

Vice-Chair Report  
Lisa A. Flores  
NCA 2017, Dallas

**Thank you:**

Isaac West, Wandering Scholar

Matriarchy: Chair Jennifer Merceica, Vice-Chair Elect, Kristy Maddux, Secretary, Maegan Parker Brooks, Immediate Past Chair, Lisa Keranen

Web: Trevor Parry-Giles

The many of you who agreed to review submissions. Your timely, thoughtful, and generous feedback was so appreciated by your colleagues.

The many of you who agreed to chair and respond to panels. Again, such generosity!

**Program:**

This year, though we were told at the 2016 planners' meeting that most units had fewer slots than in 2016, we were allotted 25 slots, three more than last year. Yay for us!

As is common for PAD, there were a number of submissions. I received 76 individual papers and 16 paper or panel sessions. For some reason, though our slots were up, our submissions were down a bit this year. Luckily, we had very strong submissions, and I was able to program 45 of 76 individual papers (almost 60% acceptance rate, up from 40% acceptance) and 11 of 16 paper/panel sessions. As you review the program, and the PAD panels, I hope you will be as excited as I am about the work we are doing.

I'm sure Kristy will ask you all to participate in the reviewing process. Please do so! I'm sure she will ask you to self-identify your areas of expertise. When you do so, both as a reviewer and when you submit your work, please do not be overly general – using terms like rhetoric, rhetorical theory, or rhetorical criticism. But also please do not be overly specific, using terms that are almost unique to your particular work. Instead, strive for some middle ground – presidential address, public memory, gender/queer theory.

**Top Papers Panel:**

Hopefully you all joined us just before this meeting for the Top Papers Panel.

Chair: Meryl Irwin

Crafting Rhetorical Precedent: Citizenship Controversy in *the Matter of Toboso*—Alfonso Emily Kofoed, University of South Carolina Upstate

Obama's Failed Reconstitution of the Cuban People

Brent Kice, University of Houston, Clear Lake

Obama's Constructed Audiences: A Constitutive Analysis of the 2004 Democratic National Convention Keynote Address and the 2008 Obama Coalition

Daniel DeVinney, University of Illinois

Respondent: Jay Childers

**Award Winners:**

Finally, I'm so delighted to announce this year's recipients of the Public Address Division Top Paper Awards:

Robert Gunderson Top Student Paper Award

Hurray to Daniel DeVinney, University of Illinois, for his essay, "Obama's Constructed Audiences: A Constitutive Analysis of the 2004 Democratic National Convention Keynote Address and the 2008 Obama Coalition," which we recognize as the top student paper.

Wrage-Baskerville Top Paper Award

Huge congratulations to Emily Kofoed. Her essay, *Crafting Rhetorical Precedent: Citizenship Controversy in the Matter of Toboso—Alfonso*, was the division's top overall submission.