

**NCA Public Address Division
Chair's Report**

Submitted by Leah Ceccarelli

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I'd like to begin by thanking by fellow Public Address Division officers, especially Vice-Chair Lisa Keränen who put together a tremendous slate of panels for us this year under especially challenging conditions, which I expect she'll tell you about in a moment. The way this division works, most of the heavy-lifting in any given year is done by the Vice-Chair, not the Chair. So Lisa is even more deserving of praise for her decision to take on additional work in her busy Vice-Chair year by initiating a listserv for the division, which she used to send out updates on the conference, as well as to pass along job announcements and other information of interest to division members.

The only other initiative that was new to the division this year was our participation in the first ever NCA Unit Fair. As chair, I volunteered to represent the division at this event, which is something like the Graduate School Open House, only for divisions. The number of divisions in NCA continues to increase, with four new divisions added last year: the Activism and Social Justice Division, the Communication and Sport Division, the Game Studies Division, and the Public Dialogue and Deliberation Division. As you might imagine, public address scholars find some of these new divisions very enticing, so competition for membership is expected to rise. There are now 48 divisions, and 7 sections in NCA, and NCA members continue to be allowed only three section or division affiliations before being charged extra. Since our allocation of panel slots and budget dollars is directly related to the number of members we have, it's important that our membership not decrease. Keep that in mind when you advise graduate students about which divisions they should sign up for when they join NCA.

So far, PAD is doing pretty well on membership. Our membership as of January 1st, when the NCA takes its annual census to determine our budget and panel allotment, was 643, which was practically the same as the previous year at that time (we added one member). This year, we were allotted a budget of \$950 by the national office, which was also similar to the previous year (\$10 less). That budget was used to fund award prizes and plaques, to pay for a short-term Survey Monkey account that the vice-chair uses to solicit reviewers, and to print ballots, handouts and a table display poster for the new Unit Fair. Our budget was sufficient to our needs, and our needs pretty much depleted the budget. That's good, as any extra just gets returned to the national office. We don't want to see it go down any further though.

That's it for the chair's report. Lisa will now give the Vice-Chair report and present our two paper awards.