



National Communication Association • www.natcom.org

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Introducing the NCA Insider

The Insider name may already be familiar to you as NCA previously distributed e-mail to members with this title. But starting now, the focus of the content is more clearly specified. The Insider is now an outlet for NCA to share information with you about academic and professional resources being created by the association. Click on any of the links in the menu below to learn more about these resources. Members will receive the NCA Insider quarterly.

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CARD Calls: Communicating about Research and Professional Development

NCA's monthly teleconference series for communication scholars features research presentations by NCA's Distinguished Scholars and panels of experts addressing topics related to professional development (e.g., Multiple Perspectives on Academic Publishing, the Role of Communication Scholarship in Public Policy). Visit [NCA's Web site](#) to learn more about the series and to register for the remaining calls on the 2009-2010 schedule.

Career Development

[Career Center](#)

NCA's career center provides resources for job seekers and employers. In addition to advertisements for jobs in the discipline, career center users have access to guidance on writing a vitae and cover letter, interviewing, and managing various stages of an academic career.

[Profiles of Practice](#)

Profiles of Practice describes several of the wide-ranging career possibilities for people with Ph.D.s in communication through personal narrative.

Conferences

[Developing Successful Grant Proposals in the Social Sciences](#)

NCA's Research Board is organizing an NCA sponsored summer conference that will be held in Chicago from June 10-13, 2010 which is designed to help communication scholars develop successful grant

proposals. The goal of this working meeting is for each participant to leave the conference with a grant proposal that is ready or close to ready to submit to federal funding agencies. The deadline for application to attend the conference is January 31, 2010.

"HOPE" Conference at Randolph Macon College - NCA Summer Faculty Institute

The annual HOPE conference will be held July 25-31, 2010 at Randolph Macon College in Ashland, VA. The goals of the Hope Conference are to update faculty members in their teaching areas in undergraduate communication, help faculty members design and teach new courses in undergraduate communication, and help faculty members advance their scholarly interests and projects in communication. Conference registration will begin soon.

Teaching Rhetorical Criticism/Critical Inquiry

The University of Puget Sound will host this NCA sponsored conference in Tacoma, WA from July 22-25, 2010. The purpose of this summer conference is to provide a forum in which teacher/scholars in rhetoric can engage issues in critical pedagogy, including assignment development, curricular design (individual courses as well as course sequences), and the conceptual underpinnings of rhetorical pedagogy. The conference's basic purpose is to discover ways that rhetorical teacher/scholars can better prepare students to engage a range of critical objects. There is a call for GIFTS ideas related specifically to teaching rhetoric with a deadline of February 1, 2010. Registration for the conference opens March 1, 2010.

Data About the Discipline

The Council of Communication Associations (CCA), of which NCA is a member, eagerly awaits the release of data from the National Research Council (NRC). The study being conducted by the NRC evaluates graduate programs in various disciplines including communication. Once the data is released the CCA will evaluate the data and a CCA Task Force will provide descriptors of variables, types of doctoral programs, and other profiles of the field, leading to a narrative about the discipline of communication. Linda Putnam is leading this effort and is working closely with Ed Fink and Patrice Buzzanell. For additional information about the CCA initiative, please contact Brad Mello at bmello@natcom.org

Funding 101

Pre-Submission Review Service for First Time Grant Writers

This service provides new grant seekers with reviews from experts in the discipline that can guide revisions before one submits to potential funders. Information regarding eligibility requirements for submitting proposals for review as well as how to become a reviewer can be found on NCA's Web site.

Repository of Funded Communication Proposals

This is a collection of proposals from the communication discipline which have been funded by a variety of different funding sources including private foundations and federal government agencies. The repository provides models that help grant seekers identify the qualities of successful proposals.

[Current RFP Tracker - Updated this week](#)

The tracker identifies current funding opportunities for communication scholars including research grants, residential fellowships, travel funds, and awards.

Publications

[NCA Publications for Graduate Students](#)

[Getting the Most from your Graduate Education in Communication: A Student's Handbook, Sherwyn Morreale and Pat Arneson \(Editors\)](#)

This collection of essays by noted scholars in the field provides insight into the discipline of communication, advice for how to select the graduate program that best suits your needs, and tips for navigating the various tasks of graduate school from selecting your advisor to writing your thesis.

[Professional Development During your Doctoral Education, Ed Schiappa](#)

Ed Schiappa has taken a series of lectures given to incoming graduate students and created this downloadable text which provides insight on how to manage the various challenges of graduate student life and how to prepare for the academic job market. Schiappa discusses the importance of presenting at conventions, developing one's teaching and publishing abilities, and integrating oneself into the academic culture of the communication discipline.

[Free Online Access to an Additional Journal](#)

During 2010, NCA members can elect to receive free online access to one of the following journals: [Popular Communication](#), [Celebrity Studies](#), [Journal of Public Relations Research](#), or [Information, Communication & Society](#). Activate your online access today by contacting greig.barclay@tandf.co.uk. Please state the name of your preferred journal and quote 'NCA Member Free Access' in the subject bar of the e-mail.

[Free Access to Academy of Management Annals Article](#)

NCA publisher Taylor and Francis is pleased to offer NCA members free access to the following relevant article from the new volume of The Academy of Management Annals: "Constitutional Amendments: 'Materializing' Organizational Communication" by Karen Lee Ashcraft, Timothy R. Kuhn and François Cooren. To view this article until March 30, 2010, visit *The Annals* [Web site](#), click on the 'Got a Voucher?' link and enter your contact details and the relevant voucher code: V1RAMAK0001454A.

Virtual Faculty Lounge

[Assign This](#)

Descriptions of various classroom tested exercises that are ready to use in a variety of communication courses are available for review.

[Links to Web Sites about Pedagogy](#)

This is an annotated list of the best resources available on the Internet to address important issues in teaching such as assessment, using new technology in the classroom, lesson/assignment planning, and service learning.

[In the Classroom](#)

This monthly essay series addresses important topics for new and seasoned instructors such as delivering dynamic lectures, incorporating new technology into the classroom and using discussion effectively. The first essay in the series is "The First Day of Class."

[Master Teacher Interview Series](#)

This monthly series provides NCA members the opportunity to hear from outstanding communication teachers about their experiences. You can listen online via streaming audio or download MP3s of the interviews and/or read brief articles about them. The first interview is with Valarie Goth Whitecap, winner of NCA's 2009 Marcella E. Oberle Award for outstanding teaching in grades K-12.

[Sample Syllabi](#)

This collection of syllabi offers an array of typical as well as unique communication courses that will assist faculty in the planning of their own courses.

Additional Resources

[RFP for Projects that Advance the Discipline of Communication](#)

NCA is requesting proposals for work that will advance the discipline of communication. While there are many funding outlets for communication scholars to seek support for disciplinary research, NCA is uniquely positioned to support projects that are focused on the discipline itself. Deadline for submissions is February 15, 2010. Read the full call on [NCA's Web site](#).

[Guidelines for Developing and Assessing Undergraduate Programs in Communication](#)

NCA's [Undergraduate Program Guidelines](#) provide a general framework for developing and assessing undergraduate communication programs. The guidelines have been recently updated to reflect current assessment language. Complementary resources that will be available soon include an updated program reviewer list, a guide to assist departments in preparing for program review, and analysis of a department chair survey that will provide additional data about programs.