

**Applied Communication Division**  
2023 Annual Business Meeting  
National Communication Association Convention  
Saturday, November 18, 2023, National Harbor, MD  
2:00-3:15 PM

- I. **Call to Order and Introduction of Officers** Dr. Debbie Sellnow-Richmond  
Called to order at 2:01pm EST
- II. **Approval of Minutes** Dr. Debbie Sellnow-Richmond  
A. Motion to approve by Robin Haislett, seconded by Greg Cranmer
- III. **Chair's Report** Dr. Debbie Sellnow-Richmond  
A. Membership numbers- Membership fluctuates based on who attends the conference. Has gone down since the pandemic as has general NCA membership.  
B. Finances: Did not use all the money this year. Was used to pay for the awards. Open the floor for ideas on how to use the remainder of money.  
C. Legislative Assembly report—update from Dr. Pyle and Dr. Sellnow-Richmond: Wednesday: Moved to electronic assembly, it worked quite well. Very little discussion on Wednesday. The budget for the last 10 years has been intentionally in a deficit. Has spent the endowment from \$10 to \$8 million. The NCA accountant says it looks good, and the finance committee is okay with it. Conflict of interest, hotel reimbursement, standing rules, leadership development, Dr. Tina Harris presented, introduction of new interest group – death and dying division – was approved, bylaws changes about recruitment. Everything was approved.  
Saturday: 20% response rate to NCA survey. Membership down – due to affordability of location and if they were planning to attend the conference. Discussion on if conferences are cost-prohibitive. Division strategic plan – how are we contributing to it as a Division? What is the most pressing to the organization? Report back: insufficient child care, not a lot of staff. Service is a work in progress and is not sufficient.
- IV. **Vice Chair's report** Dr. Andrew Pyle  
a. Submissions/acceptances  
i. 16 slots provided to the division this year – 15 excluding business meeting, decrease of 2 slots from last year  
1. Fluctuation due to membership number and increase divisions  
ii. 50 reviewers  
iii. 83 submissions total (up from last year)  
1. 48 papers accepted  
2. 19 papers declined  
3. 11 accepted paper sessions  
4. 1 declined paper session  
iv. Cut the role of respondent this year, be able to increase the number of people per panel or give more time for presentations and Q&A
- V. **Vice-Chair Elect Report** Dr. Debbie Sellnow-Richmond  
A. Listserve security issues kept us from being able to communicate until recently.

## **VI. Elections**

Dr. Debbie Sellnow-Richmond

- A. We will need to elect a secretary
  - a. It is a two year appointment
- B. Need to elect a vice-chair elect
  - a. The position bumps up, so you will become the Vice Chair, and Chair
  - b. Requires attendance at the conference
  - c. Requires some work throughout the year
- C. Nominee for Vice-Chair Elect
  - a. Robin Haislett Assistant Professor at Weber St. University
  - b. Worked with programming, knows how to plan an event
  - c. Visual communication and game studies
  - d. Has works accepted to the applied division
  - e. Really good at email
- D. Nominations from the floor
  - a. None nominated
- E. Vote of acclimation and second for Robin Haislett
- F. Robin Haislett is elected as Vice-Chair Elect
- G. Secretary Nomination
  - a. Emina Herovic
- H. Floor nominations opened
  - a. Closed without nomination
- I. Vote of acclimation
- J. Emina Herovic is elected
- K. Nominating Committee
  - a. Self-Nominate: Alex Lancaster
  - b. Self-Nominate: Hamilton Dean, University of Colorado Denver
  - c. Accepted Nominating Committee
- L. Elections:
  - a. Moving online
  - b. Already did them alternatively this year
  - c. Thoughts on participation increase versus knowing the individual attended the conference
  - d. We do have a larger division
  - e. Could be more inclusive to those that are not able to come to conference due to cost
  - f. Will come back and have another conversation at the next business meeting
  - g. Does it require a bylaws revision?
    - i. Bylaws do not indicate that a vote would need to take place
  - h. Does it change the attendance?
  - i. Will reach out to other divisions that have made this change to see if it made any significant differences in attendance
  - j. A survey will be sent out via listserv to get member opinions

## **VII. Presentation of Applied Comm Division Awards**

- A. Process of awards and conference reviewing:
  - a. List of prior reviewers was shared and then they were contacted. Then a call was sent to the listserv.
- B. Equity and inclusion in the review process was brought up
  - i. Attempted to balance, but did not collect demographic information
  - ii. Something we can look into to get volunteer dei
    - 1. add optional questions to google survey

- C. Question about awards specifically: ask people early if they can commit to two-year roles in reviewing for awards. Allows us to have a standing group and can be a quicker turnaround
  - i. Strongly suggest pdf or electronic versions of all materials
  - ii. Could bolster the number of submissions we get
  - iii. Have more intentional gathering
    - 1. More networking and conversation opportunities
    - 2. Coffee with scholar, pairing graduate student with mentor and they meet up at some point during the conference
    - 3. Virtual meetings for mentoring
    - 4. Research cluster meetings – small groups to work together
    - 5. Research escalator – work in progress gets submitted and you work together on it
- D. Top Paper in the Applied Communication Division
  - a. Faculty: Greg Cranmer and colleagues
  - b. Student: Prince Adu Gyamfi
- E. Bill Eadie Distinguished Award for a Scholarly Article
  - a. Elizabeth Hienz
- F. Sue DeWine Distinguished Award for a Scholarly Book
  - a. Leland Spencer
- G. We are grateful to the reviewers for their reviews this year!

#### H. **Old Business**

- A. Monthly News Letter
  - a. Had some technical problems via listserv
  - b. Will be reviving that this year
- B. Increasing diversity and inclusion within the division
  - a. Opened to suggestions
    - i. Applied communication journals – cold calling to see if they would be interested in joining
    - ii. Health Comm created a DEI committee
    - iii. Two divisions are included, beyond that is \$5
      - 1. Can we reimburse? Specifically for graduate students
      - 2. Health Comm has an award for students that are presenting/student submissions – around \$800 for student travel fund
      - 3. Non-tax deductible donations can be made
    - iv. Caucuses – reaching out to encourage people to join
    - v. Send a survey out to see who primarily identifies as applied comm
    - vi. How can new members get engaged in the division?

#### C. **New Business**

- A. Tina Harris:
  - a. Acknowledge Chuck Morris who was on the ballot and withdrew
  - b. Why running for president: member of NCA for 33 years
  - c. Been committed to NCA – affiliated with different divisions, presenting, serving, chairing, and has been in leadership and wants to continue being in leadership
  - d. Likes where we are going and the changes that we have made and wants to continue to see the changes

- e. Three points:
    - i. Prioritize diversity in leadership
    - ii. Prioritize and empower mentorship
    - iii. Encourage engaged dialogue
  - f. Make sure that you all vote because it is not automatic
- B. NCA National Officer Rep:
- a. How to approach the call for next year's conference
  - b. Theme for next year: Communication as Greater Regard
    - i. Akin to communication for the greater good
    - ii. Abstract in the back of the program
  - c. Consider places that don't get as much attention
  - d. Focus on New Orleans
    - i. What does Applied mean with respect to New Orleans culture
- D. Announcements & News**
- A. Journal of Communication
- a. Innovations in Qualitative methods and Theory-building
  - b. Call will come out in December and articles will be due in July 2024
- B. Weaver State University:
- a. Tenure track: Interpersonal and family studies
- C. Journal of Applied Communication Research
- a. Heather Zoller – editor
  - b. Send your work
  - c. Looking for someone to replace an associate editor – Quantitative and computational, particularly with crisis and media expertise
- D. University of Cincinnati
- a. Position open – said they would send the job call in
- E. Central Michigan University
- a. Tenure track: Assistant Professor
  - b. Social justice, climate justice; communication for social activism or social movements; communication for social change; health communication campaigns

**E. Passing of gavel and adjournment**

- A. Dr. Debbie Sellnow-Richmond passed the Gavel to Dr. Andrew Pyle
- B. Meeting adjourned at 3:17 pm