

UHC gives members chance to meet new scholars

The 22nd annual Theodore Clevenger Undergraduate Honors Conference will take place along with the Southern States Communication Association conference in San Antonio this April. The UHC gives us the chance to mingle with scholars of all levels, from those well-known among us who are deep into our careers to those just starting out experiencing their first academic conference.

Some may not even be considering a scholarly career, yet. Some may be looking for a graduate school to attend.

In the past, SSCA has jump-started several scholarly careers through the UHC. Just ask your current SSCA President and Vice President!

I hope all those attending the conference



JOHN MEYER
Vice-President Elect
 Southern States Communication Association
john.meyer@usm.edu

will make a point to attend a session, meet and greet or enjoy a conversation with the undergraduate scholars.

Upon attending their sessions in the past, I have often been amazed by the quality of presentations and depth of thought. They

have reinvigorated me at times as I returned to my own research and teaching.

“If such dynamic presentations and insightful research are possible for undergraduates,” I thought, “I need to ramp up or evolve my course in ... !”

In the end, the cycle of exhilarating give and take involved in learning about communication must continue with a new generation of scholars, and what greater venue than at our conference to be involved with that process.

The presentations of and interactions about research drive our scholarly conferences and set the stage for the relationships forming that we particularly value. I am honored to be planning the UHC this year and I look forward to seeing all in San Antonio.

‘Like’ SSCA on Facebook, follow us on Twitter

It may be getting cooler in the South, but it’s always “hot” in Texas! SSCA is headed to San Antonio, and the 2012 Convention will soon be right around the corner! Don’t miss your many opportunities to get involved—there’s still time to:

1) Become an institutional member. For only \$100, your Department is listed on the SSCA website and has the opportunity to post job listings online.

NEW THIS YEAR: Institutional members receive a complimentary one-year student membership. Award it to an outstanding student and introduce a young scholar to Southern! It’s a great way to encourage student attendance in San Antonio.

2) Reserve an exhibit space at the 2012 Convention. Showcase your institution in person as a convention exhibitor. It’s especially a great way to promote your graduate



JENNIFER MIZE SMITH
Marketing Director
 Southern States Communication Association
jennifer.mize.smith@wku.edu

program, especially to the Undergraduate Honors Conference participants.

Other sponsorship opportunities are also available. Feel free to contact me at jennifer.mize.smith@wku.edu about deadlines, rate details, and other ways to get involved with your regional Association.

And ... SSCA is on Facebook and

Twitter! Into the social media scene? And even if you’re not, be sure to tell your students. Just search for Southern States Communication Association on Facebook and “Like” the page with the St. Anthony hotel as the profile picture.

I would like to see at least 100 fans before the convention.

Also, you can now follow Southern on Twitter at SSCA_COMM. Check it out and tweet about what you’ll be doing at the convention.

Thanks to Jeanne Persuit and her student assistant Lauren DeHart for taking the lead on these initiatives.

I am always interested in your ideas about membership and marketing SSCA, so please look me up in San Antonio. I appreciate your continued support and hope you enjoy The Southern Experience!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Director's Remarks
 Page 2

Convention Information
 Page 2

Hotel Registration
 Page 3

President's Remarks
 Page 3

Caring Connections
 Page 7

Don't wait to make reservations, register for San Antonio convention

Ready for San Antonio? Let me encourage you to act quickly upon reading this column.

First, make your hotel reservation. The convention is in the Wyndham St. Anthony. The SSCA convention rate is \$169 plus taxes, a great rate when you compare with other locations. The room reservation deadline is March 11.

You can book your room by connecting through the SSCA website <http://www.sscanet.net/convention-info/hotel-reservations.php>. See directions on Page 3 of this newsletter.

The second action is to pre-register for the convention. You save money by pre-registering.

It is also a great help to the staff and to you if we can hand you a prepared convention packet with your convention badge ready.

Here are some reminders:

REGISTRATION FEES

Pre-Registration Deadline is March 21. (Please note that your membership must first be active before qualifying for the fees listed below.)

- Regular Members (see membership costs below): Pre-register: \$45; At Convention: \$55
- Student Members (see membership costs below): Pre-register: \$25; At Convention: \$30
- Undergraduate Honors Conference



**CARL
CATES**

Executive Director
Southern States
Communication
Association
director@ssca.net

Participants: Pre-register: \$50; At Convention: \$50

• Non-members: Pre-register: \$65; At Convention: \$80

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

LIFE: A one-time payment of \$1,250 (or four consecutive payments of \$325 equals a standing patron membership);

PATRON: An annual fee of \$190 provides special support for SSCA, and includes convention registration fee, subscriptions to the four regional association journals, and listing in the convention program;

SUSTAINING: Annual fee of \$90 provides membership and convention registration fee;

REGULAR: Annual fee of \$50 provides membership privileges; and

STUDENT: Annual fee of \$30 provides membership privileges and is available only to full-time students.

See you in San Antonio!

Future SSCA Convention Sites

2013

April 10th - April 14th

The Seelbach Hilton, Louisville, KY

2014

April 2nd - April 6th

Sheraton New Orleans, New Orleans, LA

2015

April 8th - April 12th

Tampa Marriott Waterside, Tampa, FL

CONNECTIONS

VOL. 30, NO. 1

Spring 2012

Connections is the official
newsletter of the Southern States
Communication Association (SSCA).
It is published two times a year by
the Department of Communication Arts
at Valdosta State University.

Carl Cates, Ph.D.

Executive Director

Jennifer Wood Adams, Ph.D.

Editor and Designer

Southern States Communication Association

Department of Communication Arts

Nevins Hall

1500 N. Patterson Street

Valdosta, GA 31698

Help make SSCA stronger by joining a committee

Our 82nd annual convention will be held near the River Walk in historic San Antonio. San Antonio is a beautiful city with so much to offer in both Texas history and family activities.

Similarly, the convention has a wide variety of programs to suit all academic interests. If you have not already started, I hope that you will start making your plans to attend this year's convention.

That said, I would like to encourage you to become involved our association. In order for SSCA to continue to be successful, we need everyone to take an active role.

There are countless committees to be filled and although we do have a very faithful core of active members, the new perspectives brought by our diverse membership will strengthen our association.



FRANCES BRANDAU-BROWN

President
Southern States
Communication
Association
SCM_FEB@shsu.edu

One example of the importance of everyone's participation is related to the Strategic Plan's changing of our data management and our digital presence.

In order to serve our members more efficiently, the way our records are managed will be changed.

In addition, our website will be updated to make it easier to navigate and it will include more information that will enable our members to stay connected.

Similarly, Jeanne Persuit has worked with her students to create an SSCA Facebook page. These are all important changes to how we stay connected and server our membership.

However, it is important to note that these changes would not be possible if we didn't have the expertise of the volunteers on the digital committee, Carl and his staff, Jeanne and her students, etc.

If you have a special talent or have a solution that will make SSCA stronger, more efficient, and better serve our members, please join a committee and help move SSCA forward in 2012.

San Antonio has 'something for everyone'

April 12- 15, 2012, is FAST approaching! I hope you are all preparing for the 82nd Annual Convention of Southern States Communication Association and The 22nd Annual Theodore Clevenger, Jr. Undergraduate Honors Conference.

It will be held at the historic St. Anthony Hotel in San Antonio, Texas.

I know you will be pleased with this year's choice of panels ... there is something for everyone.

You can choose from communication in monogomous relationships, to an examina-



MONETTE CALLAWAY

Vice President
Southern States
Communication
Association
mezell@hindsoc.edu

tion of President Obama's "Nobel Prize for Peace Lecture," to many round table discussions on a variety of topics. The Theodore Clevenger Undergraduate Honors Confer-

ence is also quite diverse. Please encourage all members to add these panels to their agenda.

That said, I would encourage you to do more than just go to the convention panels. I hope that you will plan to attend the division and interest group business meetings, the association business meeting, and other association events such as the Town Hall debates, the Welcome reception and the Osborn reception.

San Antonio is a city that has something for everyone and a perfect place for our convention. I look forward to seeing you there!



St. Anthony Riverwalk Wyndham Hotel Reservations
 Visit: <http://www.sscanet/convention-info/hotel-reservations.php>
 to make a hotel reservation for the SSCA convention.
 All reservations must be made no later than Sunday, March 11. The group rate is available until this date or until the block fills which ever happens first.
 You are encouraged to make reservations early to secure best room type availability. On the top right corner of the Wyndham's page individuals can join the Wyndham By-Request program.
 Benefits such as a welcome snack and complimentary internet access are listed. It is recommended for our members to sign up for this program.
 Click the orange "Make A Reservation For This Event Now" button in the bottom left-hand side of the screen to begin the reservation process.

CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION FORM
82nd SSCA Convention * San Antonio, TX * April 11-15, 2012
EVERYONE attending the convention must complete a registration form
PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY – UHC PARTICIPANTS SHOULD USE THE UHC FORM

To qualify for ALL pre-registration rates, your check and completed forms **must be received no later than March 21, 2012. You must also be a member, or you may register and pay as a non-member, before your convention registration form will be processed. A membership form is attached (below or on back of this form). * ITEMS ARE REQUIRED**

*Name (Last, First, Middle) _____

*Name as you desire it to appear on your badge (please use First Name/Last Name format): _____

*Address _____

*City _____ *State _____ *Zip _____

*School/Affiliation _____ *Preferred Phone Number: _____

* Email address _____

New SSCA member or is this your first SSCA convention? Please let us know by checking here: Newcomer (optional)

*Total Membership Fees and Dues from page 2			
*Convention Registration Fees	Pre-registration	At Convention	Amount
Regular Members (Membership \$50: see back for info.)	\$45	\$55	
Student Members (Membership \$30: see back for info.)	\$25	\$30	
Non-members (No membership fee required)	\$65	\$80	
Life Member (Membership \$1,250: see back for info.)	\$0 (incl.)	\$0 (included)	
Patron Member (Membership \$190: see back for info.)	\$0 (incl.)	\$0 (included)	
Sustaining Member (Membership \$90: see back for info.)	\$0 (incl.)	\$0 (included)	
Emeritus Member (Emeritus Status req.: see back for info.)	\$0 (incl.)	\$0 (included)	
Special Events			
Past Presidents' Lunch (Past Presidents only)	\$25 per ticket	# of tickets	
Awards Lunch (Saturday)	\$45 per ticket	# of tickets	
Charitable Donations: Please give an additional tax deductible contribution in support of one of the following			
Janice Hocker Rushing Early Career Research Award			
John I. Sisco Excellence in Teaching Award			
Michael M. Osborn Teacher-Scholar Award			
T. Earle Johnson-Edwin Paget Distinguished Service Award			
Rose B. Johnson SCJ Article Award			
Robert Bostrom Young Scholar Award			
Franklin Shirley Award for the Top UHC Paper			
Dwight L. Freshley Outstanding New Teacher Award			
Minority Recruitment & Retention Award			
Outreach Award			
Theodore Clevenger Jr. Undergraduate Honors Conference			
Grand Total (Total all amounts in the last column)			

Please remember to complete membership form (on back or attached) if you are not currently a member

Make check payable to SSCA for the total amount and return before March 21, 2012 to:

Mr. Norman Earls

SSCA Convention Registration

Dept. of Communication Arts

Valdosta State University

1500 N. Patterson

Valdosta, GA 31698

To pay by credit card, contact Norman Earls at director@ssca.net or 229-245-4358

CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION FORM
 82nd SSCA Convention * San Antonio, TX * April 11-15, 2012
EVERYONE attending the convention must complete a registration form
 PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY – UHC PARTICIPANTS SHOULD USE THE UHC FORM

SSCA Membership Form

Complete this application to renew your membership or join SSCA with your conference registration. You will need to send the appropriate dues in order to activate your membership. All categories include subscriptions to the *Southern Communication Journal*, convention information, and participation in divisional and incidental activities of the Association.

Please indicate whether this is a ___ new membership, or ___ renewal of an existing membership:

Membership Categories

- ___ LIFE: A one-time payment of \$1,250 (or four consecutive payments of \$325 equals a standing patron membership).
- ___ PATRON: An annual fee of \$190 provides special support for SSCA, and includes convention registration fee, subscriptions to the four regional association journals, and listing in the convention program.
- ___ SUSTAINING: Annual fee of \$90 provides membership and convention registration fee.
- ___ REGULAR: Annual fee of \$50 provides membership privileges.
- ___ STUDENT: Annual fee of \$30 provides membership privileges and is available only to full-time students.
- ___ EMERITUS: For retired members who have been members of SSCA for 15 or more consecutive years (equivalent to a Sustaining membership without further payment).

Regional Journals: Subscriptions to the six journals published by the other regional associations are available to Emeritus, Sustaining, Regular, and Student members for an additional \$80 annually. Please indicate whether you would like to add these journal subscriptions to your membership:

___ YES, I want to spend \$80 for subscriptions to the other regional journals.

Affiliation Group (select one)

- ___ Jr. /Sr. High School
- ___ 4-Year College of University
- ___ 2-Year Community or Technical College
- ___ Applied Professional

Divisions: Choose 2 selections for divisional affiliation (each additional selection will cost an additional \$5):

- ___ Applied Communication
- ___ Community College
- ___ Gender Studies
- ___ Intercultural Communication
- ___ Language and Social Interaction
- ___ Performance Studies
- ___ Popular Communication
- ___ Rhetoric and Public Address
- ___ Communication Theory
- ___ Freedom of Speech
- ___ Instructional Development
- ___ Interpersonal Communication
- ___ Mass Communication
- ___ Political Communication
- ___ Public Relations
- ___ Southern Forensics

Interests Groups: You may select up to TWO for no extra fee. (\$5 for each additional).

- ___ American Society for History & Rhetoric
- ___ Burke Society
- ___ Philosophy and Ethics of Communication
- ___ Association for Communication Administration
- ___ Ethnography

Calculating Membership Fees & Dues:

Membership: Category: _____ \$ _____

Additional Journals (\$80—included in Life & Patron Memberships) \$ _____

Additional Affiliations (\$5 each) \$ _____

Additional Interest Groups (\$5 each) \$ _____

Membership total

\$ _____
 (Include total on page 1 for the Total Membership Fees and Dues)

Help fund Michael Osborn award to \$10,000 level

This year the Resource Development Committee (RDC) is continuing its work to fund the Michael Osborn Teacher-Scholar Award Fund to the \$10,000 level.

The current award balance is \$5,257. This award honors SSCA members who have balanced professional careers, having achieved excellence in teaching, scholarship, and service.

You can help fund this award in two ways: either by a direct contribution to the award fund (on your membership form, which is available on page 5) or through your support of Caring Connections.

Since its inception in 2002, members of



TODD LEE GOEN

RDC Chair

Southern States
Communication
Association

tlgoen@yahoo.com

the association have honored friends and colleagues with Caring Connections.

Recipients of this honor are always delighted to learn that a colleagues or friends have honored them in this way.

Please consider showing a friend or col-

league how much you care by sending a Caring Connection. Direct donations and Caring Connections purchases are both tax deductible.

To purchase Caring Connections, please fill out the order form available on page 7, and mail to the address below by March 23.

Pre-convention orders will be waiting with your recipients' nametags when they arrive at the convention. Caring Connections will also be available for purchase at the convention during for the purchaser to deliver to those s/he wishes to honor.

Thanks for your support of the association and the awards!

Top 5 things to do on San Antonio River Walk

Eat, Drink & Be Merry

Over fifty restaurants, bistros, cafes, clubs, bars — most with quaint outdoor patios — line the River Walk as it meanders its way through downtown San Antonio. There is everything from stellar Tex Mex to haute cuisine and locally-owned spots as well as popular international names like the Hard Rock Cafe.

Land & Art Scapes

Few visitors venture beyond the downtown River Walk but it's well worth it. Explore the Museum Reach, north of downtown, and watch for the twelve art installations on the river banks. Stop along the way at the San Antonio Museum of Art and the Southwest School of Art, then the boat ride ends at the 125-year-old Pearl Brewery complex, now home to restaurants, an outdoor amphitheater, a Saturday farmers market, eclectic shops and the Culinary Institute of America -- San Antonio. If you go south from downtown, the south fork of the river meanders through the stately King William Historic District all the way to the Blue Star arts complex, an eclectic enclave of creative souls, unusual shops and galleries, public art scattered about, and a brew pub.

Sunset Cruise

Lots of folks take a tour of the River Walk aboard a river cruiser, but few know that you can take a sunset taxi ride from downtown, along the Museum Reach, to the Pearl Brewery. Only in the dark will you be able to appreciate the full impact of the art installations that line the banks, all



Photo courtesy of Al Rendon/San Antonio Convention & Visitors Bureau

River Walk in San Antonio.

of which use light in creative ways.

Secret Places To Shop

Don't leave without a pink cowboy hat of course -- pick one up at any of the River Walk curio shops. Less obvious but also right on the River Walk: La Villita Historic Arts Village; The Pearl Brewery, San Antonio Museum of Art Store and Southwest School of Art Gallery Shop. For major mall goers, the Rivercenter Mall hugs the banks of the River Walk lagoon.

Run, Walk, Hike

The River Walk is a long linear park,

beautifully landscaped, with great sidewalks. The less congested places are perfect for serious exercising or romantic strolls. The River Walk is eight miles long. In a few years, it will be a 15-mile masterpiece that weaves the city's past and future together, starting north of the city at Brackenridge Park (San Antonio's Central Park) and traveling south all the way to the four Spanish colonial missions south of downtown.

— Courtesy of the San Antonio Convention and Visitors Bureau

CONNECTIONS

Dr. Carl Cates, Executive Director
Southern States Communication Association
The Department of Communication Arts
1500 N. Patterson Street
Valdosta, GA 31698

SSCA DIVISIONS AND INTEREST GROUPS

SSCA DIVISIONS

- Applied Communication
- Communication Theory
- Community College
- Freedom of Speech
- Gender Studies
- Instructional Development
- Intercultural Communication
- Interpersonal Communication

- Language and Social Interaction
- Mass Communication
- Performance Studies
- Political Communication
- Popular Communication
- Public Relations
- Rhetoric and Public Address
- Southern Forensics

INTEREST GROUPS

- Association for Communication Administrators (ACA)
- American Society for the History of Rhetoric
- Ethnography
- Kenneth Burke Society