

**NCA Public Address Division
Chair's Report, 2012
Orlando, Florida
November 16, 2012
Angela G. Ray, PAD Chair**

I. Thanks

A. To current divisional officers and members of committees

1. Other Members of the Executive Committee: Mary Stuckey, Vice-Chair; Karrin Vasby Anderson, Vice-Chair Elect; Kristy Maddux, Secretary; and Kirt Wilson, Immediate Past Chair.

2. Members of the Nominating Committee: Paul Stob (chair), Tony de Velasco, Catherine Langford, Kristan Poirot, and Kristy Sheeler.

3. Members of the Marie Hochmuth Nichols Award Committee: Kirt Wilson (chair), Davis Houck, and Lester Olson.

4. Members of the Benson-Campbell Dissertation Research Award Committee: David Frank (chair), Carolyn Calloway-Thomas, and Zornitsa Keremidchieva.

5. PAD Representatives to NCA's Winans-Wichelns Award Committee: James Darsey (2010–2012) and Denise Bostdorff (2011–2013).

B. To the thirteen contributors to the chair's special project for 2012, the online conversation series entitled *Vibrant Voices of Public Address*: Ronald J. Zboray and Mary Saracino Zboray, Jiyeon Kang, Kathryn M. Olson, Paul Stob, E. Johanna Hartelius, Leroy G. Dorsey, Michelle Murray Yang, Thomas R. Dunn, Robin E. Jensen, Greg Dickinson, Josue David Cisneros, and Charles E. Morris III.

C. To the division's Webmaster, Trevor Parry-Giles

II. Divisional Membership

A. Following the precedent set by Kirt Wilson, I am reporting the divisional membership as of January, the month in which NCA allocates financial resources to interest groups based on current membership. PAD membership in January 2012 was 669, up 2 from January 2011, when membership was 667.

B. Membership fluctuates considerably throughout the year, as people renew or decline to renew their NCA membership, sometimes depending on whether or not they plan to attend the annual convention. Our divisional membership as of Monday, November 12, was 605, but there is no evidence to suggest that the decline since January is an effect of anything other than this year's convention site. Indeed, between January and September, 99 individuals joined the division, and we lost a bit more than that number of members over the same period.

To attempt to ensure that all interested parties are alerted to ongoing divisional activity, I am sending monthly announcements about the *Vibrant Voices* series to the January 2012 divisional members who have e-mail addresses on file with NCA, plus those who joined between January and September. Those announcements are now going to 743 e-mail addresses. (NB:

About 25 divisional members do not have e-mail addresses on file with NCA or have defunct accounts.)

C. Whereas our division's membership remained relatively stable from previous years, the membership of some other NCA interest groups declined. Thus, whereas the 2012 financial allotment for interest groups was increased overall by 50 percent, our allotment increased by 62 percent.

III. PAD Finances

A. NCA allotted the division \$890.00 for fiscal year 2012–2013. (Our 2011–2012 allotment was \$550.00.)

B. The division spent \$566.66 of this allotment on three award checks and four award plaques:

Award Checks	
Wrage-Baskerville Award	\$100.00
Robert Gunderson Award	\$100.00
Marie Hochmuth Nichols Award	\$200.00
Award Plaques (for Wrage-Baskerville, Gunderson, Nichols, and Benson- Campbell Awards)	<u>\$166.66</u>
TOTAL	\$566.66

C. The division currently has a positive balance of \$323.34. This money is available to fund divisional business through June 30, 2013.

D. The \$500 for the Benson-Campbell Dissertation Research Award does not come from the divisional allotment. The award is an NCA-endowed award, and it was funded by donations. Since the \$500 award comes from an NCA account separate from the division's annual allotment, it is unaffected by annual fluctuations in membership.

E. The division was offered two anonymous gifts this year. As Kirt Wilson reported last year, in 2011 an anonymous donor gave the division \$500 so that the division could make a gift in support of the Public Address Conference to be held in Memphis in September 2012. In January the division sent the \$500 to the University of Memphis, and the money helped to pay for a reception on the first evening of the conference.

Another anonymous donor offered to pay for the awards plaques this year, but when the division's allotment from NCA turned out to be greater than it has been in previous years, the Executive Committee declined the gift. The donor has generously promised to keep the division in mind in the future, when times are leaner.

IV. Benson-Campbell Dissertation Research Award

A. The division voted to establish this award in 2007, and it took several years to generate contributions to endow the award. Owing to the efforts of Marty Medhurst and other members of a Funding Committee, sufficient money had been collected by December 15, 2011, to endow the award. On that date donations surpassed the fundraising goal of \$16,666.

B. The criteria for the award and the method for selecting the award committee will be determined later in this meeting. Because the award had already been endorsed by the membership, however, the Executive Committee chose to press ahead with the award for 2012, so that graduate students could begin benefiting from this award as soon as possible. We acted under the authority of Article VI, Section 4, of the division's bylaws, which allows the Executive Committee to create short-term committees to fulfill the purposes of the division until the next business meeting. We drafted a call for nominations that was used in 2012, and we appointed an award selection committee for this year, although we anticipate that the division will choose to elect selection committees in future years.

V. Future Plans and Concluding Observations

A. In conducting divisional business this year, it became clear that it is time to revisit the bylaws. Mary Stuckey plans to undertake that work in 2013. Members with suggestions and ideas should contact her.

B. I am grateful to the members of the division for their cooperation, their encouragement, and their kindness over the past year. We have an exceptional division, filled with people who are intellectually gifted and interpersonally skilled. It has been an honor to serve as chair of this division in 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela G. Ray
Public Address Division Chair, 2012