

SACS

Speaking Across the Curriculum

Issue #22, September 2000

Robert O. Weiss, Editor

NCA-CXC WEBSITE

Persons interested in participating in any capacity in the development of a CXC website by the National Communication Association should email Stephanie Tomlinson at the University of Washington: <stomilins@u.washington.edu>.

You are invited to send news for the next (May 2001) issue to the editor:

Robert O. Weiss
108E Performing Arts Center
DePauw University
Greencastle, IN 46135
(765) 658-4490
Fax (765) 658-4499
ROBERTWEISS@DEPAUW.EDU

NCA CONVENTION IN SEATTLE!

The National Communication Association Convention in Seattle, November 9-12, features numerous sessions of interest to our readers. Listed here are two short courses, two formal programs, and two discussion sessions. Further details may be found at the NCA web site, <natcom.org>.

Note that short courses require advanced registration and a fee.

Short Course 10. *Oral Communication Across the Curriculum: Designing, Implementing and Assessing a University-wide Program*

Instructors: Michael W. Cronin and George L. Grice.

Short Course 23. *Ongoing Conversation: New Issues and Challenges Facing Communication Across the Curriculum*

Instructors: Deanna Dannels, Chris M. Aronson, Ann L. Darling, Lisa M. Skow.

Formal Program. *Communication Centers and Speech Labs: Engagement and Commitment*

Chair: Nancy M. Hoar. Papers by Patricia A. Jefferson-Bilby, Tamara L. Burk, Linda B. Hobgood, and Pamela C. Miller.

Formal Program. *Using Video Technology for Communication Across the Curriculum Instruction, Evaluation, and Assessment*

Chair: Robin A. Gurien. Papers by Margaret Ray, Jennifer Polack-Wahl, and Deanna Dannels. Respondent: Ann L. Darling.

Table Talk Series. *NCA's Communication Across the Curriculum (CXC) Website*

Chair: Stephanie Tomlinson. Panelists: Sherwyn Morreale, Michael W. Cronin, and Pamela C. Miller.

Roundtable. *Communication Labs: A Roundtable Discussion*

Chair: Judith A. Rolls. Panelists: Tamara L. Burk, Susan A. Jasko, Sherwyn P. Morreale, Jack Price, Rick Rowland, Pamela S. Shockley-Zalabak, and Celeste S. Sulliman.

NOTABLE CONFERENCES

Watch for announcements of the 2001 NCA summer conference entitled "Engaging 21st Century Communication Students: Best Practices for Communication Scholar Teachers." One strand will be "Implementing Communication in General Education and Across-the-curriculum." If you're interested in being a planner or presenter of this strand, contact Sherry Morreale in the NCA National Office.

"Excellence at the Center" is the neat title of a conference designed to provide an opportunity for directors of communication labs and speech centers to gather and share information at the University of Richmond, April 20-22, 2001. A planning session will be held at Seattle on Thursday, November 9, from 3:30-4:45 in the convention center (program #1610 in the online program).

For further information about this conference, contact Linda Hobgood, <hobgood@richmond.edu>.

EMBRY-RIDDELL AERONAUTICAL U.

From Mesa, AZ, Ronald Clark reports: Here in 1997 the Embry-Riddell Aeronautical University Extended Campus Faculty Senate passed a motion to require a student performance objective in all undergraduate and graduate syllabi calling for enhancement of students' computing, critical thinking, speaking and writing skills. This motion involves over 16,000 working-in-industry adult students and some 3,000 faculty.

Future SAC initiatives include faculty development skills training in the assessment and development of oral communication skills both through a WWW-based education short course and faculty development intensive seminars.

Our SAC curricular opportunities are limited to nine-week five-hour classes interspersed with distance learning courses.

Declares Clark: "Advice and consultation are requested from you SAC experts out there." E-mail Associate Professor Ron Clark at <clarkro@cts.db.erau.edu>

OUTSIDE THE CURRICULUM

At Dickinson College (PA), James M. Sloat has established a Center for Public Speaking with curricular speech and across-the-curriculum dimensions.

In addition, the CPS moves outside the curriculum in three ways: promoting speaking opportunities (such as speech contests), event facilitation (helping with the Public Affairs Symposium), and consulting (for the admissions office, e.g.).

NEW FACES

Esther Yook (Ph.D., University of Minnesota) has joined the Mary Washington College program as Speaking Center Director.

Michele Bates has become the Acting Director of the Oral Communication Program at the College of William and Mary.

Amanda Granrud has assumed the position of Interim Director of the Oral Communication Program at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

Joyce G. Ferguson has been appointed Interim Director of the Speaking Across the Curriculum Program at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro.

UNDERGRADUATES DISCUSS SAC

At Holy Family College (Philadelphia), when Dr. Fran Pelham invited her Effective Speaking class to explore "Speaking Across the Curriculum" and present a panel discussion, they productively addressed such questions as "What's in it for the students?" and "What's in it for the teachers?" They were able to draw upon the expertise of such pioneers in the field as Dr. Patricia Palmerton and Dr. Deborah Rossen-Knill.

The students concluded that SAC needs to be an important component of curricula from grades school through graduate training, but teachers need to be aware of the different personalities and learning styles of their students. Teachers who integrate speech in their courses will promote strong communication skills in their students and, perhaps, make teaching a bit easier and more interesting for themselves.

COLUMBUS STATE CC

At Columbus State Community College (Ohio), Speaking Across the Curriculum is an interdisciplinary committee whose mission is to encourage the incorporation of formal oral presentations into the curriculum across the campus. The chair of the committee is Libby McGlone, Communication Skills Department.

In support of the Communication Skills Department manages a Speech Rehearsal Lab which is available 48 hours per week.

The committee also publishes a newsletter, called "SpeakEasy." To be placed on the mailing list for the newsletter, contact <lmcglone@csc.edu>.