The annual business meeting of the ICA Organizational Communication Division was held on May 29, 2005, in New York City, USA, with Chair Steve Corman (Arizona State U) presiding. Other officers in attendance were Vice-chair Cynthia Stohl (UC-Santa Barbara), Outgoing Secretary Caryn Medved (Ohio U), and Incoming Secretary Craig Scott (U Texas-Austin). The minutes from 2004 Business meeting were approved.

Presentation of Awards

Patrice Buzzanell made a proposal that the Outstanding Division Member Award be renamed the Frederick M. Jablin Outstanding Division Member Award. This change was approved by the membership. The 2005 Fredrick M. Jablin Outstanding Division Member Award was then presented to Dennis Mumby for his contributions to the division.

Caryn Medved then presented the W. Charles Redding Dissertation Award. Judges for this annual competition were Vernon Miller, Andrew Flanagin, Lynn Huitter, and Beverly Sypher. The winner of the 2005 Redding Dissertation Award for his work on privacy and surveillance in the workplace was Scott D'Urso (advisor: Craig Scott). Other nominees (and advisors in parentheses) were Cindy Conn (Patrice Buzzanell), Rebecca Meisenbach (Patrice Buzzanell), Bill Koch (Scott Jacobs), Francesca Gardini (Janet Fulk), Mick Khoo (Michele Jackson), Alana Nicastro (Johanna Hunsker), and Boris Brummans (Linda Putnam).

Predictors and Outcomes of Situated Measures of Organizational Identification;” Brian K. Richardson for “Expanding Whistle-Blowing Scholarship: How Stakeholder Theory, Organizational Structure, and Social Influence Processes Can Inform Whistle-Blowing Research;” and Linda L. Putnam, Boris Brummans, Barbara Gray, Ralph Hanke, Roy Lewicki, and Carolyn Wiethoff for “How Homogeneous Are Stakeholder Groups? Profiling Disputants’ Framing of Intractable Environmental Conflicts.” The Top Student Paper Award was presented to Dennis Schoenenborn (Bauhaus University – Weimar Germany) for “Organizations as Communications: Examining the Value in Luhman’s Social Systems Theory for Organizational Communication Research.”

Reports

Chair Steve Corman provided a “State of the Division Report” covering several areas. As for membership, he noted we had 496 members in 2005, which reflects a recent decline of 4.25% per year. Steve expressed concern about this and a desire to look further into this issue. As for the ’05 conference, there were 100 paper submissions, with 55 accepted to regular panels and 9 more as posters. Nine panels were submitted and all accepted. 23 regular panels were allotted, plus some additions for the Jablin tribute, preconference, and Birds of a Feather session. This reflected more submissions than recent conferences in New Orleans and Seoul, but fewer than in San Diego. As for the financial state of the division, Corman reported income of $1681 in member dues and another $436 from the Doctoral Consortium (pending on-site registration) for a total income of $2116. Expenses included $600 for the New Member Breakfast, $900 for the Division Reception, and $200 for the Student Paper Award for a total of $1818. This left a balance of $298. Additionally the Redding Award Endowment stands at $14,884.73, which is up $80 from last year. As for the New Member Breakfast, there were approximately 30 in attendance. All incoming and outgoing division officers as well as two past chairs helped greet new members. Vice-Chair Cynthia Stohl then gave a report on the Doctoral Consortium Preconference, which was a daylong pre-conference workshop on professional issues for doctoral students in organizational communication. This year’s consortium theme, "Research and Teaching in the Global Context," addressed the challenges and opportunities of working in the global university. Approximately 30 students from Eastern and Western Europe, Asia, North America, and the Middle East participated. At the consortium faculty and students from different cultural, national, theoretical and epistemological perspectives discussed the global dimensions of research, publication, teaching, and service. Faculty participants included Cynthia Stohl - U California Santa Barbara (Chair), Patrice M. Buzzanell - Purdue U, Peter Carnavale - New York U, Noshir S. Contractor - U of Illinois, Janel Crider - University of Minnesota, Angeli Diaz - De La Salle U (PHILIPPINES), Gail Fairhurst - U of Cincinnati, Jennifer Gibbs - Rutgers U, Annika Hymlo - Loyola Marymount, Kathy Krone - U of Nebraska, Linda Putnam - Texas A&M U, Patti Riley - U of Southern California, Michael Stohl - U of California Santa Barbara, and Connie Yuan - Cornell U.

Nominations

A Reader Recruitment Committee has been assembled and consists of Karen Ashcraft – U

The nominating committee for Vice-Chair consists of Patrice Buzzanell (Purdue), Nosh Contractor (Illinois), Gail Fairhurst (U of Cincinnati), and Linda Putnam (Texas A&M U). The committee put forward the following candidates: Michele Jackson (U of Colorado) and Dennis Mumby (U North Carolina Chapel Hill). By vote of those in attendance, Dennis Mumby was elected incoming vice-chair.

New Business

Corman and others in attendance shared highlights from the ICA Board Meeting. The association budget is improving since the Seoul conference and move of the headquarters to Washington, DC. There are 2300 attending this year’s conference, surpassing the previous record of 1900. On average submissions were up 15% across divisions. Candidates for President Elect Select are Sonia Livingstone, London School of Economics, and Alan Rubin, Kent State U. Several changes were also announced: “minority student travel grants” will be called “diversity grants;” there is a change in the publication manual to prohibit “bad” language, and division member Francois Cooren was named new Communication Theory editor. Other report highlights were about the membership survey, which revealed the following:

- 51% favor most international version of association
- 67% want more internationalization
- 61% favor regional conference
- 65% disfavor poster sessions
- 90% favor more restrictions on numbers of papers

Additionally, two new interest groups were approved in the last year, which may have
contributed to the lack of organizational communication panels; a gaming group asked for approval this year. There is concern that the association is becoming too fragmented, and that the Communication Technology division is growing extremely rapidly, which led association leadership to discuss re-examining the divisional structure of ICA.

The 2006 Dresden ICA Conference will be June 19-23 with a theme of Networking Communication Research. We will be using several hotels, with the 5-star rate of $140, and downward from there. Conference fees include lunch on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. It was noted that this will coincide with World Cup games, so members were encouraged to get plane tickets early. Post conference tours to Prague, Vienna, and Budapest are also planned for June 24-July 1. Ron Rice, ICA program planner and organizational communication division member, also came in and discussed the Dresden Conference. He talked about the variety of hotels that will be available, the wonders of Dresden, and answered general questions.

Stohl asked for feedback about the Div 4 Policies related to conference submissions, especially paper size. The membership discussed this issue and recommended that the Program Planner use his or her discretion as to what constituted a significant overage. However, any reader could refuse to evaluate any paper that exceeded the guidelines. Members were urged to follow guidelines.

Corman then talked about a special project for 2006 Conference, dubbed “Project Kenny-boy.” This concerns the e-mail dataset from Enron released as part of a recent court ruling. Corman described this as a good opportunity for a division project that might have a chance for publicity. He will be organizing a panel around this issue. New business from the floor was considered, consisting mainly of several conference and job announcements. The meeting was then adjourned.

Submitted by Craig Scott
Division Secretary