

# F\* N C A S p e c t r e

Former-Nutless Corporate Accomplices

"Haunting your UNconventional Asses in San Diego"

## NCA's Smitter affirms right of Hippies & Homos to prance around pointlessly with shitty signs

NCA's 2008 convention boycott controversy was finally addressed by executive director Roger Smitter. "Hey, it's a free country, knock yourselves out," Smitter shrugged. "We just take your money and spend it how we like, bitches. Register early!"

GLBTQ leaders organized with San Diego union groups, Unite Here Local 30, to advocate a boycott of the hotel due to the owner's monetary support of anti-gay civil rights Proposition 8 and his union-busting policies. "The gays belong in nightclubs trolling for anonymous sex with

ambiguously straight closet-cases," Manchester insists. "Marriage is a sacred institution between Las Vegas drunks, pregnant teens, and multiple-divorcee Republican Senators, as God intended."

Dana Cloud, a damn-The-Man Wonder Womyn hellraiser and Lefty professor at UT Austin, says the movement is now considering mandatory gay marriage as an agenda for the Obama presidency. "Simply allowing consenting gay adults the exact same civil rights as heterosexuals isn't working,"

Cloud explains. "By legally forcing everyone into gay marriages, even Mormons would consider almost any reasonable compromise to avoid legalized sodomy from their partners. Or they may really dig it, who knows."

Boycott organizer Phaedra Pezzullo agrees, "Love should be legal, not hate." Smitter responded, "If NCA can make some cash on pedophilia and bestiality, I'd be for that, too. We're not here to judge."

## NCA has new UNconventional ways to screw grad students

UNT Graduate student Justin Hawkins is on the job market this year and is amazed at the new creative ways that NCA has been able to screw him over, year after year.

"That whole early registration thing went down before I'd even received my first fall paycheck, so my paper was dropped from the convention," Hawkins explains. "I dunno who can afford these swanky hotels and \$15 burgers when I've been living off of Ramen noodles and a urine recycler from the Boy Scout manual." Sharing a room at the local hostel with 9 other grads and selling his blood for trolley fare, Hawkins feels that NCA is

unresponsive to the needs of impoverished and exploited grad students. "Good news is I'm a cheap drunk after giving blood, two beers and I'm buzzed for reading Burke. It really helps."

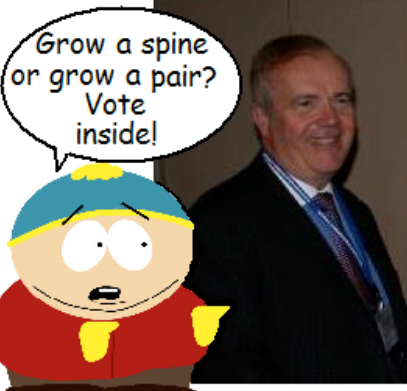
An NCA spokesman insists this prepares grads for jobs as junior faculty. "These are essential skills," notes Dewey Cheatem. "New faculty have to juggle impossible demands, unrealistic workloads, and cut-throat publication expectations from colleges. That's life."

"Selling out is a harsh reality," confesses Shaun Treat of UNT, "I teach Marxism, and I'm down, but now I've got a

mortgage and kids. Did you know Marx lost a kid to poverty? Fuck that noise."

Cheatem confirms today's corporate universities depend upon and nurture compliant wage slaves. "GTAs can't unionize because ours is a 'guild system, so we can pay them less than a Wal-Mart greeter. Tenure is more indentured servitude."

"NCA gauges us, it costs a month's pay to be here," Hawkins sighs. "If you can't give me a job, please buy me a drink. Or bid on my spleen at e-bay."



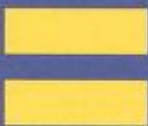
### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Tips on free booze, convention hook-ups, and correctly pronouncing the names of today's trendy Continental Philosophers.
- How to massage your quantitative data and generalize beyond your undergrad sample.
- Compromising NCA photos on Facebook "CAN" land you a tenure-track job!



### Spotlight Stories:

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**EDITOR'S COMMENTARY**  
**DJ Joshie Juice, esq. PhD**

*"Looming economic crisis should generate fierce competition next year for Most Spineless A&S Dean and Anonymous Journal Reviewer Asshat of the Year."*



**AWURDS 'N' SUCH**  
**by Shaun Treat**  
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## Reaching around and looking back, UNconventional NCA repetition... with indifference

I first started thinking about skipping NCA when the NCA Forum group decided they would invite David Horowitz to come speak at the convention. The decision was made not to extend the invitation, and I felt better about the convention.

Then, NCA instituted an early registration policy that required members to pay-up *four* months ahead of schedule or they would be dropped from the NCA

program. Many grad students really got squeezed (since many if not most don't get funding in the summer). This new policy and the way it was enforced were irritating. There were a number of poorly worded, almost coercive emails from NCA ("Register, or else!"). I understand the need for the policy, yet how it was implemented and then defended was rhetorically insensitive.

Originally I was ambivalent about the calls to boycott the hotel in the name of gay "marriage," but once Chuck Morris and others stressed *homophobia* was really the issue, I was resolute. Then, to compound matters, the labor union announced they would be *joining forces* with the LGBT community to picket the hotel. *Then*, what really got me even more upset and angry was how NCA and its head, Roger Smitter, chose to respond.

*(continued, page 6)*

## UNconventional panels exploit controversy, gay pals

Promising more drama queens than an Oprah studio audience, this year's decidedly UNconventional NCA will also become a forum for dueling causes *du jour* and trendy theory chic.

"I'm a performance artist, so mining trauma drama is what I do," says David Terry of UNC Chapel Hill. "Exploiting some exotic Other is hot right now." Some worry that the shock and awe of Queer

Theory has become too mainstream. "Siamese twins and hermaphrodites are more edgy," concurs Tracy Stephenson-Shaffer of LSU, "and if they're third-world, you've won the lottery."

Quantitative studies by social-scientific scholars afford Caucasians the time-honored opportunity to get in on the act. "It's a chance to give voice to peoples otherwise excluded and exploited,"

says Whitey Carpetbagger of Arkansas Vo-Tech. "I simply use questionnaires and SPSS to quantify their life into impersonal data that isn't so sad and inarticulate."

"9/11 and Hurricane Katrina really opened the door for us to capitalize academically on the mediated misery of abstract human beings," Carpetbagger observes. "They're too busy losing to a predatory social system our taxes finance," she says, "and I need publications."

## Imploding Department of the Year too close to call

The annual F\*NCA Awards race has unusually strong contenders vying for their own coveted "Commie."

Looming economic crisis should generate fierce competition next year for Most Spineless A&S Dean and Anonymous Journal Reviewer Asshat of the Year. Nominations are

expected to triple.

Another closely watched race is Quantitative Research Project Most Exploitative of Grad Student Labor, which always garners hundreds of worthy nominees. Imploding Department of the Year remains tight, as is Most Disinterested

Advisor and Outstanding Worthless Dissertation Award. Slowest Journal Turnaround for Manuscript Reviews, a three-way tie last year, looks to repeat.

The Bitter Back-Stabbing Faculty "Commie" is in, but our lips are sealed. They won with mutual profanity-laden pet names.

## “Ivory Tower” metaphor replaced with “Corporate Whorehouse” or “Cubicle-Monkey Factory”

In what looks to be a historic sanction by the Academic Standards Society, an international cabal of sherry-sniffing literati, the longstanding “Ivory Tower” metaphor faces challenge from “Corporate Whorehouse” or “Cubicle-Monkey Factory” as paradigmatic trope in the United States.

“Standards have been slipping for some time in America,” snorts ASS Prime Minister Nigel Fop. Attributing America’s now-laughable university education system to post-Fordist industrialization and corporatization, Fop muses that “the US has pretty much been moved

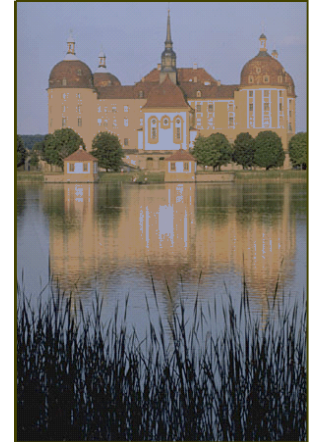
out of the ivory tower and into the broom closet over the garage.”

Ima Croney, the Bush administration appointee to Secretary of Education and former dog-groomer, feels that ASS is simply out of touch with the times. “These eggheads are just jealous of American globalization,” she drawls. “If President Bush could find their countries on a map, he’d bomb ‘em.”

Next month, the US Department of Education plans to unveil a plan for increased university self-funding that sews patches of corporate sponsors on the tweed jackets of the academic professoriate.

“The idea came while I was home watching NASCAR,” Croney brags, “Lectures and exams can be sponsored by Exxon, FOX News, NoDoz, or Pizza Hut.”

Sniffs Fop sarcastically, “Capitalism has done so bloody well under their watch, why not?”



## Dana Cloud is new Wonder Womyn!

In an announcement that stunned the superhero community, Wonder Woman Diana Prince announced that she is bequeathing her tiara and magic lasso of truth to Dr. Dana Cloud of UT Austin.

“I haven’t really made waves in Man’s world since Gloria Steinem put me on the cover of *Ms. Magazine* back in 1972,” the Amazon Princess told reporters. “Aside from the TV series and kicking Batman’s ass in *Hiketeia*, serial misogynists have been writing crap stories and drawing me like a Playboy bunny in armored lingerie. It’s ridiculous.”

Disgusted with the sexism of the 2008 Presidential election, Princess Diana said she decided it was time to pass on the mantle of Feminist icon and retire to Paradise Island.

“Hillary was a contender, but Barb Biesecker and Karlyn Campbell pointed out Dana’s tireless work to me at Sunday tea,” she said. “Bitches get things done, and Dana has proven she has what it takes to grab Patriarchy by the unmentionables to apply pressure for Women and social justice issues.”

Prof. Cloud, named one of the “101 Most Dangerous

Academics in America” by syphilitic mental patient David Horowitz, says she will slightly alter the *nom de plume* to Wonder Womyn in order to better reflect contemporary struggles. “There are going to be some wardrobe changes as well,” she said. “But that lasso of truth will be getting one helluva workout, for sure.”

Cloud has already offered her services to President Obama for potential investigations into Bush administration war crimes. “I’m looking forward to interrogating Dick Cheney while he gets waterboarded,” the new Amazon Avenger grinned mischievously.

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*“Dana has proven she has what it takes to grab Patriarchy by the unmentionables to apply pressure for Women’s and social justice issues.”*

**Seven ways to be "UnUNconventional" in San Diego!**

- 1. Put more energy into the pursuit of ideas instead of your career!
- 2. Protest your own injustices!
- 3. Tell the sophists what you really think of their efforts to impress you!
- 4. Sleep with someone of your own rank!
- 5. While we're at it, don't hit on someone many years your junior at the bar!
- 6. Wear a name tag instead of a badge!
- 6. Randomly butt-slap anyone wearing an honorary ribbon on the street!
- 7. Get a tattoo? Are y'all effin' serious? Of course not. Pierce a nose or nipple instead.

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*"Steady, confident blowing... It must be 'just right.' People gotta feel the love."*




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*"...don't drink too much, unless the drinks are freely provided by soulless departments celebrating their status as wholly-owned subsidiaries of the Health-IT-Corporate-Complex..."*

**F\*NCA President's Special Message to you fresh new UNconvention virgins (p.s. text me)**

Being named President of F\*NCA has been the most rewarding and, indeed, humbling experience of my professional life. I was consecrated and anointed by DJ's Juice & Swift-Boat (after a meal of doubtfully kosher alligator gumbo) with holy oil and sacred relics donated by Sarah Palin's pastor, all while reciting the sacred formula handed down from both Charles Woolbert and Herbert Wichelns.

Humbling, yes, but empowering as well. And that word "empowering" I most want dear F\*NCA members to keep in mind as you attend our lovely festivities in San Diego,

our first unConvention ever, devoted to the slogan: "Communicative labor is the ONLY kind of labor!"

For you first-time unConventioners, let me give you a few tips for making your experience emPowering: don't drink too much, unless the drinks are freely provided by soulless departments celebrating their status as wholly-owned subsidiaries of the Health-IT-Corporate-Complex; hug your servers and maids--it will perk them up as much as a union contract; make paper dolls out of the Book of Mormon in your nightstand, and play

same-sex marriage with them; don't rehearse or edit your paper--no one else does; and don't forget to tip your full professors!

But these are my friendly suggestions. The unConvention, like reality itself, is entirely what YOU make it!

Cheers,  
Jim Auoghneigh  
President, F\*NCA

## F\*NCA Job Marketplace... read 'em and weep

### **Come Lord Jesus University** *Assistant Professor*

The Department of Communication invites applications for a tenure-track assistant professor to begin fall 2009. We seek a candidate with specialization in qualitative or quantitative methodology. In addition, applicants should have a focus on and expertise in health communication. Candidates with expertise in the treatment of leprosy, blindness, and/or possessed swine will receive special attention. Teaching responsibilities will include the required course in empirical research methods, a course on Rapture Theory, and also anything in health communication. Ph.D. required. Grant-getting is expected. Straight white males are particularly encouraged to apply and will receive special consideration. Send an application, including a current c.v., three letters of recommendation, teaching evaluations, statements of research and teaching philosophy, and copies of research that we cannot already find on the Internet. Formal review of applications begins tomorrow. Mail to Search Committee, Department of Communication, Come Lord Jesus University, 1515 Pleading the Blood Way, Calgary, OH 45722.

### **Ratblast State College** *Assistant/Associate Professor in Animal Studies or Home Economics*

Search Extended: The Department of Geography, Anthropology, and Communication Studies seeks candidates who can teach public speaking and maintain a vibrant publication record in the area of animal studies. We are not sure what animal studies is, but we are confident it's the next hot area. We are also interested in candidates who can design and teach courses in health communication. Ideally, then, candidates will specialize

in animal health. Minimum qualifications: PhD in Speech Communication or related field in hand by June, 2009; demonstrated excellence in teaching of inter-species breeding; demonstrable proof to a commitment to communication studies as a field. Other responsibilities will include service, probably more than you ever could guess, including advising students and/or their pets. Full review of applications begins December 5, 2008 and continues until the position is filled. Ratblast State College is building a diverse, multiple-species community and encourages people and other sentient beings to apply.

### **University College** *Instructor*

Interpersonal/Organizational/and Performance Studies/Visual Culture/Quantitative Methods Instructor position for Fall 2009 only. Must have expertise in all five areas. Teach 5 classes (class size about 50 per), serve on curriculum committee with jaded territorial colleagues and advise (insert adjective here -- any will do) graduate students. University College provides a competitive and isolated atmosphere located in the center of Suburbia, U.S.A. The weather is frigid in winter and sweltering in the summer. It's hard to make friends here, but you always have the internet. (However, we do not have the budget to provide you with a computer.) We are only 200 miles to the nearest city. A tenure-track position is pending, but we probably won't be interviewing the instructor with low self-esteem who moves here for the tiny salary we are offering. Knowledge of and in health communication is a plus. Please send current vita and 5 letters of recommendation. The deadline is yesterday. Need our address? Tough shit, sparky, Google our website and send pictures of interspecies research.

### **Apaloosa State University** *Assistant Professor/Mediator*

The Department of Communication Studies and Disorders and Theatre with some Performance Studies clashing with English and Literature (DCSDTPSE&L) invites applications for a tenure-track position in something related to health communication. Aw, hell, we have no idea what we want. Seriously, throw us an application and we are willing to consult our life coach and crystal chakra advisor to read your star chart and see if your astrological sign is compatible with our as-yet emergent department needs. Conservative, heterosexual, God-fearing, straight-ticket voting Republicans who are attracted to winking MILF school-mistresses are particularly encouraged to apply. Our department is openly hostile to one another and in need of a loving yet firm dominatrix (or ordained pastor) to tell us how to best guide our faculty into the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Partial HMO benefits, efficiency cabin, mail-order brides, and dogsled are provided. ASU is mostly an EEOC employer. Mail vita or apply in person at Anuk's Whale Blubber Buffet, Wasilla AK.

### **Futility State Vo-Tech College** *Visiting Professor*

We never hire, just endlessly exploit rubes for a year before they realize ours is a zombie-infested shithole of despair. Generalists welcome, ABD military-crackshots or suicidal self-loathers with public speaking and debate experience preferred. Health Communication. A year of funding is better than your GTA pittance, right? Apply at [www.gomississippi.com](http://www.gomississippi.com)! If

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*"F\*NCA is not responsible for false advertising, bitter disappointment, or disillusioning exploitation."*

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## Compromising FACEBOOK pics land tenure-track jobs

Social networking sites like Facebook & MySpace hold much promise and peril for job-seekers, but for some savvy netizens it can also land a job.

"Generation YouTube is beyond any illusions of privacy," says Christian Lundberg of UNC Chapel Hill. "Exhibitionism and voyeurism reign." When

Holly Vaughn & Rebecca Walker of LSU posted pictures of their drunken NCA revelry with several high-profile NCA scholars on Facebook, it increased their job prospects.

"NCA is great for digitally capturing those more human moments of god-like giants," Vaughn notes. "We framed this iphone

photo of Shaun Treat sitting on a toilet licking tequila salt and lime off a dancer's belly. That's priceless!"

The key to success, the pair says, is to be strategic in which pictures to make public or withhold. "When we e-mailed the more racy pics," Walker said, "they all became very invested in helping our job-hunting

### Editor's Commentary: WTF? (continued from p.2)

NCA executives first remained strategically *silent*, then turned self-righteous by inviting the owner of the hotel to the convention while actively attacking the labor union calling for a boycott (and worse and worse it goes).

*Then* the whining trolls emerged. Disrespectful, misogynistic, and otherwise hateful posts poured onto CRTNET (NCA's listserv). I know I shouldn't be astonished to learn there are bigots and haters in a field as large as mine, but reading their views on CRTNET was enlightening.

NCA includes a number of masterful rhetoricians who can craft messages that acknowledge the complex situation, uphold common values, and still condemn the morally reprehensible. Of course, none of these people were consulted (or if they were, they were ignored).

Instead, we have witnessed a number of ill-conceived responses to the call for boycott that offend, as oppose to ease, the conscience of many NCA members. The rhetoric coming from NCA has made it very, very clear NCA is an autonomous corporation that

is no longer a professional organization; it is more interested in preserving and minding the bottom-line than serving the needs and careers of its members.

I fully support the boycott of NCA. Nonetheless, I want to make it clear such support should not impact our grad students, who need to be able to go into the hotel for panels and job interviews. To harass others is not only to be a hypocrite and jerk, but it also fails to grasp the basic issue the protest is *really* about: treating people fairly and humanely.

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