

## MINUTES

Emeriti/Retired Members Section (E/RMS) Business Meeting  
2009 National Communication Association Annual Convention  
Hilton Hotel, Chicago  
Friday, November 13, 2009  
9:30 AM - Boulevard A - Room 5C

### In Attendance:

Gerald H. Sanders [gsanders@one.net](mailto:gsanders@one.net)  
Patti Gillespie [pg6pg6@frontier.com](mailto:pg6pg6@frontier.com)  
John Bowers [johnwaitebowers@gmail.com](mailto:johnwaitebowers@gmail.com)  
Maridell Fryar [marydellfryar@suddenlink.net](mailto:marydellfryar@suddenlink.net)  
Ted J. Foster [foster@ohio.edu](mailto:foster@ohio.edu)  
Larry Schnoor [lschnoor@hickorytech.net](mailto:lschnoor@hickorytech.net)  
Allan Kennedy [isajk@aol.com](mailto:isajk@aol.com)  
Barbara Lieb [liebcom@comcast.net](mailto:liebcom@comcast.net)  
Robert Kully [rkully@calstatela.edu](mailto:rkully@calstatela.edu)  
Roger Smitter [roger.smitter@gmail.com](mailto:roger.smitter@gmail.com)  
Joan Leininger [joanleininger@yahoo.com](mailto:joanleininger@yahoo.com)  
Nancy Rose [Rose\\_n2@msn.com](mailto:Rose_n2@msn.com)  
Kenneth Andersen [kanders@illinois.edu](mailto:kanders@illinois.edu)  
Ray Benkendorf [benkendorf@cox.net](mailto:benkendorf@cox.net)  
Nancy Kidd NCA National Office  
Bob Stockton [rstockton@me.com](mailto:rstockton@me.com)

## AGENDA

### STANDING BUSINESS

1. Chair Kenneth Andersen calls the Section meeting to order at 9:30 AM.
2. Ken leads the introduction of those attending.
3. Ken calls for approval of 2008 minutes. MSP
4. Ken announces that Roger Smitter is in attendance. A round of applause is given for his late service to the NCA.

### OLD BUSINESS

1. Election of Section Recording Secretary. Patti Gillespie announces the executive committee's selection, via the nominating committee, of Ray Benkendorf to be re-elected to this position. There are no further nominations from the floor and Ken thus calls for his re-election. MSP
2. Roger Smitter agrees to serve on the Section's 2011 nominating committee.
3. 2009 Convention programs. Larry Schnoor has managed to schedule all of our programs on Friday or Saturday. There will be four programs scheduled for 2010 in San Francisco.

## NEW BUSINESS

1. 2010 program planning, VP Elect Barbara Lieb:
  - A. Convention theme: "Building Bridges."
  - B. Deadlines:
    - (1). February 17, 2010, all program submissions deadline.
    - (2). December 2, 2009, initial unit descriptions are due.
    - (3). December 21, 2009, "All Academic" submissions are due.  
(aside: Ken and Barbara suggest a note to SPECTRA concerning emeriti membership and definition).  
(aside: E/RMS has four programs scheduled).
    - (4). March 17, 2010, review for submission to unit planners is due.
    - (5). March 24, 2010, deadline for final program lineups.
    - (6). March 29, 2010, approval/rejection notices distributed.
    - (7). September 17, 2010, "All Academic" programs are finalized.
  - C. Barbara and others suggest programs for 2010:
    - (1). Downsizing and adjustments for retirement and subsequent changes to be found in all NCA units.
    - (2). How to utilize concepts of the discipline when dealing with the community in the "building bridges" process.
    - (3). Nancy Rose suggests a program on the use of communication skills when dealing with condo associations.
    - (4). Ken suggests panels on "preparation for retirement" and past presidents' perspectives on the discipline.
    - (5). Barbara seeks both traveling scholars program and a debate on "have we benefited from national organization name changes?"
    - (6). Ken closes discussion by suggesting that further program "directions" be dealt with via email.
2. Legislative Committee report: Ken Andersen.
  - A. Anti-terrorist resolution fails because it is not considered to be a "proper policy document."
  - B. Dues increase fails (\$100 departmental, \$10 individual).
  - C. NCA Boards are given increased powers to propose individuals for seating.
  - D. Eliminating costs for short courses is introduced, but date for implementing this is not clear. Remains in limbo.
3. Section Historical Committee report: (Dwight Freshley, John Bowers, Bob Kully).
  - A. John Bowers will review efforts to contact Dwight who has apparently completed a disc on the Section's history. Patti Gillespie will assist in this effort.
  - B. Note: Ted Foster has sent out a disc that contains a nearly complete set of copies of THE REMINDER. It is available to anyone upon request.
  - C. Ray Benkendorf suggests collecting written narratives from key past Section members since our days as a Committee.
4. Nancy Kidd, newly appointed NCA Executive Director, is in attendance and is given the floor.
  - A. She first thanks E/RMS for its continuing efforts in aiding the goals of NCA. She also seeks greater participation for E/RMS within the NCA organization.
  - B. Ken notes the need for E/RMS to more successfully distribute information to the larger organization concerning our role and function as a Section (i.e., retirement issues and the like). We also need aid in enhancing interaction with other units and with members of our own

unit. For example, THE REMINDER is underfunded and needs an increased budget (\$500 to \$800 minimally).

C. Patti adds that THE REMINDER is indeed the PRIMARY instrument for keeping this Section informed.

D. Allan Kennedy suggests the need for an updated NCA directory. He also notes that LIFE and EMERITUS membership definitions need more clarity and symmetry and that, indeed, they may need to be merged.

E. Barbara Lieb notes that the national office needs to again publish clear criteria relative to the 25-30 year requirement surrounding "emeritus" status.

F. Ted Foster suggests that THE REMINDER could do much of the previous if it had greater funding (see B. above).

G. Ms. responds:

(1). NCA is committed to change.

(2). NCA infrastructure is too complex.

(3). A review of membership system makes for greater understanding.

(4). Asks for patience. She takes the E/RMS Section seriously. Things could change by next year. She has taken notes.

(5). Will consider increased funding for THE REMINDER.

(6). Jerry Sanders suggests that NCA should be considering means for using E/RMS more directly as a Section.

(7). Nancy closes by suggesting that she will remain open to our thoughts and particularly THE REMINDER funding question.

5. Chair Andersen presents annual Distinguished Service Awards.

A. Ted Foster (2008). For dedicated and stellar years of service as Editor of THE REMINDER.

B. Bob Kully (2009). As one of several founding officers of E/RMS, for his persuasive and unending efforts in moving us from an idea, to a Committee, to a Caucus, and finally to a Section. An extraordinary journey.

6. At 10:45 AM Chair Andersen calls for adjournment. MSP

Ray R. Benkendorf  
Recording Secretary