

Meeting Minutes of the Philosophy of Communication Interest Group
Eastern Communication Association
108th Annual Convention 2017: *Freedom to... Freedom from...*
Boston, Massachusetts
March 30, 2017

In attendance:

Amanda McKendree, University of Notre Dame
 Craig T. Maier, Duquesne University
 Sarah M. Flinko, Duquesne University
 Matthew Mancino, Duquesne University
 Susan Mancino, Duquesne University
 Hannah Cherico Karolak, Duquesne University
 Janie M. Harden Fritz, Duquesne University
 Blake Plavchak, Duquesne University
 Jeff Bogaczyk, Duquesne University
 Ryan McCullough, Duquesne University
 Inci Ozum Sayrak, Duquesne University

1. Welcome and Introductions (Chair, Amanda McKendree)

- Amanda McKendree called the meeting together at 12:30 p.m.
 - Meeting minutes, agendas, and sign-in sheet are all circulating.
- Meeting Minutes:
 - Hannah Cherico Karolak moved to approve the meeting minutes.
 - Susan Mancino seconded the meeting minutes
 - The minutes are approved.

2. Reports

- **2017 Convention Report (Chair, Amanda McKendree)**
 - 3 panels submitted, 6 papers. A bit lower this year.
 - We accepted five papers. One paper was not a strong fit. The paper was sent to organizational communication—they did not want to submit it.
 - Sarah and Amanda are talking about doing a more targeted outreach to improve those numbers this year.
 - Amanda McKendree: Thank you to the reviewers.
 - Thank you for your service.
 - You are also acknowledged in the program.
- **Benjamin Bates:**
 - Thank you to Amanda McKendree for good work.
 - A gift for Amanda for all of her work.
- **Secretary Report (Secretary, Sarah Flinko)**
 - I would just like to reiterate that Amanda and I are working with that targeted outreach to increase numbers.
 - We are looking forward to next year's convention.

- **Executive Council Report (ECA Representative, Craig Maier)**
 - We have 57 members still in terms of the membership within our division.
 - I don't know how that compares year to year because they did not give that.
 - Similar to "Theory and Methodology." In fact we have the same number of members. These seem to be two divisions that might be doing similar work.
 - Dr. Fritz: "Theory and Methodology" tends to be more communication theory. There is certainly overlap where we can do some co-sponsored panels.
 - In terms of the Undergraduate Scholars conference, the amount of submission versus the number of slots: around a 30% acceptance rate. Some NCA journals do not have that acceptance rate.
 - Dr. Fritz and Dr. Maier: For program planning for next year, we can think about outreach to those undergraduates that do not get into the USC but are strong papers.
 - There might be opportunities for us to address this. We might be able to take some of those papers. This would increase participation.
 - We could also have undergraduate panels in which we have mentored research (pairing undergraduates with faculty members).
 - At the very end of the meeting, they discussed "interest-group level awards."
 - This might happen.
 - There are other associations that grant awards at the interest group levels.
 - There are a number of issues:
 - Would we have to have by-laws changed?
 - Would interest councils be allowed to do this?
 - Discussion ranged from whether this has a splintering/devaluing effect on association awards.
 - This also might help increase submissions for the ECA awards.
 - Dr. Fritz: The issues rise and fall every year. It's a cycle. ECA manages to keep moving.
 - Amanda McKendree: Thank you, Dr Maier, for your service that ends today. This means that we will be electing a new representative today.
 - Term will begin on Sunday and end on the Thursday of the 2019 conference.
 - There are meetings at NCA as well.
 - Dr. Maier: It's a good service opportunity. It's also a good opportunity to see and to learn how the organization works.

- Dr. Fritz: When you're on there, sometimes members of committee are elected into more distributive types of service.

3. Awards

- **Top Paper Award:**

- Ryan Bince
- He is not here but he will be on the top paper panel that will be in this room at 2:00PM.
- Dr. Maier is on that panel as well.

4. Elections (Chair, Amanda McKendree)

- 2019 Planner
 - Dr. Ozum Sayrak is planning 2018.
 - We need a 2019 chair-select for this year. Are there any nominations on the floor for this position?
 - Dr. Fritz nominates Susan Mancino.
 - Leeanne seconds.
 - Do we move to close? Dr. Fritz moves to close.
 - All in favor: yes.
 - Congratulations, Susan!
 - Leeanne: Ozum, you should have received a link. Dr. Maier received it but it didn't work for him. It works on some phones but not all phones. You need to go to the computer and pull it off online. Once you complete that link, Susan's name will go into the form.
 - Executive Council Representative (Terms begin Sunday 2017/ends Thursday 2019)
 - Term begins on Sunday and ends on the Thursday of the 2019 convention.
 - Dr. Maier: Responsibilities include going to meetings (ECA and NCA).
 - 2 three-hour meetings on Thursday meeting and one on Sunday meeting.
 - There's a meeting at NCA.
 - You'll need to stay the duration of a conference.
 - Early on the first day and early on the last day.
 - You go to the meetings, participate, and listen. There's not much more that is demanded of you or required of you. It is representing the group.
 - It is also helpful to come back and report back to the interest group about what has been going on at these meetings.
 - Any nominations for that position?

- Dr. Sayrak offered, but cannot do both.
- Dr. Sayrak nominates Joel S. Ward in his absence.
 - Dr. Maier: In fairness, it has often gone to the person who is planning afterwards.
- Dr. Fritz nominates Amanda McKendree and Dr. Sayrak will do it the year after.
 - Dr. Maier will stand in for Amanda for this Sunday.
 - Amanda McKendree accepts.
 - Congratulations, Amanda!
- 2018 Convention Preview (Dr. Sayrak)
 - Theme is “Building Bridges.” How can we build bridges within our discipline? Refer to the program/online app.
 - It will be in Pittsburgh, PA. It is April 25-29, 2018.
 - The submission deadline is October 15, 2017.
 - We look forward to submissions.
 - LEEANNE:
 - My goal is to make sure your division is as happy as possible.
 - We have less rooms then that we do now in Boston.
 - Room slots get shifted because there isn’t enough space.
 - Goal is to give you the same amount of slots.
 - My request for your division and Ozum, send Leeanne an email and tell her:
 - Here’s what I’m going to program.
 - Here’s what I’d like to plan.
 - Here are a few other options.
 - I want it to grow. I want people to come. And I want everyone that is here to come at Pittsburgh.
 - Send her what you have, and she’ll do her best to program it at the convention.
 - Please go online to the members area and complete the link.
 - Someone from the division needs to complete it before Sunday.

5. Interest Group Business

- Old Business
 - None.
- New Business
 - Overlap with “Theory and Methodology,” there might be opportunities for that type of overlap.
 - It fits nicely with the theme too—bridging theoretical fields.
- Announcements/Conversations (Amanda McKendree)
 - 3rd Biennial Philosophy of Communication Conference: *The Catholic Intellectual Tradition* (June 5-7, 2017). SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE BY APRIL 15, 2017.
 - Announcement is on the Duquesne website.
 - Dr. Fritz: Send your papers!!
 - 2017 PCA Conference & Pre-Conference (September 29-30). Submissions are due by June 1, 2017.
 - At Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA.
 - Amanda brought copies of the calls for both the pre-conference and the conference. Please feel free to grab one of those.
 - Let Amanda know if you have any questions on the themes of speakers.
 - Dr. Fritz: I am the planner for phil comm for PCA. Send some stuff!
 - NCA Communication Ethics Petition
 - Paula Thompkins and Mark Beakman have been working on this petition.
 - Amanda can send the link if you’re interested.
 - It is reaffirming commitments from NCA on what we consider truth/truthful communication.
 - Amanda would encourage you to sign that if you would like to.
 - NCA Communication Ethics Pre-Conference: “Communication Ethics in the Current Political Context.”
 - Was submitted yesterday.
 - It features four different parts:
 - Foundational communication ethics scholars offering key coordinates and questions:
 - Ken Chase
 - Ronald Arnett
 - Annette Holba
 - Community and activist responses to the political context
 - How to engage in dialogue with people who think differently than you do about the political context

- Teaching and being in the classroom in a post-election context.
- We have presenters for those slots, but if you're interesting in participating, check out the schedule.
- We have some great scholars from Communication Ethics: Josina Makau is presenting.
 - We also have Duquesne Ph.D. graduates presenting.
- Call for Reviewers: 2018 James C. McCroskey & Virginia P. Richmond submissions is on or around December 1 and reviewers have a few weeks to review submissions.
 - Both paper and panel submissions.
 - If you want to do that, let Amanda know and she'll send your name and email.
 - Dr. Fritz: They need help, it is very important.
 - Dr. McKendree: Yes, they need the help.
 - Dr. Fritz: A Ph.D. student can do that.
 - Dr. Maier: In terms of the volume of submission, if you're getting 12-18 papers at a time to review, it is very difficult to give students a fair read. In addition, various theoretical perspectives may not always receive sensitivity. A broader theoretical background will be helpful in giving students a fair read of their work.
- Other announcements?
 - Dr. Fritz: Good job for programming!

6. Adjournment

- Dr. Maier, move to adjourn at 12:59PM.
- Meeting is adjourned.