



Interest Group Name: Environmental Communication Division

Name of person making report: Bridie McGreavy

Submitter's role in the interest group: Chair

Submitter's email: bridie.mcgreavy@maine.edu

List of Interest Group Awards and winners for 2019:

Tarla Rai Peterson Book Award in Environmental Communication:

Leilani Nishime and Kim D. Hester Williams (editors), *Racial Ecologies*

Stephen P. Depoe Book Chapter Award in Environmental Communication:

Carlos Tarin, "Fronteras Tóxicas: Toward a Borderland Ecological Consciousness"

Christine L. Oravec Journal Article Award in Environmental Communication:

Constance Gordon & Kathleen Hunt, "Reform, Justice, and Sovereignty: A Food Systems Agenda for Environmental Communication"

J. Robert Cox Award in Environmental Communication & Civic Engagement Phaedra C. Pezzullo

Dissertation Award in Environmental Communication:

Constance Gordon, *Troubling "Access": Rhetorical Cartographies of Food (In)Justice and Gentrification*

Special Award: Outstanding Voice in Environmental Communication:

Catalina de Onís

The top paper (overall highest score): Haoran Chu & Janet Yang for "Emotion and the Psychological Distance of Climate Change"

The top student paper (student submission with highest score): Jacob Miller for "Surviving the Anthropocene calls for an ecospheric rhetoric"

Did your Interest Group engage in any fundraising efforts in 2019? If yes, for what purpose?

N/A

Did or will your interest group engage in any recruitment or retention efforts? If yes, please describe your efforts:

Over the last five months, our division has advanced a series of facilitated discussions about how to strengthen diversity in division, focusing on our awards nominations, membership recruiting, and leadership development. We conducted three facilitated dialogues for all members of our division leadership team and will be using time at our business meeting to discuss priorities for diversity-focused work in our division over the next year. As part of this, we have revised our awards and leadership nominating process in ways that also support our recruitment efforts and we are proposing a change to our Bylaws such that our Outreach committee will also now focus on efforts to improve diversity.

Additional Comments about your interest group for the 2019 Legislative Assembly:

Our division circulated a statement to voice our strong support for changing the review process for the NCA Distinguished Scholars awards. We stated our disagreement with calls to oppose changes to the award review process and we also reaffirmed our commitment to assess our own awards to date and consider how we might improve our ability to reduce bias—conscious or not—when defining merit. We have made steps over the last five months to uphold this commitment within NCA as well as in our home departments and institutions.

In addition to advancing procedural and structural changes to support diversity in our division, we also dedicated substantial efforts to improve our information archives and communication system to grow and sustain our organization over time. We developed an electronic survey so that division members who are not able to attend our business meeting still have an opportunity to sign up to review, chair, and respond to papers and panels.

Finally, we expanded our social media and online communication efforts through increased attention to our Facebook page

(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1797821383794021/?ref=bookmarks>) and division website

(<https://sites.google.com/view/ec-nca/home>).