

# ICA Newsletter

Spring 2006  
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Julie Weeks Simanski, DMACC, co-editor Spring edition  
Marilyn Shaw, UNI, co-editor Fall edition

## President's Corner



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### Upcoming Events

Iowa  
Communication  
Association 2006  
Convention

September 29-30,  
2006  
Cedar Falls  
Holiday Inn, Cedar  
Falls, Iowa

It's time to plan for the annual Fall ICA conference. This year we've moved the dates back a bit, to accommodate many schedules, including the available dates at the Holiday Inn.

We invite you to submit your panel and workshop ideas. This year we plan to have a keynote speaker who will be "kick off" the convention as the first session on Friday. We also have a convention theme, not to limit your choices, but rather to stimulate our thinking and contextualize our gathering. The theme for this year is *Stories Lived, Stories Told*. Pamela Cooper, formerly of Northwestern University and currently at the University of South Carolina, Beaufort, is tentatively scheduled as our keynote speaker. She has said, "Yes, contingent upon events" on her campus. Her keynote will undoubtedly help us think through this theme, and provide some thinking and networking opportunities. She will remain through the conference and be a part of the discussions in several sessions as well as be available for one-on-one discussions. Pam is a communication education specialist who has served as an officer in many regional and national organizations and is a great "idea person." The best part, however, is that she truly enjoys visiting with people and hearing their ideas and concerns.

There is a submission form in this newsletter that will allow you to submit your suggestions for convention programming. I have always been impressed with the quality of cutting-edge submissions by this group. Our success in having ICA programs scheduled at Central States Communication Association Convention, and the honor of receiving the prestigious Outstanding Journal Award (kudos to Kim Powell for continuing a tradition that Sarina Chen initiated!), is

proof of the high quality of work produced by ICA members and guests. So, dig in, dig down, and come up with some more of your memorable convention submissions for another exhilarating September convention, once again in Cedar Falls. And, this year, the Citation Award winner, Mary Bozik, will remind us of the important work we do as teacher-educators and scholars in the State of Iowa. Deadline date for submissions is May 26, 2006. You can either send me your ideas via email at [Melissa.Beall@uni.edu](mailto:Melissa.Beall@uni.edu) or send a hard copy to me at my home address: Melissa L. Beall, 1607 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Cedar Falls, IA 50613.

I look forward to receiving many ideas for panels and workshops. If there are special things you'd like to see and hear, but don't want to submit them, please feel free to send along your suggestions.

Warm regards,

Melissa L. Beall  
President-elect, Iowa Communication  
Association

See  
You  
In September!!

## Executive Committee News

To recognize the excellent scholarship in our undergraduate and graduate programs in Iowa, last year the ICA Executive Board established a Top Student Paper Award.

The top graduate and undergraduate paper are each honored at the convention with a cash award, certificate, membership in ICA, and publication of the top papers in the 2006 edition of the *Iowa Journal of Communication*. A fund has been established to support this award thanks to the generosity of Melissa Beall. To continue this award contributions are needed. If you wish to contribute to the ICA Top Student Paper award fund, simply write a check to ICA's executive secretary Susan Cantine.

Your Executive Committee has plans underway for a spectacular 2006 conference September 29-30 at the Cedar Falls Holiday Inn. Melissa Beall, President-Elect, is the program planner for the fall conference. Look for her call for programs in this newsletter; she has exciting and innovative ideas for the program—you won't want to miss it! The May 26<sup>th</sup> deadline will approach quickly; begin plans now for how you will participate with the program.

Attendees at last fall's conference responded favorably to the layout and amenities offered by the Cedar Falls Holiday Inn. We will again be able to offer the housing choice between the Holiday Inn and the Days Inn immediately adjacent to the Holiday Inn; the Days Inn also offers a complimentary continental breakfast to their guests which may be an attractive feature for families wishing to make a weekend stay in Cedar Falls. Conference room rates apply throughout the weekend for ICA participants. Anyone staying at the Days Inn has full use of the pool, sauna, whirlpool, exercise room, etc. at the Holiday Inn. Look for more details in the summer conference mailing. In addition, wireless internet connection is available throughout the Holiday Inn.

Your Executive Committee works hard to control the costs of the conference. One of the

thresholds to controlling cost is attendance at the conference, and at conference events. For example, did you know that if have 40 individuals attend the breakfast we don't pay any additional fees for the meeting rooms on Saturday? Also, if we rent 40 rooms total between the Days Inn and Holiday Inn, we get one room "comped" which helps offset costs for hosting the conference.

Among the important business of the association is the continuance of a strong Executive Committee. This fall we will elect two at-large board member positions who each will serve a two year term. We will also elect a President-Elect who will serve a six year term, two years each as president-elect, president, and past-president on the committee. We are now working to put together a slate of candidates for these vital positions; please make your wishes known to me if you would like to be a candidate for the Executive Committee.

There are many ways to serve your association and our discipline. From attendee to program participant to elected board members to senior colleagues who have dedicated decades of service, all voices are important to the vitality of ICA. ICA needs your voice and ICA has something wonderful to offer you. Make plans now to be a part of our conversations in September.

Mary Gill

## Call for Nominations: ICA Outstanding New Teacher Award

Do you have a new colleague who impresses you with their skill and expertise in the classroom? A great way to acknowledge their excellence is by nominating them for the Outstanding New Teacher Award presented by ICA each year. This award is given to an exceptional teacher in the state of Iowa who has been teaching professionally (at any level) for seven years or less. Please consider nominating a deserving colleague. The following materials should be submitted for each nominee:

- Three letters of nomination from students, colleagues, and/or administrators the past three academic years (e.g., teaching evaluations, letters of support from supervisors, etc.)
- A listing of nominee's current teaching load
- Three samples of instructional materials used by nominee (e.g., assignments, syllabi, etc.)

The deadline for nominations is May 26, 2006. Please send all materials to:  
Dennis Doyle  
Communication Studies Department  
Central College  
Pella, Iowa 50219.

If you have questions, e-mail Dennis at: [doyled@central.edu](mailto:doyled@central.edu) or call (641-628-5319).

*"Make plans now to be a part of our conversation in September."*

## State News

### MPCHS Speech Team "deviates" at public recital

On March 14, the Mt. Pleasant Community High School Speech Team, under the direction of ICA member Kent Davis, presented "Deviations"--its 2006 public recital. Following the theme of "deviation" and its various connotations, members of the 2006 Speech Team presented their selections from the current contest season.

### **New faculty member at Luther College**

Derek Sweet joined the Communication Studies faculty at Luther College in Fall of 2005. Derek recently completed his Ph.D. at the University of Denver. Focusing on popular culture artifacts, Derek's research explores how individual and collective subjectivities are constituted, negotiated, and performed, both discursively and non-discursively, in the realm of everyday human interaction. Derek is developing and teaching courses in rhetoric and popular culture.

## IJC CALL FOR PAPERS

The *Iowa Journal of Communication* announces a 2006 special issue on feminist theories and practices in communication. Manuscripts should be received no later than April 15.

Feminist theories and practices have gained authority in the communication field, particularly in areas such as cultural and critical studies, discourse theory, international communication, organizational analysis and pedagogy.

This special issue seeks to feature feminist communication research that advances discussion and debate on the social, political, and economic construction of gender. Manuscripts may include, but are not limited to, the relationship between gender and race, ethnicity, class and sexual identity; international and transnational gender studies; feminist cultural studies; and the relations of power between women and men. Studies on both mediated and non-

### **Department name change**

The Luther College Department of Communication/Linguistics is now the Communication Studies Department. With the retirement of the sole linguist in the department, the college hired a second rhetorician, essentially expanding the communication program.



mediated communication, within a context of feminist methodologies, theories, and practices are welcome. This special issue will also contain a section on pedagogy, so welcomes teaching ideas, assignments or theories employing feminist pedagogy.

We welcome submissions from researchers in a variety of areas. Any manuscripts not accepted for the special issue will be considered for the general issue of the journal.

The IJC follows a policy of blind review so no author identification should appear in the body of the manuscript. Manuscripts should not exceed 25 pages and should include a title page that includes author(s) name, academic position, institutional affiliation, full address, telephone number, email address and brief author bio. An abstract of not more than 100 words should accompany the paper. All submissions must conform to the most current edition of the APA. Queries and manuscript submissions should be sent electronically to: Kimberly A. Powell, Editor, *Iowa Journal of Communication*, [powellki@luther.edu](mailto:powellki@luther.edu).

### Buena Vista University

The Buena Vista University Theatre wraps up its 2005-2006 season with "Our Country's Good" by Timberlake Wertenbaker, April 26th through the 29th. "Our Country's Good" is based on the historical events surrounding the arrival of the First Fleet of transported English convicts on the eastern coast of Australia. Their struggle for survival calls us to examine what we believe about justice, humanity, dignity and hope.

Dr. Bethany Larson directs with David Walker designing.

**Tickets go on sale one week prior to the performance; reserve tickets by calling 712-749-2129.**

## ICA TOP STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Undergraduate and Graduate students are invited to submit papers for presentation at the 2006 Iowa Communication Association Conference to be held September 29- 30 at the Holiday Inn in Cedar Falls.

All submitted papers that are accepted for presentation at the conference will be organized into thematic and/or top paper panels. The top three papers will be recognized on a top student paper panel, with the best graduate and undergraduate student paper receiving:

- Publication of the top undergraduate and graduate paper in the 2007 issue of the *Iowa Communication Journal*
- Monetary award
- Recognition at the conference banquet on Friday evening, September 29.
- **2006 ICA conference dues paid**
- **Certificate of recognition**

Papers may emphasize any area of Communication Studies (i.e., interpersonal, organizational, intercultural, political, communication theory, performance studies, rhetoric, public relations, mass communication, etc.). Theoretical, research, methodological, and applied papers are all acceptable submissions. APA or MLA style is preferred.

Each submission should include: Two copies of the manuscript (not to exceed 25 pages of text), an abstract of approximately 100 words, and a detachable cover page with mailing addresses and phone numbers of the author(s) along with an indication of the origin of the paper (i.e., specific class, independent research project).

### PAPERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY MAY 25, 2005 TO:

Kim Powell  
Department of Communication Studies  
Luther College  
Decorah, IA 52101

#### IAAE Who?

By Larry Brandstetter  
ICA member from Red Oak

Every organization needs to tell the world who they are and what they are about. ICA has done a wonderful job of fulfilling that mandate. The organizational name expresses itself so everyone knows good, insightful communication is our focus and passion.

For 18 years ICA has supported the Iowa Alliance for Arts Education, yet the title of the organization does not clearly define the mission and focus of the work we do. Where ICA does this in three words, it will take a page to complete the task for IAAE.

The IAAE mission is aimed at creating an environment for teachers and students of the arts in Iowa where the free exchange of ideas can take place using the arts as the medium.

This is accomplished through six focus areas.  
1. Promoting the use of proactive advocacy information to inform parents, students, school board members, patrons and administrators about the benefits of a curricular arts program.

To view this information go to the links "Advocacy" pages at [www.smartz.org](http://www.smartz.org). See the @Issue pieces, download, print, pass out to all. .

2. When a program for the arts is at risk of being eliminated or reduced, IAAE provides strategic planning assistance for the stakeholders in that community to communicate with the decision makers reasons for keeping that program a vital student resource for all students. We do not work to protect individual jobs, we help local stakeholders protect and advance programs.
3. Networking with those who support our efforts at the Iowa Department of Education, Iowa Arts Council, IHSSA, and IHSMA. When we work together to create programming, the world of change just seems to work better.
4. Being at the table where discussions are held concerning the direction of Iowa education is crucial. Iowa leaders must hear about the focus the arts bring to a child's life while they are charting the course for this child to take. So often efforts are concentrated only on ITBS scores and issues that we too can have a role in addressing.