

Ecologue

NEWSLETTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY

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The 1994 Conference of the Speech Communication Association

Seven years ago, in New Orleans, the annual conference of the Speech Communication Association heard its first panel on environmental advocacy. Since that time, many interesting and important events have occurred. Conferences in Alta, Big Sky, and now Chattanooga, have helped to concentrate scholarly attention on the difficulties of speaking about nonhuman nature. Growing numbers of scholars, in a wide variety of disciplines, have turned their attention to a host of environmental problems and issues. Several newsletters, including **Ecologue**, have been born to help loose-knit groups of people stay in contact with one another and share ideas. Outside of scholarship and advocacy groups, environmental concerns have started to receive much attention from politicians, industry, media, and religious organizations. In short, the complex and dynamic set of forces, issues, and philosophies--generically referred to as "the environment"--have become so important that they are virtually inseparable from other walks of life.

In light of the overall importance attributed to environmental concerns, and the enormous effort put forth by conference organizers and newsletter editors, the time has come for the Speech Communication community to acknowledge environmental

studies as both an important subject and a legitimate strand of the discipline.

In an effort to establish environmental studies, an **Environmental Studies Working Group Business Meeting** will be held during the upcoming conference of the Speech Communication Association. Scheduled for Sunday, November 20, the meeting will be from 4:00 to 5:15 p.m. in the Crescent Room which is located on the fourth floor of the Sheraton. The agenda will be:

- I. Establishing Environmental Studies
 - A. Background and evolution of environmental studies
 - B. Possible roles in SCA
 - C. Discussion of possible roles
 - D. Strategy
- II. Exchange of ideas for the 1995 conference

We hope to see everyone there!

-Sue Senecah &
Michael Netzley

Ecologue: It Needs Your Help!

As you may have already noticed, **Ecologue** has not been arriving in your mailbox with the same frequency as in years past. While competing academic responsibilities are partially to blame, the Editor does need your help.

First, **Ecologue** is looking for contributors. Starting with the winter edition, it is hoped that each issue will feature a "lead" article that either reviews a conference or discusses issues that are central to environmental studies. In particular, articles on environmental justice or teaching a course in environmental communication are being sought. Any relevant article, however, will be considered and would be greatly appreciated.

Second, **Ecologue** is asking for donations. Starting with the first issue in 1990, our newsletter has always been delivered without cost to the subscriber. For the first several years, **Ecologue** was

generously supported by institutions such as the University of Iowa and the University College of Cape Breton. For the past two years, **Ecologue** has been maintained by the generous donations of a few subscribers. As of this issue, funds in the **Ecologue** account will be depleted and it is therefore necessary to request your help.

In order to cover the costs of postage and printing, and also to keep under-funded graduate students on our mailing list, **Ecologue** humbly requests that able subscribers please donate \$5 (or more) to this fine publication. Those who do not donate, or are unable to, will **not** be removed from the mailing list.

If you are able to help, please send your donation to:

Ecologue
Box 14225
Minneapolis, MN 55414

Thank you for your help.

-Michael Netzley

Change of Address?

Have you moved? Are you planning to move? If so, be sure to let us know! If you want to stay current on conferences, books, journal articles, and important issues, please send your name, old address, and new address to **Ecologue** so that our mailing list remains current.

Send all changes to: **Ecologue**
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