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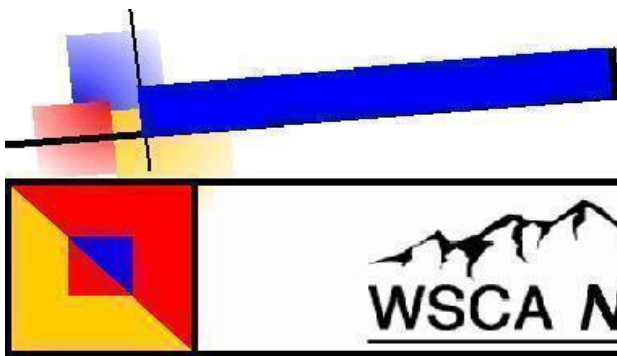
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Deadlines Coming Up for WSCA 2009

September 1 is due date for papers, program proposals

By Daniel J. Canary, President-Elect

The deadlines for the 2009 WSCA convention are in sight! Please consider sending your ideas, whether they be in the form of papers, proposals, or workshops, for the 2009 convention. The Valley of the Sun provides warm relief for those of you dealing with cold winters and promises from groundhogs. And the 2009 convention is committed to upholding the WSCA tradition of merging first rate scholarship with Level-10 fun! **Paul Mongeau**, the Local Host, assures me that we will have many activities to enjoy (which **Kendra Knight**, the 2009 Convention Coordinator, will help plan).

This year's convention theme is *Mixing Metaphors*. When academics mix theoretic and methodological metaphors purposefully, we can present different ways to communicate with each other because of our various theoretic and methodological languages. As communication scholars, we can provide various cross-disciplinary and multidisciplinary insights to important research topics. The goal of the 2009 WSCA convention is not to seek agreement among people with different humanistic and scientific perspectives; rather, the goal is to encourage people with alternative backgrounds to address important issues involving human communication.

Below are the deadlines for the 2009 WSCA convention in Mesa, Arizona.

PLEASE NOTE: *The preconference deadline has been extended* due to lack of preconference proposals sent earlier. Information about accepted preconferences and how to participate in them will be offered in the next issue of the WSCA Newsletter.

Here are the critical September 1, 2008 (*muy importante*) deadlines:

- **Competitive Papers**--Submit to Chair of Interest Group (go to http://www.westcomm.org/conventions/WSCA-2009-Phoenix/program_planners.asp);
- **Program Proposals** --Submit to Chair of Interest Group (see http://www.westcomm.org/conventions/WSCA-2009-Phoenix/program_planners.asp);
- **Preconference Proposals** – Submit to Daniel Canary (dan.canary@asu.edu);
- **Workshop Proposals** -- Submit to Daniel Canary (dan.canary@asu.edu);

Other Deadlines:

The deadline for the **Undergraduate Scholars' Research Conference** (USRC) is *December 1, 2008*-- Submit undergraduate papers to Kathryn Sorrells, WSCA Second Vice President, at kathryn.sorrells@csun.edu.

The deadline for the **Graduate Student Workshop & Graduate Programs Open House** is *January 1, 2009* – Submit to Kathryn Sorrells, WSCA Second Vice President, at kathryn.sorrells@csun.edu.



September 1 Also Deadline for Performance Studies Award

Western States Communication Association Outstanding Contributions to Performance Studies Award

By Karma Chavez, University of New Mexico

This award seeks to honor a WSCA member who has completed a terminal degree and has been active with performance studies for more than five years. The criteria for this award are as follows:

- Regular attendance to the WSCA convention and active involvement in the performance studies discipline as well as

the performance studies interest group

- A robust body of scholarship including both publications and performances
- A history of service to performance studies with specific service to WSCA.
- Persons must be nominated (including self-nominations) by a current WSCA member
- Winner must attend the convention in which she/he is being awarded

Deadline: September 1, 2008. Letters of nomination should be no more than 2 pages and include the following: a brief history of the individual's work, a justification for awarding the individual, and a description of the contributions made by this individual to WSCA. Please also include a copy of the nominee's CV. All letters must be sent via email to the chair of the Performance Studies Interest group, Dr. Shane Moreman, smoreman@csufresno.edu.

Performance Studies Interest Group Calls for 2009 Participation

By Shane Moreman, California State University, Fresno

Western States Communication Association Performance Studies Interest Group

CALL FOR PAPERS, PERFORMANCES, and PROGRAM PROPOSALS

2009 Annual Convention, Mesa (Phoenix), AZ February 13-17, 2009 Conference Theme: "Mixing Metaphors"

The WSCA 2009 Convention theme is "Mixing Metaphors." As stated by our WSCA President Elect, Dan Canary, "The notion behind the theme is that the communication scholarly discipline is in an excellent place to examine important issues of the day from alternative epistemological perspectives." His hope is that the conference will "offer several panels devoted to the same important issue using humanistic, scientific and critical approaches so that our sub-disciplines can purposefully mix scholarly metaphors."



Perhaps no other "sub-discipline" is as seriously playful or as playfully serious as Performance Studies. Please consider using Dr. Canary's convention theme and our own Performance Studies unique gifts to demonstrate how our approach to academia serves any-body, but how not just anybody can serve up the wisdom behind the processes, creations and insights of performance.

This year's conference theme should be taken as a dare for Performance Studies scholars and those outside of but interested in Performance Studies. As this year's Performance Studies Interest Group Chair and Program Planner, I dare you...

For submission to http://www.westcomm.org/conventions/WSCA-2009-Phoenix/program_planners.asp

WSCA Retracts Article

2007 Work Was Published in *The Western Journal of Communication*



Western States Communication Association, upon recommendation of the WSCA Publications Committee, hereby retracts the article by Marc Leverette, "Spirits in the Material World: *Hauntology*, Historical Materialism, and Phenomenological Medium Theory," originally published in the *Western Journal of Communication*, Vo. 71, No. 4, October 2007, pp. 336-358, as it substantially reproduces work from a number of other already published works without due acknowledgment or the permission of the copyright holders.

Western States Communication Association, by:

A. Cheree Carlson, Editor, *Western Journal of Communication*
A. Susan Owen, Chair, Publications Committee, Western States Communication Association
Sue D. Pendell, President, Western States Communication Association

Average Length of Review Time at WJC - 48 Days

By Brian Ott, Editor, *Western Journal of Communication*

Since January 1, 2008, the Western Journal of Communication has received 136 original (i.e., new) manuscripts (this does NOT include revised and resubmitted manuscripts). Of those, 95 have received decisions; 41 are still in process (under initial review). The average length of time from the date of submission to the date of decision is currently 48 days. Here is a break down of review time in 30-day increments for the 95 manuscripts with decisions:



00-30 days - 19 essays
31-60 days - 49 essays
61-90 days - 21 essays
91-120 days - 6 essays

At present, over 70% of manuscripts receive decision letters in less than two months. The editor wishes to express his sincere thanks to WJC's reviewers for their hard work and efficiency.

Choosing a WSCA Convention Location

Sue D. Pendell, President



You may have seen "Why San Diego" in the August *NCA Spectra* in which Roger Smitter, NCA Executive Director, explains a few things about NCA's site selection methods. And when you've attended WSCA conventions, over many years or just recently, you may have wondered how we ended up in Broomfield or Seattle or Palm Springs. Deciding on a convention location is a two-part process for WSCA: selecting a site and choosing a hotel, which we do four years in advance.

First, we select a site. WSCA conventions rotate around the west so the convention is in somewhat close proximity to you every few years. The 2009 convention in Phoenix/Mesa is in the "south" part of the west; in 2010 Anchorage is clearly in the "north" part of the west; in 2011 Monterey is in the "central" part, and in 2012 Albuquerque is in the "east." So general location is an important consideration.

WSCA conventions also go where a college or university is willing to serve as Local Host. The Local Host may be a single institution or a combination of institutions, but one or two people need to serve as Local Host Chairs, and their institution(s) must commit to organizing the non-content components of the convention. In addition, there should be several hotels available at the site with enough meeting rooms and sleeping rooms for the convention.

At each WSCA convention, the Time & Place Committee makes a site recommendation to the Legislative Assembly for input and to the Executive Council for approval, at which point the site is chosen for the +4-year convention.

Second, we choose a hotel. There's a long list of things we look for in a hotel: number and cost of sleeping rooms, number of meeting rooms, safety, sustainability, etc. With the help of HelmsBriscoe, an international hotel selection firm, we narrow down the list of possible hotels, then the President, the Executive Director, and the Local Host Chair visit them. We make a list of strengths and weaknesses of each hotel and present that, along with our recommendations, to the Executive Council for approval at its November meeting during NCA.

Since there's no such thing as a perfect hotel, we always have to make trade-offs: downtown has more expensive room rates, higher food costs, and more expensive airport transportation but better access to local restaurants, activities, culture, etc. Suburban and airport hotels are less expensive but local restaurants, etc. are less accessible. And warm places cost more!

After we choose a hotel, Mark Bergstrom, the Executive Director, negotiates the hotel contract to get the best deal for you and for the Association.

Now, as you attend WSCA conventions in the future, you'll have an idea of why you're in Phoenix or Anchorage or wherever

Be a Convention Local Host!

Sue D. Pendell, President

The Chair of this year's Time & Place Committee is Walt Zakahi (wzakahi@nmsu.edu), and Walt, Mark Bergstrom (WSCA Executive Director), and I invite you to submit a bid for the 2013 convention. Local Hosting takes one or more committed individuals plus a lot of volunteers (many of whom can be students). It's work, but it's fun, and it's a great reputation builder for your institution. Contact one of us for more details, or check out the Convention Guidelines on the Western website: www.westcomm.org.



Editor: Bill Eadie, San Diego State University
Submit items for the September issue by September 5 to weadie@mail.sdsu.edu