

The Religious Communication Association

is an academic society founded in 1973 by people interested in the study of all aspects of public religious communication.

As an interfaith scholarly and professional organization, RCA seeks to promote honest, respectful and profound dialogue which reflects the diversity of religious beliefs, subject matter concerns, methodologies, and professions of its members.

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From the President

Kathleen M. Edelmayer
Madonna University

Greetings and blessings from RCA! This has been a busy spring for our association with preparations for our fall conference, developments with our journal, and expanding our on-line presence.



I am pleased to announce that the RCA pre-conference is scheduled for Wednesday, November 14, 2012, from 10:30am - 9:30pm. We are working on arrangements to meet at the NCA convention location, the Swan and Dolphin Hotels in sunny Orlando. J. Matthew Melton, our 1st Vice President, has worked diligently to coordinate reviews and develop panels for both the pre-conference and the annual RCA/NCA conference.

Please "save the date" for our annual Awards Banquet. This year's dinner is scheduled for Friday, November 16th at 6:30pm. We will honor the RCA Scholar of the Year as well as our other awardees. This is a wonderful opportunity to gather together and continue to build the community that is RCA.

Changes are also on the horizon for *JCR*: we are pursuing a partnership with a major publisher and a search committee is actively engaged in identifying candidates for our next editor. These are exciting times, indeed!

Third, we continue to expand our on-line presence. After years of hard-work and persistence, we are now able to accept payments via PayPal! Kudos to Janie Harden Fritz and all those who have worked to make this a reality!

This issue of *The RCA News* contains more details on each of these updates, information...

See "President" on page 2

From the 1st Vice President

J. Matthew Melton
Lee University

RCA will convene its annual pre-conference on Wednesday, November 14 from 10:30am until 9:30pm. RCA's annual meeting is scheduled concurrently with the National Communication Association (NCA).



The RCA/NCA conference runs from Thursday, November 15 to Sunday, November 18. This year, the conference will be held in Orlando, FL at the Swan & Dolphin hotel. For now, plans are to hold the preconference

in the same location, pending final arrangements. Stay tuned for an update as the details come together.

All submissions to RCA/NCA are peer reviewed. The submissions that receive recommendations for conference presentation are placed first at RCA/NCA and then at the pre-conference.

More details about the pre-conference will be distributed via the RCA list serve and will also be in the next newsletter. I look forward to another quality conference in Orlando this November. Until then!

J. Matthew Melton, RCA 1st Vice President
Lee University

The Journal of Communication and Religion (JCR): A Message from the Editor

("President" cont.)

...for the RCA listserv. I hope you enjoy the photographic review of last year's gathering in New Orleans.

Look to the summer edition of our newsletter for registration information for both the RCA pre-conference and the Awards Banquet. I encourage you to register early for these events so we can plan accordingly.

RCA is strong and continues to grow! We are so pleased with the quantitative and qualitative growth of our organization and its related research. We received many strong submissions for the conference and we're currently reviewing a high number of entries for this year's research awards.

I hope each of you will share our work with your students and colleagues. Please invite them to join the organization, attend the pre-conference, the banquet, or even just a panel. Remember . . . "All are welcome in this place!" I look forward to seeing you in Orlando!

Kathleen M. Edelmayer,
RCA President
Madonna University



Calvin Troup, JCR Editor
Duquesne University

The RCA Executive Council is continuing to work toward an agreement with an academic publisher to produce the journal for RCA. RCA will retain complete editorial control in any agreement and we are encouraged about the prospects. As the current editor of JCR, I have completed my term. The process of appointing a new editor is progressing.

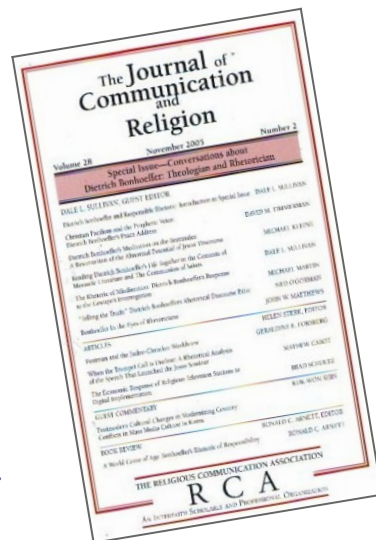
About The Journal of Communication and Religion

The Religious Communication Association publishes *The Journal of Communication and Religion (JCR)*. JCR is a journal addressed to the concerns of the religious communicator and the communication scholar and includes reviews of current publications in the field of religious communication.

JCR publishes a variety of research and scholarship on communication and religion. Calvin Troup, Professor of Communication and Rhetorical Studies at Duquesne University, is the journal's editor. The journal's editorial board is comprised of scholars in the fields of rhetoric, media, journalism, and communication studies.

The journal is published twice a year and sent in hard copy to all members of the Religious Communication Association. Along with the National Communication Association journals, and many others, JCR is searchable through full-text publication by EBSCO.

All scholars of communication and religion, new and established, are encouraged to submit articles to *The Journal of Communication and Religion*.



Stay in touch!!! Sign for the RCA Listserv

You may join the e-mail based listserv by sending a message to majordomo@calvin.edu with no subject line and the words "subscribe rca" in the message body text. (Don't include the quotation marks in the address or the message).

You can unsubscribe by sending a message to majordomo@calvin.edu with the text "unsubscribe rca" in the message body. To post a message, simply address it to rca@calvin.edu.

Feature: Religious Communication on the Campus

Members of the Religious Communication Association study religious messages: communication sent and received. On many campuses, religious messages are conveyed visually in the form of public art. Each spring issue of the *RCA Newsletter* will feature a work of art—a painting, a sculpture, stained glass, or architecture—with a distinctively religious message.

This issue's feature is the crucifix at Cardinal Square on the campus of Madonna University, Livonia MI.

Madonna University is a Catholic and Franciscan institution of higher learning. Their mission is to instill in its students Christian humanistic values, intellectual inquiry, a respect for diversity, and a commitment to serving others through a liberal arts education integrated with career preparation, based on the truths and principles recognized within a Catholic tradition.



The crucifix reminds people of Franciscan Values:

- Respect for the dignity of each person
- Peace and justice
- Reverence for creation
- Education for truth and service

If your campus has a piece of public art that you would like to see featured in the *Newsletter*, contact Editor Kristen L. Majocho at klynn@pitt.edu.

A Message from the Executive Secretary: PayPal is here!

Janie Harden Fritz, RCA Executive Secretary
Duquesne University



Exciting news! The PayPal button on RCA website is live and ready to receive action. How convenient this will be when you are renewing your membership and registering for RCA events.

The membership fee structure is:

Student \$25.00

Regular \$50.00

Life \$500.00

Emeritus/Honorary - No fee

If you are in doubt about your membership's expiration date, send an email to harden@duq.edu.

Use Paypal, or make Checks Payable to: The Religious Communication Association. Mail checks to:

Janie Harden Fritz, RCA Executive Secretary
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Need More
Information? Go to
[http://
americanrhetoric.com/
rca](http://americanrhetoric.com/rca)



RCA Awards Banquet 2011





THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION

THE R C A NEWS

AN INTERFAITH SCHOLARLY AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION

NEEDED: Feature Story Writers

If your campus, or one with which you are familiar, has a piece of public art distinctively religious in nature, contact RCA News Editor Kristen L. Majocha at klynn@pitt.edu. Each spring issue of the *RCA Newsletter* will feature a work of art: a painting, a sculpture, stained glass, or architecture. All faiths apply.



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