A note from the Chair

The Ethnography Division continues to support research, writing, and performance that matters in people's lives, and this year's NCA convention in New Orleans provides ample testimony to it. I want to thank Laura Ellingson (as VP-elect) and Melanie Mills (as Sec. & habitual preconference planner) for their work planning what promises to be an excellent preconference on Writing Ethnography. I also want to thank our incoming President, Maria Cristina Gonzales and all our paper referees, for their outstanding job reading the submissions and putting together this year's splendid program, and Melanie Mills for once again editing the newsletter you now hold in your hands (or read at your screens).

At this year's Business Meeting we will see the results of two new Ethnography Division initiatives: (1) the proposed new Division By-Laws which will require an open discussion and vote by the membership, and (2) the Outstanding Ethnography Award for a must read piece of ethnographic work published since January 2001. I want to thank Art Bochner, Carolyn Ellis, and Nick Trujillo for working with me to forge the proposed new by-laws, and Chris Poulos, Stacy Holman Jones, and Melanie Mills for their work soliciting nominations, reading, and selecting the Outstanding Article Ethnography recipient.

We still have some unfinished business that I believe is a good sign of a growing and enthusiastic membership. AJ Muhr has agreed to help us launch a website and will be working diligently toward that goal after the by-laws are passed. And there is still talk - perhaps we will hear more about it at the Business Meeting - of developing a new journal dedicated to publishing the best new ethnographic scholarship.

For those of you who are renewing your NCA memberships this season, please do not forget to check the Ethnography Division box on your membership form and encourage others to join us. I look forward to seeing all you in New Orleans!

Cheers,
Dr. Bud (Goodall)

Minutes from NCA 2001

Nov. 3, 2001 2:00 p.m. Atlanta, GA
Announcements: Art Bochner suggested the Couch Stone Symposium was a good home for us. Cristina Gonzales invited participants for her field research class.

Reports: Buddy Goodall reported that the Rapid Review system for reviewing papers was a big time failure and would likely NOT be used again. We had 28 slots this year (up from our original 21 because we shared some with other divisions). Big thanks to all our readers and to Dr. Bud for organizing panels! Nick Trujillo reported from legislative council. There was extended discussion regarding tiering our journals. There was also discussion about an electronic journal which would be useful for some of our non-print presentations. If we want to start our own, we will likely need to guarantee a certain number of subscriptions. Art Bochner urged members to be more political. For example, recently there was a criticism of autoethnography published in a journal that wouldn't publish one. Speak up! Those interested in investigating online journal opportunities should contact Bud. Cristina reported on the preconference Living & Dying with Ethnography - a meaningful time was shared by all in attendance (a Mills editorial comment here!). There was discussion of the next preconference theme which included writing workshops, personal writings related to 9/11, & performance related topics.

Listserv: To join the ethnography division listserv, send a message to:
LISTPROC@CSUS.EDU with the two-line message:

Subscribe ETHNOG-L<your first & last name>

Thank yous to: Ron Pelias for copies of The Green Window. Nick also recognized Carolyn Ellis, Bud, and presented Stacy Holman Jones with an unwrapped-thanks-to-increased-security-at-the-airport gift, a very dangerous and appropriate dancing woman pin. Patricia Geist led us in a big thank you for Nick (esp. as he served an extra term) before adjournment at 3:05 p.m.
PROPOSED BY-LAWS OF THE
ETHNOGRAPHY DIVISION
OF THE
NATIONAL COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION
Drafted 3/22/02

Article I. Name, Authority and Purpose

Section 1. The name of this division shall be the Ethnography Division of the National Communication Association.

Section 2. The basic purpose of the Ethnography Division is to promote the scholarship, pedagogy and practice of ethnographic communication. The Division’s primary goals are to: (1) encourage the scholarly and creative inquiry about the lived experiences of persons in cultures across a wide variety of contexts, (2) promote effective pedagogy on ethnographic theories, perspectives, methods, texts, and performances, and (3) develop applications of fieldwork and writing/performance on the basis of research. The Division seeks to foster the building of ethnographic and communication theories and supports the use of all methodologies.

Article II. Membership

Section 1. General membership in the Division is open to any member of the National Communication Association who is interested in promoting the Division’s purposes.

Section 2. The full membership of the Division shall be those persons who identify themselves as members of the Ethnography Division with their NCA membership.

Article III. Meetings

Section 1. A business meeting shall be held at the time and place of the annual convention of the National Communication Association. Additional meetings may be scheduled by the Executive Committee of the Division.

Section 2. The Secretary shall be responsible for circulating/publishing the minutes of all meetings on the Division’s web page and/or newsletter as practical and possible.

Article IV. Officers, Committees, Duties, & Terms

Section 1. The officers of the Division shall be the Chair, Vice-Chair, Vice-Chair-elect, Secretary, and Immediate Past-Chair. These officers constitute the Division’s Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall serve as chief administrative authority of the Division between annual business meetings of the Association and the Division.

Section 2. The Chair shall preside at business meetings of the Division, and shall work with the Vice-Chair-elect in membership recruitment and convention program planning for the Division. The Chair shall serve as a representative of the Division on the Association’s Legislative Council. The Chair is responsible for presenting the annual report of Division activities to and as directed by the Legislative Council. The Chair shall serve a one-year term and will succeed to the office of Immediate Past-Chair in the subsequent year.

Section 3. The Vice-Chair shall, in cooperation and consultation with appropriate officers of the Division and the Association, plan the program of the Ethnography Division for the annual NCA convention. The Vice-Chair shall be responsible for administering the evaluation process or papers and panels submitted for competitive evaluation. The Vice-Chair shall serve a one year term and succeed to the office of the Chair in the subsequent year.

Section 4. The Vice-Chair-elect shall serve as a convention submission evaluator and preconference program planner. The Vice-Chair-elect shall work with the Chair in membership recruitment for the Division. The Vice-Chair-elect shall serve a one year term beginning immediately after the close of the convention at which s/he is elected. The Vice-Chair-elect shall succeed to the office of the Vice-Chair in the subsequent year.

Section 5. The Secretary shall serve as the recorder and historian for the Division. The Secretary will prepare and distribute minutes of all Division business meetings and of Executive Committee meetings. The Secretary is also responsible for writing and distributing the Division’s annual newsletter. The Secretary shall serve a two-year term beginning immediately after the close of the convention at which s/he is elected. The Secretary shall also serve as the Division’s representative to the Association’s Resolutions Committee.

Section 6. The Immediate Past-Chair shall serve as a representative of the Division on the Association’s Legislative Council and the Association’s Nominating Committee, convene and chair the Division’s Nominating Committee, and assist other officers of the Division as directed by the Chair.

Section 7. Special committees with tenure
ordinarily limited to one year and with specific duties appropriate to the needs of the Division shall be appointed by the Chair, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee.

**Article V. Elections**

Section 1. The Nominating Committee of the Division shall be selected by the Chair in consultation with the other officers. The Chair of the Nominating Committee shall be selected by the Nominating Committee members. The Division Chair shall serve as a non-voting convener. No officer, other than the Division Chair, shall serve on the Nominating Committee, and no member shall serve on this committee in two consecutive years.

Section 2. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a slate of at least two names for each vacancy to be filled in that calendar year. Five or more names will be nominated for convention evaluators. Additional nominations for all offices can be made from the floor at the annual business meeting.

Section 3. Voting shall be conducted at the annual business meeting. All persons holding membership in the Division may vote. A majority shall be required for election on the first ballot. In case of a tie, the Chair shall withhold his/her ballot.

Section 4. In case of a vacancy in any office of the Executive Committee, it shall be filled by the automatic succession process, if appropriate. Vacancies in other offices shall be filled by the Executive Committee until the next business meeting at which time a new election shall take place. A person so elected shall serve the remaining and successive full term for that office.

**Article VI. Programs Proposals and Convention Papers**

Section 1. Individuals may submit both convention program proposals and competitive papers to the Vice-Chair. Competitive papers shall be selected through a blind review process. The Vice-Chair shall administer the evaluation process. Convention program evaluators shall read the submission and assign ratings and rankings according to a format as directed by the Vice-Chair. The Division supports standardized evaluation procedures across all submission to determine the top-ranked papers and proposals. The Vice-Chair shall report on the submissions, rate of acceptance and rejection, and any other matters related to the evaluation of submissions process at the annual business meeting.

Section 2. Competitive papers and program proposals shall be rated separately. Overall quality and interest to Division members shall guide the evaluation of the papers and proposals.

Section 3. On the basis of the evaluations received, the Vice-Chair shall select the Division's convention programming and work with the first Vice-President of the Association to schedule Division programs.

Section 4. The Vice-Chair may propose two spotlight panels for the convention without seeking reviews from the evaluators. These spotlight panels may feature a particular scholar, a single piece (or body) of work, or a topic of interest.

**Article VII. Parliamentary Authority**

Section 1. All meetings of the Division, its committees, and other subsidiary bodies, shall be governed by the parliamentary rules and usages contained in the current edition of Roberts' Rules of Order (Revised).

**Article VIII. Amendments**

Section 1. Amendments to these By-Laws may be initiated by a majority of the Executive Committee, a majority of the Division membership at a business meeting, or by a petition addressed to the Chair and signed by 25 members of the Division.

Section 2. Proposed amendments to the By-Laws are to be published/distributed in/on the Division's newsletter/web page at least 60 days prior to the annual business meeting.

Section 3. The adoption of a proposed amendment requires a two-thirds majority vote of those present at the annual business meeting of the Division.

**Article IX. Ratification of By-Laws**

Section 1. These By-Laws shall become effective after ratification by a majority vote of voting members present at the annual Division business meeting.

Please come to the business meeting Sunday morning, November 24 from 9:30-10:45 a.m. Balcony K, Fourth Floor, Marriott prepared to discuss and vote on these By-Laws.
Ethnography Division Program at a Glance

Except where otherwise noted, panels are located: Balcony K, 4th floor, Marriott

Tuesday, November 19

8:00 p.m. Informal preconference social in the bar of the Avenue Plaza Hotel

Wednesday, November 20

8:30-5:00 Exploring Ethnography: A Writing Workshop
Preconference off-site at the Avenue Plaza Hotel in the Garden District (preregistration required)

Thursday, November 21

8:00-9:15 Reflexive Auto/Ethnography as Process: Changing Lenses, Adjusting Perspectives, Reframing Narratives
9:30-10:45 Getting to Know One Another: Using Ethnography to Explore Experiences of Friendship Formation
12:30-1:45 Views from the Fringe: Charting the Cultural Geography of Deviance
2:00-3:15 Intense Emotional Experience as Cultural Evidence and Text in Ethnographic Performance
3:30-4:45 Taking the Ethnographic Gaze into the Classroom: Constructions of Student & Teacher

Friday, November 22

8:00-9:15 The Emergent Ethnographer: Discovering the Nature of our Work
9:30-10:45 Re-considering Cultural Contexts in the Ethics and Use of Human Subjects Consent Forms
Salon 821, 8th floor, Sheraton

12:30-1:45 Reading Autoethnography
Bonaparte, 4th floor, Marriott

12:30-1:45 Constructions of the Voice at Work: Ethnographic Examinations of Work Place Culture

2:00-3:15 The Feminist Gaze in Ethnographic Research & Performance: Recent Work by Communication Scholars

3:30-4:45 Bearing Witness to and Making Sense of September 11 and Its Aftermath: Stories of Love, Loss, & Disconnection

5:00-6:15 Spotlight on Ethnographic Scholarship: The Life Work and Influence of Arthur Bochner

Saturday, November 23

8:00-9:15 Embodying & Acting the Life of the Mind: Autoethnographic Narratives from the Not-so-Ivory Tower
9:30-10:45 A Look in the Mirror: Self-Reflexivity in Ethnographic Research on the Homeless & Imprisoned
12:30-1:45 Ethnographic Family Albums: Discovering Meaning in our Families Cultures

2:00-3:15 Top Three Papers in Ethnography
2:00-3:15 Narrative as Action: Dealing with Death, Displacement, Injustice and Terror

Armstrong Ballroom, 8th floor, Sheraton

2:00-3:15 Exploring the Emotional Terrain of the Family Through Personal Narrative

Armstrong Ballroom, 8th floor, Sheraton

3:30-4:45 Continuing the Conversation about What Constitutes Ethnography: Exploring Autoethnography, Autobiography, and Other Experimental Forms

Sunday, November 24

9:30-10:45 Division Business Meeting