By Ron Lustig, WSCA President-- The 76th annual WSCA conference is almost here! Join us in San Francisco as we enjoy a wonderful experience at the best communication conference that the discipline offers. President-elect Mary Jane Collier and the interest group planners have put together a fantastic program centering on the theme of “Negotiating Third Spaces.” Local hosts Karen Lovaas and Amy Kilgard have designed some terrific extra-curricular experiences that highlight the beauty and artistry of San Francisco. So please come to San Francisco for the scholarship, the fellowship, and the fun! Our convention hotel, the Argent, is centrally located, has a world-class chef, and is ready to provide us with first-class service. Staying at the Argent means you’ll be where the action is – in downtown San Francisco, with easy access to panels, programs, and WSCA events. You also help support WSCA when you stay at the conference hotel. I want to take a moment to note the loss of Leah Vande Berg, who died on December 13, 2004. Leah was to become the president-elect of WSCA at the conclusion of the San Francisco conference. I know the entire WSCA family joins me in feelings of sorrow at her passing, and our deepest condolences go out to her loved ones. Leah embraced fully the “work hard, play hard” ethic of WSCA; she was a candle that lit so many of our lives. As we approach another WSCA conference and the lively activities that it provides, there is a special justification for coming to San Francisco in February. I hope to see you there.

This article originally appeared in WSCA News, v32, n1. Editor Blaine Goss

By Mary Jane Collier, President-Elect-- You’ve all received a WSCA Convention Mailing Packet with details about the exciting events planned for our 2005 convention in San Francisco. This year's convention promises to be overflowing with extraordinary panels and programs, exciting performances, and lots of opportunities to engage scholarly ideas, socialize with old friends, and network with new acquaintances. This promises to be an exceptional convention experience. You'll see a range of pre-conference sessions and workshops on February 19th from which to choose, many of which are based on the theme of “third spaces.” For instance, there is a pre-conference session on interrogating feminisms and one on student-to-student engagement in the basic communication course. A third pre-conference invites participants to address the social activism rhetoric of the 1960s in the actual spaces in which key events occurred in the San Francisco area. Workshops are devoted to online instruction, community service learning, and social support. The second annual Undergraduate Scholars' Research Conference, Graduate Student Workshop, and Graduate Programs Open House, coordinated by our 2nd Vice President Julie Yingling, are also scheduled on Saturday. Saturday evening is the traditional Convention Kick-off/Convention Opening with Starhawk. She has agreed to hold a book-signing directly following this event. On Sunday don’t miss the keynote and dialogue event with Starhawk and Bryant Alexander, Wenshu Lee, Patricia Geist-Martin, and Anne Marie Todd. Thanks to the hard work of your Program Planners, from the first time slot on Sunday morning to the last time slot on Tuesday, the schedule is jam packed with exemplary panels and programs. You’ll see a wide variety of formats; in addition to traditional paper presentations, there are round
table discussions, performances engaging the theme of the convention, and sessions in which participants from the local community share their expertise with us. Indeed there will be many opportunities to learn new ideas, work with multiple perspectives, and envision and create futures characterized by humanity and social justice!

This article originally appeared in WSCA News, v32, n1. Editor Blaine Goss

See you at The Argent Hotel! - 2005-01-03 07:55

By Sue Pendell, Executive Director-- As you can see from the pictures of The Argent throughout this newsletter, it's a wonderful hotel for the convention and a great place to stay. WSCA asks that you stay at the convention hotel for two main reasons, one for you and one for the Association. Your reason for staying at the convention hotel is because your room is convenient to the meetings, the special events, the parties, and the lobby lounge. It's easy and safe just to take an elevator "home" after a department gathering or the Sock Hop. And at The Argent the rooms and the views are spectacular. So treat yourself! The Association asks you to stay at the convention hotel because we "pay" for our meeting rooms through your having a sleeping room at the hotel. If too many of you don't have sleeping rooms there, then we have to pay extra charges to the hotel, which will lead to higher registration fees or some other way to make up the money. Over the years we've kept registration fees down to encourage students as well as faculty to attend. We also negotiate the same room rate for one to four people so you can share a room to reduce costs. Please help yourself and your Association have a successful convention by staying at The Argent--It's the thing to do!

This article originally appeared in WSCA News, v32, n1. Editor Blaine Goss

Welcome to San Francisco! - 2005-01-04 07:55

By Karen Lovaas and Amy Kilgard)-- We're looking forward to your arrival for the WSCA 76th Annual Convention in San Francisco, February 18-22, 2005. The convention's dates come at the end of San Francisco's winter season, with December and January typically the coldest months of the year. Overall, February in San Francisco is quite mild when compared to the most of the U.S. The weather is extremely variable and can differ markedly from neighborhood to neighborhood; downtown is usually one of the sunniest areas. One can expect both some rainstorms and some bright, crisp days in February. Year-round, it's good advice to think in terms of layers of clothing, some of which can be donned or removed as conditions change. Consider jackets and lightweight sweaters, long sleeve shirts, a raincoat. Jeans are worn year-round in SF. Theatre and symphony goers wear everything from jeans to haute couture evening dress. Don't forget the Special Events options of the Napa Wine Country Tour on Saturday, February 19th. To register, use the link on the WSCA Convention page at http://www.westcomm.org/conventions/convinfo.asp There's also information there about going on a Mission Trail Mural Walk or ferrying over to Alcatraz. If you're thinking of golf, remember to contact Heather Hundley hhundley@csusb.edu or Scott Patterson spatters@sfsu.edu There are always an incredible array of things to do in the San Francisco Bay Area. You may not realize, for example, that
the entire month of February is the San Francisco Crab Festival. Once you get here, we'll be providing other information on a variety of dining options in the area. For advance information on the arts and other kinds events you may want to enjoy when you're here, go to http://onlysf.sfvisitor.org/calendar/ All in all, we believe that the San Francisco Bay Area offers companionable, enlivening, and inspiring sites that urge us to forge new connections with the people and world around us. It's an ideal setting for enacting this year's convention theme, Negotiating Third Spaces.

This article originally appeared in WSCA News, v32, n1. Editor Blaine Goss

Golf by the Bay!! - 2005-01-05 07:55

Please join us Saturday February 19th in a relaxing day golfing with your friends and colleagues. Local hosts and golf enthusiasts are organizing all interested parties to golf at The Presidio Golf Club in San Francisco http://www.presidiogolf.com/ The cost will not exceed $120 per person, but more details will unfold prior to the conference. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Heather Hundley hhundley@csusb.edu or Scott Patterson spatters@sfsu.edu

This article originally appeared in WSCA News, v32, n1. Editor Blaine Goss

A travel note from the Newsletter Editor - 2005-01-06 07:55

A source on the web tells me that a cab ride from SFO to the hotel will be approximately $40. I believe that the subway system known as BART is available to the airport. Parking a car at the hotel can be expensive ($30/day).

This article originally appeared in WSCA News, v32, n1. Editor Blaine Goss

WSCA Debut Paper Award Named for Leah Vande Berg - 2005-01-07 07:55

The WSCA Executive's Club, the organization of current and former WSCA leaders, has renamed the WSCA Debut Paper Award in honor of Leah Vande Berg. This award is presented by the Executive's Club to the author of the top debut paper (first conference paper of a new scholar) at the association's annual conference. The Executive's Club has named the award in Leah Vande Berg's name in recognition of her leadership in WSCA as First Vice President and Editor of the Western Journal of Communication and in special recognition of her devotion to students and new scholars. The first Leah Vande Berg Debut Paper Award will be given at the 2005 conference in San Francisco.

This article originally appeared in WSCA News, v32, n1. Editor Blaine Goss
From: Vince Waldron, ICIG chair - 2005-01-08 07:55

Interpersonal Communication Interest Group received a record number of submissions for the San Francisco conference. We will present 10 competitive paper panels and 4 discussion panels. Among the interesting topics to be addressed by ICIG panels will be: Interpersonal Communication in Same Sex Unions, Underutilized Theories of Family Communication, and the Role of Forgiveness in Personal Relationships. Students or faculty interested in interpersonal communication scholarship or pedagogy are encouraged to join this energetic group of scholars at our business meeting, bright and early Monday morning at 7:30 a.m!

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Coming up in WJC: - 2005-01-09 07:55

Western Journal of Communication

Western Journal of Communication

This article originally appeared in WSCA News, v32, n1. Editor Blaine Goss

2005 - 04
By Mary Jane Collier, University of Denver— Close to 800 of us participated in the 2005 convention in San Francisco! As the Chinese New Year celebrations were being held throughout the city, we opened the 2005 convention with the theme of “Negotiating Third Spaces.” The theme was designed to encourage us to recognize and work with multiple views and perspectives, come together to understand and work in new ways, and envision and take steps toward futures characterized by humanity and social justice. There were ample opportunities leading up to and throughout the convention to apply the theme!

**How did we Negotiate Third Spaces during a Labor Dispute? A continuing labor dispute involving our convention hotel, the Argent, and boycotts endorsed by the local union, mayor, and several faculty associations brought to light issues of ethics and justice, hotel profits, and concerns about labor policies and practices. Starhawk, who was scheduled to join us for the Convention Kickoff/Opening Ceremony Saturday night and Keynote Dialogue on Sunday morning, was also committed to honoring the boycott. During the convention WSCA members brought concerns about working with future convention hotels with labor disputes to the Legislative Assembly on Monday evening. Two requests were made. The first was to add stronger language to the force majeure clause of the legal contract WSCA signs with hotels in order to enable WSCA to more easily move our convention to an alternative hotel when appropriate. The second was for increased information sharing and early involvement of the membership in such decisions.**

**Why did we stay with the Argent Hotel for the WSCA 2005 convention? How did WSCA officers arrive at that decision?** President Ron Lustig placed the topic of the labor dispute involving the Argent Hotel on the agenda of the WSCA Executive Council meeting at NCA in Chicago in November, 2004. Mostly because of the possibility that WSCA would have been held financially liable for breaking the contract with the hotel, the recommendation of the Executive Council was to proceed with the convention at the Argent as planned. When the California Faculty Association voted to support the boycott, and other associations began to move their conventions to alternative sites, the President, Executive Director, and President Elect took several steps. We initiated conversations with management representatives at the Argent hotel, consulted legal counsel about our contractual obligations and options, began to explore possibilities for alternative convention hotels, contacted representatives from the union, UNITE HERE Local 2, and conducted research about the issues driving the labor dispute. After extensive discussions (and several sleepless nights) we decided that attempting to move the convention hotel in January would have entailed too great a financial risk for WSCA. The fourteen hotels involved in the labor dispute had formed a bargaining unit, and if taken to court, WSCA would have been liable for the contracted costs of a promised minimum number of sleeping rooms and the food and beverage minimum. (These are standard guarantees built into convention hotel contracts in exchange for things like waiving meeting room rental fees and obtaining lower rates for sleeping rooms.) In mid-January Ron Lustig sent the email message to WSCA members which included a reminder about the hotel reservation deadline and gave an update on the status of the labor negotiations.

**What were other Convention Highlights and Memorable Third Spaces?** On Saturday, February 19, there were workshops on community service learning and on-line instruction; preconferences addressed “third spaces” by focusing on social protest, social justice, and social activism; student-to-student engagement in the basic course; and interrogating feminisms. Julie Yingling coordinated an expanded and extremely successful
Undergraduate Scholar's Research Conference, and a well-attended Graduate Student Workshop. We created a third space by moving the convention opening and keynote events with Starhawk to the W Hotel, a block from the Argent. Starhawk, the author or co-author of ten books on political activism, spiritual practice, ecological sustainability, and issues of power and group collaboration, introduced the convention theme in an opening ceremony. Starhawk and a faculty team of Bryant Alexander, Patricia Geist Martin, Wenshu Lee and Anne Marie Todd, led us in rituals of visioning professional, political and personal third spaces. On Sunday, the team performed a dialogue “Transformative Third Spaces in Communication Scholarship and Praxis.” This was followed by Starhawk’s keynote address and visual illustrations of third space programs. She described communities creating public art and spaces to gather, urban projects on sustainable gardening, working with youth at risk, and creating spaces for the homeless. At the closing of the keynote/dialogue audience members took away seeds to symbolize the need to plant and grow our visions of third spaces. Don’t forget to plant and nurture your seeds! There are still other examples of third spaces during the convention. Coordinators and chairs of several sessions found creative ways to honor the boycott and positions of the union workers, and the need for presenters and performers to hold their scheduled sessions, by finding alternative spaces to meet in nearby non-profit association offices, and sunny locations in the park. Finally, we have strengthened the force majeure clause of contracts with future hotels so it now includes language related to labor disputes, and recommendations for transparent deliberations are under discussion. Finally, I wish to thank a list of folks without whom the convention would have never been possible. My sincere appreciation goes to Starhawk for inspiring us to infuse spiritual, environmental, and political activism into our professional and personal lives. My heartfelt thanks also go to the faculty team of Bryant Alexander, Patricia Geist Martin, Wenshu Lee and Anne Marie Todd for your creative insight, trust in the collaborative process, and willingness to perform together. Jennifer Huynh Thi Anh Morrison, my convention planning assistant, was both patient and persistent with planning details. The local hosts, Karen Lovaas, Amy Kilgard, and Geri Merrigan, and all the faculty and students from San Francisco State deserve our thanks for the local events, registration staffing, and ensuring that we had what we needed. Sue Pendell, Executive Director, was a marvel of professionalism, attention to detail, and support. Julie Yingling was an exemplary Second Vice President. I am thankful to have worked with Leah Vande Berg, whose smile and spirit will endure in our hearts and memories. I am extraordinarily grateful to Gust Yep and Wenshu Lee, who began two years ago to be my sounding board for ideas and engage in dialogue about the theme, keynote speaker, and convention events. I thank Ron Lustig, President of WSCA; he is a model of dedication to the association as he works to ensure our professional and financial sustainability. And finally thanks to all who attended sessions, presented and performed your work, and contributed to an outstanding convention. Now, onward and upward to new spaces and places and our 2006 convention in Palm Springs! Thanks to John Cagle for the pictures from 2005 WSCA San Francisco. For more shots go to http://comm.csufresno.edu/05wsca/wscafeb2005pix.htm. This article originally appeared in WSCA News, v32, n2. Editor Blaine Goss

Looking Back: 2nd Annual USRC at the 2005 WSCA Conference - 2005-04-02 07:55

By Julie Yingling, Humboldt State University (retired)-- Saturday, the 19th, 2005 was a great day to meet new and old friends, share stimulating ideas, and even glimpse the Chinese New Year's parade
as it wound through downtown San Francisco. The Undergraduate Scholars’ Research Conference had a successful second run with 43 student papers in 11 panels. These were chosen from a field of 77 submissions reviewed by 14 readers. Most of our student scholars attended the opening ceremony and the awards celebration as well as their own and other panels. The Executives’ Club funded continental breakfast in the morning, and Sage Publications funded refreshments for the awards ceremony. All presenters received a certificate of accomplishment from the Coordinator and a gift book voucher from Margaret Seawell of Sage Publications. Bill Eadie, on behalf of the Executives’ Club presented the certificates and special WSCA awards of $25 to the authors of the top papers listed below.

- **Philosophy of Communication Award** Olga Zaytseva, CSU Stanislaus, Critical Investigation: Interplay between Technology, Property, and Society.
- **Empirical Media Analysis Award** DesiRae Nelson & Gwen Parks, College of St. Benedict, Timid, Sexual or in Charge? Gender Imagery in MTV Music Awards.
- **Scholarly Rigor/Rhetorical Analysis Award** Sara Ann Mehlretter, Boston College, Holding Out for a Hero
- **Scholarly Rigor/Quantitative Analysis Award** William Grove & Braden Gottier, University of the Pacific, Emotional Intelligence vs. Risky Behavior.
- **Critique of Popular Culture Award** Mike Cuseo, University of Puget Sound, Survival in the Media Age: “Family Guy” and the Imperative of Cultural Literacy.
- **Potential to Affect Practice Award** Tiffany Taylor, College of St. Benedict, “Trix Are for Kids,” But Are They for All Kids?: Gender Representation in Children’s Food and Toy Commercials.

Many thanks to the paper reviewers who gave of their time over Christmas break: James K. Ah Yun, Kevin Ayotte, Dawn Braithwaite, Michael Bruner, Caren Deming, Bill Eadie, Lawrence Frey, John Hammerback, Heather Hundley, Kevin Sandler, Robert Trapp, Bryan Whaley and David Zuckerman. Thanks also to our faculty respondents who prepared careful remarks for student papers and moderated the panels: Kevin Ayotte, Caren Deming, Bill Eadie, Ken Frandsen, Lawrence Frey, Laura Hahn, Scott Paynton, Robert Trapp, Bryan Whaley and David Zuckerman. We could not have had such a pleasant experience without the support of the WSCA Executives’ Club, WSCA Executive Council, and Sage Publications. Finally, I thank the many students and faculty mentors who went out of their way to ensure that the research was well executed and the papers well written. The USRC is fast becoming a WSCA tradition. Students were very appreciative to have an outlet for their work and a venue in which to discuss it. They appreciated the opportunity to meet both faculty and other students and to engage in lively interaction about research and about communication as a field of study. One student wrote to me after the conference from his journal notes. He had met Dr. Mal Sillars on the shuttle from the airport. “We talk about research, interests, my plans for grad school. I am in good company; I am part of the academy.”

**This article originally appeared in WSCA News, v32, n2. Editor Blaine Goss**

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**Interpersonal Division News From SF - 2005-04-03 07:55**

Thanks to the efforts of Division Chair Vince Waldron, members of the Interpersonal Communication division enjoyed a strong submission of 53 competitive papers. We were pleased that students were
first authors on many of the papers. The Top Paper this year was entitled, “The Ex-Files: Investigating Trajectories, Turning Points, and Adjustment in Post-Dissolutional Communication.” Authors were Jody Koenig Kellas from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and Dawn Bean, Ka Yun Cheng, Cherakah Cunningham, and Zoë Stagg, all of San Francisco State University. Alan C. Mikkelson and Lisa Farinelli from Arizona State University presented the Top Student Paper: “The Influence of Attachment Styles on Relational Outcomes in the Adult Sibling Relationship.” Tiffany Lewis from the University of Washington was recognized for her debut paper, “Listening to Another's Distress in Everyday Relationships”. Thanks to all who contributed to our success this year.

This article originally appeared in WSCA News, v32, n2. Editor Blaine Goss

2005 WSCA Distinguished Service Award Speech Honoring Dr. Leah Vande Berg - 2005-04-04 07:55

By John Oetzel, University of New Mexico— I am honored to have chaired the Distinguished Service award committee this year. It provided me a wonderful opportunity to see the accomplishments and dedication of previous award winners. The Distinguished Service Award was established in 1979 and was first awarded in 1980. Its purpose is to honor “persons who have made considerable and longstanding contributions to WSCA and the communication field.” Today we once again offer our appreciation to these individuals for their commitment to all of us. Would all of the past Distinguished Service Award winners please stand, and will you all please join me in expressing our appreciation to their service? This year’s recipient is well deserving of this award and continues the long tradition of excellent service to WSCA and the discipline. Her (or is it his?) vitae is impressive: 5 books, 41 articles or book chapters, and 59 scholarly papers to start. This individual has served as an associate editor, editorial reviewer, or guest editor for such prestigious publications as Quarterly Journal of Speech, Journal of Communication, Communication Monographs, Journal of Broadcasting and Electronic Media, and Women’s Studies in Communication. This individual is a member of 6 professional associations and served on 14 different committees for MA or PhD students (some of whom are sitting in the audience today). In addition, this individual’s service to her department is impressive, serving on just about every department and university committee imaginable including curriculum committee, graduate committee, Presidential search committee, and in the Women’s Studies program to name a few. This individual's commitment to WSCA is legendary—serving in just about every capacity possible including Interest Group chair, vice chair, secretary, paper reviewer, panel chair, panel respondent, member of the Executive Council, and editor of Western Journal of Communication. Despite all of these impressive accomplishments and depth of service, perhaps the written nominations provide more insight into this individual’s contributions to the discipline. One colleague stated, “I am always moved to hear the extensive work and commitment of Distinguished Service Award winners. This award typically highlights the conference for me and instills my pride in being a member of WSCA. It is with this in mind that I am nominating this individual as an especially worthy candidate for this prestigious award." This individual's service, leadership, and administration is impeccable... I cannot think of anyone else more deserving of this recognition.” Another colleague noted, “the model she offers though the work she does in professional and university organizations inspires not only those of us fortunate enough to work with her daily, but also her students, former students, and her colleagues in the wider academic
community." This person went on to say, "She has put a fire in our hearts. She is a catalyst, encouraging all of us, students and colleagues alike, to achieve our best. She gives us a vision of something more than just routine teaching and scholarship that makes the world of learning and sharing knowledge a shining environment.” In sum, these comments help to illustrate what we have come to know and expect—her dedication and commitment to the discipline, WSCA, and its members were inspiring. I didn't mention that she also served as First Vice President for WSCA and would have become President at the end of the next convention. I only personally met her this past year, but I easily understand why so many people talked in such glowing terms about her. I can see clearly why so many are so sad to not have her here today since she passed away this past December. I am very honored to present the 2005 WSCA Distinguished Service Award to Dr. Leah Vande Berg of California State University, Sacramento. Accepting the award on her behalf is her husband, Nick Trujillo, from California State University, Sacramento.

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WSCA 2005 Award Winners - 2005-04-05 07:55

Distinguished Service Award: Leah Vande Berg, California State University Sacramento. B. Aubrey Fisher Award for the Outstanding Article in Western Journal of Communication: Kathleen S. Valde and Kristine L. Fitch for "Desire and Sacrifice: Seeking Compliance in Designated Driver Talk." Model Teaching Program Award for the outstanding community college communication program in the west: De Anza Community College, Cupertino, CA. Model Teaching Program Award for the outstanding elementary/secondary school communication program in the west: Granite Bay High School, Granite Bay, CA. WSCA Debut Paper Award: Sheryl Marie Hurner, University of California Davis, for "Developing Discursive Space Through Song: Identity Formation in Protest Music." (presented by the Executives Club) Feminist Scholarship Award: Christina R. Foust for "A Return to Feminine Public Virtue: Judge Judy and the Myth of the Tough Mother" (presented by the Organization for Research on Women and Communication).

This article originally appeared in WSCA News, v32, n2. Editor Blaine Goss

2006 Palm Spring Convention – Plan NOW - 2005-04-06 07:55

The planning team has visited the Riviera Resort and was thoroughly impressed with their hospitality and the meeting space. The resort has a huge pool, tennis courts, pool tables, putting green, and plenty of bar space! Remember deadlines for all submission are September 1, 2005, BUT do not let summer pass you by without thinking about a submission. Send Panels and competitive papers to the Interest Group planner; send preconference proposal on the theme of (Our) Time (Together) to Susan Owen and Peter Ehrenhaus and workshop proposals to Dennis Alexander. Heather Hundley and the crew as California State, Santa Bernardino are going to be great hosts with a variety of things to do. Bring your walking shoes, swimming suits, and short sleeved shirts; we are going to the desert! Mark your calendar for WSCA February 18-21, 2006.
This article originally appeared in WSCA News, v32, n2. Editor Blaine Goss


By Heather Hundley & Donna Gotch, California State University, San Bernardino-- As the local hosts, we are excited to welcome all WSCA members to engage in Discourse in the Desert for the February 2006 convention in Palm Springs. Plans are being made for fun in the sun as convention goers should be enjoying warm winter weather (average February temperature 45-74 degrees). Palm Springs is located 110 miles east of Los Angeles, 273 miles south of Las Vegas, and 280 miles west of Phoenix. If you'd rather fly, the Palm Springs' "resortport" receives up to 60 flights a day, or travelers can fly into the next closest airport, Ontario Internationa, and drive 70 miles east to the conference destination. February is the peak season in Palm Springs, and there will be plenty of activities for conference goers. Some major attractions include the aerial tramway (a rotating tram car that climbs 2,643 feet in 10 minutes), museums, jeep tours, spas, shopping, and theaters. For outdoor enthusiasts and environmentalists Joshua Tree National Park is only an hour away. We look forward to hosting you in '06!

This article originally appeared in WSCA News, v32, n2. Editor Blaine Goss

CFP: 3rd annual WSCA UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARS RESEARCH CONFERENCE - 2005-04-08 07:55

WSCA Second Vice President Lisa Flores solicits submissions for the Undergraduate Scholars' Research Conference, to be held on Saturday, February 18, 2006 at the WSCA 2006 Palm Springs convention. Undergraduates are invited to submit papers reporting original research (i.e., critical investigation, experimentation, or analysis leading to the discovery or creation of new facts, theories, or interpretation or significant revisions of already existing ones, or the practical applications of these new or revised conclusions). Diverse philosophical, theoretical and methodological approaches are welcome. All authors on papers submitted must be undergraduate students at the time of submission. For those students whose papers are accepted, WSCA will pay $15 of the $25 USRC registration. An awards ceremony follows the last presentation. Paper submissions must be received by WSCA Second Vice President Lisa Flores by December 6, 2005; authors will be notified of paper acceptance by January 17, 2006. Send papers to Lisa Flores, Department of Communication, 255 S. Central Campus Drive, Room 2400, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT 84112 or via email to lisa.flores@utah.edu.

This article originally appeared in WSCA News, v32, n2. Editor Blaine Goss

Interpersonal Division - 2005-04-09 07:55
As we look forward to Palm Springs, members are encouraged to send ideas for program panels to Mark Bergstrom (Bergstrom@admin.comm.utah.edu). The division’s call for papers will be accessible on our website, which is linked to the WSCA web site (www.westcomm.org.)

This article originally appeared in WSCA News, v32, n2. Editor Blaine Goss

ORWAC - 2005-04-10 07:55

In keeping with the conference theme “Cherishing our Time Together,” ORWAC encourages submissions that embrace the concept of time, broadly and transformatively, rather than in a pure linear sense. Because of the increasingly diverse nature of our discipline, we encourage submissions and panels that embrace the idea of dialogue and are reflective of increasing the dialogue(s) among feminist scholars and those that are interested in women and research from a variety of communication fields and perspectives.

This article originally appeared in WSCA News, v32, n2. Editor Blaine Goss

REMEMBERING - 2005-04-11 07:55

Everett Rogers
Dr. Everett Rogers, Professor of Communication & Journalism and Regents Professor at the University of New Mexico, lost a prolonged battle with cancer on October 21, 2004. Dr. Rogers touched the lives of many throughout his long and distinguished academic career. As a scholar, his impressive body of work has provoked social change, inspired new ideas and insights, and influenced the research of countless others. His most significant contribution, however, is the living legacy of his students. Almost 47 years of his life was dedicated to the fulfillment of his role as teacher and mentor. The Department of Communication and Journalism at the University of New Mexico has established the Everett M. Rogers Memorial Scholarship to continue his tradition of assisting graduate students in the pursuit of excellence. Scholarships from this endowment will be awarded to deserving UNM graduate students for such things as travel to conferences, tuition, and research funding. You are invited to help support this fund as a tribute and testament to this extraordinary scholar, mentor, and friend. If you wish to make a cash contribution, please make your checks payable to UNM Department of Communication and Journalism/Rogers Memorial Scholarship and mail to the Department of Communication and Journalism, MSC03 2240, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131-1171. If you want to contribute a gift, please contact John Oetzel, Chair of the Department at (505) 277-1905.

John "Sam" Keltner, 1918-2005
A Personal Remembrance by Dave Natharius  John "Sam" Keltner, Professor Emeritus, Oregon State University, died on January 13, 2005, from asperation pneumonia. He was 86 years old. He is survived by his wife, Maria. I know she would love to hear from you about Sam. Her e-mail address
is: keltnerm@peak.org  Sam was President of the WSCA in 1972 and received the WSCA's Distinguished Service Award in 1996. Sam's contributions to our discipline are many, some of which have gone unheralded. He also served as President of the Central States Speech Association in 1952-53. His book, *Group Discussion Processes*, examined the interaction dynamics of groups 3 years before Berlo's acclaimed *Process of Communication*. Sam published the first book on interpersonal communication in 1969, 2 years before the wave of interpersonal texts began. His major contributions these past many years have been in the area of bargaining, mediation and arbitration, an area in which he was still active up until just before his death. He was instrumental in developing the Peace and Conflict Communication Division in the NCA. I first met Sam in the fall of 1971 when he came to Fresno as President-Elect of WSCA to examine the site for the 1972 Convention. I knew he was coming and I reserved a hotel room for him but he showed up in his motor home which he parked in the new Fresno Convention Center parking lot and used it as his lodging and office. I was immediately struck by his energy and his unusual (I might even say "bizarre") ideas for the upcoming convention. He wanted every meeting room to be equipped with overhead and slide projectors and he even wanted to have temporary TV monitors installed in the convention center halls so people could see what was going on in the respective meeting rooms before they entered. It is easy to say now that he was, indeed, a visionary, but at the time he seemed to be just a bit "over the top." In 1975, I began my ten year involvement as a facilitator in Sam's annual intensive summer workshop in Interpersonal and Small Group Communication, offered at the Menucha Conference Center near Portland, Oregon. These workshops, which grew out of his interpersonal and group communication courses at Oregon State University, became nationally known for their innovative integration of laboratory teaching and learning. For me, these workshops became my personal summer pilgrimage for learning more about myself and how to be a more effective teacher of communication. I loved to see Sam in action. He was energetic, enthusiastic, dynamic, and completely committed to the experiential learning processes of the workshop. Most of all, he clearly loved and respected all of us who participated as facilitators for the workshop processes. I asked him once how he got his nickname "Sam." He simply explained that, years ago, in an intensive interpersonal encounter workshop, he had continual disagreements with another man that came to shoving and pushing. He couldn't understand why the man was so angry at him. So he asked the man what was driving his anger and the man said: "You're a great guy, I just don't like the name John - John is where you go to take a crap." So, John said: "OK, just call me Sam." Sam Keltner was an incredibly complex person and yet the previous story exemplifies his ability to get to the root cause of conflicts. His lifelong dream was to end war and find common ground for all conflict parties, whether individuals, corporations, governments, or nations. As a visionary, he truly believed that all international conflicts could be resolved, or at least managed without the need for war. I can imagine how the current Iraqi war must have saddened him immensely. I, myself, had several conflicts with Sam; a few were never resolved. What I learned from him was that sometimes conflicts are not resolved, but the respect for the other person need not be diminished and communication could always be on-going. Sam always had my greatest respect. I learned much from Sam Keltner: about respect, about collaborative teaching and learning, about constructive confrontation, about choosing ways of reaching agreement without compromising personal values or beliefs. I know much more about myself as a result of my connection to him, and I know that there are many of my colleagues who also experience the deep connection to Sam that I do. He will be loved and remembered for many years to come. Gifts in Sam's memory may be sent to either: Community Outreach Inc., 865 N.W. Reiman Ave., Corvallis OR, 97330 or to Linn-Benton Mediation Services, 250 Broadalbin St. S.W., Albany, OR 97321

This article originally appeared in WSCA News, v32, n2. Editor Blaine Goss
Thank you! - 2005-04-12 07:55

By Sue Pendell, Executive Director-- My term as WSCA Executive Director ends June 30, so I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your support during the last four years. Thank you to all of you for the lovely crystal bowl and the plane gift certificate presented to me at the convention luncheon, and a special thank you to those who contributed to the wonderful hotel gift certificate—what a surprise that was! I could not have carried out my duties as WSCA Executive Director without the help of so many of you—youth who served on committees, as Interest Group officers, as Local Hosts, and on the Executive Council. Additional thanks to the Presidents with whom I worked—Dawn Braithwaite, Sandra Petronio, Kathy Adams, Connie Bullis, Ron Lustig, and Mary Jane Collier. A special debt of gratitude goes to my Assistants over the years—Cara Buckley-Ott, 2001-2002; Scott Simpson, 2002-2004, and Allison Searle, 2002-2005. We did it! Finally, my thanks to my colleagues—faculty, staff, and students, in the Department of Speech Communication at Colorado State University, for their support. Mark Bergstrom of the University of Utah takes over July 1 as WSCA Executive Director; please join me in wishing him great success in his endeavors for the Association.

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From Dan Canary, Editor of WJC - 2005-04-13 07:55

Western Journal of Communication

Volume 69, Number 3  Table of Contents

Research on Nonverbal Communication, Supportiveness, and Cultural Competence

Valerie Manusov and Tema Milstein, "Interpreting Nonverbal Behavior: Representation and Transformation Frames in Israeli and Palestinian Media Coverage”

Timothy R. Levine, Thomas Hugh Freeley, Steven A. McCormack, and Chad M. Harms, “Testing the Effects of Nonverbal Behavior Training Accuracy in Deception Detection”

Miles L. Patterson and Mark E. Tubbs, “Through a Glass Darkly: Effects of Smiling and Visibility on Recognition and Avoidance in Passing Encounters”

Susanne M. Jones, “Attachment Style Differences and Similarities in Evaluations of Affective Communication Skills and Person-Centered Comforting Messages”

Alexander Lyon, “Intellectual Capital’ and Struggles over the Perceived Value of Members’ Expert Knowledge in a Knowledge-Intensive Organization”

Laura W. Black, “Building Connection While Thinking Together: By-products of Employee Training in Dialogue”

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2005 - 10

Join us at the WSCA Convention on February 17-21, 2006 at the Palm Spring Riviera Resort & Racquet Club - 2005-10-01 07:55
By From Mary Jane Collier, WSCA President

Count on positively engaging panels and performances, the captivating company of WSCA colleagues, and of course, bask in the balmy breezes of Palm Springs in February! Our upcoming WSCA convention is scheduled for February 17-21, 2006 at the Palm Springs Riviera Resort & Racquet Club. Look for a full slate of programs and panels including workshops, preconferences, the third annual Undergraduate Scholars’ Research Conference, Graduate Programs Open House and Graduate Student Workshop. The 2006 convention theme, “Cherishing (Our) Time (Together)” was developed by Leah Vande Berg. This theme encourages us “to work from within multiple viewpoints and perspectives, to think about how we spend our time as teachers, scholars, and citizens, friends, partners, and family members, and to envision and take steps toward futures characterized by humane commitments and social and environmental justice.” Connie Bullis and Dennis Alexander, Primary Program Planners for this convention, honor her memory by maintaining this theme for the 2006 convention. The Riviera Resort & Racquet Club is a beautiful site where we can theorize, reflect, perform, and engage the latest research and pedagogy in comfortable meeting rooms, as well as take advantage of the swimming pool, lighted putting course, and tennis courts. Heather Hundley and the team of local hosts at California State University, San Bernardino have things well in hand to prepare for our visit. Remember the video from the luncheon presentation in San Francisco where we met the Riviera hotel staff and learned about the personalized planning that had already begun? If this isn’t enough…you can look forward to our sock-hop and stepping out on the dance floor imagining audiences who were dancing to Elvis on the very same stage not so long ago! See you in Palm Springs!

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Join us at the WSCA Convention on February 17-21, 2006 at the Palm Spring Riviera Resort & Racquet Club - 2005-10-02 07:55

By Heather Hundley and Donna Gotch, Local Hosts-- Discourse in the Desert! WSCA Convention February 18-21, 2006 Palm Springs, CA California State University, San Bernardino is excited to host the upcoming WSCA convention in Palm Springs, California. We will be in Palm Springs for the first time in the organization's 75+ year history and we plan to make it a memorable trip. Some special surprises are being planned for convention attendees. The city is a perfect location to host the convention since it offers a rich diversity of culture and activities for everyone to enjoy. Outdoor activities include tennis, hiking, biking, and golfing. In fact, the area is known as the “Golf Capital of the World” and features 112 golf courses in the valley. You may come early or stay late to take a day trip to Joshua Tree National Forest or even take a jeep tour or eco tour in the desert to learn about plants and animals indigenous to the area. Another way to explore the ecological makeup of the region without traveling too far is to visit the Living Desert (which consists of 1200 acres of scenic trails and exhibits in the nearby city of Indian Wells). Several mountains and canyons frame the beautiful desert. To get a bird’s eye view, you can take a fifteen minute tram ride to the top of Mount San Jacinto. Be prepared for the elevation change from 487 feet above sea level to 8500 feet above sea level, however, because in February there will be snow at the top of the tram. In addition to the numerous outdoor activities, the area has a plethora of museums, galleries, shopping, restaurants,
casinos, and spas. Cabazon is a short drive away and offers 200+ outlet shops including Crate and Barrel, Eddie Bauer, Northface, DKNY and other top name stores. In the other direction, Palm Desert features El Paseo known as "the Rodeo Drive of the Desert" presenting Tommy Bahama, Banana Republic, Saks Fifth Avenue and several fine art galleries. After spending an afternoon of shopping, dining and gambling, you may want to relax at one of the many spas in town. The Spa Resort Casino offers therapeutic and rejuvenating mineral baths, body wraps, massages and facials. Reasonable rates and discounts are available for groups of six or more, so plan a day of luxury with your friends. The conference hotel, the Riviera Resort, brings the 1950s style charm indicative of Palm Springs, to our convention. In fact, several celebrities such as Sammy Davis Jr., Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Raquel Welch, Phyllis Diller, Ricky Nelson have made this hotel a destination and it was the location of the 1963 film *Palm Springs Weekend* featuring Connie Stevens, Troy Donahue, Robert Conrad, Stephanie Powers and Jerry Van Dyke. The Mediterranean Room, where the sock hop and luncheon will be held, was a place where Elvis invited locals in to watch him practice. More recently, the hotel has been host to Lionel Richie, Martina McBride, Will Smith and Queen Latifah. The two-floor buildings that surround the swimming pool will not leave you waiting for an elevator jammed with other convention goers. Several activities are available on the hotel property as well, such as stadium tennis courts, an 18-hole putting green, a basketball court, sand volleyball, swimming pools, hot tubs, and other watering holes. While the city offers 354 days of sunshine, don't be misguided by the temperatures. While the average high is 72 degrees, the average low is 43 degrees. You may walk around in the daytime in shorts, but when the sun goes down, it gets quite chilly. In fact, it may rain while we're there, so be prepared for these kinds of conditions. To explore the Palm Springs Visitor's web site, see [http://www.palmsprings.org/](http://www.palmsprings.org/). For history on the area, go to [http://www.ci.palmsprings.ca.us/history.html](http://www.ci.palmsprings.ca.us/history.html). Please plan to join us for the WSCA Convention in Palm Springs, February 18-21, 2006 so we may "Cherish (Our) Time (Together)".

Join us at the WSCA Convention on February 17-21, 2006 at the Palm Springs Riviera Resort & Racquet Club - 2005-10-03 07:55

By The Convention Planners – Dennis Alexander & Connie Bullis-- Palm Springs Program We have a great program shaping up for the 2006 WSCA Convention in Palm Springs. Saturday is filled with the Undergraduate Preconference, the Preconference with our theme of "Cherishing (Our) Time (Together)," workshops and the Kickoff and No host reception. Sunday, Monday and Tuesday morning are being filled with exciting programs and competitive papers. The keynote on Sunday and the luncheon on Monday will also be memorable events. Join us at the Riviera for an intellectually stimulating and exciting four days.

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WSCA Model Teaching Program Award Call for Nominations - 2005-10-04 07:55

The Model Teaching Program Award Committee seeks nominations for the Teaching Program Award to be presented at the next Western States Communication Association meeting in Palm Springs, California (February 2006). The award may be given to one or more speech or communication programs from elementary schools, secondary schools, or community colleges. The following criteria will be used to evaluate and select the award programs. The ideal program should:

1. The program should reflect the breadth and/or depth of the communication discipline.
2. The program should have teaching personnel with specialized training in communication.
3. The program should integrate curricular and co-curricular activities.
4. The program should have strong administrative support.
5. The program should relate to the mission of the particular institution.

Nominations must include at least two letters of support (one should be from the school or college; the other should come either from a former student or from someone outside the program) that detail the programs success in meeting the above criteria. Additional supporting documents, such as descriptions of course curriculum and innovative teaching methods are encouraged. The deadline for nominations is October 31, 2005. The recipient(s) will be notified in December and will present a panel on the Model Teaching Program at the Palm Springs Convention. Nominations should be sent to Dr. Diane Martin, Dr. Robert B. Pamplin, Jr. School of Business, University of Portland, 5000 N. Willamette Blvd., Portland, OR 97203. Three other members of the selection committee are from the Communication and Instruction Interest Group, the Community College Interest Group, and the Elementary and Secondary Education Interest Group. Questions about the award and/or the nomination process may be directed to Diane Martin at martind@up.edu.

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Renew and Recruit!: WSCA Relies on its Members - 2005-10-05 07:55

By Lisa A. Flores, Second Vice President-- Professional organizations, such as Western, play key roles in our academic lives. Providing opportunities for scholarly conversation, pedagogical inspiration, and collegiality, WSCA brings us together and energizes us in so many ways. When we read our journals and attend conference panels, we enter in and engage scholarly debates. Often these informal and formal conversations that occur in our journals, panels, listservs, and website help us rethink ideas we're struggling with. Or they provoke us, shifting our academic energy in new and exciting ways. Our colleagues in Western help us negotiate the classroom, challenging us to engage our students across the discipline. And of course, as we sneak some time with friends in downtown San Francisco or by the pool in Palm Springs, we remember why we value WSCA and just how central it is to our academic lives. As second vice president, my task, in part, is to reflect on our membership and to ensure that we support current members and welcome new ones. To do this, I need your help. As you reflect, even momentarily, on the benefits of your WSCA membership, please take a minute and renew and recruit. You will soon be receiving your membership renewal information. Rather than sliding it aside so you can attend to the pressing and immediate demands of your day, fill it out and return it. Or jump on-line and renew electronically. Consider upgrading your membership to a lifetime membership. But don't stop there. Send a note to a colleague who may have let her or his membership lapse. Identify those you know who may not be members. Share with them the gains of
membership and direct them to the website so they too can join. After all, the sun and fun of Palm Springs is just around the corner! On-line and printable membership information, for new and current members, is available at our website at www.westcomm.org.

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