

Call for Papers
NYSCA 64th Annual Conference
October 20-22, 2006
Hudson Valley Resort & Spa
Kerhonkson, NY

Conscientious Objections: Communicating Dissent

In a communication environment characterized by overt propaganda, increased emphasis on FCC regulations, the PATRIOT Act, and constant cries of bias in journalism, the role of Communication scholars as a counterweight to the “tyranny of the majority” is paramount. Inspired by Postman’s many essays on the tyranny of language and technology and in an effort to encourage productive and bold research, the 2006 NYSCA conference will focus on dissent in all its forms.

Papers addressing alternative media (for adults and children), the chilling effect in journalism, the spiral of silence in group communication, protest movements, the discourse surrounding contested cultural issues such as the war in Iraq, gay marriage, Supreme Court nominees, etc., are all of particular interest. Papers addressing persuasion or propaganda in all contexts are also important to the conference theme.

We seek papers in all formats, formal & informal speeches, roundtables, demonstrations, participatory panels, media screenings, or other innovative ideas. Submissions unrelated to the conference theme, as well as submissions from a variety of theoretical traditions, are also welcome. Undergraduate and graduate student submissions are welcome, and will be considered for student paper awards.

Keynote Speakers:

Jeff Cohen (www.jeffcohen.org) is a writer, lecturer and media critic who founded the media watch group FAIR in 1986 (www.fair.org). He has appeared regularly on national TV and radio, and his columns have been published in dozens of dailies. In 2003, he was the communications director of the Kucinich for President campaign. Cohen is the co-author of four books: *Wizards of Media Oz: Behind the Curtain of Mainstream News* (1997), *The Way Things Aren't: Rush Limbaugh's Reign of Error* (1995), *Through the Media Looking Glass: Decoding Bias and Blather in the News* (1995), and *Adventures in Medialand: Behind the News, Beyond the Pundits* (1993). His new book, *Cable News Confidential: My Misadventures in Corporate Media*, will be released this summer.

William Hoynes is William Hoynes is Professor of Sociology and Director of the Media Studies Program at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, New York, where he teaches courses on media, culture, and social theory. He is the author of *Public Television for Sale: Media, the Market, and the Public Sphere*, and co-author (with David Croteau) of *By Invitation Only: How the Media Limit Political Debate*, *Media/Society: Industries, Images, and Audiences*, and most recently, *The Business of Media: Corporate Media and the Public Interest*.

Extended Deadline: July 1, 2006

For detailed submission guidelines or other conference information, please visit www.nyscanet.org or contact Peggy Cassidy, NYSCA Vice President and conference coordinator, at Cassidy@adelphi.edu or (516) 877-4914.