

Call for Papers and Panels
Southern States Communication Association's
80th Annual Meeting

“Positive Communication”

and

The 20th Annual Theodore Clevenger
Undergraduate Honors Conference

April 7-11, 2010, Memphis, TN



General Call

SSCA members and guests are invited to reflect on communication's role in happiness and in living meaningful lives (eudemonia, Aristotle): **Positive Communication**.

Founding positive psychologist, Martin E. P. Seligman, asked, “Can there be a psychological science . . . about the best things in life? Can parents and teachers use this science to raise strong, resilient children ready to take their place in a world in which more opportunities for fulfillment are available? Can adults teach themselves better ways to happiness and fulfillment” (M. E. P. Seligman, 2002, *Authentic Happiness*, New York, Free Press, p. 29)? Since then, positive psychology has grown and made tremendous progress addressing such questions (e.g., The Positive Psychology Center, University of Pennsylvania, <http://www.ppc.sas.upenn.edu/>).

As communication scholars and educators we now ask: What does communication leading to happiness look like across the contexts of relationships, groups, organizations, cultures, publics, and media? What is the status of research and education about communication

processes considered to be positive (e.g., comforting, communication activism, dialogue, empathic listening, forgiveness, humor, negotiation, nurturing communication, positive emotional communication, prayer, pro-social media, service learning, spiritual communication, supportive communication, and so on)? How are positive character-traits such as curiosity, valor, honesty, fairness, humility, appreciation of beauty, gratitude, hope, playfulness, and more communicated, and affect communication? What is communication's role in the development of positive character traits (e.g., C. Peterson & M. E. P. Seligman, 2004, *Character Strengths and Virtues: a Handbook and Classification*, New York, Oxford University Press)? What might positive mass media look like? What might positive communication pedagogy look like (e.g., C. Peterson, 2006, *A Primer in Positive Psychology*, Oxford University Press)? And, since we will meet in Memphis—will singing the Blues make us happy?

The submission due date for papers and panel to all divisions and interest-groups is Friday, September 11, 2009.

For Conference Information: Ideas and questions pertaining to the conference theme should be directed to Dr. Thomas Socha, SCCA Vice President, Department of Communication & Theatre Arts, Old Dominion University, tsocha@odu.edu, (office: 757-368-4114).

SSCA Memphis Convention Website:

http://www.odu.edu/~tsocha/ssca_memphis/ssca-memphis-2.shtml

SSCA:

www.ssca.net

General Information

Calls for conference submissions to the specific divisions and interest groups are presented below. Regardless of the entity to which the submission is made, submissions must be received by **September 11, 2009** and are to conform to the following guidelines:

Papers—Papers should not exceed 25 pages of text (approximately 6000 words) and not have been presented previously at another convention, published or accepted for publication, and free from sexist, discriminatory language. Submissions are to be sent in two separate files: one containing the title, authors' names along with complete contact information for each author. The contact information should include names, mailing addresses, institutional affiliations, telephone numbers, fax numbers, and email addresses for each author. The second file contains the paper including title and abstract. The identity of authors should be

hidden in the text of papers. Papers must be submitted electronically to the appropriate Division or Interest Group program planner in MS Word. Outstanding work by student authors is recognized. Papers authored solely by graduate students should clearly note on the title page the designation “STUDENT” in the authorship information. The top graduate student paper from each Division or Interest Group will be considered for the Bostrom Young Scholar Award. Please note that if you are an undergraduate student, you should submit your paper to the Undergraduate Honors Conference. Those guidelines and submission deadline follow below and are also available on the SSCA web site as a separate call. “DEBUT” is to appear in the upper right-hand corner of the title page if the author is a first-time presenter at this or any other convention. If you are a scholar new to the Southern region, please indicate as such in your submission information.

Proposals for complete panels or roundtable discussions should be submitted using the *Standard Program Proposal Submission Form* (found here and on the SSCA website-- <http://www.scca.net/files/conventions/2007/SSCA-Proposal-submission-form.rtf>).

The submission should be accompanied by a one page description and rationale for the panel or roundtable discussion. Importantly, panel and roundtable proposals that include participants with diverse institutional affiliations will have a greater likelihood of acceptance than those proposals that do not. The text of the brief program description and rationale of the program as well as names, affiliations, and contact information for all participants is to be submitted in MS Word. Authors of accepted papers/panels or other program entries are expected to register for and attend the convention in Memphis.

AV: SSCA makes no guarantee that AV equipment will be available. Any requests for AV equipment must include a rationale for its use and only will be granted ON A VERY LIMITED BASIS, that is, **a data projector and a screen ONLY** may be available for a small number of panels in a ballroom setting. In order to use this data projector you must supply your own laptop computer and a cord to connect your computer to the data projector. The rationale for limited AV is simple—**AV rental is incredibly expensive.**

Vice President’s Call

Thomas J. Socha, tsocha@odu.edu

Program proposals not fitting within the structure of SSCA's divisions and interest groups may be submitted directly to the Vice President for consideration as part of the Vice President's Spotlight Series. This year the Vice President’s Spotlight Series will focus on three types of programs:

- Panels featuring significant scholarship or other professional contributions on topics specifically related to the conference theme—**Positive Communication**

- Panels honoring the scholarly contributions of long-time SSCA members.
- Workshops, roundtable discussions or open forums providing additional opportunities for professional development or opportunities to encourage collaboration concerning the convention theme.

Proposals are to be submitted in MS Word and should include a description and rationale, names and affiliations of facilitators or presenters, a request for time allocation, along with a rationale for any audio visual needs. Submit these on or before September 11, 2009, electronically, to Thomas Socha, tsocha@odu.edu with the subject line indicating “SSCA Vice President’s Panel.” Those interested in submitting something for the Vice Presidents’ Spotlight panels are encouraged to contact Tom Socha to discuss their ideas.

20th Annual Theodore Clevenger Undergraduate Honors Conference **Friday April 9th and Saturday April 11, 2010**

Call for Papers

Frances Brandau-Brown, SSCA Vice President Elect, UHC Planner

**Deadline for Students’ Submissions to the Undergraduate Honors Conference:
December 11, 2009**

Undergraduate students are encouraged to submit papers for the Theodore Clevenger Undergraduate Honors Conference (UHC) to be held in conjunction with the 2010 Southern States Communication Association (SSCA) convention April 7 – April 11, 2010 in the Peabody Hotel in Memphis, TN.

Papers may address a variety of theories, topics, concepts, and methodologies of study in communication. Although desirable, papers need not specifically address the convention theme, “Positive Communication.”

Students currently enrolled as an undergraduate are eligible to submit a paper. In the case of multiple-authored papers, one student must be designated as the submitting/presenting author of each paper and no student may present more than one paper. Students may submit only ONE PAPER. Submissions from anyone other than the author(s) will disqualify the paper from review.

Papers must be double-spaced in 12-point font and with one inch minimum margins. Submissions should not exceed 25 pages (including all references, figures, tables, and appendices), should avoid sexist language, and should include an abstract of 100-150 words. Except for the title page, the identity of the author(s) or the author(s)'s institution should not appear anywhere in the paper. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** AV equipment will NOT be available for presentations.

Note: All UHC authors (not just the lead author) are expected to attend the convention. Submitting a paper implies that all authors intend to participate in the convention if the paper is accepted for presentation. All UHC authors are expected to support SSCA by registering for the conference and paying the \$50 UHC registration fee, which includes UHC and SSCA convention registration, admission to the UHC Awards Breakfast, and one issue each of the *Southern Communication Journal*.

The author(s) of the top-ranked paper will receive a \$100 cash award and plaque. All UHC participants will be recognized at the Undergraduate Honors Conference Awards Breakfast.

Papers should be submitted by the author(s) as a Word or PDF format to Dr. Frances Brandau-Brown, Sam Houston State University at Brandau.Brown@gmail.com. The subject line of the email must contain the phrase "UHC Paper Submission." The email message should have two files attached: File #1: A submission letter requesting review of the UHC paper that includes the paper's title, author(s)'s name(s), institutional affiliations, mailing addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses. File #2: the paper that begins with the title/abstract on page 1. In the event that the paper addresses the convention theme, please note this in the submission letter. SSCA reserves the right to disqualify any paper.

Please share this Call for Papers with your students and encourage them to submit their work to the SSCA UHC.

Divisions

Applied Communication

The Applied Communication Division invites papers and panel proposals for competitive selection and especially welcomes those that address the convention theme, *Positive Communication*. Submissions that reflect the convention theme, will explore the ways in which communication in applied settings foster traits such as valor, honesty, fairness, hope, and playfulness. The convention setting of Memphis provides a wonderful backdrop for communicators to reflect on the positive changes possible when communication is exercised by activists, organizations, and media that comforts, activates, and reconciles our communities.

Papers may report empirical findings of applied research projects, advance applied communication theory, discuss ways to apply communication research in organizations or teaching, review, critique, or synthesize applied communication theory and/or methods, and more. Topics are open to any area of applied communication across the field including organizations, interpersonal relationships, groups, culture, and media. Topics may also relate to health communication, organizational change, training and consulting, political discourse, service learning, and so on. Additional relevant and creative topics are encouraged.

Panels are also welcomed. In addition to traditional panels of related research presentations, we invite innovative panel formats such as round-table discussions addressing an important issue, interviews with or spotlights on the work of prominent scholars, and discussions with local community members on issues significant to the region, as well as workshops and/or collaborative discussions on applied research and teaching.

Be aware that SSCA cannot guarantee the availability of audio-visual equipment. If AV equipment is necessary, please make plans to bring your own.

Submissions must be received by the division program planner no later than Friday, September 11, 2009. Submissions must be sent electronically as email file attachments in Microsoft Word in the following format: SSCA Applied Div-*short title*.doc (where a short title for the paper or panel follows SSCA Applied Div).

Papers must include two file attachments: (1) a file containing a cover sheet listing the paper title and names, affiliations, emails, postal addresses, and phone numbers for all authors, and (2) a file including a 50-word abstract and the completed paper not to exceed 25 double-spaced pages excluding references and appendices. Indicate STUDENT on the cover sheet when applicable. For the purposes of blind review, please delete author identification from the document properties of the file and remove all author-identifying information from the text. All papers submitted will be considered for the division's Top Paper Award. The division's Top Student Paper will be submitted for consideration for the SSCA Bostrom Young Scholar Award.

Panel proposals must include one attachment containing the following: (1) the SSCA Program Proposal Form (available on the SSCA website), (2) a one-page rationale for the proposed panel, (3) a brief (50-word) description for the program, and (4) a list of all participants including names, affiliations, and contact information (email, postal address, and phone number).

Send submissions to Maria A. Dixon, Southern Methodist University at maria.southerncommunication@gmail.com.

Communication Theory

The Communication Theory Division invites submissions for competitive papers, panels (research or discussion), teaching ideas, or thematic workshops for the 80th SSCA convention. The division also seeks nominations for an outstanding scholar in

communication theory, whom we will feature in a spotlight panel. The division especially welcomes submissions addressing the convention theme of "Positive Communication." Papers submitted by graduate students should have the designation "Student Paper" on the cover sheet. The division will submit the top graduate student paper to the SSCA vice president to compete for the Robert Bostrom Young Scholar Award. Submit complete papers and panel proposals as an e-mail attachment in MSWord to suttoda@auburn.edu. If you have any additional questions or concerns, contact David L. Sutton, Auburn University, Communication & Journalism, 217 Tichenor Hall, Auburn, AL 36849-5211, (334) 844-2753.

Community College

The Community College Division invites submissions focusing on this year's theme: **Positive Communication**. Please consult the conference website for details on this theme. **Submission deadline: September 11, 2009.**

While all proposals will be given careful consideration, we are especially interested in exploring how the following topics are connected with **positive communication** in community colleges:

- G.I.F.T.S. - Great Ideas for Teaching Speech Communication (brief 3-5 minute presentation with handout for round-table sharing)
- Service learning
- Accreditation
- Honors Programs
- Developing a speech degree/certificate program
- Student retention, persistence/success
- Adjuncts

Submissions may include panels, papers, roundtables or discussions. We encourage new/innovative proposals that have wide appeal to an audience of community college speech professors.

For *panel proposals*, please include a title, 100-word abstract, name of the contact person, and names, e-mails, affiliations, and addresses of all participants.

For *paper proposals*, please include a 100-word abstract and limit papers to 20 pages. Include a separate title page and remove all references to the author in the paper. Be sure to clearly identify papers that are "Student Authored" or "Debut."

If needed, presenters must provide their own AV equipment.

Please send proposals and papers as email attachments in either rich text (.rtf) or MS Word.

SUBMISSIONS MUST BE EMAILED BY FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 2009

- email your submission to: mercadante.richard@spcollege.edu
- Please note: if you do NOT receive an email response to your submission within 48 hours, you should contact me by phone.
- Please write “SSCA submission” in the subject line.
- Direct questions to: Rich Mercadante at St. Petersburg College
727-791-2527 or email mercadante.richard@spcollege.edu

Freedom of Speech

The Freedom of Speech Division is accepting scholarly papers and panel proposals for presentation at the annual convention. Submissions may address any aspect of freedom of expression, contemporary or historical, from any methodological perspective. Representative topics include Supreme Court cases on free speech issues, academic freedom, Internet websites, hate speech, or terrorist speech. Competitive papers addressing freedom of speech as related to the conference theme of “Positive Communication” or to freedom of speech and civil rights events in Memphis are especially sought.

Graduate student papers are invited, and the top paper authored by a graduate student from the division will be considered for the Association's Bostrom Award, which honors the top graduate student paper in the Association. All complete papers submitted by the deadline will compete for the Gregg Phifer Award. Division members are encouraged to solicit free speech-related papers for the Undergraduate Honors Conference. Authors will be notified by e-mail shortly after the papers are received and distributed for review.

Completed submissions must be received by September 11, 2009. All paper and panel submissions will be competitively blind-reviewed. Papers should be no longer than 7500 words (excluding citations and bibliography). Requests and justifications for audio-visual equipment must be included with the submission.

Submit papers via attachment in Microsoft Word as two files: (1) A copy of the paper with a cover page containing: title, 75-100 word abstract and complete author information. This includes the name of the author(s), institutional affiliation, complete mailing address, telephone and fax numbers (with area code), e-mail address, and, if applicable, identification as a graduate student paper. (2) A copy of the paper with a cover page containing title and 75-100 word abstract, but no author identifying information.

Panel proposals must include: (1) the Program Proposal Form, (2) a one-page rationale for the proposed program, (3) the program copy, and (4) a list of all participants, including their names, affiliations, mailing addresses, telephone and fax numbers, and e-

mail addresses. The proposal form, additional instructions, and examples may be found in the "Directions for Submitting Panel Proposals" section of this website. All panel proposals must be submitted electronically via attachment in Microsoft Word.

Papers and panel proposals should be submitted by e-mail to Pat Arneson (arneson@duq.edu) no later than midnight on Friday, September 11, 2009.

Gender Studies

The Gender Studies Division invites competitive scholarly papers and panel proposals which represent a creative range of gender related issues. Paper and panels that consider the 2009 theme, "Positive Communication" are encouraged. Areas for research/panels might include: positive images of women and men, gains women have made, the impact of Blues music on African-American women, or a discussion of how positive communication relates to gender. The convention website http://www.odu.edu/~tsocha/ssca_memphis/ssca-memphis-2.shtml provides more information and resources on positive communication as well as instructions on the submission format for papers and panels.

Panel proposals should focus on a theme relevant to gender studies. Panels may consist of a chair, individual paper presenters, and a critic/respondent. Alternate formats are also encouraged (round-table discussions with or without a moderator/facilitator, workshops with a clearly defined focus and a specified leader, or other unique formats). In alternative formats, respondents may be included or omitted as appropriate.

The division is also accepting submissions for a panel on Great Ideas for Teaching Gender Across the Curriculum.

The Gender Studies Division also seeks nominees for our Gender Scholar of the Year award to be honored at convention. Nominations will be collected and reviewed by the Gender Studies Division officers, and a short list will be confirmed. Nominees will be contacted to determine their interest and availability and to request vitae from each for a final vote. The scholar who is selected will be spotlighted with an interview/discussion session. Note on your nomination the name of the scholar, the school affiliation, and a brief rationale behind the nomination.

Please send submissions to Sheree' Keith at sheree.keith@gmail.com by Friday, September 11, 2009. You will receive an e-mail confirming receipt within 24 hours. For additional questions, contact Sheree' Keith, Department of Humanities, Macon State College, Macon, Georgia 31206, 478.471.5789.

Instructional Development

This year's theme focuses on examining ways in which positive processes can shape our contexts. Positive communication dynamics include: comforting messages, communication activism, dialogic communication, empathic listening, forgiveness, the use of humor, negotiation, nurturing communication, positive emotional communication, prayer, pro-social media, service learning, spiritual communication, supportive communication, positive communication pedagogy, and so forth. In keeping with this theme, our division welcomes submissions that help scholars learn more about how positive communication traits, messages and constructs can enhance teaching and learning in the traditional classroom or other settings. We are especially interested in submissions focusing on any of the following:

1. Positive ways to provide developmental means for assisting non-tenure track faculty in their teaching effectiveness.
2. Effective methods in helping high school students "bridge" to college (possible examples: Early College High School, Junior Achievement, Dual Enrollment).
3. Great Ideas For Teaching Speech (G.I.F.T.S.).
4. Successful strategies to provide "Homeland Security" instruction (possible examples: disaster preparation, rapid response preparation and resilience).
5. Innovative techniques of integrating social media (Communication Technology) in the classroom.

Panels (including roundtables and discussions)
or papers are possible forms of submission

Panels: Include a title, 100 word abstract, name of the contact person, and names, e-mails, affiliations, and addresses of all participants.

Papers: Maximum length is 25 pages (excluding tables & references). Include a separate title page to conceal the author(s)' identity. Title page should contain a 100-word abstract. Remove all author references. Designate "Student Authored" or "Debut" papers.

AV Equipment: Please plan to furnish your own audiovisual equipment.

Deadline: **E-mail submissions no later than Friday, September 11, 2009 (8 p.m. Eastern Standard Time).**

Attachment: E-mail submissions as e-mail attachments: either ".doc" (MS Word) or ".rtf" (rich text).

E-mail to: rfalvo@epcc.edu (Write "SSCA submission" in the subject line).

Contact: Richard Falvo: 915-831-3336 (phone) or rfalvo@epcc.edu (e-mail)

Intercultural Communication

The Intercultural Communication Division invites submissions of papers and panel proposals on any aspect of intercultural communication. Papers and panels related to the convention theme will be given special attention as will panel proposals that address

diversity, immigration, and civil rights issues in the Memphis region. Papers should be free from sexist, discriminatory language and include a 100-150 word abstract. Author identification must be removed from the essay. In addition, the title page should include name, mailing address, email address, telephone and fax number, and school affiliation of author(s). Students should write STUDENT in the upper right hand corner of the title page. The recipient of the Division's Top Paper award will receive a plaque. In addition, the top graduate student paper from the division will be submitted for consideration for the Association's Bostrom Award.

Submit papers and panel proposals electronically to David Lee at dhlee@mail.usf.edu. For paper submissions, please send the title page as a separate email attachment. All submissions will receive an email confirmation. For additional information, contact David Lee at (813)313-6888. Deadline for submissions is September 11.

Interpersonal Communication

The Interpersonal Division of the Southern States Communication Association (SSCA) invites submissions for competitive papers, panels, roundtable discussions, or Spotlight Scholars for the 2010 convention. Given the *Positive Communication* focus of the theme for this convention, the division has a special interest in featuring the focus on examining and promoting positive communication in a variety of interpersonal contexts as well as works of interpersonal communication scholars and scholars in complementary fields/disciplines. The division welcomes submissions that address positive communication in any form. We also welcome collaborative works...which could be scholars from different institutions, scholars from different areas of the field (i.e., interpersonal and political comm.), etc. New and inventive ideas for panels are encouraged! Be happy and submit by September 11, 2009.

Submissions should not exceed 25 pages (30 pages including references, tables, etc.), and should conform to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA), 5th Edition*. Authors should submit two Microsoft Word documents: the paper without any identifying information and a title page with author's name(s), educational institution, and contact information. Note: All submissions should conform to the Universal Submission Requirements set by the Vice-President and Program Planner.

Audiovisual equipment is extremely limited. Participants are highly encouraged to provide any equipment they need. Any requests for audiovisual equipment should accompany the submission. However, participants should be prepared to present *sans* audiovisual aids.

Please direct all submissions to mezell@hindsec.edu. You will receive an e-mail confirming receipt within 24 hours.

If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me:
Monette Callaway-Ezell, Hinds Community College, 601.857.3530, mezell@hindsc.edu

Language and Social Interaction

The Language and Social Interaction Division invites submissions of competitive papers and panel proposals investigating speech, language, and/or gestures in human interaction. This may include, but is not limited to, conversation analysis, discourse analysis, analysis of talk based on ethnographic fieldwork, studies of discourse process, face-to-face interaction, mediated interaction, and communication networks. Papers and panels emphasizing the conference theme “Positive Communication” are especially welcomed. Please submit papers and panel proposals electronically to Cole Franklin at cfranklin@etbu.edu by September 11, 2009.

Mass Communication

The Mass Communication Division of the Southern States Communication Association invites competitive scholarly papers and panel proposals on all aspects of mass media, mass communication, computer-mediated communication, and new media technologies to be juried for presentation at the 2010 SSCA Annual Convention, in Memphis, Tenn., from April 7-11, 2010.

Submissions that reflect the convention theme, *Positive Communication*, are especially encouraged. The Mass Communication Division welcomes diversity in scholarly panel proposals and research in areas that include, but are not limited to, emerging technologies, the Internet, print journalism, on-line journalism, television, radio, film, international broadcasting, advertising, political communication within the media, and more.

In addition to traditional research papers and panels, the mass communication division is soliciting proposals for production showcases, workshops, presentations, and other innovative discussion formats about issues that are focal to the discipline.

Deadline for receipt of submissions is Sept. 11, 2009.

Please follow these guidelines when submitting papers and proposals:

- 1) Only e-mail submissions will be accepted for papers and panel proposals. Submit an electronic version, as an attached .doc (Microsoft Word) or .rtf file only, of each competitive paper or panel proposal. Include a 100-150 word abstract as the first page of this attached file. Papers should be sent to Alison Miller at amiller@ulm.edu. Papers should be written in APA, 5th edition, style. Contact the program planner if you do not receive a confirmation of receipt of the paper within a reasonable time frame.

2) Include, as a separate attached file from the paper (also .doc or .rtf format), a cover page that contains the title, author's name, institutional affiliation, mailing address, telephone number, fax number, e-mail address, and faculty or graduate student status. Papers submitted for consideration as the best student paper must not have a faculty member as one of the authors. Please note that if you are an undergraduate student, you should submit to the Undergraduate Honors Conference, which has separate submission guidelines and a different submission date. Those guidelines are available on the SSCA web site.

3) Your paper must not be under consideration for any other division within SSCA or any other academic conference.

4) Do not identify authors in the body of the paper or in a running head. Submitters are asked to clear all personal or identifying data from the "Properties" menu in Microsoft Word.

5) All panel proposals must be submitted with 1) a Panel Proposal Form, 2) a one-page rationale for the proposed program, 3) the program copy, and 4) a list of all the proposed participants, including their names, affiliations, mailing addresses, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail addresses. The proposal form may be found on the SSCA Web site.

6) Only one first-author submission will be accepted by the Mass Communication division.

7) Submissions must be no longer than 25 pages, including tables and references.

Please remember that SSCA does not plan on providing A/V equipment in all session rooms.

Production Showcase:

We also invite audio/visual or film productions for the production showcase. The productions may be on any topic, but should not exceed 15 minutes in length. Send one copy of the production (finalized DVD or CD) and a written summary. The written summary should include: the name(s) of the producer(s), status (faculty, student, etc), and 150-200 word description of the work.

Send submissions for the production showcase to:

Mary Jackson Pitts, Ph.D.

Professor

P.O. Box 2160

Department of Radio/Television

Arkansas State University

State University, AR 72467

Phone: 870-972-3361

Performance Studies

The Performance Studies Division hopes that you will be joining us in Memphis for the Southern States Communication Association Conference April 7-11, 2010! The theme for the 2010 conference is **Positive Communication** (read and consult materials on theme at http://www.odu.edu/~tsocha/ssca_memphis/ssca-memphis-2.shtml.) The Performance Studies Division welcomes your submissions!

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: September 11, 2009

The Performance Studies Division invites submissions for competitive papers and program proposals including: workshops, panels, roundtables, interactive discussions, or performances for the 2010 convention. Given the collaborative focus of the theme for this convention, the division has a special interest in featuring collaborative works in performance studies that embrace multiple areas of the discipline. Session Chairs are encouraged to seek Presenters, Panelists, or Performers from other institutions and other SSCA divisions to broaden our base. Program proposals should include the names, titles, and affiliations of the Chairs, Presenters, Panelists or Performers, and Respondents. Papers submitted by graduate students should be designated-Student on the cover sheet. The Division's top graduate-student paper will be submitted to the Vice President to compete for SSCA's Robert Bostrom Young Scholar Award. New and inventive ideas for panels are welcome! Please direct all submissions to jacqueburleson@comcast.net. You will receive an e-mail confirming receipt within 48 hours. For additional questions, contact: Jacqueline D. Burleson, PH.D., Speech and Drama Program, Department of Languages and Literature, P.O. Box 9072, Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA 23806. (804) 523-5340

Political Communication

The Political Communication Division invites submissions for competitive papers, panels, roundtable discussions, workshops, or spotlight scholars for the 2010 convention. Submissions addressing the conference theme, "Positive Communication," are especially welcomed. All submissions should be sent electronically to Bill Edwards edwards_bill@colstate.edu. For technical instructions and ideas visit our planning website at <http://comm.colstate.edu/ssca/>.

Popular Communication

The Popular Communication Division invites completed papers, media presentations, and panel proposals for the 2010 SSCA convention. The division welcomes scholarship related to media and culture within a popular communication framework from a broad range of theoretical and methodological approaches. Special consideration will be given to submissions that emphasize cross-disciplinary scholarship, relate to the

convention location (Memphis, Tennessee), or focus on the convention theme: "Positive Communication."

Please submit all proposals electronically to SSCAPopComm@gmail.com by September 11, 2009. In the body of the e-mail provide your name, contact information, and paper/panel title. Completed papers should remain within 25 pages, begin with an abstract, and should not include the author's/authors' names anywhere in the document. Student papers should be clearly marked "Student" in the paper header and in the cover e-mail. Panel submissions should include the names and affiliations of all participants in a document separate from the panel proposal itself, which should include a rationale for the panel and an abstract/summary for each presentation/discussant. It is expected that all those submitting will attend the conference if selected for inclusion in the program. Please refrain from equipment requests unless positively essential to the presentation itself. Justifications for equipment must be made at the time of submission.

Direct questions to Danielle Williams at joudew@langate.gsu.edu or (404) 413-5600.

Public Relations

The Public Relations Division invites completed papers and panel proposals to be considered for presentation. The division welcomes a broad range of theoretical and methodological approaches to public relations issues, including research of public relations pedagogy. Special consideration will be given to papers with the convention theme, "Positive Communication". Papers over 25 pages in length (excluding charts and graphics) will not be accepted. Papers and panel proposals will be accepted from now until Friday, September 11th, 2009.

Top-paper recognition is given for competitive papers. The top graduate student paper will be submitted for consideration for the SSCA Bostrom Award. Student papers should be clearly marked "undergraduate student" or "graduate student." For panel proposals, abstracts of papers will be considered. All equipment requests must be specified in the panel proposal or paper submission. Please submit all papers and panel proposals via e-mail to Mary Jackson Pitts, Ph.D. (mpitts@astate.edu). If there are questions or problems, please contact her at (870) 972-3361.

Rhetoric and Public Address

The Rhetoric and Public Address Division invites submissions related to the 2010 convention theme, *Positive Communication* ("communication's role in happiness and in living meaningful lives"). In particular, submissions focusing on Southern issues and topics – especially concerning Memphis (i.e., music, Civil Rights, Martin Luther King, popular/political icons, etc.) – are especially encouraged. Submissions on all topics of interest to the Division also are welcome. The Division will review two types of submissions: (1) Completed Papers and (2) Thematic Panels (these panels should include

some participants from different institutional affiliation). Thematic Panels that encourage audience participation will be looked upon favorably. Students submitting papers should clearly designate the paper as "STUDENT" on the cover page. The Division's top graduate student paper will be entered into the Robert Bostrom Young Scholar Award competition for the overall top graduate student paper in the Association. All materials must be submitted electronically in Microsoft Word format to Jason Edward Black, University of Alabama, rpa_2010@yahoo.com between 1 July 2009 and 11 September 2009. Submitters will receive a confirmation email within 48 hours upon receipt.

Southern Forensics

The Southern Forensics Division invites papers, panels, posters, and workshops concerning argumentation (e.g., theory, criticism, pedagogy) or competitive speech and debate (e.g., pedagogy, history, praxis, culture, forensics across the curriculum, Urban Debate Leagues, public debate formats). Non-traditional formats such as roundtable discussions are encouraged. The division is especially interested in submissions related to the conference theme, *Positive Communication*.

The Division supports the SSCA Town Hall Debate. The debate topic should relate to the conference theme. Those interested in debating, moderating, or coordinating the event should contact the division planner.

Individual paper submissions related to the convention theme, teaching methods, research strategies, and other topics of interest are strongly encouraged. For peer review, names should appear on the cover page only. The Division will award prizes for the Top Paper and Top Student Paper. Students submitting papers should designate the paper as "STUDENT" on the cover page.

For panels or workshops, submit the official Program Proposal Form, the title and an abstract that explains the idea, as well as abstracts for the individual components when appropriate (e.g., a panel of papers). Submitters must also provide a 250-word rationale for the proposed panel, noting the expertise of the participants to address the topics covered by the panel. On an attached page, include the names, affiliations, mail addresses, phone/fax numbers, and e-mail addresses for all participants.

The Division will award the Forensics Educator or Contributor of the Year Award. Those wishing to nominate a peer should include a cover letter, the C.V. for the nominee, and up to five pages of supporting material including student and peer letters of support. Self-nominations are welcome.

Please indicate room requirements (e.g., size, seat configuration, stage) with your submission. Consult <http://www.scca.net> for general submission guidelines. Submissions must be received electronically between June 1, 2009, and September 11, 2009. All

papers and panel proposals must be submitted as Microsoft Word 2003 or PDF files. Send submissions or inquiries to David Nelson at southernforensics@gmail.com

Interest Groups

American Society for the History of Rhetoric

The American Society for the History of Rhetoric Interest Group invites submissions for competitive papers, panels, roundtable discussions, or Spotlight Scholars for the 2010 convention. The history of rhetoric is broadly defined, and submissions dealing with any area of rhetorical study are welcome. Papers submitted by graduate students should be designated-Student-on the cover sheet. The Group's top graduate-student paper will be submitted to the Vice President to compete for SSCA's Robert Bostrom Young Scholar Award. Please direct all submissions by Friday, 9/11/09 to kowens@umhb.edu. You should receive an e-mail confirming receipt in a timely manner. For additional questions, contact Kerry Owens Department of Communication and Media Studies, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, 900 College Street, Box 8012A, Belton, TX, 76513, (254) 295-4157.

Association for Communication Administration

The Association for Communication Administrators Interest Group invites the submission of completed papers and/or panel proposals for inclusion in the 2010 SSCA Convention. Discussion of subjects such as planning and assessment, accreditation, development, inter- and cross-divisional collaboration would be welcome. Also, proposals that focus of the role of administrators in "Positive Communication," the convention theme, are especially encouraged. Consult Positive Resources Website: http://www.odu.edu/~tsocha/ssca_memphis/Positive_resources.shtml for more information. Please note that there may be publication opportunities related to papers pertaining to the theme.

Submissions and nominations should be received no later than September 11, 2009.

Please submit electronically in MS Word as an e-mail attachment. Requests and justifications for all audio-visual equipment must be included with the submission. Authors of accepted papers and participants on all accepted panels are expected to attend the convention.

Papers should include the names, affiliations, mailing addresses, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail addresses of all authors.

Panel Proposals should include: (1) the Program Proposal Form, (2) a one page rationale for the proposed program, (3) the program copy, and (4) a list of all proposed participants, including their names, affiliations, mailing addresses, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail addresses. Details and examples may be found in the “Call for Panel Proposals” section of SSCA website.

The interest group also annually honors the Outstanding Communication Administrator of the year. Nominations are sought for such individuals. Please provide the name of the nominee, contact information for the nominator, and a brief explanation for the nomination.

Send your materials to Mindy Chang (mchang@wnec.edu). Direct all correspondence concerning submissions to her at the Department of Communication, Western New England College, 1215 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, MA 01119 (413-796-2336).

Ethnography

The Ethnography Interest Group invites submissions for competitive papers, panels, roundtable discussions, or Spotlight Scholars for the 2010 convention that use or discuss ethnography. Given the positive, generative focus of the theme for this convention, we have a special interest in work that directly and creatively addresses the theme and its intersection with the ethos of the location of the conference, Memphis and “singing the blues:” of particular interest are papers and/or panels incorporating Blues Song Titles, blues riffs, or blue themes. In addition, we are interested in continuing the book reviewer/author discussion panel: if you are interested in organizing this panel and/or would like to review a book that is about or uses ethnography, please contact the program planner. Furthermore, we anticipate organizing a preconference field work event that ties into a conference panel: contact the conference planner if you are interested in receiving information about this event. The Ethnography Interest Group also welcomes submissions addressing collaboration in any form. Papers submitted by graduate students should be designated “Student” on the cover sheet. The Interest Group’s top graduate-student paper will be submitted to the Vice President to compete for SSCA’s Robert Bostrom Young Scholar Award. New and inventive ideas for panels are welcome! Please direct all submissions BY SEPTEMBER 11, 2009 to cnpoulos@uncg.edu. You will receive an e-mail confirming receipt. For additional questions, contact Christopher N. Poulos, Department of Communication Studies, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, cnpoulos@uncg.edu, 336-686-2514, 107 Ferguson Bldg., PO Box 26170, Greensboro, NC 27402-6170.

Kenneth Burke Society

The Kenneth Burke Society of the Southern State Communication Association (SSCA) invites completed papers and panel proposals for the 2010 SSCA convention in Memphis, TN. The Burke Society seeks scholarship that explores, extends, or applies any aspect of Burkean scholarship to the study of Communication. Papers and panel proposals that explore the convention theme, “Positive Communication: Come to Memphis, Sing the Blues, Be Happy” will be given special consideration. In addition to papers and panels connected to the convention theme, the Burke Society is interested in submissions related to Memphis (e.g., Elvis, civil rights, the blues), contemplating ways to teach Burke, or connecting Burkean scholarship to areas of research beyond rhetorical studies.

The Kenneth Burke Society is particularly friendly toward graduate student work, including debut scholars, whether submitted as competitive papers or thematic panels; please identify student work. Burke scholars are invited to submit alternative panel formats such as interactive sessions, workshops, or roundtable discussions. Top paper and top student paper will be awarded. The top student submission will be nominated for the Bostrom Award.

Please submit all proposals electronically to KBSSCA@gmail.com by the deadline of 9/11/09. In the body of the e-mail provide your name, contact information, and paper/panel title. Completed papers should remain within 25 pages, begin with an abstract, and should not include the author’s/authors’ names anywhere in the document. Student papers should be clearly marked “Student” in the paper header and in the cover e-mail. Panel submissions should include the names and affiliations of all participants in a document separate from the panel proposal itself, which should include a rationale for the panel and an abstract/summary for each presentation/discussant. It is expected that all those submitting will attend the conference if selected for inclusion in the program. A/V requests are strongly discouraged.

Direct questions to Wesley Buerkle at buerkle@etsu.edu or (423) 439-7579.

Come to SSCA Memphis. Sing the **Blues**. And be happy at the Peabody Hotel!

