

PAD Chair's Report, 2013

First of course, I'd like to thank the division for the privilege of serving in this capacity; special thanks to the division's Executive Committee: Angela Ray, Karrin Vasby Anderson, Leah Ceccarelli, and Cindy Koenig-Richards. Also Sara VanderHaagen, who stepped in for Cindy at the business meeting, and Trevor Parry-Giles, for his management of our web page.

Our membership as of January 2013 was 604, down from 669 in January 2012. I suspect this is largely due to the drop off in association membership associated with the Disney location, and expect to see membership rebound next January.

Which reminds me to thank Karrin once again for a terrific program.

Our finances remain in a state that is probably best understood as pitiful, although you might remember that last year we had a small surplus and could not decide what to do with it. The Executive Committee decided to preserve that surplus by ordering award plaques for this year before the end of the last fiscal year, a move that did not please NCA, so we can't do that again. But we do have a small amount of money, and NCA has given divisions a small increase as well. So we welcome ideas about how to use those funds.

This year, our major initiatives, if I may dignify them by that name, were proposals to amend the divisional bylaws—thanks to Jim Klumpp and Karrin Vasby Anderson for their work on that—and our participation in NCA's 365 Days Project. The Executive Committee generated ten names for that project and six scholars chose to participate by writing brief summaries of their work in the context of the field: Nate Atkinson, Tim Barney, Leslie Harris, Robin Jensen, Belinda Stillion Southard, and Paul Stob. I think it's a terrific list, and am pleased PAD is so well represented.

Trevor Parry-Giles, faced with issues concerning our web page, took on the work of moving it to a new site. You should have gotten an email from me about this change in October; if you didn't, please make that you are actually a member of the division. The new location is www.ncapad.com.

The division doesn't currently have a Facebook page or Twitter account, although people do tweet with the hashtag #teammrhetoric, thanks to Jennifer Merceica. Kari, Leah and Trevor will be looking into the idea of getting us more involved in social media, so if you have thoughts about that, please let them know.

A reminder: RSA meets in San Antonio in May, and the Public Address Conference convenes in Atlanta in October.

Thanks again to all of you.