AGENDA

Public Address Business Meeting
National Communication Association
San Francisco, 2-3:15 p.m., November 15, 2010
Presiding: Chair, Mari Boor Tonn, University of Richmond

I. Call to Order
II. Approval of Minutes.
III. Chair Report (Mari Boor Tonn)
IV. Report from PAD Nominating Committee and Election of Officers (Marty Medhurst)
V. Vice-Chair Report and Top Paper Awards (Kirt Wilson)
VI. Marie Hochmuth Nichols Award (Mari Boor Tonn in replace of Chuck Morris)
VII. Immediate Past-Chair Report (Mari Boor Tonn in replace of Chuck Morris)
VIII. NCA Committee Reports
   A. NCA Nominating Committee Report (Mari Boor Tonn in replace of Chuck Morris)
   B. Legislative Assembly (Mari Boor Tonn)
   C. Research Board (James Darsey)
IX. Vice-Chair Elect Report (Angela Ray)
X. Old Business
   A. Progress Report on Benson-Campbell Award (Marty Medhurst)
XI. New Business
   A. Report on PAD Survey (Bandon Inabinet)
XI. Announcements
XII. Adjournment
I. Welcome and Thanks.
   A. I first wish to welcome all of you who have taken time to attend the business meeting of the Public Address Division given I appreciate how full your NCA dance-cards are. Your attendance speaks to the robustness not only of our work but of our dedication to it.
   B. I wish to acknowledge various members of the PAD Executive Committee: Immediate Past-Chair, Chuck Morris, Boston College; Vice-Chair, Kirt Wilson, Pennsylvania State University; Vice-Chair Elect Angela Ray, Northwestern; and Secretary, Kristy Maddux, University of Maryland. I also wish to thank our webspinner, Trevor Parry-Giles, University of Maryland.
   C. Thanks also go to Marty Medhurst as Chair of the PAD nominating Committee for compiling an impressive slate of candidates to lead this unit forward. Other members of that committee were David Cisneros, Davis Houck, Belinda Stillion Southard, and Paul Stob.
   D. I also want to acknowledge members of the Marie Hochmuth Nichols Award Committee: Chuck Morris, Chair, and Cara Finnegan and Shawn Parry-Giles.
   E. Thanks, of course, go to all of the members who submitted research for review to our Division.
   F. I also wish to express appreciation for those members who took precious time to review submissions or agreed to respond to or chair panels, recognizing that we all collaborate in this intellectual community we call Public Address.
   G. Finally, Kirt Wilson deserves special recognition for planning 29 panels. Please join me in applauding Kirt's excellent work.

II. Activity
   A. Membership: After several years of slow, progressive decline, I am pleased to report membership inched up this year to 672 from last year's 663. In 2006, we had 711 members, and each subsequent year lost members until this year: 698 in 2007, 696 in 2008, and, as I said, 663 last year.
   B. Panels: Because of the previous decline in membership, our panels were cut back to 29 this year from the 31 panels since 2006. Concerning, to be sure. Our goal, of course, is to restore our previous numbers and coincident apportioned opportunities to present research.
   C. Conferences: Three significant conferences were held this year.
1. The Obama Conference was held at Texas A&M in mid-March, organized by Jen Merceia. Similar to former Presidential Rhetoric Conferences, the program included scholars from disciplines beyond rhetoric.

2. The Biennial Public Address Conference was hosted by the University of Pittsburgh this fall, led by Lester Olson. The organizing committee webcast portions of the conference this year so that those unable to attend could participate. The 2012 Public Address Conference will be hosted by the University of Memphis.

3. A Conference on Rhetorical Pedagogy was hosted last summer at the University of Puget Sound for scholars to engage with the intersection of teaching and research. Planners included Jim Jasinski, Cara Finnegan, John Murphy, Rob Asen, and Kirt Wilson. Such efforts speak to the initiative of members to provide experiences for a broad constituency in Public Address.

III. Budget

A. We continue to operate on a modest budget. This fiscal year we were allotted $550 to cover the expenses of the two $100 awards and plaques for the best overall paper (the Wrage-Baskerville) and the best student paper (the Gunderson), and $200 for the Nichols award and plaque. This budget fluctuates a bit as it was $530 last year and $580 the year before, but those few dollars often prove to be monumental in accomplishing our charged tasks.

B. So, I am pleased to report that we are in the black again after a few years of slight overruns for various reasons:
   1. Our webspinner, Trevor Parry-Giles, converted our webpage to a blog that saved us $30 annually in a clever win-win situation. The PAD blog enables anyone to seek input from other members, post comments, solicit syllabi, share them, etc. Kudos, Trevor.
   2. My administrative assistant at Richmond last year scoured websites to find inexpensive venues on line to purchase plaques to avoid reducing the amount of awards or resorting to paper certificates, options the Executive Committee deliberated about in a budget affected by membership decline. We used this site again this year.
   3. I share this information to assure you that your elected officers mind the store while trying to safeguard awards and also provide an on-line venue for information and exchange.

IV. Studies/Surveys

A. Past-Chair, Chuck Morris, appointed a Task Force headed by Mary Stuckey and including Brandon Inabinet and Michelle Ramsey to survey membership about their relationship and satisfaction with PAD in light of previous declining membership. I thank all of them for
their service on this project, which Brandon is slated to report on later in greater depth.

B. One concern voiced is a sense of alienation on various fronts about the lack of intimacy in a conference as large as NCA, but sometimes the only conference for which some receive funding.

V. Miscellaneous
A. Some confusion arose this year over the make-up of the Winans-Wichelns Committee and our sharing members with Rhetoric and Communication Theory.
B. To get us back into proper rotation and to secure a missing chair, I, in consultation with the National Office, various members of the Winans-Wichelsn Committee, and the Executive Committee of PAD asked Trevor Parry-Giles to serve a one-year term as chair given he had recused himself for one-year when his book was under consideration.

VI. The Future
A. On behalf of the Executive Committee, I encourage you to submit your work to PAD and encourage others to join and do likewise for next year’s conference under the skilled hands of Angela Ray.
B. Also, visit the PAD blog.
C. Thank you for your membership, research, and other means of support for the Public Address Division of the National Communication Association.