Position Statement on the Teaching, Scholarly/Creative Activity, and Service Value of Editing an NCA Journal

The Publications Council of the National Communication Association stands firm that serving as an NCA journal Editor (or serving on an Editorial Board for an NCA journal) is a critical academic engagement. The critical review process and managing of an NCA journal is an embodied and rigorous commitment to disciplinary knowledge production. Such an endeavor is parallel to/and crosses the traditional categories of academic review linked with tenure and promotion processes across many U.S. universities: teaching, scholarly/creative activity, and service.

NCA journal Editors engage in a critical review of submitted scholarly articles/book projects and provide authors with commentary and direction that furthers both their individual project and paves the pathway for scholar discourse/dialogue in the field. Such engagement with authors includes suggestion and assessment of the clarification of writing, the deepening of arguments, and the push toward innovation and invention that propels the field. The effort serves as forms of teaching, mentoring, and professional development.

The *sine qua non* of good editorial assistance also promotes, without claiming, the scholarly production of emerging and established scholars -- in a forum and format made accessible to a broad readership -- under the aegis and vision of an individual Editor, in collaboration with an Editorial Board. Such effort also serves as a major act of service to the broader discipline of Communication Studies -- inclusive of the Editor's (or Editorial Board member's) home department and disciplinary colleagues around the country/world.

While those serving as Editors (or on Editorial Boards) may claim their engagement as service to the discipline, the NCA Publications Council strongly believes that consideration or credit should be given to such individuals across all categories of academic review: teaching, scholarly/creative activity, and service.