

NCA Moving Forward

The NCA Executive Committee remains committed, by our core values and by NCA's guiding documents, to removing structural barriers or exclusionary policies and practices that undermine a diverse, equitable, and inclusive association. We reaffirm our commitment to NCA's mission statement that, in part, says "NCA supports inclusiveness and diversity among our faculties, within our membership, in the workplace, and in the classroom; NCA supports and promotes policies that fairly encourage this diversity and inclusion" and to <u>NCA's Statement on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion</u>.

Our perspective is that diversity, equity, and inclusion are no longer intermittent or ancillary to NCA decision-making. We are strongly committed to moving forward as a community to ensure that our statements about diversity become institutional policy and action.

At our August meeting, we will continue our work on three issues related to diversity, equity, and inclusion that are already on our agenda. These include: 1) The ongoing process for improving and reforming the Distinguished Scholar Award selection process; 2) The revisions for training, recruiting, and selecting a diverse group of editors for NCA journals; and 3) The ongoing discussion about NCA's Code of Conduct and Anti-Harassment efforts to ensure attendee's safety at all NCA meetings and events. We further anticipate discussing and responding to the current petition regarding the transformation of the Communication discipline and considering how NCA can best support many of the initiatives announced by our divisions, interest groups, caucuses, and affiliated associations.

We appreciate the willingness and energy of all NCA members as we pursue our shared commitment to making NCA a stronger, more vibrant, and more welcoming community for the myriad roles, paradigms, identities, communities, and ideologies reflected in our membership.

-- Star Muir, NCA President (on behalf of the NCA Executive Committee)