

JUNE 6, 2012/ISSUE 1



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NEWSLETTER

Greetings FCA Members!

FCA board members are busy preparing for another exciting convention in Orlando, from Thursday, October 18 to Saturday, October 20 at Four Points by Sheraton. We ask you submit proposals for papers, presentations and panels that you might think would be of interest for the 2012 convention by the deadline of July 15. The theme for this year is Critiquing Communication: Research, Pedagogy & Practice.

We also are looking for 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 Megan Tomei, Marketing Coordinator, at mtomei1@fau.edu.

If you have suggestions or would like to help with convention planning, please contact Christine Hanlon, Convention Coordinator, at hanlon@ucf.edu. Help also is needed with moderators for each session, convention logistics, convention receptions and other critical projects.

Until October, here's hoping your summer is restful and, as always, please let the board know if you have any questions or comments.

Best,
The FCA Executive Board



ABOVE: FCA MEMBERS AT PREVIOUS CONVENTION

FLORIDA COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION

SAVE THE DATE: FCA CONVENTION 2012
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18 TO SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2012

FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR, THE CONVENTION WILL TAKE PLACE AT FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON ORLANDO STUDIO CITY. IT IS TIME TO SUBMIT TOPICS YOU WOULD LIKE CONSIDERED FOR A PANEL, WORKSHOP OR PAPER PRESENTATION.

CALL FOR SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JULY 15, 2012

Competitive Papers

Three Categories: Professional, Graduate Student and Undergraduate Student. 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: (1) 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) include 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.

Panels, Workshops and Individual Papers

Panel, workshop and paper proposals must include a one-page attachment containing: (1) a rationale for the proposed panel/workshop/paper, (2) a brief (50-word) description, and (3) a list of all participants/authors including names, affiliations and contact information. Please identify the chairperson of the panel/workshop, who shall serve as the primary contact for notifications.

Poster Sessions

Two Categories: Graduate Student and Undergraduate Student. 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. 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 using the FCA website at <http://www.flcom.org/>. Click the Conventions button on the left hand side of the screen and then click the Proposal Submissions button. If you experience problems contact Donald Painter, FCA Treasurer, at fcatreasurer@gmail.com.

NATIONAL COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION STATES ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT 2011

The Florida Communication Association held its 81st annual convention at the Sheraton Four Points Resort in Orlando on Oct. 13 to Oct. 15, 2011. We had a total of 129 attendees. Attendees came from the following states: Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, and North Carolina.

We continued soliciting sponsors to help defray convention expenses. This year we raised \$5,000 in sponsorship money.

We awarded Papers in the Undergraduate, Graduate and Professional categories. The Association also awarded Poster Awards in the Outstanding Undergraduate, Outstanding Graduate, Most Crowd Appeal-Undergraduate and Graduate, Best oral presentation. Awards were also given to the Teacher of the Year-Dr. Christopher Gurrie of the University of Tampa. The FCA Student Scholarship was awarded to J. Jacob Jenkins of the University of South Florida. The Research Project grant went to the FAU Chapter of Lambda Pi Eta.

The Association continues to publish three electronic newsletters and two issues of its juried print Journal.

Submitted by—Richard Quianthy
NCA Representative

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

All participants in a program session will be required to preregister for the convention by the early registration deadline. The final program will recognize only paper authors and panel programs that are confirmed with participant preregistrations.

A LOOK BACK: 2011

FLORIDA COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Each year the Florida Communication Association presents awards at the annual convention to recognize the efforts of outstanding members. Nominations for 2011 are now closed. The FCA congratulates all 2011 award recipients.

FACULTY AND PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

- Teacher of the Year: For outstanding performance as a classroom teacher
- Scholar of the Year: For outstanding scholarly achievement
- Outstanding Service: For achievement and service to the FCA

STUDENT AWARDS

- Student Scholarship Award: For outstanding scholarly activities as a student member of the FCA;
- FCA Grant: For outstanding scholarly research or service activities by an individual student member or group of student members of the FCA.

2011 AWARD RECIPIENTS

PAPER AWARDS

Undergraduate

Jared Misner, University of Florida

"Between the Lines: Examining Androgyny's Benefits in Communicational Sequences and Sex-Typed Activities"

Graduate

Lester Leavitt, Florida Atlantic University

"Preparing Social Entrepreneurs: In Search of a Training Manual"

Professional

Richard Mercadante, St. Petersburg College

"Apologia and Nazism: Rhetoric, Ethos, and the Heidegger Case"

POSTER SESSION AWARDS

Outstanding Undergraduate Poster

Renee Beals, Florida Southern University

Outstanding Graduate Poster

Lester Leavitt, Florida Atlantic University

Most Crowd Appeal - Undergraduate

Ann Cook, Veronica Fish, Ryan Murphy, Shiela Negron, Ryan Murphy from Rollins College

Most Crowd Appeal - Graduate

Lester Leavitt, Florida Atlantic University

Best Oral Presentation

Renee Beals, Florida Southern University

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Dr. Christopher Gurrie, University of Tampa

FCA GRANT

FAU Chapter of Lambda Pi Eta

FCA STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

J. Jacob Jenkins, University of South Florida

SPECIAL THANKS CONVENTION SPONSORS

PLATINUM SPONSORS

The University of Tampa

GOLD SPONSORS

Florida State University, College of Communication and Information

Rollins College

University of South Florida, Department of Communication

SILVER SPONSORS

Florida Atlantic University

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AUDIO/VISUAL SPONSOR

Polk State College

BEST PRACTICES AND TIPS FOR TWITTER IN THE HIGHER-ED CLASSROOM

By: John Hawks

College students have become used to instant communication. Many professors complain that technology has given their students short attention spans and poor study skills. Others bewail the end of civilization, as they see their students reading Facebook during class instead of taking notes.

In reality, students are adapting to a new information environment. The cues that guided young academics to new ideas a generation ago were subtle, steeped in unwritten formalities, and exclusionary. Today, the best students are using social networks, feeds and blogs to forage for the information that matters to them. But others will inevitably take advantage of the social buffet to browse away from your course's content. What to do?

Twitter is a tool that can enable *ad hoc* conversations and interactions among your students, in ways that you can track and foster. Your students may not all be familiar with Twitter, but its simplicity and availability, much like text messages on a phone, has a broad appeal.

Learn to work in 140 characters.

The absolute greatest thing about Twitter: It forces concision

Make the course hashtag part of the syllabus.

A student who keeps a search on the hashtag will see every tweet, including those by other students. This keeps the conversation open because any student can chime in anytime.

Bring the feed into the classroom.

Use the class hashtag to send informal study questions on the current readings, or preview the next day's discussion.

Be professional.

If you spend a lot of time answering student e-mails, moving some of those questions to Twitter can be a huge relief. An answer in 140 characters approaches the simplicity of handling questions in person at the end of class. But even though a tweet can be brief you need to be conscious of your professional role in your class.

FROM THE DESK OF STEFANIE POWERS, NEWSLETTER EDITOR



In the role of the new Newsletter Editor, I hope to continue the tradition of providing timely information on the Florida Communication Association. I have numerous ideas for the coming editions, but need your help and feedback in facilitating the process. Please send me best practices, classroom tips, membership highlights and anything else that you think would be relevant for our FCA members. I am open to all ideas. With that, I hope that you like the new “look” of the newsletter, with help from Timea Varga from Lynn University.

Coming in the next issue: More details on conference hotel, best practices for teaching and a few surprises.