

2016 Rhetorical and Communication Theory Division Business Meeting

National Communication Association Annual Conference

Philadelphia, PA

Saturday, November 12, 12:30-1:45pm

MINUTES

Before the meeting began, a representative from NCA's Inclusivity Task Force announced ongoing work to increase diversity in the association and solicited feedback from RCT members.

1 - Call to Order (Amy Young, Chair)

- Amy called the meeting to order at 12:40 p.m.

2 - NCA update (LaKeshia Anderson, NCA)

- Provided update on the national office's activities
 - Mobile app for the convention is working well, download it!
 - Educational policies board has been busy. New website will go live by end of year, includes over 100 new syllabi for courses and other teaching materials. Learning outcomes for communication continues to be a focus. Advocacy work is also ongoing; NCA is pursuing funding requests on Capitol Hill for social science and com. research. Reminder about membership perks: free access to NCA journals, etc. Solicited volunteers to work for doctoral honors seminar.

3 - Approval of 2015 Minutes (Kelly Jakes, Secretary)

- Minutes unanimously approved

4 - Division Elections (E Cram, Chair of Nominating Committee)

- E. walked members through the ballot. Candidates spoke on behalf of themselves. Positions up for election included: Vice-chair elect, Awards Committee, Winans-Wichelns Award Committee, Nomination Committee

5 - NCA vice-chair candidate (Kent Ono)

- Kent spoke in favor of his candidacy. Emphasized the uniting force of RCT and its importance as a centering unit for rhetoric scholars.

6 - Legislative Assembly Report (Amy Young, Chair)

- Both business meetings have met. There is a by-laws revision that will go to membership for a vote. The language on fiduciary responsibility has been tabled until next year.
- A new division has been voted in, Economics, Communication, and Society. Will accept work in rhetoric of economics, cultural studies of the economy, and related subjects.
- “What’s Next?” roundtable occurred in Wednesday’s meeting of the Legislative Assembly. Here, Amy found out that we have a youtube channel that curates media artifacts that are relevant to com. scholars. The meeting emphasized the importance and need for fostering public intellectual work. Contentious conversation ensued about categories of membership and their dues. Should we reduce registration and membership fees for certain categories? Are the categories helpful?
- Amy close her report by asking RCT members to think about how we as a division can pursue civic action, especially in the wake of the 2016 presidential election. Discussion followed and will continue online.

7 - Program Planner’s Report (Kristen Hoerl, Vice-Chair)

- Kristen thanked reviewers for their service
- RCT had 47 slots this year; it’s the largest division at NCA
- Overall acceptance rate: 76% of 128 total submissions
 - 67% of individual papers were accepted, (60/89)
 - 90% panels accepted (10/11)
 - 84% paper sessions (21/25)
- Submissions went to three different reviewers, 2/3 positive reviews was enough for acceptance
- Some papers were rejected because they didn’t adhere to rules/instructions (page length was a problem, some authors sent two papers, etc.)
- Types of submissions: 95% were from rhetorical theory; 5% from another field of communication (interpersonal, organizational, health, and performance studies). Kristen invited more scholarship from these subfields.
- 288 people volunteered to review, 2/3 were used based on the relevance of their expertise. Most received no more than 3 submissions to review.

8 - NCA 2017 Preview (Lisa Corrigan, Vice-Chair Elect)

- Conference is Nov. 16-19 in Dallas. Requests for reviewers will go out middle of January.

9 - Division Awards (presented by Kevin Johnson and Kristen Hoerl)

- Distinguished Scholar Award—Charles E. Morris III
- Early Career Award—Josue David Cisneros
- Faculty Mentorship Award—Angela G. Ray
- Top Paper Award—Jenna Hanchey

10 - Election Results (E Cram)

- Vice-chair elect, Bernadette Calafel
- Awards Committee, Dan Brouwer
- Winans-Wichelns Award Committee, Maegan Parker Brooks
- Nomination Committee: Tiara Na'puti (chair), William Saas, Sara McKinnon, Kaitlin Patia, Roberta Chevrette

11 - Announcements from the Floor

- No announcements were made

12 – Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 1:36 p.m.

2015/16 Division Officers: Chair: Amy Young, Pacific Lutheran University; Vice-Chair: Kristen Hoerl, Butler University; Vice-Chair-Elect: Lisa Corrigan, University of Arkansas; Secretary: Kelly Jakes, Wayne State University; Past Chair: Danielle Endres, University of Utah

2015/16 Awards Committee Co-Chairs: Kevin Johnson, California State University - Long Beach; Billie Murray, Villanova University; Nina Lozano-Reich, Loyola Marymount University

2015/16 Nominating Committee: E Cram, Chair (University of Iowa); Atilla Hallsby (North Carolina State University); Matt Bost (Whitman College); Andrea Terry (Cal Poly); Megan Fitzmaurice (University of Maryland)