

MINUTES

NCA 2021: Virtual Spiritual Communication Division Business Meeting

November 12th, 2021 12:16 PM | Meeting called to order by Dr. Victoria Newsom

In Attendance

List attendees (Lara Martin Lengel, Victoria Newsom, Alexis Zoe Waters Johnson, Desiree Ann Montenegro, Sahar Khamis, Elizabeth Bennett, Jon Radwan, Mark Ward Sr, Mal Jason, Leland Spencer, Malcolm Jason).

Approval of Minutes

The minutes were reviewed by all from the November 2020 meeting and approved.

Leadership Meeting Updates

The Officers of SD were introduced as well as meeting attendees. All present watched the Official NCA 2023 video presentation sent to the division from the national office.

Membership was apprised of the Executive Team's recommendations for updating the by-laws, and the need to fix the missing 2019 by-laws updates on the NCA website. All present voted to approve.

Division Award Recognition

Division awardees were recognized in the following order.

Outstanding Books

How Non-Being Haunts Being: On Possibilities, Morality, and Death Acceptance by Dr. Corey Anton

Outstanding MA Thesis

Secular Audiences/Sacred Values: The Rhetoric of Pope Francis by Kelci Gormley

Outstanding Articles

Embodied Queer Theology in Showtime's Queer as Folk, Argumentation and Advocacy by Dr. Leland Spencer

Top Outstanding Student Paper *Understanding the Role of Prayer and Relationship with God for Christians Before and After the Death of a Child* by Elizabeth Bennet

Top Paper Recognition

Outstanding Student Papers (Top 3, Alphabetical by Author)

- *Resisting Evangelical Power from Within: Beth Moore and Feminine Style* by Zachary Sheldon

- *Feminine Archetypes and the Rhetoric of Transformation in the Sci-Fi Film Arrival* by Justin Pehoski
- *Social Media or Spiritual Media? A Qualitative Examination of Media Influences on Latter-day Saint Body Image* by Megan Gale

Top Outstanding Faculty Paper

- *Fake News, Selective Forgetting, and Alt-Right Induced Trauma: Intercultural and Interfaith Responses to Holocaust Denial and Distortion* by Dr. Lara Lengel, Dr. Victoria Newsom, & Desiree Montenegro

Outstanding Faculty Papers (Top 2, Alphabetical by Author)

- *Transformation via Spiritual Pedagogy of Labyrinth Walking* by Dr. Nancy Bandiera
- *Eulogizing Good Death in the Face of COVID-19* by Dr. Erin Willer

Awards will be mailed out or hand-delivered at the in-person business meeting on November 19th, at 7am in Seattle per individual awardee's preferences.

Chair's report—Alexis Johnson

- In 2021 SCD is the fastest growing division at NCA

Vice-Chair's report—Victoria Newsom

- In 2021 an apparent 400% increase in submission in comparison to previous years
- 2021 we collaborated with other Division to increase scholarship visibility and contribution to the field
- In 2021 SCD has a 60% acceptance rate, due to strategic paneling to allow as many presentation as possible (example of 7am business meeting to free up a slot).

Vice-Chair Elect's report—Malcolm Jason

- To be given at in-person meeting, will focus on growth in membership and in awards participation.

Immediate Past-Chair's report—Lara Lengel

- We will have no representation at 2021 Legislative Assembly meeting due to COVID and economic travel barriers to the convention. Only our Vice-Chair elect can attend, and he is not an LA member. Proposal to investigate Legislative Assembly representation and include designated alternate options. A review committee will be formed by the Chair in 2022.

Call for candidates for 2022 leadership positions and election

Elections were held on the nomination of Dr. Sahar Khamis as Vice-Chair Elect. Voted in by UC.

Spiritual Division Executive Team, 2022

- NCA SCD, 2022: Chair **Victoria Newsom**, Olympic College
- NCA SCD, 2022: Vice Chair & Program Planner **Malcolm Jason**, University of Jamestown
- NCA SCD, 2022: Vice Chair Elect **Sahar Khamis**  University of Maryland
- NCA SCD, 2022: Secretary (second year of two-year term) **Desiree Ann Montenegro**  California Community Colleges
- NCA SCD, 2022: Immediate Past Chair, **Alexis Johnson**, Arkansas Tech University

Passing of the gavel to new leadership

New Business

No new business. All further business will be postponed until the 2022 convention.

Call for interested reviewers, chairs, and respondents for 2022 convention

To all interested in volunteering as reviewers or in another service capacity please email Desiree Ann Montenegro at desiree.montenegro@paloverde.edu or Victoria Newsom at vnewsom@olympic.edu.

Meeting Adjourned

November 12th, 2021 1:09 PM | Meeting Adjourned by Dr. Victoria Newsom

Motion to adjourn was made at 1:09 p.m. and was passed unanimously.