle for the photos)



Seattle Convention draws 751 participants

by Mark Bergstrom, Executive Director

The Renaissance Seattle Hotel served as the official convention meeting hotel. The hotel management and staff provided our members with superb service. Members enjoyed the Seattle area and attractions, and the Local Host Team provided members with excellent “insider” tips.

Western enjoyed unprecedented financial support for several of awards and functions. Be sure to thank our publishing partners the next time you see a representative. If you work with a publisher who has not supported Western, please encourage them to come and support the best of the regional conferences.



Executive Council Highlights

The Executive Council approved the formation of two important ad hoc committees. President Sara Hayden will form a committee to investigate the insurance needs of the association as well as a committee to analyze the long-term financial needs of the association.

The Executive Council rigorously discussed several issues concerning the NCA Second Vice-President candidate’s visits to Interest Group Business Meetings. Recognizing the importance of our relationship with NCA and the time constraints of business meetings, the Executive Council voted to change the agendas of two of our events. First, the Welcome Address traditionally given at the Luncheon will be moved to the start of the Kick-Off event. Second, the NCA candidates will be given time to introduce themselves during the luncheon. Finally, the Program Planner will ask Interest Group Planners if they wish to have the candidates speak during their business meetings. The Program Planner will then work with the candidates to coordinate visits to individual interest groups.

Legislative Assembly Highlights

The Legislative Assembly reviewed the 2006-2007 budget, income, and expenses and approved the 2007-2008 budgets. The Assembly elected Nancy Oft Rose (retired) and Patricia O’Keefe (College of Marin) as At-Large Representatives to the Executive Council. Jay Baglia (San Jose State University) and Tasha Van Horn (Citrus Community College) were elected to the Nominating Committee, Belle Edson (Arizona State University) was elected as the WSCA Representative to the NCA Legislative Assembly, and Cindy Griffin (Colorado State University) was elected to the WSCA Committee.

More Seattle Photo Memories



Special Presentation Honors Past WSCA Leadership

WSCA President Mary Jane Collier honored past presidents of WSCA during the luncheon at the Seattle conference. Here is what she said during her remarks:



I'd like to take this opportunity to honor very special members of WSCA who contribute to keeping our association vibrant and engaged, those who have served as President of WSCA. Let me begin with Leah Vande Berg, who would have been with us as president this year. The bookmark in the convention program is a tribute to her dedication and her continuing legacy. I'd like to think that she is helping us mark our place as we move through the events and activities of this convention.

I asked officers to describe the contributions of WSCA Past-Presidents from the last twenty-seven years with a phrase or two. Allow me to share those comments about the past-presidents who planned to be or are here with us today.

RON LUSTIG (2004)

Ron is the epitome of someone who is invested in WSCA. He continues to help us widen the circle, envision the future, grow our finances, and share the wealth.



KATHY ADAMS (2002)

She supported WSCA's move into accountability and professionalism, while maintaining passion for our work; a role model of keeping meetings efficient and calm even when controversy was all around!



SANDRA PETRONIO (2001)

Her leadership brought our association back into good constitutional & legislative practice, through reconsideration of how we administer to the association's members. She strengthened the foundation to take us, with confidence, into the future.



DAWN BRAITHWAITE (2000)

The term "dedication" marked every choice she made on behalf of WSCA. She was a committed officer and one that put WSCA first in all things she did.

DENNIS ALEXANDER (1999)

No one was more prepared for this role. He led the charge for doing significant work on the finances and planning for the future of WSCA. No one worked harder or played harder and we are all the better for it.



PETER ANDERSEN (1998)

Peter's leadership contributed in large measure to the investment plan that put association money into long term capital assets. It resulted in the financial stability we still enjoy. Peter's sleeveless t-shirts at sock-hops still draw attention & smiles.

BETSY BACH (1996)

Her intelligence, hard work, and infectious laugh were a hallmark of her presidency and everything she does. She balanced competent leadership with a sense of fun; at her Presidential Reception, several of her colleagues dressed as the Village People and danced to YMCA...



BOB AVERY (1994)

A committed WSCA officer then and now. What else to say but dapper and affable indeed!



BILL EADIE (1993)

A "gentle man" whose mild and quiet demeanor has all the persuasive effectiveness of an impassioned rhetor. He has impeccable follow-through, gets things done, and knows the discipline inside and out.

JAN ANDERSEN (1991)

The most lively, motivating president of the association I have ever known.
Could inspire a thousand people to attend a convention!
The best combination of intellect, management ability, and enthusiasm.



TOM SCHEIDEL (1990)

A long time mentor. He takes his work very seriously but never himself -- he always found the balance between work and play making him an iconic WSCA member.

DAVE NATHARIUS (1988)

Everyone's favorite Uncle in this WSCA family. Having reinvented himself in retirement, like the "energizer bunny," he keeps going and going and going in helping WSCA achieve wonderful things.



JO SPRAGUE (1986)

Jo lives and breathes openness to others, and she has remained dedicated to WSCA for twenty plus years. She's a model of sustained commitment.

JODY NYQUIST (1984)

Her approach to the presidency was like her approach to skiing. She just "went for it." In particular, her absolute and unwavering service improved the professional experiences and preparation for graduate students and young faculty.



Distinguished Service Award Presented to Dawn Braithwaite

by Brian Ott, Colorado State University



I am tremendously honored to address the members of the Association today for the purpose of presenting the WSCA Distinguished Service Award. This award, which was established in 1979 and first presented in 1980, recognizes “persons who have made *considerable* and *longstanding* contributions to WSCA and the communication field.” Many of the award’s previous winners are here with us today. So that we may thank them for their continued commitment to WSCA, would all past Distinguished Service Award winners please stand and be recognized?

As the chair of the Award Committee, I want to share that we had a large number of especially well qualified and deserving nominees this year. It is a testament, I believe, to the strength of our Association that so many members graciously dedicate so much of their time and themselves to WSCA. Indeed, reading the many letters of nomination, each testifying to the outstanding service of the nominees was moving, inspiring, and humbling. That the committee’s task was not easy makes me doubly proud to present this year’s award, for this person ultimately rose to the top of this remarkable pool. One of the things that impressed the committee most about this year’s recipient is that he or she has served AND continues to serve both the Association and the discipline at all levels. From interest group chair and paper reviewer to Primary Program Planner and former WSCA President, today’s honoree has left an indelible mark on our Association.

Outstanding service can be measured from any number of angles ... breadth, longevity, quality, impact. But no matter how many ways one turns that prism, the name of this year’s honoree is refracted back with unparalleled brilliance. A few examples will serve to illustrate. This year’s award winner has served on the Finance Committee, the Nominating Committee, the Fisher Award Committee, and the Distinguished Service Award Committee, as well as a wide and I do mean wide array of ad hoc committees. In each of these capacities, the Association has greatly benefited from this person’s legendary organizational skills. She or he has also served as an officer for two separate WSCA interest groups, chaired the legislative assembly, and served on the editorial boards of both the *Western Journal of Communication* and *Communication Reports*. Not only is our honoree’s service record lengthy and diverse, but his or her participation in WSCA as a scholar is also noteworthy. This year’s recipient delivered their [sic] first WSCA convention paper 30 year ago and has since authored or co-authored 28 more competitive papers.

Convention papers do not, of course, even begin to tell the story of our honoree’s impressive record of scholarship. A quick glance at our awardee’s vitae ... alright! one does not glance quickly at this CV—one blocks off large segments of time, brews a cup of coffee, and settles in ... reveals a premiere scholar who has authored 4 books and published more than 60 refereed articles and book chapters in such prestigious publications as the *Journal of Applied Communication Research*, *Communication Studies*, the *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, and, of course, our very own *Western Journal of Communication*. I mention his or her scholarship because through it, noted one writer in her letter of nomination, our honoree has been “an amazing ambassador for WSCA.”

An ambassador is someone who is accredited as a representative. I can think of no one whom I would rather have represent WSCA than our honoree. Not only has this person directed numerous Ph.D. dissertations, won teaching and mentoring awards, served on the editorial boards of 8 different journals, and done extensive community service work, but she also developed the “WSCA Calendar”—the principal tool that year after year assures that all of the Association’s business is efficiently and effectively accomplished. Today, she continues to make us proud through service to the National Communication Association.

I'll admit that I was a bit nervous when I was appointed to chair the Distinguished Service Award Committee. Then I was given this massive binder, which includes examples of past nomination letters and speeches. But most helpful of all was the letter on the front page of the binder which carefully outlined the steps of my task. That letter was written 12 years ago, and yet it has remained the front piece of this manual. Its author is our award winner. For the enduring and prismatic brilliance of her service to WSCA, it is truly my great pleasure to present this year's Distinguished Service Award to Dawn Braithwaite.

Dawn Braithwaite's response

Dear WSCA Friends and Colleagues,

I was so surprised and greatly honored to receive the 2007 WSCA Distinguished Service Award at the convention in Seattle. I will never forget Brian Ott's kind words and your warm reception. Those who know me know how important WSCA is in my life. I presented my first paper there as an undergrad, first saw my husband-to-be at WSCA, and Chuck and I became engaged at WSCA in Seattle back in 1984! Through scholarship, service, and my presidency—all of it has been and continues to be a joy. Receiving a wonderful award like this in front of so many friends and with my amazing husband also receiving a Master Teacher Award the same year was one of life's great highlights. Thank you so very much.

Scholarship Awards Presented

The following awards for outstanding scholarship were presented at this year's convention luncheon:

B. Aubrey Fisher Award for Outstanding Article in the *Western Journal of Communication*

Presented to Michelle A. Holling (Colorado State), for *El Simpatico Boxer: Underpinning Chicano Masculinity with a Rhetoric of Familia in Resurrection Blvd.*

Feminist Scholarship Award for Outstanding Article in *Women's Studies in Communication*

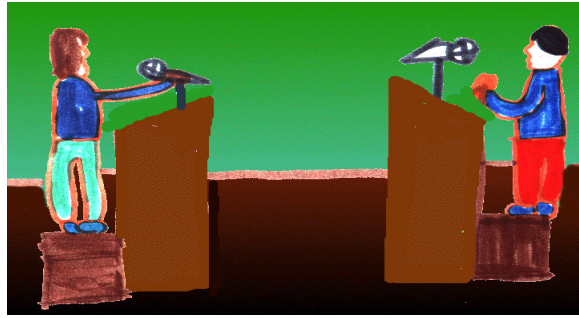
Kim Golombisky earned the "Feminist Scholarship Award" for her essay "Gendering the Interview: Feminist Reflections on Gender as Performance in Research" (*Women's Studies in Communication*. 2006, 29). Dr. Golombisky's essay was selected for its riskiness, self-reflectiveness and innovativeness in discussing interview methods.

WSCA Executives Club Debut Award

Presented to Chi-an Chai, San Jose State University for her paper, "Communicating Boundaries in the Chinese-Taiwanese Family ."

WSCA/WFA Debate Tournament Draws Crowd

by Derek T. Buescher, Speech Activities Coordinator



The Western Forensics Association hosted another successful tournament during the Seattle conference. In addition to the traditional slate of 11 AFA-NIET individual events, the tournament hosted three forms of collegiate debate--Parliamentary (NPDA style), Policy (CEDA/NDT) and Worlds or British Parliamentary Style. Over 20 schools from 7 states (including Arkansas) and 1 province competed. The tournament winners in the open divisions of debate were: Gonzaga (policy), Northern Arizona (parliamentary), and Seattle University (Worlds). In addition to the individual/team awards, the tournament recognizes "sweepstakes" (best overall performance) winners in the categories of individual events, debate, and overall/combined. The winners in each category were: Northwest College Wyoming (individual events), Whitman College (debate), and Northwest College Wyoming (overall). Congratulations to all who participated and made the tournament enormously successful.

Undergraduate Scholars Research Conference Draws a Quality Group of Presentations

by Daniel C. Brouwer, former Second Vice President
and Heather Hundley, Second Vice President



Among the many intriguing and rewarding events at the recent WSCA convention in Seattle, Washington, we would like to underscore the Undergraduate Scholars Research Conference. Now in its fourth year, the Undergraduate Scholars Research Conference (USRC) creates a forum for undergraduate scholars to share their research, meet other talented undergraduates from across the region, and, if interested, learn about graduate studies in communication. In short, the USRC functions as one of the clearest, most visible examples of WSCA's support and mentorship of undergraduate scholars in our region. On Saturday, February 17, 2007, eighteen students from universities and colleges in Washington, California, Texas, Arizona, Utah, Montana, Minnesota, and Illinois presented competitively selected essays on politics, feminism, faith, media, celebrity, identities, norms, self-esteem, and communication competence. Top Paper

Awards went to Matthew Scroggins from St. John's University/College of St. Benedict, Bryan Walsh from the University of Puget Sound, and Cari Breckenridge and Sarah Wofford from Brigham Young University.

As the new WSCA Second Vice President, Dr. Heather Hundley will coordinate the fifth annual USRC at the 2008 Denver-Boulder convention. The deadline for essay submissions will be December 1, 2007. We encourage WSCA instructors to support the USRC by mentoring this year talented students who will be returning next year or by building a December 1, 2007, research paper deadline into syllabi for the Fall 2007 semester or quarter.

Calls for Submissions

Human Communication

Call for Manuscript Submissions

Human Communication (a publication of the Pacific and Asian Communication Association)

The Editor of *Human Communication* 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 (which means weekends and holidays are not included). 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."

Women's Studies in Communication Special Issue

Karma Chávez, the guest editor, and Cindy Griffin, editor, of *Women's Studies in Communication* invite manuscript submission for a special issue on "Power Feminism: Exploring Agency, Oppression and Victimage." The deadline is August 15th; any inquiries should be directed to karma.chavez@asu.edu.

WSCA News

WSCA News seeks items of interest to members of the Western States Communication Association for publication in its electronic newsletter. Items may include news of achievements by faculty, departments or programs who are members of WSCA or who are located in the western portion of the U.S. They may also include calls for conference or journal submission, grant opportunities, or news regarding student groups.

Digital photographs are welcome to be submitted with the text.

WSCA News is distributed electronically to current WSCA members on roughly a monthly basis during the academic year. Submit items to Bill Eadie, Editor, at weadie@mail.sdsu.edu.

Final Seattle Photo Memories

