

**NCA PUBLIC ADDRESS DIVISION  
Business Meeting Minutes  
Friday, November 18, 2005**

Chair Amy Slagell brought the 2005 meeting of the NCA Public Address Division to order, welcoming all in attendance. She introduced the division's Executive Committee—Shawn Perry-Giles, Susan Schultz Huxman, and Lisa Hogan. Amy then proceeded with the posted agenda.

1. Approval of Minutes from the 2004 Business Meeting.
  - 1.1. Amy offered a motion to correct the 2004 minutes, replacing the words Section 9 with the words Section 8 in line 4.2.6 and 4.2.6.1. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
  - 1.2. A motion was made from the floor to accept the 2004 minutes as amended. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
2. Jason Black offered the Nominating Committee's report in the absence of its chair Anne Demo. He thanked the committee for its hard work.
  - 2.1. Jason distributed the ballots, and asked the candidates running for Vice-Chair Elect, the Nominating Committee, the NCA Resolutions Committee, and the Nichols Awards Committee to introduce themselves.
  - 2.2. Jason opened the floor for additional nominations, but when none were made he instructed the membership to fill out the ballots.
  - 2.3. Members of the Nominating Committee collected the ballots and retired to count the votes.
3. The Division Chair, Amy Slagell, presented her report to the membership. A complete version of her Chair's report is located [online](#).
  - 3.1. Amy reported that there were 722 members in the division, which represents a significant increase.
  - 3.2. Amy informed the membership that the Division had been asked to provide a description NCA. That language proposed reads as follows:
    - 3.2.1. The Public Address Division is one of the oldest and largest divisions in NCA. Its members employ various analytical methods, including historical, descriptive, rhetorical, textual, and institutional critiques, as they examine the symbols that serve both to express and to shape public cultures. Scholarship in the division often leads to theoretical insight about the nature of public discourse at the same time as it enhances our understanding of particular discourses, rhetors or social movements. Despite the variety of critical perspectives, members of the division share a concern for the relationship between "text" and "context," the object of study and its scene.
    - 3.2.2. After a discussion of this language, the membership reached a consensus that the word "often" would be removed from line four above.
  - 3.3. Amy reported that the division's budget was exactly at the same level as last year, \$640.00.
  - 3.4. John Sloop informed the division's members that the next Public Address Conference would be in Sept., of 2006 at Vanderbilt University.

4. The Vice-Chair, Susan Huxman presented her report. A complete version of the Vice-Chair's report is located [online](#).
  - 4.1. Susan reported that we had 119 submissions up over 54% from last year. She thanked everyone who reviewed the many papers for the division.
  - 4.2. She informed the membership that although the division initially received only 34 slots, we eventually took 36. 59 of 90 papers were accepted and 20 of 29 panels proposals were accepted.
  - 4.3. Challenges still remain with the All Academic system, she said.
5. Presentation of Awards by Vice-Chair Susan Human and Past Chair Shawn Parry-Giles.
  - 5.1. This year the Wrage-Baskerville Award went to Mary Carver for her submission "The Power of the Prophet Persona for Abolitionist Feminist Lucy Stone."
  - 5.2. This year the Robert G. Gunderson Award for the top student paper went to Melissa Barnett Cocian of Texas State University, San Marcos for her paper titled: "Using Functional Theory in Social Movement Rhetoric: A Thematic, Ideological, and Feminist Analysis of Women's Suffrage Speeches."
  - 5.3. Shawn Parry-Giles presented this year's Marie Hochmuth Nichols Award to Lester Olson for his book *Benjamin Franklin's Vision of American Community: A Study in Rhetorical Iconology*, published by the University of South Carolina Press, 2004.
6. Past Chair Shawn Parry-Giles offered a report about the Legislative Assembly.
  - 6.1. NCA has gone to a new investment system that uses mutual funds and bonds. We were assured that the investments would be made in socially responsible organizations, she said.
  - 6.2. Concern continues about the rising cost of NCA membership. There was an assumption that there would be a \$10 increase over the next few years. This increase is controversial for at least two reasons.
    - 6.2.1. NCA saved \$4,000 by not mailing the convention bulletin to the membership.
    - 6.2.2. Taylor and Francis seems to be increasing its subscription rates.
  - 6.3. The Publications Board has approved a new journal titled the *Journal of International and Intercultural Communication*. This journal has yet to be approved by Taylor and Francis.
  - 6.4. We spent a lot of time talking about the undergraduate certificate idea, explained Shawn. As a field we need standards for undergraduate education. The task force met but the final document was not ready for a vote so it was withdrawn.
  - 6.5. Shawn then entertained questions from the division about the legislative assembly.
7. Old Business
  - 7.1. Every year we have been running a short course on pedagogy. Amy thanked John Jones for leading this year's short course on presidential studies. Fifteen individuals attended. Amy said that she was interested to receive ideas for next year.

- 7.2. Shawn reported that several members of the division have been working on the Voices of Democracy project. We finally have received money from the NEH to help us develop a web site that can be used for teaching public address.
8. Additional Committee Reports.
  - 8.1. Vanessa Beasley, the division's representative to the Resolution's Committee, reported that there were no resolutions.
  - 8.2. James Darsey presented information about the upcoming Southern States Regional Conference regarding its program in undergraduate studies. He encouraged everyone to send undergraduates to the conference.
  - 8.3. It was reported that the Western States conference would be in Palm Springs next year.
9. The Vice-Chair Elect, Lisa Hogan, presented her report.
  - 9.1. Lisa said that next year's NCA convention would be in San Antonio, TX. The conference theme will be: Creating sites for connection and Action. This theme should work well with our division. She invited thoughts from the division.
  - 9.2. February 15, 2006 will be the last date that All Academic would accept our submissions for next year's conference.
10. New Business.
  - 10.1. There was no new business.
11. Election Results.
  - 11.1. Jason Black reported that Lester Olson was elected Vice Chair Elect.
  - 11.2. The 2006 Nominating Committee would be: Matthew Barton, Lisa Burns, Jim Cherney, Robert Terrill and Eric Watts. Robert Terrill received the most votes; therefore, he will chair the committee.
  - 11.3. Jennifer Mercieca was elected as the NCA resolutions committee.
  - 11.4. Andrew Hansen was elected to the Nichols Awards Committee.

The membership of the Public Address Committee thanked Shawn, Amy, and Susan for their extraordinary efforts on behalf of the division over the course of 2005, and the meeting adjourned.