



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Welcome From The President</i>	1
<i>FCA Celebrates 75th Anniversary 2005 Convention</i>	1
<i>Honors Credits & Debate Programs</i>	2
<i>New Officers for 2004-2005</i>	3
<i>Highlights from the 2004 Convention</i>	3
<i>Membership Survey Results</i>	4
<i>An Invitation from the 2nd Vice President</i>	5
<i>Speech Games People Play</i>	5
<i>Call For Papers 2005 Convention</i>	6

WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues,

I'm honored to serve as your FCA President this year and want to extend a warm welcome to all our members. As you know, this is an exciting year for the FCA as we celebrate our 75th Anniversary! Our 1st VP, Deborah Hefferin has lots of great plans for helping us all celebrate this accomplishment in great style. Deborah Walker, our 2nd VP and membership chair, is already actively contacting members and building alliances to help our members stay connected throughout the year. Both responsibilities entail many tasks. Help from our members is critical, so please look for ways to support them in their efforts.

We also want to call your attention to our new website, which was first introduced in May 2004. We have many photos that capture the excitement of our 2004 convention and information on how to submit a proposal or nominate others for awards in 2005.

Our website is located at <http://www.flcom.org/>

Let's work together to continue to make the field of communication in Florida a strong and important aspect of our community, workplaces and schools.

*Sincerely,
Sue Easton, FCA President*



FCA CELEBRATES 75TH ANNIVERSARY—2005 CONVENTION

"Reflections On Yesterday...Visions For Tomorrow"

1929 - 2005!! The Florida Communication Association is celebrating 75 years of communication excellence. The October convention will be a wonderful celebration of our accomplishments since our founders saw the value of bringing together members of the Florida speech community. But...the convention is going to be much more than that. It is going to be a time for us to consider the future. Where do we want the discipline to grow?

Our Convention Theme encompasses both the accomplishments of the past and the goals of the future for FCA. Please start making plans to be part of the excitement. Program proposals (panels, papers, posters, or workshops) are due by April 15. (That should be an easy date to remember!)

(continued on page 2)

FCA CELEBRATES 75TH

There will be many special events this year to help us enjoy the celebration. Plans are underway for a very special, exciting Friday evening that you won't want to miss. We hope to see many FCA friends that have not attended in recent years. This will be a time to visit with old friends and make new friends who could be the future of FCA.

The Radisson is a wonderful location, so think about bringing family or friends and staying Saturday night to enjoy what the Orlando area has to offer.



Please make plans now. Join us October 13 - 15 at the Radisson Parkway in Orlando.

I am honored to plan this wonderful event, but I need your help. If you have any ideas, suggestions, or would just like to volunteer your help in planning and pulling off this grand celebration, I am looking forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,
Deborah Hefferin, 1st Vice President/Convention Chair



HONORS CREDITS & DEBATE PROGRAMS

I am the Regional Director (Broward County) for the Florida Forensic League, the Secretary of the Catholic Forensic League for Broward/Dade and a member of the National Forensic League Broward committee. I have access to many of the coaches in my area and throughout the state. I can act as a liaison between the coaches and the FCA and encourage participation in the FCA.

Presently, there is a movement to take honors credit away from debate classes. Students are not required to take Public Speaking so Debate is their only contact with a communications class. By taking honors credit away from these classes, debate programs will be impacted throughout the state. I have recently learned that the DOE has already removed honors credit from Debate 5,6,7,8. These levels exist in schools with block scheduling. Our concern is that the DOE will move this ruling to Debate 1-4. This would impact all debate programs in the state. Perhaps, the FCA can work with us to prevent this from happening. I am waiting to receive more information on this.

The Florida Forensic League (FFL) Council of Presidents is working on materials for new coaches since there is very little training in this area. Jason Wysong is the President of the league. We have discussed the possibility of having a training workshop for new coaches also. This may be an opportunity for the FCA and the FFL to work together.

If you are interested in contacting Beth on this or other issues related to concerns throughout the state of Florida, as it impacts the field of communication, please contact her directly at beth.goldman@browardschools.com.

Sincerely,
Beth Goldman, Elementary/Secondary Representative

Ralph Waldo Emerson
Speech is power: speech is to persuade, to convert, to compel. It is to bring another out of his bad sense into your good sense.



NEW OFFICERS FOR 2004-2005

Congratulations to our new FCA Executive Board members elected at the 2004 convention.

President	Sue Easton	Rollins College
Immediate Past Pres	Christine Hanlon	University of Central Florida
1 st V.P.	Deb Hefferin	Broward Community College
2 nd V.P.	Deb Walker	University of South Florida
Exec Sec-Treasurer	Richard Quianthy	Broward Community College
Exec Sec-Treasurer Elect	Jim Katt	University of Central Florida
Recording Secretary	Kim Johnson	Rollins College
Newsletter Editor	Cherie Cannon	Miami Dade College
Web Editor	Shari Hodgson	University of Central Florida
Elem / Secondary Rep	Beth Goldman	J.P. Taravella High School
Journal Editor	Bonnie Clark Jefferis	St. Petersburg College
Journal Editor Elect	Wally Schmidt	Rollins College

These individuals work hard throughout the year on behalf of the membership-at-large, but we also need your help to sustain the association and achieve our goals. One of the exciting things about the FCA is the opportunity to work with colleagues across the state and to develop new relationships as we share ideas about our teaching and our field. Please look for ways to get involved...we need your participation and you will find that your membership experience is much richer.

We need committee members to help with the convention and membership, but there are many ways you can be involved that are essential to our purpose. Your participation sustains the organization and gives it life.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2004 CONVENTION “BUILDING THE COMMUNITY”

- Our convention showcased ninety-two presenters in the following venues:
 - o (24) Papers & (12) Posters
 - o (1) Performance Art Display
 - o (14) Panels & (6) Workshops
- Faculty awards were given to the following FCA members:
 - o Scholar of the year –Wallace V. Schmidt
 - o Outstanding Service Award –K. Phillip Taylor
 - o Outstanding Teacher –Richard Mercandante
- Student awards were given to the following FCA members:
 - o Outstanding Student Scholar – Kim K. Johnson
 - o Best Graduate Paper – Hongmei Gao
 - o Best Undergraduate Paper – Cynthia Farina



THE FCA WANTS YOU!



Here are some ways to offer support:

- Nominate peers for faculty awards
- Offer to moderate a session
- Send articles for the newsletter
- Send information to highlight and recognize achievements on your campus
- Plan ahead to help top students submit papers/ posters for awards and presentation
- Introduce yourself to others to make them feel welcome
- Attend luncheon sessions to network and share ideas with others
- Have your college host a coffee reception in the morning

Nominations Now Open 2005 Awards

Send Faculty Nominations to: Sue Easton,
seaston@rollins.edu

Send Student Nominations to: Christine Hanlon,
chanlon@mail.ucf.edu



MEMBERSHIP SURVEY RESULTS

For the past two years we have surveyed our members on the following items. The responses have been similar for both years showing some interesting trends. Below is a summary:

What was the most important reason you decided to attend the FCA conference?

- As an intro to communication professionals
- Encouraged by my professor to submit a paper and attend
- To present my research; be a presenter
- Participation and I wanted to get involved
- Learn about the field
- To learn new techniques in the classroom

Greatest benefit of FCA Membership?

- Sharing ideas and obtaining insight
- Networking with others
- Continued learning and networking
- Connecting to a community of scholars

What are the strengths of the FCA?

- Ability to interact with colleagues who share same communication interests
- Wide range of topics
- Interaction with all levels
- Affordable
- The knowledge and experience of its members
- Acts as statewide association for members
- Warmth each individual is treated with
- Hear about what others are doing
- Drive that was displayed to improve the organization
- Support from professors
- Small and friendly
- Opportunities for graduates
- Community involvement

One improvement...

- Offer copies of presented papers on website or CD
- Send out journal more often
- Promote more intercollegiate activity; perhaps create a buddy system used to promote collaborative efforts on research,
- Extend reach out of state
- Increase membership
- Help with job search, postings
- Provide directory and contact information for attendees of all members
- Increase structure and accountability
- Good sessions but hard to be in 2 or 3 at same time – perhaps repeat strong sessions
- Perhaps a midyear social to maintain connections

Rollo May:
(existential psychologist)

Communication leads to community, that is, to understanding, intimacy and mutual valuing.



AN INVITATION FROM THE 2ND VICE PRESIDENT/MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Welcome to the 2005 FCA membership year! This year ushers in opportunities to create exciting new memories, as well as to reflect on our past together, as we prepare for our 75th anniversary with our diamond jubilee convention in October. The conference theme this year, "Reflections on Yesterday-Visions for Tomorrow-Creating Communication Excellence," promises to move and inspire us.

Here's how you can ensure that this year's FCA membership year is worthy of our diamond jubilee celebration:

- Volunteer to be a campus contact
- Serve on the FCA membership committee
- Submit a panel, paper, poster, or performance proposal for the convention
- Encourage and mentor your students' involvement in the association and participation in this year's conference
- Reach out to colleagues in the corporate, not-for-profit, and government sectors
- Share your ideas for committee projects, social events, and spring meetings
- Pay your dues promptly

Our new website, hard-working executive board, and active committee members have made your involvement easier than ever. Most of the service ideas that are check-marked

above require only an email, an hour of your time, or a one-time copying and distribution task. It's an opportunity for you to contribute to your state's only professional communication association's community, growth, and success. Don't delay. Email me at deb-walker@wildmail.com to get involved in your Florida Communication Association.

Collegially yours,
 Deb Walker, 2nd Vice President/Membership Chair



SPEECH GAMES PEOPLE PLAY SPOTLIGHT PROGRAM FOR 2005 CONVENTION

We will "kick off" the 2005 Convention with the FCA Spotlight Program. This is a fun night when we first get to re-connect with our FCA friends. This year we are going to hold a game night, speech games that is.

We are looking for some creative ideas that you may use in the classroom. What do you do to liven up and energize your class? If you have an activity, exercise, or

(yes!) speech game that you use, please showcase it at FCA. We are looking for some innovative approaches that you could share and have us actually try out!

We will "play" as many as we can. Please be prepared with a handout of some type that people can take with them. There's nothing better than leaving a session with some wonderful ideas that can be readily

put into practice.

Please contact me with your ideas by the April 15 program deadline. And then everyone! Be ready for a night of fun. Let the games begin!

Deborah Hefferin
fcommassoc@yahoo.com
 (Florida Communication Association)
 954.201.2407

CALL FOR PAPERS

2005 CONVENTION

EXTRA, EXTRA SPECIAL EDITION!!!

2005 marks the 75th Anniversary of the Florida Communication Association. I am thrilled to be planning this convention program. Please consider being a part of the conference festivities and contributing to an excellent program.

"Reflections on Yesterday - Visions for Tomorrow"

There is a wealth of tradition and knowledge that can be shared with the FCA membership. There is also an exciting frontier where the communication discipline in Florida is headed. Consider what contributions that you can make to this conference. Your research, teaching experience, and innovations should be shared.

Papers, panels, and complete programs are currently being sought. If you have a good idea to make this convention special, please send it to me!

VERY EARLY DEADLINE THIS YEAR! April 15 is our target date

Competitive papers: Professional, Graduate Student, and Undergraduate Student: Please submit a 100 word abstract by 4/15. Final papers will be due by June 30. Please mark on the abstract that this is a "Competitive paper" and identify the category.

Poster Sessions: Please submit a 100 word abstract describing the nature of the poster. The Poster Session will be held on Saturday.

Panels, Workshops, and Individual Papers: Please submit a 100 word abstract.

- Panels: please put the names and affiliations of all panel participants.
- Workshops: please develop the rationale for the workshop in addition to the abstract.
- Individual papers will be combined into programs around a theme.

If your program is selected, you will need to pre-register for the convention. We will not be printing the final program until right before the convention and only those programs that are confirmed in advance will be included.

All submissions should be sent via the Florida Communication Web Site at: www.flcom.org.

I look forward to hearing from "lots and lots" of you! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at: dhefferi@broward.edu

Deb Hefferin, 1st Vice President/Convention Chair



Ernest Hemingway

I like to listen. I have learned a great deal from listening carefully. Most people never listen.



A Special Thank You to Kim Johnson for producing this issue of the FCA Newsletter.