

HCTD Newsletter

NCA Human Communication Technology Division

Volume 4, Issue 1

An Introduction and Brief Message

On behalf of all the HCTD officers, we'd like to thank everyone who helped make the 2003 convention in Miami a big success. We had a great 4 days, and hope you did as well.

If you haven't seen the rest of the HCTD web site (hctd.net or hctd.org) yet, check it out! Our Webmaster has put together a great site, right down to the wiki (<http://wiki.hctd.net>). Feel free to get involved by posting on the wiki – a syllabus or anything else you'd like to share.

As the new Co-Chairs for Publications, Davis and I will be much of the 'voice' of HCTD for the next year – on behalf of the other officers, and on your behalf. Please send us any comments and suggestions you have (see feedback options elsewhere on the site).

Andrew Finn & Davis Foulger
Publication Co-Chairs

HCTD 2004 Call for Papers February 16, 2004 Deadline

The Division invites panels and papers on topics in line with the convention theme, "Moving Forward, Looking Back," supporting the examination of theory and application of human communication and technology as related to human communication studies, pedagogy, discourse, new media, and other functions.

"Moving Forward, Looking Back" is particularly suited to HCTD. The relationship

between human communication and new/old technologies challenges us to learn from the past, connect in the present, and prepare for the future. Papers that address these challenges, connections, and preparations are particularly welcome.

The Division is especially interested in papers and panels featuring human communication and technology as related to the future of our discipline and historical perspectives on the impact of technology in communication studies. In addition, papers and panels relating human communication and technology within the areas of rhetoric, ethics, intellectual property rights, teaching and learning, security, accessibility, accountability, globalism, distance education, training and development, and other topics, are welcome.

All submissions must be made online at the NCA All Academic site: <https://convention.allacademic.com/nca2004>

Submissions will be accepted only in these formats: Word, WordPerfect, PDF (Adobe Acrobat), Rich Text. Do NOT compress files before sending.

Submission deadline: February 16, 2004

Approximately 25% of programs will be discussion panels; papers selected for these panels will be posted online for convention attendees to read prior to the convention.

Contact co-planner:
Mary Wiemann, Santa Barbara City College, 721 Cliff Drive, Santa Barbara, CA 93109; wiemann@sbcc.edu; 805-965-0581 x2428.

**Minutes of Annual Business Meeting
November 21, 2003, Miami, FL**

2003 HCTD Business Meeting

Friday, November 21, 2003, 3:30-4:45 p.m.

Officers in Attendance:

Karen Lollar, Co-Chair,

Immediate Past President

Dennis Wignall and Tasha Van Horn,

Co-Chairs, President 2003

Lori Charron and D. J. Wallace,

Co-Chairs, Planning

Noemi Marin and Mary Wiemann,

Co-Chairs, Publications

Davis Foulger and Andrew Finn,

Co-Chairs, Membership

Kirk Fong Kee and Steve Rains,

Student Representatives

Presidents' Report

Tasha Van Horn called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

An agenda, the 2002 minutes, the HCTD report to the NCA Legislative Assembly, and a list of this year's divisional panels and papers was handed out and described. An effort will be made to keep the officers reports short so that we can focus on the legislative report.

A motion to accept the minutes from last year's meeting was made by Andy Finn and seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Dennis Wignall and Tasha Van Horn, President Co-Chairs, gave an overall report about the status of the Division, including an overview of our first year as a division.

Dennis and Tasha were then handed the mantle of Co-Chair Presidents for the coming year (2003-04), as well as stewardship of the remainder of the business meeting.

Program Report

J.D. Wallace and Lori Charron reported that for the

2003 convention, HCTD:

- HCTD received a lot of quality papers this year!
- 56 of 76 papers were accepted for presentation (74 %)
- 12 of 20 panel proposals were accepted for presentation (60%)

Apologies were expressed for the delays in reporting acceptances. The new online paper process was broken. The evaluation technology worked but the scheduling and reporting technology did not. Things should be smoother this year.

Publication Report

Mary Wiemann and Noemi Marin reported that:

- Two newsletters were produced and distributed (by e-mail) during the last year. The first went out in January, in advance of the February 15 convention deadline, and the second in October, in advance of the convention itself
- Information about HCTD was also posted in NCA's Spectra (December)
- The 2004 conference is November 11-14 in Chicago
- The deadline for submissions this year is February 16, 2004
- We should consider the possibility of an online listing/distribution of accepted papers. A discussion followed but no decision was made.

Student Officers Report

Kirk Fong Kee and Steve Raines reported that:

- They sent a letter to departments with graduate programs across the field encouraging graduate students to join HCTD and NCA
- They organized a student panel of papers this year

Membership and Recruitment

Davis Foulger and Andy Finn reported that:

- Flyers/membership applications were made available at the conference in Miami, and distributed at some of the HCTD sessions
- Membership sign-up information is displayed

prominently on the Division web site at
www.hctd.net)

HCTD Officers for 2004

HCTC elects 2 officers each year to serve as Membership Co-Chairs. Then each year those two officers advance to become Publication Co-Chairs, then Program Co-Chairs, then President Co-Chairs, and finally, in year five, Past President Co-Chairs.

Scott D'Urso and Yun Xia were nominated and elected to serve as Membership Co-Chairs for the coming year.

Voting for Student Representative position also took place. Kerk Kee was nominated and elected to serve a second year. A second student Representative will be identified sometime after the convention.

Accordingly, the new HCTD Officers for 2004 are:

Co-Chairs President

Lori J.N. Charron (Concordia University, St. Paul) and J.D. Wallace (Pepperdine University)

Co-Chairs Program

Mary Wiemann (Santa Barbara City College) and Noemi Marin (Florida Atlantic University)

Co-Chairs Newsletter

T. Andrew Finn (George Mason U) and Davis Foulger (Oswego State U)

Co-Chairs Membership

Scott D'Urso (University of Texas) and Yun Xia (Rider University)

Co-Chairs Student Representative

Kerk Fong Kee (San Diego State University) and TBD (TBD)

Past Co-Chairs President

Tasha Van Horn (Citrus Community College) and Dennis Wignall (Saginaw Valley State University)

Other Items of Business

Awards

HCTD gave awards for the Top Four papers to the following authors: Gwendolyn Costa, Mohan Dutta-Bergman, Mihaela Nocasian, and Yun Xia. Congrats – again!

The paper/panel reviewers were also thanked: A.J. Baltes, Ulla Bunz, Miki Crawford, Scott D'Urso, Andrew Finn, Davis Foulger, Clark Germann, Robert G. Howard, Karen Krupar, Noemi Marin, Rodney Marshall, Daniel McRoberts, Star Muir, Stephen Rains, Paul Scovell, Sheida Shirvani, Dennis Wignall, Keri Stephens, Mary Wiemann, Dennis Wignall. Thanks to all!

In addition, current officers were acknowledged for their efforts, particularly Lori Charron and J. D. Wallace, for putting together the 2003 convention program, and Tasha Van Horn and Dennis Wignall for their Presidential leadership all year.

Report from 11-19-03 NCA Legislative Assembly Business Meeting

- Costs. NCA is concerned about costs and is looking for ways to cut costs.
- Increase in Dues: An increase in dues was discussed at the pre-conference NCA Board meeting. An increase from \$105 to \$135 was proposed for the Regular membership category and increases were proposed for certain other categories of membership as well. The percentage increase would range from 9 to 15%. After a spirited discussion of such issues as the cost of the current web site arrangements and the Washington complex, the division voted to empower Karen Lollar and Dennis Wignall to represent HCTD on this issue at the post-conference NCA Board meeting. The group was essentially resigned to the passage of these increases.
- NCA has apparently reached an exclusive agreement with our journal publisher with regards to the indexing of NCA journals. Concern was expressed that this may restrict the visibility of communication scholarship.
- Other proposed changes:
- Electronic Balloting is being explored.
- The association is contemplating starting a we-based communication magazine.
- With the constitutional changes approved, bylaws changes are being contemplated. In such areas as dues and fees and site

selection.

- The committee on committees has been enlarged.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 pm.

Introducing the New Officers

Yun Xia

My name is Yun Xia. You can call me “Shia.” That is the pronunciation of my last name in Chinese. I like my last name, which is the very first Chinese royal family name about 5,000 years ago. I am an Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication at Rider University (Lawrenceville, New Jersey). I teach print media and digital media design courses. They include publication design, digital graphic imaging, multimedia production, web development, and new media theories. Along with other two colleagues, I am also administrating a server and 36 Macintosh computers in two labs. My research interests are on the social impact of computer-mediated communication, educational application of communication technologies, visual intelligence of graphic communications in new media, and semiotic analysis of communication signs in new media. My current studies include the exploration of logic forms in analog and digital communication, the digitization process in communication sign creation, and the differentiation between digital culture and analog culture.

I have a B.A. in English and M.A. in American Studies from Sichuan University (Chengdu City, Sichuan Province, China). I have a Ph.D. in Speech Communication from Southern Illinois University (Carbondale, Illinois) where I received the training in semiotics and phenomenology. In my Ph.D. program in Southern Illinois, I also finished computer science undergraduate core curriculum and was admitted to computer science graduate program. I decided that I liked writing papers (research) better than writing codes (programming). So, I took the job at Rider. Before I came to the U.S., I taught full-time two years in Sichuan University. I also taught speech communication courses part-time in Southern Illinois University.

Right now, my wife and I live in Trenton, New Jersey. The cultural diversity in New Jersey makes my wife very happy. It is always my wife’s wish that she can live in the U.S. without speaking English. We are happy except for the crazy New Jersey traffic. I love reading, watching basketball games, and cooking. I am a very good cook. My colleagues always joke that I should open a Chinese restaurant and make more money than being a college professor.

Scott D'Urso

Hi everyone, I’m Scott D’Urso. I am currently finishing up my final year in the PhD program at the University of Texas at Austin. Most of my time is split among my dissertation work and teaching responsibilities in the Department of Communication Studies. Both my research and teaching focuses on organizational communication and new communication technology issues. Most recently, my research focus has been in the area of electronic monitoring/surveillance in the workplace, specifically looking at the communication technologies that have a dual role as monitoring/surveillance technology. In addition to this area, I am also very interested in the growing role of instant messaging use in the organizational environment.

I have a BA in Journalism and an MA in Communication from the University of Texas at El Paso. Prior to starting my PhD, I worked for a defense contractor for the U.S. Army for five years developing multimedia presentations for command-level staff, the Pentagon, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The communication issues I encountered during my tenure there led me back to graduate school and eventually down the path towards a PhD.

Life for me started out in Northern Ohio not far from Cleveland in Youngstown. I wasn’t there long as my family moved to Texas when I was seven. I’ve been in this great state ever since. At first, I called the West Texas city of El Paso home. I eventually moved to Austin for a change of scenery and to start my PhD. My parents are retired and living in central Texas. I have a brother who lives in Detroit with his wife and my new nephew who joined us only hours after the last panel

ended at NCA last November. When not teaching or researching, my interests and time focus on a few other areas such a listening to music, reading, camping, and spending time with my friends. Not a bad life if I do say so myself.

Kerk Fong Kee

Hi, I am Kerk Fong Kee. I am a graduate student in the Master of Arts in Liberal Arts & Sciences (MALAS) Interdisciplinary Program at San Diego State University, San Diego, California. I received my B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and my first M.A. in Communication from SDSU. I was also a participant of the Graduate Webshop ([Scientific Research on the Internet](#)), a 3-week graduate summer research workshop hosted at University of Maryland, College Park, UC, Berkeley, and [Stanford University](#) in June 2003, funded by the [National Science Foundation](#). My current educational goal is to earn a doctorate degree, studying the communication, sociology, and philosophy of science and technology.

My research interest lies at the intersection of technology and society, especially in the area of technology policy and diffusion of innovations. My Communication master's thesis examines attitudinal and demographic factors influencing faculty's adoption of Blackboard (an online course management system) at San Diego State University. My graduate training involved both quantitative (survey research, SPSS) and qualitative (ethnography, philosophical theory building). Currently I am working on analyzing faculty's adoption lag time of Blackboard adoption as well as modeling technology policy-making processes from a communication perspective. For more information about my research activities, please visit www.ekerk.com.

Besides academic research, I am also an active student leader, serving as the Graduate Student Senator and the Graduate Student Representative at the University, as well as the Graduate Student Liaison with Associated Students. In addition, I teach Ashtanga Yoga at the Aztec Recreation Center at SDSU. I enjoy keeping my life balanced with research, leadership, and fitness activities.