Happy beginning to a new academic year and the annual pumpkinification of autumn. It is my distinct pleasure to write this column to bring to your attention three points for your consideration.

**CSCA President’s Undergraduate Honors Research Conference** Now is a great time to encourage your students to submit their work to the CSCA President’s Undergraduate Honors Research Conference. Submissions are due by **Monday, January 12th, 2015**. And, volunteers are needed to help serve as reviewers. If you are willing to serve as a reviewer of papers and panels submitted to the Undergraduate Honors Research Conference, please send me (CSCA@depaul.edu) your name, institutional affiliation, and contact info (e-mail address and phone number) so that you can be added to the list of reviewers and my favorite people. Submissions will be sent out for review immediately after the deadline and reviews will need to be returned no later than **Wednesday, January 21st, 2015**. Thank you for helping to make possible the elevation of undergraduate research as we converge upon Madison in the spring.

**Seeking CSCA Hall of Fame Nominations** Induction into the Central States Communication Association’s Hall of Fame recognizes the highest level of service to the association through mentoring of fellow members, fulfilling the responsibilities of various offices at the interest group and/or association level, regular participation on conference panels as a presenter or respondent, and/or advancing the mission of the association through other means, such as committee service, journal editorship, etc. Inductees must have shown a strong pattern of dedicated and continued service to the association over time; and, to qualify for induction, the candidate must have reached the rank of Emeritus Professor or be in the latter stages of her/his career. No more than four individuals will be selected for induction into the CSCA Hall of Fame in any given year.

Nomination packets for a CSCA Hall of Fame candidate must include the following: (1) a letter of nomination that makes a compelling case describing the nominee’s contributions to CSCA and (2) a copy of the nominee’s vita. More than one letter of support may be included in the nomination materials, but the nomination packet MUST make a strong argument for the nominee’s sustained and committed service to the association.

CSCA Hall of Fame nomination materials must be received by **Friday, January 30th, 2015**. Please submit materials via email to me at CSCA@depaul.edu. *(Column continued on p. 2.)*
Oh My, Madison  Please do not tell Chicago that I would leave it for Madison. You will likely consider breaking up with your hometown after spending time there too. It is located on Lake Monona, more specifically an isthmus (the opposite of a peninsula), in a state known for its beer, cheese, sausage, and universities (aka paradise). And we have the good fortune of having our conference in the center of downtown at a hotel that is as lovely as it is convenient to restaurants, theatres, and nightlife. All of our conferences are special, but this will be one for the (Face)books.

As all of you are crafting and revising your work to submit to the annual CSCA convention, 1st Vice-President David T. McMahan is busy working hard to put together what promises to be an amazing conference in Madison. And our 2nd Vice President, Shawn T. Wahl, is offering some innovative pre-conferences, so be sure to plan to arrive early. Behind the scenes, our Executive Director, Jimmie Manning, is working tirelessly to coordinate the incredible site and events. The program already contains some innovative content, to supplement your fantastic scholarship. And it would not be CSCA without the social programming. There will be a reception at the stunning Overture Center preceding a Second City improve troupe show! Another reception is planned at the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art (MMoCA), said aloud, sounds like Mmmm Mocha, which provides a hint about what else will be there (desserts!). It is so very hard not to write in hyperbole when describing this conference and the planned events, so please forgive my indiscretions. This conference will be epic.

Leah E. Bryant, CSCA President

Call for Short Courses
2015 CSCA Annual Convention
Madison, Wisconsin
April 15th-19th, 2015
Convergence

Short course proposals are being accepted for the 2015 CSCA convention in Madison, Wisconsin. Short courses are designed to provide participants with a pedagogically-focused examination of concepts/theories, research methodologies, teaching practices/issues, and other matters related to the study and instruction of communication. Short course proposals encompassing any aspect of communication are welcomed, with those proposals dedicated to the spirit of Convergence, the conference theme, especially welcomed.

Proposals must be submitted using the Short Course Submission Form located on the CSCA website (www.csca-net.org). Required information on this form includes the following: (a) title of the short course, (b) 75-word description of the short course, (c) 75-word rationale for the short course, and (d) list of presenters.

All technology requests must be made at the time of submission.

Proposals must be received by Friday, October 3rd, 2014. Send proposals electronically using Microsoft Word to the following: mcmahan.csca@gmail.com.

David T. McMahan, CSCA First Vice-President
Call for Submissions
2015 CSCA Annual Convention
Madison, Wisconsin
April 15th-19th, 2015

Convergence

Convergence has been selected as the theme for the 2015 Central States Communication Association convention in order to encourage the convergence of scholarship, cultures, and academic institutions as well as to illustrate the importance of coming together and including all voices.

Through a convergence of scholarship, we may explore how scholars benefit from an awareness of what is taking place in the discipline outside their areas of expertise and from opportunities to examine points of overlap in their respective areas of study. Accordingly, submissions dedicated to bringing together separate areas of study and submissions dedicated to the integration of ideas in our discipline are encouraged.

Through a convergence of cultures, we may recognize and promote diversity within the discipline and the association. Doing so entails broadening our research efforts to include the communication of less-privileged members of societies. It also entails promoting the full participation and inclusion of members from groups historically less involved in the discipline and the association. Accordingly, submissions dedicated to the communication of groups typically excluded from research and submissions dedicated to exploring opportunities to advance the diversity of our discipline are encouraged.

Through a convergence of institutions, we may bring together and promote the inclusion of scholars from all types of academic institutions. Providing opportunities for and encouraging the participation of scholars from all types of academic institutions will strengthen both the discipline and the association. Accordingly, submissions dedicated to the concerns of scholars from specific types of academic institutions and submissions dedicated to exploring opportunities to advance the inclusion of all scholars are encouraged.

Please see the submission calls of the association’s interest groups and caucuses for specific submission information. These calls are located on the association’s website (www.csca-net.org).

Deadline for Submissions: Friday, October 3rd, 2014
Primary Program Planner: David T. McMahan, CSCA First Vice-President

Dates to Remember

CSCA 2015 Paper/Panel/Short Course Submissions: 10/3/14,
Communication Studies Special Issue on Forensics 12/15/14,
CSCA 2015 UHRC 1/12/15, CSCA Nominating Committee 1/15/15,
CSCA Cooper Award/CSCA ONTA 2/1/15, CSCA Federation Prize 2/15/15
CSCA First Vice-President & Planner’s Column

The Central States Communication Association (CSCA) 2015 convention in Madison is one that you will not want to miss.

Making CSCA valuable and unique in general, with around 1,000 people in attendance, the convention is intimate enough for you to interact one-on-one with other leaders and scholars in the discipline and large enough to offer a variety of high quality panels to meet your personal research and pedagogical interests and needs. With 25 interest groups and caucuses meeting at the convention, there are also many opportunities to become involved in the association and to take on leadership roles.

Beyond the exceptional scholarship, academic development, and opportunities for personal engagement that you have come to expect from CSCA, the upcoming convention promises even more.

We are fortunate to have a talented group of program planners for the conference and they are certain to develop programming for their interest groups that is simply phenomenal. Special programs and learning opportunities featuring top scholars in the discipline are also being developed. There is access to more space for this convention than at previous conventions, which means additional opportunities for you to participate and additional programming for you to enjoy.

We are also fortunate to have a superb location for the convention. Madison is home to numerous restaurants, coffeehouses, music venues, bookstores, specialty shops, museums, and outdoor activities. There truly is something for everyone in this incredible city.

The convention hotel is the extraordinary Madison Concourse Hotel and Governors Club, a beautiful and luxurious property dedicated to sustainability and environmental responsibility, located at the heart of Madison. By booking a Governor’s Club room, you can enjoy complimentary breakfast, top-shelf cocktails, hors d’oeuvres, and desserts in a private lounge overlooking the State Capital.

There are also a number of special events being developed, including a Welcome Reception on Thursday evening of the conference and an extra number of CSCA Coffee Breaks to enjoy between sessions. However, two planned events are especially noteworthy.

Friday evening of the conference will feature a reception at the Overture Center for the Arts, which will be immediately followed by a performance of The Second City comedy troupe. The Second City has been the training ground for a host of famous alumni including John Belushi, Dan Aykroyd, Bill Murray, Gilda Radner, John Candy, Catherine O’Hara, Mike Myers, Tina Fey, Steve Carell, Stephen Colbert, and many others. This will be an opportunity to witness authentic improvisational comedy performed by an amazing group of entertainers and most likely more than one future star.

Saturday evening of the conference will feature a reception in honor of our outstanding president, Leah E. Bryant, at the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, where we will have private access to creative and unique collections housed in a facility designed by renowned architect Cesar Pelli. This stunning facility provides an exhilarating space for the presentation and conservation of modern and contemporary art. You will be able to enjoy smart, sophisticated, and out of the ordinary works of art while gazing at downtown Madison through the glass facades of this magnificent building.

Making both of these events even better, their locations are only a two or three minute walk from the convention hotel. (Column continued on p. 5.)
Additional events along with special programs and appearances will be announced in the coming months. In the meantime, I encourage you to submit your papers and panels prior to the submission deadline (Friday, October 3rd, 2014). Visit the CSCA website (www.csca-net.org) for submission information and specific calls.

As mentioned above, I guarantee this is one convention that you will not want to miss. I look forward to seeing you in Madison!

David T. McMahan, CSCA First Vice-President & Planner

CSCA Federation Prize Call

The Federation Prize promotes intellectual development and communication scholarship by awarding a cash prize of (up to) $3000 to a selected proposal authored by a CSCA member. If there are multiple submitters on a proposal, all authors must be CSCA members. Proposals are evaluated by a selection committee of scholars representing diverse interests in communication and methods of inquiry. The recipient is expected to provide a final report at the CSCA convention the year following the award presentation.

To be considered for the Federation Prize, applicants must submit a proposal. The proposal must include (1) a one-page title sheet with the applicant's name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, fax number, title of project, and a 200 word abstract; (2) a three-page description of the project, including objectives, methods, proposed timetable, qualifications of applicant, and a rationale describing why the project is worthy of CSCA funding; (3) a one-page budget, indicating the amount of money requested (up to $3000) and how the money will be spent (Note: Applicant salaries may not be listed as an expense); (4) a brief (i.e., two-page) curriculum vita of each applicant; and (5) names and contact information of three references familiar with the applicant's work. The materials must be received by Sunday, February 15th, 2015. Please submit the materials via email to rachel.friedman@erau.edu.

Book Reviews are Coming!

CSCA is proud to announce that Dr. Sarah Steimel of Weber State University has been selected as the CSCA Newsletter Book Review Editor! Starting with the next issue of this newsletter, thoughtful reviews of books will be crafted under Sarah’s careful eye. She joins CSCA Newsletter Editor Tiffany R. Wang, CSCA Newsletter Editorial Assistant Becky Leach, and Executive Director Jimmie Manning on the newsletter staff.

Do you have a book you would like to see reviewed in the newsletter?

Would you like to volunteer as a reviewer?

If so, please contact Sarah at sarahsteimel@weber.edu and she will provide you with further details.

The newsletter staff looks forward to bringing this exciting new feature to CSCA members in the coming years!
CSCA Second Vice-President’s Column

2015 CSCA Annual Convention Preconference
Madison, Wisconsin
April 15th, 2015

Foundation

As Second Vice-President, I am looking forward to the upcoming convention in Madison. It will provide our association an opportunity to explore the Convergence of scholarship, culture and academics. Congratulations to my friend and colleague, First Vice-President David T. McMahan, who is planning an exciting program that will foster an amazing CSCA conference in Madison. I would also like to recognize all of the program planners who have performed the important service function of organizing a host of competitively selected papers and panel concepts.

I have the honor of developing the preconference for this convention and to begin preparations for the 2016 convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan. As a candidate for office, I emphasized the importance of viewing CSCA as more than a professional association—CSCA serves as a disciplinary Foundation. CSCA provides a place where colleagues can discuss new teaching and research ideas, friends can reconnect, and all of us can maintain and build a Foundation as communication scholars—it is where we find grounding and stability. Therefore, Foundation will be previewed at the upcoming preconference and the primary planning theme for the 2016 Central States Communication Association Annual Convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan!

One of two featured preconference sessions at the Madison convention will highlight the importance of the basic communication course as part of our disciplinary Foundation. As respected disciplinary leaders and communication scholars in our regional and national networks have invited us to reflect on: Where is home? What provides our communication departments across the nation with a strong Foundation? The basic communication course will be celebrated and embraced as one key material that gives our discipline grounding and stability. I have partnered with a team of skilled and talented Basic Course Directors from across the nation who will lead an interactive preconference experience designed to focus on the importance of communication skills, teaching assistant training, assessment, course innovation, general education advocacy and more. Additional information about the preconference focused on the Basic Communication Course will be forthcoming. If you have any questions about the preconference, please feel free to contact me at shawnwahl@missouristate.edu.

I am pleased to announce a second unique preconference featured in Madison. Craft breweries have gone from under 100 to over 2,800 in just 40 years. Wisconsin has been home to beer brewing for over 100 years and is one of the centers of big, industrial beer (Miller Brewing). Even so, the state has fostered a protected craft beer community, where independent breweries and brewpubs have flourished. Today, there are approximately 200 craft breweries in Wisconsin. (Column continued on p. 7.)
This preconference experience will include a beer bus tour with Hop Head Beer Tours. This company promotes the education about local craft breweries by bringing groups to three local Madison breweries. The tour involves taking a brewery tour, learning about the brewing process and local ingredients, and tastings. My hope is to draw on this local experience to contextualize craft beer culture in Madison and take advantage of the location of the conference. Thanks to Jennifer C. Dunn, Dominican University, and her colleagues for facilitating the second preconference opportunity unique to Wisconsin and the Madison community.

The second preconference will be scheduled later in the afternoon to avoid conflict with the basic communication course session. If you have any questions about the craft beer community preconference, please feel free to contact Jennifer C. Dunn at j denn@dom.edu.

The Madison convention will also provide an opportunity to promote the 2016 convention in Grand Rapids. I will be meeting with interest groups to discuss and share ideas for the conference as well as to provide a preview of the convention site and the fantastic events being planned. I am looking forward to partnering with an incredible team of program planners for the 2016 convention. See you all in Madison!

Shawn T. Wahl, CSCA Second Vice-President

CSCA Past Officers Graduate Student Debut Program Award Call

The Past Officers Graduate Student Debut Program Award is designed to showcase some of the most promising work of the discipline’s graduate students. It provides a glimpse into the future of the association and the discipline by highlighting some of the work we can expect to see in the future and by introducing some of the top emerging scholars.

The competition is open to graduate students in all areas of the discipline.

To be eligible for participation in the Debut Program:
(1) The author must be a graduate student.
(2) The paper must have single authorship.
(3) The paper must be the author’s first paper to be presented at CSCA.

Indicating the paper is a debut piece when submitting it to any of the association’s groups enters the paper into consideration for the award and participation in the debut panel. The top debut paper from each group will be sent to a committee of past officers who will determine the top overall papers. The winners will be recognized and their awards will be presented at the Award and Business Meeting Luncheon. The winning papers will be delivered during the respective groups’ programming and during the special Past Officers Graduate Student Debut Program Award Panel immediately following the luncheon.

Submit Member News & Notes to CSCA Newsletter Editor Tiffany R. Wang at cscanewslettereditor@gmail.com!
2015 CSCA President’s Undergraduate Honors Research Conference Call

The 2015 CSCA President’s Undergraduate Honors Research Conference (UHRC) will be held Friday, April 17th and Saturday, April 18th during the convention in Madison, Wisconsin. The UHRC not only offers undergraduate students the opportunity to share their original research projects with their peers from other institutions, but also provides students with a forum through which they can inquire about graduate study, meet graduate faculty, and interact with some of the leading scholars in the field of Communication Studies. This year’s UHRC will feature – in addition to paper, panel, and poster presentations – a Graduate School Open House and an Awards Luncheon.

Submissions are being solicited in three formats:

1. **Competitive papers** are fully completed research papers. Papers should not be longer than 30 pages, including references, tables, and figures; must be formatted following APA guidelines; and must include a title page that identifies each undergraduate student author; an e-mail address and institutional affiliation for each author; and the name, e-mail address, and office telephone number of the professor or advisor who supervised the completion of the paper. Submissions that fail to follow these guidelines will not be reviewed.

2. **Panel discussions** are a compilation of 4-5 fully completed research papers whose topics center on a central theme. While each individual research paper does not need to be submitted, the panel discussion submission should include (for each fully completed research paper) a title page that identifies each undergraduate student author; an e-mail address and institutional affiliation for each author; a 100 word summary of the paper; and the name, e-mail address, and office telephone number of the professor or advisor who supervised the completion of the paper. Panel discussions also must identify a chair and a respondent. Submissions that fail to follow these guidelines will not be reviewed.

3. **Posters** can be completed research papers or research papers that currently are in progress. Poster submissions require a 250 word abstract that clearly identifies the aim(s) of the paper, the rationale for the study, the participants or artifacts, and the findings (if applicable). Poster submissions must include a title page that identifies each undergraduate student author; an e-mail address and institutional affiliation for each author; and the name, e-mail address, and office telephone number of the professor or advisor who supervised the completion of the paper. Submissions that fail to follow these guidelines will not be reviewed.

All submissions must be solely authored by undergraduate student(s). Any submission that has been co-authored with a graduate student or a faculty member cannot be considered for presentation at the UHRC and will not be reviewed.

To be eligible to submit a paper, a panel, or a poster to the 2014 UHRC, participants:
(a) must have been enrolled as an undergraduate student during the Spring 2014 semester, Summer 2014 term, or Fall 2014 semester;
(b) must have completed the project (i.e., paper, panel, or poster) while enrolled as an undergraduate student during the aforementioned semesters or summer term;
(c) should not have presented the project previously at a state, regional, or national communication association conference; and
(d) must commit to attending the 2015 convention if the project is accepted for presentation.

Submissions should be sent electronically as a Microsoft Word document to Dr. Leah E. Bryant, CSCA President, at CSCA@depaul.edu and must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. CST, Monday, January 12th, 2015.
Seeking Nominees for Leadership Positions

The Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for three positions:

**Second Vice-President**: Once elected, the successful candidate commits to a four-year obligation beginning as the Second Vice-President who will plan the Pre-Conference in 2016, plan the 2017 annual convention as First Vice-President, and then plan the Undergraduate Honors Research Conference in 2018 as President. The successful candidate will finish out the term with one year as Past President on the Executive Committee.

**Executive Committee Member at Large**: Serves for a two-year term on the CSCA Executive Committee, providing governance for the organization.

**Finance Committee Chair**: Serves for a three-year term. The term begins in April 2016. Works with the Executive Director and members of the Executive Committee to oversee the financial health of the Association and in consultation with the Executive Director create the annual budget to be presented at the November business meeting.

To self nominate, please send a short letter of interest and abbreviated vita to Nichelle McNabb, CSCA Nominating Committee Chair (NMcNabb@otterbein.edu). If you wish to nominate another member, please have them send their letter of interest and vita to you; completed application packets may then be forwarded. Please have all submission materials to Nichelle McNabb no later than Thursday, January 15th, 2015.

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**CSCA Cooper Award Call**

The prestigious Cooper Award is named after former CSCA President Pamela J. Cooper and is presented to one M.A. level graduate teaching assistant and one Ph.D. level graduate teaching assistant. At the annual convention, the recipients receive a $50 cash award and a certificate.

To be considered for the Cooper Award, nominees must submit materials electronically (not to exceed 12 pages, excluding cover page, index page, and/or divider pages) which must be the original work of the graduate teaching assistant. The electronic packet must include (1) no more than two letters of nomination/support; (2) a one to two-page statement of the nominee's teaching philosophy; (3) a description of the nominee's teaching experiences including courses taught and course responsibilities; (4) evidence of the nominee's teaching effectiveness, including summaries of teaching evaluations and/or peer/ supervisor evaluations; and (5) teaching materials including syllabi, assignment sheets, handouts, and web pages.

Only two candidates can be nominated by one department. Students who were graduate teaching assistants during the past academic year as well as current M.A. and Ph.D. students are eligible. Graduate teaching assistants at colleges and universities in the CSCA region are eligible. In addition, graduate teaching assistants advised by faculty outside of the CSCA region are also eligible, but they, their nominating faculty, or department should be CSCA members. Cooper Award recipients are expected to become members of CSCA and attend the conference to receive the award. The recipients of the Cooper Award are recognized at the Hall of Fame Awards Luncheon and Business Meeting.

All materials must be received by Sunday, February 1st, 2015. When the materials are received, you will receive a confirmation email indicating that your submission is under review. Please submit all application materials in a single PDF to Andrew F. Herrmann at herrmanna@etsu.edu.
How excited am I about the 2015 conference in Madison? So excited that I made a Top 7 list exploring so many of the things that have me eager for CSCA 2015!

7 A bigger and better exhibits area with more coffee breaks! In addition to being able to look for new books to invigorate your classroom or research program, this year’s exhibits section will feature author signings! That’s right – you can dialogue with the authors of some of your favorite texts. We’ll also have coffee and snacks on hand at select times to keep you going as you enjoy all the conference has to offer.

6 The Undergraduate Honors Conference! CSCA is home to some of the most thoughtful, caring, and wise mentors in the discipline. The Undergraduate Honors Conference is a place where these mentors—as well as young scholars who are the future of the discipline—can shine!

5 Special workshops and the return of CSCA Young Scholar Master Classes! In addition to the wonderful panels we are used to seeing at CSCA, First Vice President David McMahan is working hard to make sure we have some special sessions at unique locations. That includes the return of the CSCA Young Scholar Master Class sessions where students and junior faculty can take a class on site with a renowned professor in the field. Stay tuned!

4 The hotel’s salad bar! I’m not the kind of guy to get excited about salad, especially when it is served from a bar. This leafy seductress changed my mind! Yummy soups, just about every salad topping you could possibly want, and excellent servers who kept our drinks filled and made sure we were enjoying our meal. Can’t beat that – and it’s right on site!

3 A dessert and drinks reception to honor President Leah E. Bryant! Dessert? Amazing. Drinks? Yes please! Throw Leah in the mix? THE PARTY IS ON! Bonus! It is in the world-renowned Madison Museum of Contemporary Art!

2 The Friday night Second City event! What do Gilda Radner, Jason Sudeikis, Bill Murray, and Tina Fey have in common? One answer: Hilarity. Another: They were all part of the Second City comedy troupe. Get ready to laugh, laugh harder, and then laugh some more with this extra special Friday night event!

1 You! I love seeing all of my CSCA friends each year, and I’m not alone. CSCA is filled with bright and motivated people who are excellent teachers, brilliant scholars, and who selflessly give to their discipline. I’m proud to count many people who I met through CSCA as some of my best friends and I love our welcoming atmosphere. I can’t wait to see you at CSCA 2015!

Until then,
Jimmie Manning, CSCA Executive Director
A CSCA Hall of Fame Inductee is the prime example of superb service to the association. Cynthia Berryman-Fink is now retired, but her outstanding service and leadership in CSCA leaves a legacy to be remembered.

Fink has early ties to the organization. She first became involved with CSCA as a graduate student when she presented her research at a conference in Chicago in 1978. Years later, Fink would be elected as President of CSCA in 2001, a position that requires a four year commitment beginning as Second Vice-President. Reflecting on her time as President, Fink says, “I enjoyed it very much. It was a great opportunity to work with a lot of folks whose work I had studied as a graduate student so to be able to serve as President of such a prestigious organization was wonderful.”

Fink shares that she benefitted from CSCA membership and involvement because “it’s really about networking. It’s about meeting people.” Because of her appreciation for this dynamic of CSCA, Fink hopes that CSCA will continue to grow yet remain personal. In her own experience with smaller, boutique-type conferences, she found that it was easier for your voice to be heard “whether you’re an undergraduate student, a graduate student, a professor, or new faculty member.” When Fink first joined CSCA, rhetoric was a main focus, but now the organization has proudly broadened its range and “the discipline is stronger because of it.”

Fink’s advice on balancing research, teaching, and service is to first recognize that “they all merge or feed each other.” She then elaborates on her personal experience, saying: “I think being a researcher made me a better teacher, and caring about teaching led me to questions that I would want to research, and the same with service—having liked leadership, I always wanted to be involved in service in the department and university.”

Along with her service for CSCA, Fink spent a dedicated 31 years at the University of Cincinnati before retiring at the age of 56. Before retiring, Fink wrote a list of fifty things she’s always wanted to pursue. She now lives in North Carolina where she is actively pursuing these goals, such as managing her own pet care business and teaching classes at the learning and retirement program at a local liberal arts university. In her free time, Fink likes to hike and travel. Whatever the activity, Fink “wants to continue the communication expertise” she gained. She is now venturing into creative writing and a possible memoir, which would surely be an interesting look into the life of a deserving Hall of Fame Inductee.

Becky Leach, CSCA Newsletter Editorial Assistant
Tiffany R. Wang, CSCA Newsletter Editor
Dennis Gouran  
Professor, Pennsylvania State University  
Central States Communication Association  
2014 Hall of Fame Inductee  

“Consistent involvement is the hallmark to which you aspire,” says Dennis Gouran, 2014 CSCA Hall of Fame Inductee. Gouran has upheld these words with his own dedication and involvement with CSCA, making him an exceptional example of a scholar who provides service for the organization.

Gouran’s first exposure to the association was in graduate school when he attended a CSCA conference in 1968. He realized at a young age that, “for a relative newcomer to the profession, participation in the work of a regional association is an excellent way to start developing a presence nationally.” Gouran continuously strengthened his credentials as he served as Communication Studies Editor (1980-82) and President (1984-85).

Through his service experiences, Gouran became very intimate with the organization, its people, and its operations. He also saw that the qualities of a good Communication Studies Editor and President often overlapped. These qualities included impartiality, efficiency, and management skills. Gouran also says “general knowledge of the discipline as a whole is ... increasingly important in an age where the discipline is becoming more and more specialized.”

Gouran’s experience as President has also made him appreciate the ability to look forward. A President and his/her organization should ask themselves where they want to be ten years from now. Gouran hopes that “encouraging more interest in the discipline at the K-12 level” will be part of CSCA’s future.

Gouran believes that “the ultimate organization is reflected in the variety of interests that are represented by its members” and that those members should “cultivate diversity appropriate to the vision of the organization.” Considering his entire CSCA experience, Gouran believes it is not necessary for CSCA to change radically in the years to come “because it is a strong organization that has been under excellent leadership for a long time.”

For those hoping to become more involved with the organization as Gouran did early in his career, Gouran recommends: “It’s a good idea to attend business meetings of the interest groups in which you have membership and take advantage of opportunities to be of service when they come along.” These service opportunities may not always be the most convenient for you, but they will set you apart as a valuable member of CSCA like Dennis Gouran.

Betsy Leach, CSCA Newsletter Editorial Assistant  
Tiffany R. Wang, CSCA Newsletter Editor
Gina Jensen  
*Journal of the Speech & Theatre Association of Missouri* Editor  
Central States Communication Association  
Outstanding State Journal Award

The *Journal of the Speech & Theatre Association of Missouri* is now a two-time winner of the CSCA Outstanding State Journal Award—and the common denominator between these wins is the editorship of Gina Jensen.

Jensen has been involved with her state organization since she was a student and she decided to serve as editor so she could give back to her organization. Her many duties include putting out the call, reading manuscripts, speaking with the editorial board, and editing. Jensen says, “I enjoy getting to read the different submissions. I think we’re really lucky in the scholars who have presented to us. We’re also fortunate to have won the top article a few times. The finished product always makes you feel good.”

Jensen’s goal for her state journal is to continue to increase its readership and scope. She wants to spread the word that the journal is not limited to Missouri scholars. The journal welcomes any scholar’s quality work. In fact, the scope of the journal serves middle school, high school, and college. Jensen explains, “We want it to be a college scholarly journal but we want to be able to reach out to scholars who serve younger audiences as well.” The journal also includes a variety of teacher resources.

Along with her work as editor, Jensen teaches classes at Webster University, including: Public Speaking, Interpersonal, Critical Listening, Navigating Relationships, and Introduction to Political Argument and Debate. She is also an Assistant Director of Forensics and Debate. Her advice on balancing her many duties is “Have a passion for what you’re doing. I think if you don’t love serving, then it’s a lot to balance because it is a lot. But if there’s something you love to do—if you love working with the organization or working with your students—I think it makes it a lot easier. You have time for what you love.” This is why, in five years, Jensen says she sees herself where she is now—in a position in which she can help her students and team continue to succeed.

Jensen is a happy and deserving recipient of the Outstanding State Journal Award. She also shares her thoughts on CSCA, saying, “It’s a wonderful conference. It’s a great way to feel connected to other regional colleagues. I just think it’s a really great place to go.”

Becky Leach, CSCA Newsletter Editorial Assistant  
Tiffany R. Wang, CSCA Newsletter Editor
Scott Jensen has dedicated 30 years to studying forensics. His studies have led him to coach at four different institutions. And now his dedication is seen through his editorship of the upcoming Communication Studies Special Issue, entitled Forensics and Learning: Integration in the 21st Century of Education.

Jensen’s main advice to those who are looking for a career in forensics is to “think about [yourself] as more than a coach. Sometimes our activity can swallow us up...Think about a well-defined research agenda and really take into account the importance of being a part of the department and community.”

Jensen is also kept busy with his many classes, including a First-year Seminar on Winning, Rhetoric, Communication Theory, Interpersonal, Public Speaking, Conflict Resolution, and occasionally the Rhetoric of Baseball. Whatever your duties may be, Jensen advises: “Go into it with a long-term sense. Make it very clear what your expectations are.” When considering expectations, the workload is easier to manage. In five years time, Jensen hopes “to have a stronger and revised curriculum at Webster University and to see it grow in an international dimension.”

Becky Leach, CSCA Newsletter Editorial Assistant
Tiffany R. Wang, CSCA Newsletter Editor

Communication Studies Special Issue Call

We invite submissions for our special issue that centers on forensic pedagogy and the changing face of both forensics and education. Tomorrow’s world of education will look different as it adapts to changing needs in our world. Trends like globalization and the need for cultural communication competence, exigencies like growing competitiveness in job markets, and a student body that has grown up in the world of Web 2.0 mandate education change to continue preparing students for the world they will enter as graduates. Forensics, too, must acknowledge this dynamic time in our history and re-define itself as a relevant and essential part of education.

We invite submissions that explore the role of forensics in the discussion and actuation of such programs and trends as integrative learning, general education, web-based education, and global learning. Authors might explore the integration of skill-building across the curriculum through forensics, forensics as co-curricular, interdisciplinary high-impact practices, research and pedagogy, forensic education and the scholarship of teaching and learning, marketability of core forensic skills and experiences, or any other subject that addresses integrating forensics into trends in education.

Authors should use APA. Manuscripts should be submitted in .doc or .docx format. Submissions should be made through the Communication Studies ScholarOne portal: with specific mention of the special issue for “Forensics and Learning” in the cover letter. The deadline for submission is Monday, December 15th, 2014. If you have questions or want a preliminary response whether or not your manuscript is appropriate for the special issue you may contact the guest co-editors Scott Jensen at jensensc@webster.edu or Laura Farrell at farrelllc@longwood.edu.
CSCA Outstanding New Teacher Award Call

This award recognizes individuals early in their professional career who are showing distinction as teachers. Nominees may be teaching at any level from grade school through graduate school. The committee reserves the right to award several individuals at different academic levels (e.g., K-12, community college, university), so individuals from all types of institutions are encouraged to apply.

Nominees must (a) be in their first five years of full-time teaching; (b) be members of CSCA at the time they apply; and (c) attend the conference the year in which the award is presented. Nominees who have more than five years teaching experience at two or more levels, but no more than five years at their most recent teaching level, may also be considered. Prior recipients are not eligible.

To be considered, nominees must electronically submit a nomination packet not to exceed 20 pages excluding cover page, index page, CV, and/or divider pages. Packets that exceed the page limit will be returned without review. Nomination packets must include (1) a letter of nomination citing the nominee's accomplishments; (2) the nominee's current CV; (3) three letters of support from students, colleagues, supervisors, and/or administrators; (4) course/instructor evaluation summaries from no more than three recent academic terms (e.g., comments and ratings with explanation of rating scale norms); (5) a description of the nominee's teaching load, including student advising; and (6) at least two samples of personal instructional materials/resources. All of these materials must be combined into a single .pdf file and submitted to the committee chair.

The materials must be received by Sunday, February 1st, 2015. Please submit the materials and any inquiries electronically to: Dr. Jessica Eckstein at jessica.eckstein@gmail.com referencing ONTA in the subject line.

CSCA Newsletter Staff & Executive Director

Tiffany R. Wang
University of Montevallo
CSCA Newsletter Editor

Becky Leach
University of Montevallo
CSCA Newsletter Editorial Assistant

Jimmie Manning
Northern Illinois University
CSCA Executive Director

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