

A Message From TSCA President, Ralph Long

Dear Texas Speech Communication Association Members:

Greetings. As the summer break draws to a close, and we all gear up to be back in school, I want to share some TSCA news, reminders, and updates with you.

News concerning TSCA and the Communication Applications (CA) class v the Professional Communication (PC) class can be read in the email from a TEA official that I asked Brent to post. I have also asked that he post my testimony. The questions in the email were generated out of concern created during the State Board of Educator Certification (SBEC) public hearing in Austin on June 18, 2010. I attended this hearing and spoke on behalf of TSCA. The meeting took all new classes and rolled them into one single agenda item. Originally each subject was a specific line item. This combining caused speech and other classes to be overshadowed by the math and science classes. Based on that fact, I had questions that needed clarification. To be brief, any currently certified speech teacher can teach the new PC class **without** any additional credits or training required. The CTE staff must obtain 6 hours of communication in order to teach the class. My testimony addresses TSCA's concern over this low requirement for CTE staff to be credentialed. The reality seems to be that many districts are opting to teach the PC class as it is funded at a higher rate from the state than is CA. Since the PC course is listed, by SBOE mandate, as an equivalent class to CA each district's decision as to which course to offer is, according to TEA, a local option prerogative. This is still an issue for Governmental Affairs to take a serious look at and work with the officers to monitor and have input over the course of the PC implementation.

Now, for the reminders and updates. As you know the 2010 convention is being held in Houston October 6-9, 2010. *Cultural Communication: Creating Community or Chaos?* is the convention theme. Please get your room reservations in. Also, please remember that it is important for the organization to meet the contractual room nights for the convention. If we do not do so the organization stands to take a significant financial hit. I know that it is tempting to make reservations on the many self-booking sites but doing so creates a financial hardship on the organization as we do not get credit for those rooms toward our contractual minimum room nights when you do.

Kandi King is creating the program and there are many wonderful sessions that have been submitted. I am particularly excited about Professor's Reading Hour. Dr. Peter Pober, former TSCA President and long time UT forensics coach, is doing a one man performance. To call anything Peter does "one man" is a misnomer. If you have ever seen Peter perform you know that he morphs so seamlessly and brilliantly from character to character that you forget that the same person is portraying all the personas. If you have never seen Peter perform then you must put this on your convention schedule. His program, *If I Were a Rich Man: Tales of an Unlikely Academic* will be a convention highlight.

Guy Yates has decided that a wonderful trip to exotic lands is more enticing than Houston, Texas in October so he will not be attending convention this year. Therefore, I have asked M'Liss Hindman to chair the Fiscal Review Committee and have asked Wade Hescht to serve on the committee for the review of the financial records at the convention.

Furthermore, be sure to check the convention schedule and plan your arrival and departure for convention so that you are able to attend your organizational meetings and fulfill the obligations connected to your service to TSCA.

As summer's song begins to wane and autumn begins to jot the first notes of its symphony remember to make your reservations at the convention hotel, plan your arrival and departure to allow your attendance at your respective organizational meetings, and plan your program panels to include the Professor's Reading Hour where Peter Pober will pack prose, poetry, and play passages into a puissant performance. However, most importantly, enjoy the school year and remember why, out of all the careers you could have chosen in life, you chose to teach. Bring that joy, dedication, and vision to your classroom and students each day and your rewards will be immeasurable.

I look forward to seeing all of you in Houston.

Sincerely

Ralph Long

Convention 2010

Cultural Communication: Creating Chaos or Community?

October 6-9, 2010

Omni Houston Hotel Westside

13210 Katy Freeway

Houston, TX 77079

(281) 558-8338

Room Rate: \$149

Look for registration instructions below. Register and find convention information online: www.etsca.com.

HOTEL RESERVATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 16, 2010

Everything You Ever Wanted To Know About Convention Registration.....By Brent Hinkle

*Registration may be done online at www.etsca.com

*Current members may renew their membership via the "Renew Membership" option on the website

*New members should select "Join TSCA" on the website

*TFA memberships are being processed through the TSCA website this year

*Pre-registration deadline is SEPTEMBER 15 (this is the last date that SUSTAINING memberships are available)

*Fees have increased this year:

SUSTAINING membership is \$125 (includes convention)

REGULAR membership is \$90 (does not include convention)

Convention fee is \$50

Luncheon tickets are \$20

TFA Membership is an additional \$70

*Members who will be attending convention should select the SUSTAINING membership (until September 15th)

*Members registering after September 15th, or members who need convention fees separated on the invoice must select REGULAR membership

*We will accept signed purchase orders for membership

*TFA requires that memberships be PAID before a voting card is issued, so if you want to use a PO for TFA membership, make sure that the payment can be processed before convention if you want to vote at convention.

*Members desiring a paper copy of the journal may now select that as part of registration. All members may access the electronic journal copy online.

**REMEMBER: Pre-registration DEADLINE is
SEPTEMBER 15th!!!!**

2010-2011 Officer Elections

And the candidates are.....

TSCA Vice President-Elect

Joseph Brown

Mellessa Denny

Russell Kirkscey

TSCA Newsletter Editor

Aimee Kasprzyk

Stephanie Stanley-Allen

Please read statements from all the candidates in this newsletter. More information about the candidates will be provided at convention.



Statement from TSCA Vice President-Elect Candidate Joseph Brown

To the members of the Texas Speech Communication Association and Executive Committee:

It is indeed an honor to be nominated, once again, as a candidate for Vice President Elect of this outstanding organization. Long before I knew anything about the Texas Speech Communication Association, I was an active member of the Texas Educational Theatre Association. In the mid 1990's, I was invited to visit a TSCA convention with a friend who was a member. From the moment I first arrived at the hotel, I felt welcomed by everyone I encountered. I then sat in on some convention programs, and I knew that TSCA was an organization I wanted to be a part of. Since then, I have attended every annual convention, where I have been highly entertained, moved to tears, motivated, and enlightened by some of the most dedicated, enthusiastic, and talented educators in the State of Texas. I have served on numerous TSCA committees over the years, and I know, first hand, the importance of this organization to speech and theatre educators at all levels.

As a member of the executive committee, I will strive to increase membership among speech and theatre educators throughout the state. It will be a personal goal to make sure that every new member of TSCA feels welcomed and is assisted in any way possible. I feel so fortunate to have had the opportunity to observe and work with the likes of Natalie Bryant, Barbara Mayo, Lois Davis, and Ralph Long. What they have accomplished for TSCA is astonishing. I only hope to follow their examples, and build on all of their accomplishments. I promise to put together a convention program that all involved with will be very proud of. Furthermore, I plan to be around for a very long time after my four year commitment to the TSCA executive committee. I am now a "lifetime" member of TSCA, and for everything TSCA has given me over the years, I plan to give back to the organization a lifetime of dedication and service.

I am most pleased to accept your nomination.

Respectfully,

Joseph Brown

Joseph Brown

Thomas Jefferson High School

San Antonio

Statement from TSCA Vice President-Elect Candidate Mellessa Denny

Dear TSCA Colleagues,

In 1998, I was a brand new speech teacher at Lubbock High School and I was simply told by my colleagues that I **WOULD** be going to Corpus Christi with them in October, so plan accordingly. And although I was having a great first year, I was reluctant to miss class. Lesson plans without the aid of a textbook, planning for tournaments, coaching students, budgeting—all that had me feeling swamped and alone as the only speech teacher in the school. But those persistent women told me I would enjoy it and would learn “a lot.” Boy, was that the understatement of the year!

I came back from my first TSCA experience a changed person. I no longer felt like an island and I was no longer afraid to ask for help. I met people who inspired me and taught me (and still do today), and I came back with a renewed spirit and a suitcase full of ideas, contacts, and, most importantly for a first year teacher, lesson plans. Those sessions I attended and the people I met made me a better speech teacher and debate coach.

And my experience has not changed in the 12 years I have attended. I **STILL** come home with renewed spirit and new ideas on how to improve what I do every day. I am a better teacher and coach because of it.

Therefore, I am truly honored to be nominated to run for Vice President Elect of our great organization. I have taken so much and I have served in many small capacities, but I feel it is time to give more back.

St. Francis of Assisi said, “For it is in giving that we receive.” We are truly a generous organization—sharing our time, our efforts, our ears, our hearts and our knowledge with each other. And I want to do my part to share that with those who are “islands,” with those who simply have a speech need, with those who are just beginning a career, with those who are contemplating the end of a career, with those who need encouragement, and with those who just need a place to belong. We can **ALL** find a place and can benefit from the community we have in TSCA.

In serving you, I will focus on growing our membership, increasing our involvement throughout the state, continuing education, and strengthening speech programs overall in Texas.

I would appreciate your support and look forward to serving you.

Mellessa Denny

Statement from TSCA Vice President-Elect Candidate Russell Kirkscey

Dear Members of the Texas Speech Communication Association:

I am honored to accept the nomination for TSCA Vice President Elect. I have spent the past 14 years as a member of this organization, and I have contributed in several ways that I hope have furthered its cause. It would be a privilege to continue my service to this organization as a member of the executive council.

As a secondary speech teacher, a director of forensics, and a university communication studies instructor, I feel that I understand the positions and needs of many of our members.

My service to TSCA has reflected all areas of its mission: communicating effectively, increasing pedagogical and political knowledge, working with the various disciplines and professions, and working for the interests of members and students. I have served in several leadership roles including chair of District 13 and chair of the Rhetoric and Communication Theory Interest Group. I was instrumental in the creation of the Ad Hoc Small Schools Support Committee, and I have spent many years on the Governmental Affairs Committee advocating the positions of the TSCA to members of the State Board of Education and working with the Texas Education Agency on speech and debate curriculum. Through my affiliations with the TSCA and UIL, I have represented Texas on the national level at meetings of the National Federation of High Schools and the National Communication Association.

Recently, I have worked with the Region 13 Educational Service Center, the University of Texas, and members of TSCA to provide high school speech teacher training. I hope that I can use this model to spread to other regions of the state.

My strengths as a leader are a broad understanding of issues, an ability to act quickly, and an established network of colleagues on both secondary and post-secondary levels. As Vice President Elect, my principal goals would be to monitor the economic, curricular, and political situations in Texas that continue to concern our members and to serve as the voice of TSCA. Furthermore, I would like to improve teacher training at the secondary level. It is through this leadership that we will increase our numbers. Membership provides strength in our endeavors, and our collective voice serves to advance all areas of the mission of our organization.

This is an exciting time for TSCA. Our profession faces many transitions as we grapple with state and national issues. We have strong leaders to meet these tremendous challenges. I would welcome your support to become one of those leaders.

Sincerely,

Russell Kirkscey

Statement from TSCA Newsletter Editor Candidate Aimee Kasprzyk

To the Membership and Executive Council of TSCA:

TSCA is very important to me on so many levels. Professionally, there have been many mentors from whom I have had the privilege of gaining insight and knowledge. People like Jana Riggins, Ann Shofner, Natalie Bryant, Russell Kirkscey, M'Liss Hindman, and many others, whom I do not have space to name, have provided the example of what true service to this incredible organization really is, both as general members and officers. Most importantly for this particular nomination, though, is the amazing example that Amy Tilton Jones has set, bringing us fully into the digital world with our official communications. I thank her for a job incredibly well done. If I am fortunate enough to win this office, I will look to Amy for all the knowledge, ideas, and thoughts she has developed and will use her expertise to the benefit of the TSCA News Letter as fully as possible. Personally, there have been too many friends and acquaintances to list, whom I look forward to seeing each year at our convention and from whom I seek guidance many times throughout the school year and beyond. Without the contacts, correspondences, and relationships I've developed through TSCA, I fear my teaching would stagnate.

The great honor of being asked to run for an office of TSCA is something that I have counted as a goal for the entire time that I have been a member of this organization. As a lover of not only the spoken word, but also, the written word, I feel that this office is tailor made for me. I will do my best to continue to keep our digital communications through the newsletter as fresh, important, and up-to-date as possible. I will strive to look for additional ideas for the newsletter's content and design to keep us moving forward. Thankfully, because of the computer, we are able to send and receive this important document in a relatively cost-free way, and I will strive, as well, to explore ways to keep any small printing costs down and look for ways to go completely "green" and paper-free, if possible.

Finally, whether you choose me or my worthy opponent, I can assure that I will continue to be there at convention and beyond, in the trenches, working to impart the importance of speech education and communications in general to my profession contacts and students alike. Thank you again for this amazing honor! I accept the nomination of Newsletter Editor whole-heartedly.

Aimee Kasprzyk

Statement from TSCA Newsletter Editor Candidate Stephanie Stanley-Allen

Dear Texas Speech Communication Association Colleagues,

I consider it an honor and privilege to accept the nomination for TSCA newsletter editor. My first convention experience was just the beginning of a dream for me to serve as a leader on the TSCA executive council. At the time I was a very recent college graduate and I had the opportunity of serving in numerous leadership capacities to that point in my life, but not as a professional. That convention sparked something inside of me that made me even more passionate about speech and my future as an educator and member of the Texas Speech Communication Association. As much as I gain in every panel discussion I attend or present I gain even more from the mentors I have grown to love and the relationships with people that have transpired over the years.

I firmly believe that **TexaSpeaks** is the **heartbeat** of our organization communicating vital information to you, the members, and also to individuals who may not even be familiar with our organization. This newsletter allows us to be informed and up-to-date on convention reminders, awards and accolades received by our colleagues, messages and information from TSCA officers in addition to website updates. TexaSpeaks is an informational tool essential to the growth of our organization as well as educators who are new to the speech and communication world!

Although I will have big shoes to fill, I will serve you **professionally, accurately and efficiently**. As the Region 1, UIL Lincoln Douglas Debate Contest Director for the past eight years I have only added to my **organizational** skills, which will benefit you in receiving the highest quality of information through the TSCA newsletter. I firmly believe that a leader is only as strong as his or her “stadium people”. I have a truly incredible support team at South Plains College, so much so that all six of my co-workers have agreed to help with the editing process of the newsletter. As for me personally, I consider myself to be a very **diligent** person **promptly** completing tasks while giving 100% every time. I am also an **effective communicator** passionate about people. My background in Mass Communications along with my knowledge and ability to utilize Microsoft Publisher will be an asset while composing the TSCA newsletter. Finally, I will be open to any and all suggestions you may have to make TexaSpeaks the best it can be.

I would love to bring my **energy, enthusiasm, and passion** to the heartbeat of the Texas Speech Communication Association! Additionally, I truly appreciate and would welcome your support becoming one of the devoted leaders of this great organization.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Stanley-Allen

TSCJ Online Journal Call

Call for Manuscripts

Texas Speech Communication Journal Online 2011

Focus: Teaching Business and Professional Communication

Co-Editors for this Special Online Issue:

Shawn Wahl, Angelo State University

Kelly Quintanilla, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

The Texas Speech Communication Journal Online issues a call for papers that focus on teaching business and professional communication. Special attention should be given to teaching business and professional communication in the age of information and other teaching issues related to the topic.

The TSCJ Online is a publication of the Texas Speech Communication Association that focuses on pedagogical issues in teaching communication. This online format allows contributors to include visual images, as well as links that support their research or explicate a teaching strategy.

Manuscript submissions should be limited to 1000 to 1500 words and should fall between academic and journalistic discourse and should be designed to promote discussion, raising important issues about the teaching of communication to the millennial generation.

Deadline: March 2011

Queries and manuscript submissions should be sent via e-mail to:

TSCJ Online Editor

Dr. Shawn Wahl

Shawn.wahl@angelo.edu



2010 Educator of the Year Nominees

Secondary

Cindy Havron, Magnolia High School
 Gay Hollis, James Taylor High School
 Janice Caldwell, Lindale High School
 Aimee Kasprzyk, Rice High School
 Kim Falco, Franklin High School
 Gilbert Casas, McCollum High School



Community College

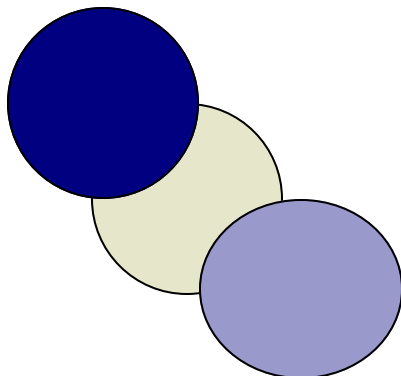
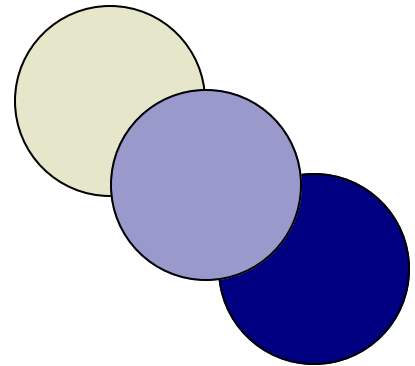
Mike Jones, Del Mar College

Please join us at the Educator of the Year reception on Thursday night of the Convention. At this reception, you will be able to meet and honor these outstanding educators!

Attention District Chairs!

*Please contact all of the members in your District and remind them about convention

*Please contact non-members in your District and invite them to TSCA this year!

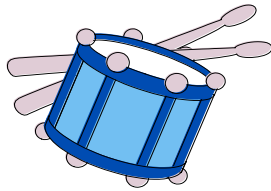


Wanted: Convention Vendors

If you, or someone you know, would like to reserve a vendor table at this year's TSCA convention, please contact Vice President-Elect Connie McKee at cmckee@mail.wtamu.edu

The TSCA Executive Officers PRESENT.....
THE TOP TEN REASONS TO STAY AT THE CONVENTION HOTEL!

- 10. You can share a room with a TSCA friend, and still get reimbursed by your school!
- 9. Free Parking!
- 8. Your support of the convention hotel allows TSCA to keep your registration fees low
- 7. Many great food options on-site
- 6. Cool fish ponds in the lobby!



- 5. No driving (once you get to the hotel)
 - 4. Not too much walking
 - 3. Great facility, rooms, and service
 - 2. You will be one elevator ride away from your room!
- And the number one reason to stay at the convention

hotel.....

Drum roll please.....

- 1. Meet new people and hang out with friends!

Look at page 2 of this newsletter for hotel reservation information!

Announcements

This year, committee assignments will be made AFTER convention. If you are interested in serving on a committee please notate your interest on your registration form. Exceptions will be Governmental Affairs and elected committees. Please contact Vice President Kandi King if you are interested in serving on the Governmental Affairs Committee!

REMINDER: There will NOT be a breakfast buffet provided before the morning sessions. Instead, Omni Houston Hotel Westside will be offering breakfast and lunch a la carte options during convention. Look for more information, and order forms, at check-in and registration

New This Year at Convention!

We will be offering a short course taught by Dr. Shawn Wahl. Please check out the website for complete course details, and information on registering for the short course!

Peter Pober, TSCA Past President, will join us at convention this year. Peter will perform a one-man show for our "Professor's Performance Hour." Check your program for time and location—you don't want to miss it!

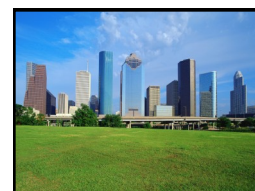
**Texas Speech
Communication
Association**

Amy Tilton Jones
TSCA Newsletter Editor
Del Mar College
101 Baldwin
Corpus Christi, Texas 78404
ajones@delmar.edu



TSCA is the largest Speech Communication State organization in the United States organization in the United States! It consists of educators from middle school through University level in the fields of Speech and Theater, Administrators from all levels, and professionals from Corporate America. The Texas Speech Communication Association has a member base of approximately 700 members and growing!

Join us for Convention 2010!
October 6-9, 2010 in Houston!



2009-2010 TSCA Executive Officers

President: Ralph Long, Collin County Community College, rlong@collin.edu

Vice President: Kandi King, Retired, mamakjking@yahoo.com

Vice President-Elect: Connie McKee, West Texas A&M University, cmckee@wtamu.edu

Executive Secretary: Brent Hinkle, Joy of Tournaments, tsca@joyoftournaments.com

Comptroller: Mike Jones, Del Mar College, mjones@delmar.edu

Newsletter Editor: Amy Tilton Jones, Del Mar College, ajones@delmar.edu

Journal Editor: Shawn Wahl, Angelo State University, shawn.wahl@angelo.edu

Archivist: Jana Riggins, University of Texas, jriggins@mail.utexas.edu

Immediate Past President: Lois Davis, Brazosport High School, LDavis2@brazosportisd.net