

2010 Business Meeting Minutes

Rhetoric and Public Address Interest Group Eastern Communication Association Baltimore, MD April 24, 2010

Chair Nneka Ofulue called the meeting to order at 8:01am.

1. Mickey Bannon from the University of Pittsburgh made an announcement regarding the annual Public Address Conference. Those interested in the conference should contact the Department of Communication at the University of Pittsburgh for more information.

2. Report on Programming

a. Nneka Ofulue announced that there were a total of 21 papers and 8 panels programmed this year. She noted that there were a number of rejections this year, and that reviewers praised the high quality of papers this year. Ofulue noted that while graduate student submissions were high, we need more faculty submissions in the future.

b. Ofulue thanked the reviewers for their work this year.

3. Executive Committee Report (from EC Representative Ann Atkinson and Trevor Parry-Giles)

a. ECA's finances are good and dues will not be raised for another 3 years.

b. The committee discussed planning for next year's convention in Arlington, VA. Future sites include Cambridge, MA in 2012 (hotel rate will be \$149) and Pittsburgh, PA in 2013 (hotel rate will be \$169).

c. Atkinson noted that we will need to nominate a new representative to the Executive Committee for 2011. It was noted that only ECA members can be nominated for a position on the Executive Committee.

d. ECA's publication agreement with Taylor & Francis was renewed. There will be 5 issues of *Communication Quarterly* each year, and the fifth issue will be a special issue.

e. There was an increase in the library cost for journals from \$278 to \$300.

f. A new editor has been selected for *Communication Research Reports*, and the new editor will be announced at the business meeting.

g. A conversation ensued regarding Sunday programming. It was noted that many people do not attend Sunday panels, and EC discussed the necessity of these panels.

h. EC voted on whether or not to have the awards luncheon. There was a split vote, and so no decision was reached.

i. There is an ECA Policy and Procedures Manual in the works; those interested should contact Trevor Parry-Giles or Sara Weintraub for more information.

j. Trevor Parry-Giles talked about the Outstanding Journal Article Award and proposed naming it after Tom Benson, who transitioned *Communication Quarterly* into an academic journal. However, the by-laws state that awards must be named after an ECA officer or a deceased ECA member. Parry-Giles made the case that an editor counts as an officer.

k. A new interest group, Communication Administrators, has been added to ECA.

l. Executive Council is considering waiving fees for special guests at the 2011 convention in Washington, DC.

m. There is a draft of the professional ethics statement on the website, consisting for 5 sections.

i) Ron Arnett suggested that the word “unethical” should not be used in an ethics statement – can cannot define a term with the term itself.

ii) Trevor Parry-Giles expressed concern about telling reviewers that harsh reviews are unethical. Valerie Schrader seconded this concern, noting that honesty is ethical.

iii) Mary Kahl expressed concern about professors teaching with their own books.

4. Elections

a. Brent Slesman was voted in as Vice Chair by acclamation.

b. Valerie Schrader was voted in as Secretary by acclamation.

c. Benjamin Bates was voted in as Executive Council Representative by acclamation.

5. Annette Holba assumed the role of Chair.

a. Holba asked if the interest group would like to nominate anyone for the following ECA positions: First Vice President Elect-Select, ECA Community College Representative to NCA, ECA High School Representative to NCA, and ECA Representative to NCA for the 2012 Nominating Committee.

i) Parry-Giles nominated Atkinson for First Vice President Elect-Select. Atkinson declined the nomination. There were no other nominations.

b. Holba encouraged everyone to serve as reviewers for 2011.

c. Rhetoric and Public Address is the third largest interest group in ECA.

d. Ofulue noted that other interest groups would be interested in co-sponsoring panels with Rhetoric and Public Address.

7. Comments for the Good of the Order

a. A rhetoric position was announced for those on the job market.

b. Thanks were given to Nneka Ofulue and Annette Holba for their leadership.

c. Ofulue thanked her reviewers.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37am.

Note: I sincerely apologize for not having a list of attendees to include in the minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Schrader

Stand-in Secretary for Heather Stassen