Our association is strong from all over the globe and attracting scholars moving onto a larger stage. Our journal is earning awards and recognition and our Website are scholars. Our Newsletter is religious communication reading) that RCA is THE we boldly proclaim to imagine.” Please join in as more than all we ask or us is indeed “immeasurably Ephesians 3:20 moment RCA.

**President’s Memo to the Religious Communication Association**

**Rodney A. Reynolds, RCA President California Lutheran University**

RCA is at another Ephesians 3:20 moment – The work going on within us is indeed “immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine.” Please join in as we boldly proclaim to anyone who can hear (or read) that RCA is THE international voice for religious communication scholarship. Our Newsletter and our Website are earning awards and recognition. Our journal is moving onto a larger stage and attracting scholars from all over the globe. Our association is strong with membership gradually moving well beyond North America. The development in the levels of scholarship is more than impressive. Each year there is clear evidence of renewed and increasing interest in RCA by both new and established communication scholars. There are major proposals before us for extensions of our scholarly outreach beyond our preconference and our NCA conference offerings. We have justifiable hope in a strong and vibrant future for RCA.

These improvements and advances are the result of calm spirit-led service by many of our members. We regularly benefit from gentle and kind reminders of how generations of our members reach forward to encourage new endeavors and efforts. The outreach to the NCA community continues to strengthen as we turn and invite others in. When our members review papers, serve on committees, chair or respond to papers, bring colleagues to panels, and attend our panels, banquet, and preconference, we extend RCA hospitality in subtle ways to many others. Thank you for the honor to serve with you.

Please take some time to express appreciation to 1st VP Kathleen Edelmayer (Madonna University) for her work this year in planning our conference and pre-conference. The untold story is the way that Kathleen did all the planning and arranging while mastering a new paper submission and review system at NCA (past experience did not really apply). Kathleen will be modest and tell you about how being a forensic coach is good practice for such a job and all about the good fortunes that came her way, but she really deserves our appreciation. We have a great year ahead as Kathleen steps into the role of being RCA President at the business meeting in New Orleans.

2nd VP J. Matthew Melton (Lee University) has given freely to the work of building up our membership and keeping after our RCA scholarship awards. Matthew did much of his work while traveling with students and while serving as a Dean. Many of you may just be learning that Matthew (with encouragement from me) has taken the first steps toward bringing RCA into the social media age (join in on our Facebook Page by searching for The Religious Communication Association once you are on Facebook). There are other social media advances coming in the near future. Our wonderful councilors, Mark Allan Steiner (Christopher Newport University), Mark Williams (California State University Sacramento), and Denise P. Ferguson (now at Pepperdine Uni-
windows, French doors and wrought-iron lace balconies, the hotel is distinctively European and unmistakably New Orleans.” We will follow the expanded pre-conference schedule as developed last year. Our interest group meetings are scheduled at distinct times to encourage members to attend and participate in as many areas as possible. New this year, is the “Awards Research Panel”.

This panel will showcase the research by those who have been selected as recipients of the Book, Article, and Dissertation of the Year Awards. We will also have a room open all day for conversation and fellowship. Please see the schedule elsewhere in this newsletter for details. I also hope that you will be able to join us for our annual awards banquet, to be held on Friday, November 18th at The Court of Two Sisters.

This year, you may select your dinner option (chicken topped with lump crab meat OR tenderloin of beef OR vegetarian). Please submit your reservation before November 16th. Rodney has a wonderful program planned for the evening.

I encourage all of you to invite friends and students to the pre-conference. Because of its size and schedule, I believe this is a wonderful opportunity for those interested in religious communication to visit with friends, reconnect with colleagues, and develop new relationships.

A number of research collaborations have begun “over coffee” at RCA, let’s continue that trend. Graduate students -- don’t hesitate to say “hello” to those members whose articles you’ve read in class! Members -- be sure to welcome new participants! Everyone -- make an effort to meet (and converse) with at least two new people during the weekend! Let’s be sure to make it known that “All are welcome in this place!” See you in New Orleans!
As a student and emerging scholar, Tina M. Harris became glaringly aware of the marginalized status of voices that were on the periphery. Communicative experiences of the proverbial other often times failed to be included in those accounts featured in journal articles or books claiming to reflect the realities of everyday people. Following in the footsteps of others, Harris began to direct her attention toward giving voice to others that seemed to be lacking in the mainstream communication scholarship. In addition to race as a central part of her intellectual landscape, a considerable amount of her research has been channeled into the area of religious communication.

Harris is a person of the Christian faith who has explored the role of religious frameworks in informing one’s communication processes. Specifically, she has used religious identity as a lens to explore the ways in which these socially constructed identities inform understandings of and decisions about one’s health. Although her perspective is specific to Christianity, her scholarship is inclusive of and applicable to other faith perspectives and communities. Her publications on religion are consistent with the goals and mission of the Religious Communication Association, which is “to provide a setting in which persons of various faiths, or no faith, can study the problems of communication and religion.” Further, she too “seeks to promote honest, respectful and profound dialogue which reflects the diversity of religious beliefs, subject matter concerns, methodologies, and professions of RCA’s members.”

In her scheduled talk titled “Creating a Space for a Religious Voice,” Harris will discuss the importance of giving an authentic voice to experiences that have been for too long marginalized. She will discuss the importance of centering religious identities in our scholarship while causing a healthy and strategic disruption of traditional and exclusive approaches to communication scholarship. Dr. Harris will conclude her talk with a charge to religious communication scholars to dare to push borders and boundaries in pursuit of “voice” in an ever-changing world.

Psalm 100:4 comes to mind when I see the “Guardian Angels” that stand prominently at Loyola University’s, Mundelein Center, in Chicago, Illinois. The Mundelein Center was designed by Nairne W. Fisher in 1929 and is designated as an official Chicago landmark.

The Guardian Angels represent Uriel, “the light of God,” and Jophiel, “the Beauty of God.” Both Angels stand majestically with Uriel pointing to a cross on the 14th floor of the building and Jophiel lifting high his torch of knowledge while holding the Earth.

I am both captured and captivated by the beauty of this piece. I find myself reflecting on the many opportunities I have received. Even more so I find myself inspired to continue learning not only about my chosen discipline, but about God. I am inspired by this piece to maintain a heart, mind, and spirit of gratitude regarding my education.

We often get caught up in our accomplishments. Yet this piece reminds us to recall that He is the giver of all good and perfect gifts. The “Guardian Angels” stand as a reminder that to whom much has been given, indeed much is required.
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<th>Time</th>
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| 10:30 to 11:45 | Oak Alley/Madewood  | **C.S. Lewis and Others: Looking to Disparate Voices for a Broader Understanding of Lewis’ Thought**  
Chair: Benson Fraser, Regent University  
Respondent: Michael Graves, Liberty University  
Presenters:  
* C.S. Lewis and Flannery O’Connor’s Contribution to Indirect Communication  
  Benson Fraser and William Brown, Regent University  
* Deconstructing Lewis’ Argument from Desire, Intellection and Reason in the “Great War”  
  Kevin Crawford, Regent University  
* Debate and Surprised by Joy: Barfield Speaks  
  Steven William Halliday, Regent University  
* The Sound of Satire: Lewis and Pratchett on Gods and Demons  
  Terrence Lindvall, Virginia Wesleyan College  
* Repressed and Unfettered Laughter: The Other Issue in Armand Nicoll’s “The Question of God” with Sigmund Freud and C.S. Lewis  
  Andrew Harris, Pensacola Christian College  |
| 10:30 to 11:45 | Teche/ Belle Grove  | **In the Aftermath of Catastrophe: Competing Religious Voices Interpreting Hurricane Katrina and Japan’s Earthquake**  
Chair: Pamela Royse, Kutztown University  
Respondent: Pamela Royse, Kutztown University  
Presenters:  
* Creation and Annihilation of the Universe: The Hindu Explanation of Destruction as Collective Karma, Annihilation of the Ego, and Divine Play  
  Ramesh Rao, Longwood University  
* “The Whole Thing is in God’s Hands”: Post-Disaster Media Messages about Deity and Prayer  
  David Weiss, Montana State University, Billings  
* Did God do it or Not? Examining the Impulse to Attribute Divine Retribution to Disaster Rhetoric  
  Michael Dreher, Bethel University  
* Unknowing Complicity and the Need for Theodicy: How Internal Voices Compete to Explain Disasters  
  Ken Danielson, Kutztown University  |
| 10:30 to 11:45 | Gris Gris           | **Undergraduate Research Panel**  
Chair: Daniel S. Brown, Jr., Grove City College  
Respondent: J. Matthew Melton, Lee University  
Presenters:  
* Hillsong United: Messages in their Songs and Perceptions from their Listeners  
  Philip C. Gruber, Grove City College  
* An Autoethnographic Study of a Closed Religious Community through Communication Ethics  
  Carolina Londono, University of Waterloo (Ontario)  
* The Effects of Communication, Personality, and Religiousity on College Student Conflict Management Style  
  Page Sandberg, Nicole Lynn, Elizabeth Womack, & G. L. Forward (mentor), Point Loma Nazarene University  |
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| 1:00 to 2:15 | Oak Alley/ Madewood | **Religious Voices in Politics, Society, and Social Movements** Chair: Renata Kolodziej-Smith, Wayne State University Respondent: Adrienne Hacker Daniels, Illinois College Presenters:  
  - *Love Thy Neighbor . . Unless He is a Jew*  
    Claire Rhodes, University of Memphis (debut paper)  
  - *Apocalyptic Narratives and Fundamentalist Politics*  
    Jonathan Edwards, University of South Carolina  
  - *Silencing of the Lamb: An Argument for a Theological Approach to Obama’s 2009 Inaugural Prayer Service*  
    Teresa Morales, Georgia State University  
  - *The Rhetoric of Sojourners Ministries: The Intersection of Liberal Politics and Evangelical Theology*  
    Christopher Salinas, Southern Methodist University  
  - *“Form and Freedom”: Truth as Rhetoric in Francis Schaeffer’s Christian Manifesto*  
    Eric Miller, Penn State University |
| 1:00 to 2:15 | Teche/ Belle Grove | **C.S. Lewis and Alien Voices: Using Reason and Imagination in the Search for Serenity** Chair: Dale Sullivan, North Dakota State University  
  - *Serenity and the Tao: Joss Whedon Meets C.S. Lewis*  
    Bruce Edwards, Bowling Green State University  
  - *The Rhetoric of Ransom and the Poetics of Perelandra*  
    Gregory Anderson, Union Church, Hong Kong  
  - *Must we Exterminate the Veusians? An Analysis of J.B.S. Haldane’s, Olaf Stapledon’s and C.S. Lewis’ views on the issues*  
    Dale Sullivan, North Dakota State University |
| 1:00 to 2:15 | Gris Gris          | **Vodou Voices: Here and Now** Chair: Michele Fogg, College of Southern Nevada Presenters:  
  - Jennifer Basquiat, College of Southern Nevada  
  - Thomas Steinfatt, University of Miami  
  - Brandi Kelley, Voodoo Authentica of New Orleans Cultural Center and Collection  
  - Jesse Brunet, Hougan, Houma, Louisiana  
  - Andrew Spieldenner, Latino Commission on AIDS |
<p>| 2:30 to 3:15 | Gris Gris          | <strong>Communication Studies Interest Group</strong>    |</p>
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| 3:30 to 4:45 | Oak Alley/ Madewood  | **The Varied Voice of God: In Song, in Wisdom, in Scripture, in the Soul, in Sorrow, in Joy**  
Chair: Darlene Graves, Liberty University  
Respondent: John Katsion, Northwest Missouri State University  
Presenters:  
- *Hearing the Musical Voice of God*  
  Alison English, Vanguard University of Southern California  
- *The Voice of Wisdom: My Son, Give Attention to My Voice*  
  Jacqueline Gleny, Northwestern College  
- *God’s Voice of Creation and Law – A Psalmist’s Response*  
  Marcia Berry, Azusa Pacific University  
- *A Spiritual Epiphany: The Voice of God in the Soul*  
  Rachel Williams-Smith, Oakwood University  
- *Recalling the Voice and Touch of Christ: The Voices of Mary*  
  Melissa Frame, Clearwater Christian College |
| 3:30 to 4:45 | Teche/ Belle Grove    | **A Critical Examination of the Religious Voice: Prophecy, Hermeneutics, and Habermas**  
Chair: Jeff Lohr, Duquesne University  
Respondent: Bryan Kampbell, Buena Vista University  
Presenters:  
- *Prophecy as a Potential Continuum: Prophetic Rhetoric’s Historical Trajectory*  
  Kristen Majocha, University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown  
- *Prophefic Rhetoric as Religious Communication*  
  Andre Johnson, Memphis Theological Seminary  
- *After Much Discussion: Religion and Hermeneutics*  
  Joshua Danaher, Arizona State University West  
- *What Would Habermas Do: Religion’s Dialectical-Other to Modernity in Habermasian Theory*  
  Alanna Miller, Temple University |
| 3:30 to 4:45 | Gris Gris             | **Religious Voices and Organizations: Examining Influence and Narratives**  
Chair: Jennifer Basquiat, College of Southern Nevada  
Respondent: Allyssa Groom, Duquesne University  
Presenters:  
- *Corporate Religion: Religious Identification Inducements in Fortune 500 Companies*  
  Amorette Hinderaker, North Dakota State University  
- *Communicating Purpose: An Expanded Taxonomy for Contemporary Faith-Based Organizations*  
  J. Jacob Jenkins, University of South Florida  
- *Understanding the Socialization Process of Ministers: A Question of Spirituality, Faith and Obligation*  
  Peter Knutson, University of Kansas  
- *“A Burning in the Bosom”: Latter Day Saints’ Experiential Belief in the Book of Mormon*  
  Rosemary Avance, University of Pennsylvania (debut paper) |
| 5:00-5:45   | Oak Alley Madewood    | **Rhetorical Studies Interest Group**                                  |
| 6:00-7:15   | Oak Alley Madewood    | **2011 RCA Awards: Panel Presentation by Award Winners**               |
| 7:30-9:00   | Fleur de Lis Suite    | **Reception**                                                          |
2011 Registration Form

RCA Preconference
Date and Time: Wednesday November 16th, 9:30am until 9:00pm
Registration: Begins at 9:30am on the 2nd floor of the Royal Sonesta
Location: Royal Sonesta Hotel 300 Bourbon Street, New Orleans LA 70130, phone (504) 586-0300
 Included: A boxed lunch, refreshments throughout the day, and the evening reception

NCA/RCA Awards Banquet and Keynote Address
Date and Time: Friday November 18, 6:30 pm
Location: Court of Two Sisters, 618 Royal Street, New Orleans LA 70130, phone (504) 522-7061
Included: Soup, salad, entrée, dessert, coffee, and tea

Name: __________________________________________________________
Name as you would like it to appear on your badge: ____________________________________________________
Institutional Affiliation: ____________________________________________
Address: _________________________________________________________
E-mail: __________________________ Phone: ____________________________
Entrée Choice (circle one):  Chicken with lump crab   Beef   Vegetarian
INDICATE DIETARY RESTRICTIONS: ______________________________________

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MEMBERSHIP DUES
(Circle One)
Regular $25
Institutional $50
Student $12.50
Sustaining $45
Life $250

Write in Membership Amount Here

Make checks payable to RCA and send to:
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