

FLORIDA COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION

“The purpose of the Florida Communication Association (FCA) is to coordinate the efforts of teachers, students and others interested in advancing the communication arts and sciences in the state of Florida.”



March 2014
Issue 7



Newsletter

Greetings FCA Members and Friends,

We would like to take a minute to thank everyone who was a part of our 83rd annual convention, from board members to presenters to volunteers and attendees. We were pleased to see magnificent scholarship, a beautiful new location, fun activities reuniting old friends and new ones, and each member's passion, hard work and dedication, all of which helped make the 2013 convention a truly memorable one. We also would like to give special thanks to our 2013 Convention Coordinator, Stephanie Jackson, for going above and beyond to make last year's convention a true triumph.

As the spring approaches, the Executive Board is hard at work on a variety of projects to help our association be of better service to you. Given the success of last year's convention location, our 2014 Convention Coordinator, Stefanie Powers, is planning this year's convention to be held once again at the Holiday Inn Downtown Disney in Orlando as the city offers a variety of entertainment options as well as an ideal environment for advancing our beloved communication discipline. The Call for Submissions for this year's convention is featured in this newsletter. We encourage you to submit your work and share the call and we look forward to seeing you October 16 – 18, 2014 in Orlando.

Our conventions of course, would not be possible without the tremendous help from our amazing sponsors. Indeed, our Marketing Coordinator, Jen Whalen, is constantly seeking educational partnerships as well as sponsorships in order to help FCA grow and continue to provide our community with valuable research, teaching and networking opportunities. If you know of organizations and institutions who might be interested, please do not hesitate to contact Jen Whalen at jrwhalen@mail.usf.edu.

Web Editor Sanford Betz has also been busy for the past few months, spearheading a website redesign that we hope to unveil to you soon. This issue gives you an insight into the progress of this currently ongoing project. We strongly believe that the launch of our remodeled FCA site will provide members and visitors alike with a cleaner interface and overall enhanced online experience.

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FCA 84th Annual Convention

October 16 – 18, 2014

Destination:
Orlando

More about the call for submissions and award nominations on pages 3 and 5.

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We know that our association could never thrive without your amazing membership. Consequently, we would like to incorporate your news, teaching tips and academic accomplishments into our newsletter. We love hearing about members who have received tenure, published an article or completed an advanced degree.

We also would like to help you promote your communication-related events such as student conferences or paper competitions. Please drop our Newsletter Editor, Timea Varga a line with your good news. If you are not a member of the FCA, we strongly encourage you to read about the exciting benefits of membership featured in this newsletter and join today!

We appreciate your continued support and thank all of you for being a part of this community and making our association what it is. Please do not hesitate to let us know your comments, ideas and ways for us to be of better service to you.

We hope to hear from you soon!

The FCA Board

The FCA Board is pleased to announce that this year's convention theme will be

“The Power of Culture and Communication.”

Please see the logo below specifically designed to represent our 84th Convention and all it stands for.



“To effectively communicate, we must realize that we are all different in the way we perceive the world and use this understanding as a guide to our communication with others.”

~Tony Robbins

THE FLORIDA STATE REPORT

2013 NATIONAL STATES ADVISORY COUNCIL



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The Florida Communication Association held its 83rd Annual Convention at the Holiday Inn Lake Buena Vista Downtown: Walt Disney World Resort on October 17-19th, 2013. Our First Vice President, Stephanie Jackson of Lynn University tried a new 50 minute format for most sessions. This allowed us to have more presenters than in the traditional one hour and 15 minute sessions.

We also continued to have our GIFTS programs and Poster session.

The association tried two new entertainment venues. On Thursday night, we contracted with “The Sleuths Mystery Dinner Shows” for an evening of dinner, drinks and a mystery show. Because “alcohol” would be served, the association included transportation in the price of the ticket. On Friday night, attendees could opt for a night at “Downtown Disney” with dinner at the T-Rex Café. Both events were quite successful.

The association is also launching a new version of our website which will be more attractive and more functional.

We raised the convention fees, because of increasing costs, but this did not affect attendance. Our numbers were up over last year.

Our constitution calls for a fiduciary committee, but it has been inactive. Immediate Past President Donald Painter of Polk State College is going to activate a new committee to work on a five year financial plan for the association.

Respectfully Submitted by

Richard Quianthy, NSAC representative



**SAVE THE DATE:
FCA CONVENTION
2014**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16 TO
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2014**



CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS 2014



FCA 84th Annual Convention
October 16 – 18, 2014
Orlando, FL

The Power of Culture and Communication
Deadline for Submissions: **June 1, 2014**



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The 84th annual convention's theme is The Power of Culture and Communication. We as scholars are interconnected globally through our pedagogy, our scholarship and our service in communication. Communication is a paradigm that is constantly evolving and advancing due to societal norms as well as cultural shifts. In academia, we must facilitate discussion on the power of communication, as it directly correlates to considerable examples in connecting ideologies worldwide. In keeping with last year's spirit, this year's convention will have three tracks: Communication Pedagogy, Competitive Communication Scholarship, and Communication Trends. These tracks will run simultaneously and allow for movement between tracks throughout the convention. At any given time, attendees will be able to choose between a session on pedagogy, scholarship and current trends.

COMMUNICATION AND PEDAGOGY TRACK

Submissions to the Communication Pedagogy track seek to foster a community of learners. Panels, Great Ideas for Teaching Students (G.I.F.T.S.), Workshops and papers that focus on pedagogy will run continuously in this track. Submissions to this track, especially in the G.I.F.T.S. category, may be paired thematically with like submissions to create a cohesive, well-paced experience for attendees. Discussion panel, workshop and paper panel proposals must include a one-page attachment containing: (1) a rationale for the proposed panel/workshop/paper, (2) a brief (50-word) description, a brief (100-word) abstract for the program and brief abstract (100-word) for each paper, where appropriate (3) a list of all participants/authors including names, affiliations and contact information (email, postal address and phone number). Please identify the chairperson of the panel/workshop, who shall serve as the primary contact for notifications.

COMMUNICATION TRENDS TRACK

Submissions to the Communication Trends track seek to foster a community of academics and professionals who examine trends in our societal, cultural, and organizational settings. Panels, workshops, and papers that focus on these trends will run continuously in this track. Submissions in this track may be paired thematically with like submissions to create a cohesive, well-paced experience for attendees. Discussion panel, workshop and paper panel proposals must include a one-page attachment containing: (1) a rationale for the proposed panel/workshop/paper, (2) a brief (50-word) description, a brief (100-word) abstract for the program and brief abstract (100-word) for each paper, where appropriate (3) a list of all participants/authors including names, affiliations and contact information (email, postal address and phone number). Please identify the chairperson of the panel/workshop, who shall serve as the primary contact for notifications.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS 2014...Continued



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COMPETITIVE COMMUNICATION SCHOLARSHIP TRACK - Paper Session

Submissions to the Competitive Communication Scholarship track are competitive papers addressing one aspect of the conference theme. Competitive papers may be professional, graduate or undergraduate submissions. Competitive papers will be blind peer-reviewed and all competitive papers submitted will be considered for a Top Paper Award in the respective category. Submissions should include two files (preferably Microsoft Word or PDF): (1) one file containing a cover sheet listing the paper title and names, affiliations, emails, postal addresses and phone numbers for all authors (please indicate on the cover sheet that this is a “Competitive Paper” and identify the category); and (2) a second file including a 50-word abstract and the completed paper. Papers should not exceed 25 double-spaced pages, excluding references and appendices. To facilitate blind review, please omit all author-identifying information from the text.

COMPETITIVE COMMUNICATION SCHOLARSHIP TRACK - Poster Session

Graduate and undergraduate students are invited to submit to the Competitive Poster Session. Poster session proposals must include one attachment containing: (1) a one-page rationale for the proposed poster, (2) a brief (50-word) description of the poster, and (3) a list of all participants including names, affiliations and contact information (email, postal address and phone number). Please identify the category (Graduate or Undergraduate) and identify the chairperson of the poster session who shall serve as the primary contact for notifications.

SUBMITTING YOUR PROPOSAL

All proposals should be submitted electronically using the FCA website at <http://www.flcom.org>. Use the “Conventions” link in the left menu and then “Proposal Submissions.” If you experience problems submitting your proposal, please contact Stefanie Powers, 1st Vice President, at spowers@lynn.edu.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Once notified of your submission acceptance, presenters must preregister for the convention by September 1, 2014 (early registration deadline). The final program will recognize only paper authors and panel programs that are registered by this date.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The FCA is seeking sponsors for a number of convention related activities including breaks, lunches, printing, keynote speaker, entertainment, etc. Becoming a sponsor is a great opportunity to highlight and promote your organization. For additional information about sponsorship, please contact Jen Whalen, marketing coordinator, at jrwhalen@mail.usf.edu.

CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS 2014



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AWARD NOMINATIONS

Each year the Florida Communication Association presents awards at the annual convention to recognize the efforts of outstanding members. The FCA is currently accepting award nominations for the 2014 convention.

Interested individuals may nominate others or individuals may nominate themselves. All nominees must be current members of the FCA.

FACULTY AND PROFESSIONAL AWARD GUIDELINES

Teacher of the Year

This award honors FCA members who have demonstrated teaching excellence. Nominees must teach courses in communication and have taught full-time for at least two years. The nominee will be asked to provide a current curriculum vita and a philosophy of education not to exceed one typed page. The nominee may also submit at his or her option up to three additional pages of supporting documentation, which may include letters of recommendation, student evaluations, and/or professional evaluations that speak to the nominee's classroom performance.

Scholar of the Year

This award honors FCA members who have demonstrated exceptional scholarly ability through research and publication in their academic careers. Nominees must be instructors, lecturers, or professors in the field of communication. In addition, nominees must have presented at FCA's annual convention and/or been published in the Florida Communication Journal in the past three years. The nominee will be asked to provide a current curriculum vita and one to three representative publications. The nominee may also submit at his or her option up to three additional pages of supporting documentation, which may include letters of recommendation, conference or publication feedback, and/or professional evaluations that speak to the nominee's scholarly accomplishments.

Outstanding Service

This award honors FCA members who, through their service and leadership, have made significant contributions to the FCA and the profession.

For more information about the Faculty and Professional Awards or to nominate a scholar for any of the above awards, please submit a letter of nomination not to exceed one typed page to Immediate Past President Donald Painter via email at dpainter@polk.edu no later than August 31, 2014.



CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS 2014...Continued



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STUDENT AWARD GUIDELINES

Student Scholarship Award

This award recognizes outstanding performance and scholarly activities by student members of the FCA. Recipients will receive a \$250 cash award to be used toward current or future educational pursuits. The nominee will be asked to provide a current curriculum vita or resume and a statement describing their academic and scholarly achievements not to exceed one typed page. The nominee may also submit at his or her option up to three additional pages of supporting documentation, which may include letters of recommendation, abstracts of publications, and/or a brief writing sample.



FCA Grant

The FCA is proud to provide a \$500 grant to student members to help them support or accomplish an outstanding communication research or service project. Interested students should submit a detailed proposal not to exceed two typed pages to FCA President Stephanie Jackson at sjackson@lynn.edu no later than July 31, 2014. Proposals may be submitted by an individual student member or a group of student members. Applicants may also submit at their option up to three additional pages of supporting documentation, which may include letters of recommendation, published articles highlighting the success of existing projects, and/or impact statements from those who are/would be served by the project. Recipients of the grant are required to return to the following year's convention and present to the membership the results or outcome of the project.

CONVENTION HOTEL AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

There will be additional opportunities to assist with convention planning and development as the convention nears. Opportunities include session moderators, convention logistics, convention receptions and other critical projects.

The 84th Annual Convention of the Florida Communication Association will be held at the Holiday Inn in the Walt Disney World Resort, Lake Buena Vista, Florida. This hotel is located on Hotel Plaza Boulevard, less than one mile from Downtown Disney. More information about this hotel can be found on their website at <http://www.hiorlando.com>. The conference room rate is \$119 per night and will be available three nights prior to and post-convention. Reservations can be made by calling 1(877) 394-5765 and asking to speak with the reservations department. Reference the FCC rate.

If you have suggestions or need additional information, please contact Stefanie Powers, 1st Vice President, spowers@lynn.edu.

MORE MEMORIES FROM THE 83rd ANNUAL CONVENTION



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(Photos: Shaundi Newbolt)



WEBSITE UPDATE

In our last issue, we were pleased to announce that the association's website is currently under remodeling in order to provide members and visitors alike with a cleaner interface and overall enhanced online experience. After having discussed the components of design and technicalities, we are currently in the process of drafting fresh and lively content for our new web pages. FCA's new website will be available under www.floridacom.org. Make sure to look for further details on the design team's progress in our next issue.



FCA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Why Become and Stay a Member



“Individually, we are one drop. Together, we are an ocean.”
~ Ryunosuke Satoro

We believe the FCA is a friendly and welcoming organization and we would love to have you stay with us as a member.

Benefits of Membership:

The **Florida Communication Journal** (delivered twice a year) provides current and informative research articles;

Information to improve your classroom effectiveness through **networking** and **convention sessions**;

The **FCA Newsletter** keeps you current on events and information between conventions;

Annual convention – guest speakers, informative panels, papers, and posters, allow you to stay current about issues relevant to communication scholars in Florida.



Benefits of Internet Membership:

Search the database for other Florida Communication Association members;

Keep your personal contact information up-to-date quickly and easily
Simplify future registration and **proposal submission** processes.

From the Desk of Timea Varga, Newsletter Editor
You Can Make a Difference

As an FCA member, you can learn while inspiring others to learn. Please send me membership highlights, classroom tips, best practices and anything else that you think would be relevant for our FCA members, and I will be happy to help you do just that by including your contribution in one of our coming newsletters. Thank you very much.