

94TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

SIGNIFICANCE

NCTE

**The National Council of Teachers of English
in association with the
Indiana Council of Teachers of English**

**National Council of Teachers of English
November 18–23, 2004
Indianapolis, Indiana**

Program Editors: Carol Wagner, Jacqui Joseph-Biddle, and Joanne Fetzner

National Council of Teachers of English
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Presidential Address. Beginning with the 2003 NCTE Annual Convention, the Presidential Address will be delivered at the conclusion of the president's term rather than at the beginning of the term.

Chronological Summary

Wednesday

NCTE Executive Committee, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Committee on Resolutions, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Thursday

Committee on Resolutions, 8:00 a.m.–Noon
Meetings of Council Committees, 1:00–5:00 p.m.
Preconvention Sessions, 1:00–3:45 p.m.
Elementary, Middle Level, and Secondary Get-Togethers, 5:00–6:30 p.m.
Opening General Session Banquet, 7:30 p.m.

Friday

First-Timers' Welcome, 7:00–8:00 a.m.
Convention Kick-Off Session, 8:00–9:15 a.m.
Hearings on Resolutions, 9:00–11:15 a.m.
Meetings of Council Committees, 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
A Sessions, 9:30–10:45 a.m.
AB Sessions, 9:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
B Sessions, 11:00 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
Exhibits Open, Noon–6:00 p.m.
C Sessions, 12:30–1:45 p.m.
Middle Level and Conference on English Education Luncheons, 12:30–2:15 p.m.
D Sessions, 2:30–3:45 p.m.
DE Sessions, 2:30–5:15 p.m.
E Sessions, 4:00–5:15 p.m.
Annual Business/Board of Directors Meeting, 5:30–7:00 p.m.
College Forum and Reception, 7:00–10:00 p.m.

Saturday

Breakfast, 7:00–9:15 a.m.
Meetings of Council Committees, 8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
F Sessions, 8:00–9:15 a.m.
FG Session, 8:00–10:45 a.m.
Film Festival, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Exhibits Open, 9:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.
Tour Exhibits, 9:15–11:00 a.m.
Research Roundtables, 9:30–10:45 a.m.
G Sessions, 9:30–10:45 a.m.
GH Sessions, 9:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

H Sessions, 11:00 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
Elementary, Secondary, and College/CCCC Luncheons, 12:30–2:30 p.m.
I Sessions, 1:15–2:30 p.m.
J Sessions, 2:45–4:00 p.m.
JK Sessions, 2:45–5:30 p.m.
K Sessions, 4:15–5:30 p.m.
Special Interest Groups, 5:45–7:00 p.m.
Movie Showing: *Music from the Inside Out*, 8:00 p.m.

Sunday

Breakfasts, 7:30–9:45 a.m.
L Sessions, 8:30–9:45 a.m.
Exhibits Open, 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.
General Session, 10:00–11:15 a.m.
M Sessions, 11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m.
Conference on English Leadership Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m.
N Sessions, 1:00–3:00 p.m.
Commission Meetings, Noon–8:00 p.m.

Monday

One-Day Workshops, 9:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
CEE Colloquium, 9:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
ALAN Workshop, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
CEL Convention, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Elementary, Middle Level, Secondary, and College Section Steering Committees, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
CCCC Executive Committee Meeting, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Commission Meetings, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Tuesday

NCTE Executive Committee, 8:00 a.m.–2:30 p.m.
One-Day Workshops, 9:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
ALAN Workshop, 8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
CEL Convention, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Commission Meetings, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Wednesday

CEL Convention, 8:00 a.m.–Noon

Greetings from the Program Chair



Randy Bomer

If you are reading this, you may be unusual. It could be that you're just very excited about this year's NCTE Convention in Indianapolis, in which case your feelings are exactly in line with how things really are—this truly is going to be an exciting convention. But it could also be the case that you are a bit of an obsessive reader, that you read the sides of cereal boxes and every single sign as you go down the highway. You probably read introductions, prefaces, acknowledgments, and afterwords. You just love reading, or, more precisely, you don't love reading any more than you love breathing. It's just something you can't keep yourself from doing. You've probably contrived some way to make your living from literacy. Perhaps you're a literacy educator. Now that I think of it, you probably are a literacy educator. And perhaps it's not so rare at all that you're obsessed with print and, consequently, reading this. In that case, I had better get serious and welcome you to the convention!

Welcome to the 2004 NCTE Annual Convention! We gather this year in Indianapolis, the crossroads of America, at a time when our nation and our profession are also at crossroads. We come together to remind one another of who we are and what is significant, because it is through such conversations that we decide which direction is best. Our theme of "Significance" invites us to lay claim to the importance of our work with students, to reason together about the ideas and issues that should occupy our minds and energies, and to reject the trivialization of literacy and schooling that too often overtakes our work when others take decisions out of teachers' hands. "Significance" reminds us that our work is about meaning, and about the processes by which we develop meaning. This theme also reminds us that what we do with students—and what we do here at the convention—is signify, in every sense of that word. We do things with signs, consider words, look at images, reflect on the sounds of classroom conversations, listen to music, jokes, and the laughter of friends. Through all of those moments, we need to be asking ourselves, how can our work become more significant in the year ahead? What are the most important directions for the teaching of language and literacy? What present actions on our part will make a better world for our students and the even younger people they will teach as time goes by?

We all know that significance cannot be determined once and for all by some authoritative body. It must come out of the lives we live and the perspective we develop across those lives. That does not mean, however, that every individual's significance is isolated inside her own head. Most of all, we learn what is important—and what things mean—by virtue of the communities in which we participate and the conversations in which we engage. We create significance at the horizon of what we are trying to accomplish with others. That is why organizations like NCTE must remain at the heart of our professional lives—because it is in those sustained conversations that we build power, understanding, integrity, and meaningful accountability.

Maybe it is just because I have been so aware of the program as it has taken shape, but I am dazzled by the quality of what you, the NCTE membership, have gathered in this convention. We will be hearing from people well known to us all, from people who have not been around in a while and whom we have missed, and from people new to most of us. There are great speakers with us, and there are also great educators sitting beside you as you listen to others. Talk to them, especially if you don't know them yet. Assume that you have worlds in common and that you will each be better off for the conversation.

NCTE staff and leadership have worried and labored over this convention for over a year. Now it's yours. Make it significant!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randy Bomer".

Randy Bomer
President-elect
2004 Program Chair

Planning Groups

Cybermentors: Virginia Broz, Charleen Delfino, Curt Dudley-Marling, Barry Hoonan, Brian Huot, Kathryn Mitchell Pierce, Katherine Ramsey, Roger Shanley, Rebecca Sipe, Howard Tinberg, David Wendelin, Jo Ann Wong-Kam, and Keith Younker

Elementary: Deborah Allen, Katherine Bomer, David Lee Christensen, Ralph Cordova, Aurelia de Silva, Curt Dudley-Marling, Shari Frost, Debra Goodman, Guileen Estermae, Jacqueline Lampley, Carmen Medina, Ann Mennonno, Isoke Titilayo Nia, Kathryn Mitchell Pierce, Jean Schroeder, Franki Sibberson, Richard Thompson, and Jo Ann Wong-Kam

Middle: Deborah Barriere, Ruby Clayton, Jamal Cooks, Sandra Hayes, Roxanne Henkin, Gretchen Lee, Teri Lesesne, Patsy Lockhart, Ruth Lowery, Suzanne Metcalfe, Howard Miller, Tonya Perry, Paula Ressler, and Linda Rief

High School: Herb Budden, Sharon Chaney, MaryCarmen Cruz, Charleen Delfino, Regina Derrico, Judy Duprez, Bonnie Ericson, Crystal Eubanks, Sharon Floyd, John Gaughan, Paul Hirth, Bobbi Ciriza Houtchens, Anna Jackson, Judith Kelly, Thomas Lazenby, Agathaniki Locklear, Alfredo Lujan, John Manear, Alan Perry, Carolyn Phipps, Louann Reid, Rudolph Sharpe, Rebecca Sipe, Tamara Van Whye, Diane Waff, David Wendelin, and Keith Younker

College: Kristine Blair, Becca Chase, Nina Floro, Juan Guerra, Jeanne Gunner, Betty Hart, Brian Huot, Mary McGann, Renee Moreno, Jude Okpala, Dickie Selfe, Freddy Thomas, Howard Tinberg, Dorothy Tsuruta, and Donda West

Conference on English Education: Dawn Abt-Perkins, Deborah Appleman, Bobby Cummings, Todd DeStigter, Randi Dickson, Robert Fecho, Cathy Fleischer, Dana Fox, Jean Ketter, Suzanne Miller, Ernest Morrell, William Strong, Jackie Swensson, and Don Zancanella

General: David Bloome, Ayanna Brown, Beth Morton Christian, Daneell Edwards, Amy Seely Flint, Maria Franquiz, Brock Haussamen, Douglas Hesse, David Landis, Valerie Prince, Marcy Rayher, Julie Rucker, Karen Sails, Nora Shuart-Faris, Marilyn Valentino, and Vivian Vasquez

Author Strand: Jerry Weiss

Biliteracy: Joel Dworin

Early Childhood Day: Cari Buckner, Jean Anne Clyde, Susi Long, Kathryn Mitchell Pierce, and Laura Westburg

LGBT Strand: Becca Chase, Roxanne Henkin, Thomas Lazenby, Marcy Rayher, and Paula Ressler

Rainbow Strand: Deborah Allen, Deborah Barriere, Nina Floro, Maria Franquiz, Betty Hart, Bobbi Ciriza Houtchens, Anna Jackson, Judith Kelly, Jacqueline Lampley, Patsy Lockhart, Tonya Perry, and Valerie Prince

Research Strand: Kris Gutierrez and Arlette Willis

In Memoriam

Most teachers pass away as they have lived, quietly, but with deep effect upon those to whom they are closest. They are mourned and celebrated by their families and students, privately, often without public announcement of their loss. The profession and the world feel the loss of every individual who has spent so much of a life's energy giving, to students, to the future, whether or not we can list them by name. A few such losses from the past year—those for whom we had knowledge at press time—are listed below. We will miss them.

Kathy Bellin
Wendy Bishop
Elizabeth Bowles
G. Robert Carlsen
Theodore (Ted) Clymer
Phyllis Franklin
Ted Grace
Susan J. Goldberg
Diane Hacker
Don Holdaway
John (Jack) Kean
Mary B. McCain
Bill Martin Jr.
Chiyomi Masuda
Janet Meeker
Lilian Moore
Peter Mosenthal
Robert (Bob) Palazzi
Steven Stahl
Henry Trueba
Richard Venezky
Stephen P. Witte