



LISTENING POST

Newsletter of the International Listening Association

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ILA CONFERENCE IN SALEM, OREGON, APRIL 19-22, 2006 LISTENING: THE LANGUAGE OF PEACE

WHY ATTEND THE CONFERENCE?

by Maria F. Loffredo Roca, Ph.D.,
First Vice President

This edition of the Listening Post is full of information about the beauty of Salem, Oregon and the surrounding area, the exceptional quality of both the hotel and the convention center, and the practical details about transportation and lodging. With all this information already in hand, I'd like to offer another collection of reasons to join us in Salem for the annual ILA conference this April.

As First Vice President, I have the distinct honor of being the first person to read all of the conference proposals. My e-mail and my snail mail boxes have daily provided me with a collection of exciting ideas for workshops, panels and papers for ILA 2006. Each new proposal I read increases my enthusiasm about our annual conference. The proposals are rich and diverse and demonstrate the exceptionally high-quality work produced by our members. There truly will be something for everyone—from business to education, from healthcare to research, from spirituality to everyday interaction, this year's program examines listening from a wide variety of perspectives. I feel confident in saying that attendees will leave Salem feeling intellectually and spiritually nourished. Anyone who has attended an ILA conference in the past can attest to the fact that participants are nourished in many ways beyond just what they get from going to sessions.

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JOIN US IN SALEM, OREGON!

We're excited to have the ILA in Salem in 2006! Dr. Maria Roca and her team are working hard on the official program. Rochelle Devereaux and the Business Committee have a full day Business Conference scheduled on Wednesday, April 19, 2006, *Listening Lean*, focused on practical issues for business. We are tentatively scheduled for a winery tour, tasting and dinner at one of the locally owned and operated wineries. (Many other tours are also available.) Sign up for the Friday night dinner cruise on the Willamette River on the stern wheeler Willamette Queen.

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JOIN US IN SALEM, OREGON!

Cont'd from Pg. 1

We'll spend two hours getting a riverside view of the Salem area while enjoying a delicious dinner, music and dancing.

Salem and its environs offer a lot to do. Within walking distance of the Phoenix Inn Grand Hotel and Convention Center are coffee shops, a wide variety of restaurants and sandwich shops, boutique stores, craft stores, antique shops, a mall (featuring Nordstrom, May Company, bookstores and a food court), art galleries, an historic theatre and the Riverfront Park featuring a carousel.

Further down the road is the A.C. Gilbert House, founded by the maker of the erector set — a wonderful place not only for children, but also for those who never lost the inner child.

The Mission Mill Museum offers tours of the Thomas K. Woolen Mill which used to operate right in town. There are also items relating to and created in Oregon and an outstanding café.



BUSH HOUSE

Bush House and Deepwood House, restored historic homes, each have outstanding gardens in addition to the Bush Park test rose garden which will probably be starting to bloom in April.

Tours of these historic houses, built by Salem founders, are available.



SALEM, OREGON WINERY

Garden lovers also have access to the Oregon Garden outside Salem which is 80 acres of plantings created in partnership between the City of Silverton and the Oregon Nursery Association.

Nature lovers can hike and enjoy Minto Brown Park and, for the slightly more adventurous, Silver Falls State Park with its many waterfalls and wonderful trails for both hiking and biking.

Golfers have a choice of several excellent (or so I'm told) courses in the area.

Weather in Salem in April can be warm and sunny, cool and rainy, or cold and frosty. Most likely, we'll have a combination of the first two as the weather is extremely changeable. There will, however, be color all around with the daffodils and early tulips in bloom and the rhododendron offering a vivid display.

Transportation to and from the airport is in the works.

For those wanting to rent a car — there is no charge for parking at the hotel and we're arranging for discounted rates through Enterprise Rent-a-Car. If there are specific side trips you'd like to take, we'll be happy to provide you with directions and suggestions for some of our favorites. There are numerous historic landmarks around Oregon and some outstanding scenery all around.

Plan now to join us for an excellent program and a great adventure, April 19-22, 2006 in Salem, Oregon.

Questions? Contact Rochelle Devereaux, rochelle@businessmasters.com

Photos Courtesy of Salem Convention & Visitors Bureau



RIVERFRONT WALK



ILA-ENDORSED TEXTBOOKS

As a service to its members, the ILA will take a stand and "endorse" the treatment of listening in basic course and interpersonal textbooks. A review of the textbooks will be posted on the ILA website. Goals of this project include both providing teachers with reviews of listening treatment in current textbooks and providing textbook authors with constructive feedback on their treatment of listening

We need your help. Do you teach the basic course? Do you teach an interpersonal course? Do you like or dislike the way that the topic of listening is treated in your text? Please send the current title, author(s), and publisher of the texts that you're using. It would be helpful if you indicate your opinion of how listening is covered in the text. Please send to: Laura Janusik, Board Member, Special Projects at laura.janusik@rockhurst.edu

Nominate Someone for an ILA Award

The ILA Awards Committee seeks nominations for annual awards to be presented at the Saturday night banquet in Salem, Oregon, April 22, 2006.

Nominations may be submitted via the website, email, or U.S. mail. The nominator should include contact information about the nominee (name, address, phone, email, if known), and a paragraph or more providing qualifications and specific supporting documentation.

Committee members are Sheila Bentley, Manny Steil, and Melissa Beall, chair.

Please check the website: [/www.listen.org](http://www.listen.org) for specific details regarding the award qualifications.

AWARDS:

- 👁️ HALL OF FAME
- 👁️ SPECIAL RECOGNITION
- 👁️ LISTENER OF THE YEAR
- 👁️ LISTENING IN THE BUSINESS SECTOR
- 👁️ OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR
- 👁️ LISTENING RESEARCH AWARD
- 👁️ LISTENING RESEARCH AWARD-GRADUATE THESIS/DISSERTATION
- 👁️ LISTENING RESEARCH AWARD-UNDERGRADUATE

WHY ATTEND THE CONFERENCE?

Cont'd from Pg. 1

Every time I spend time with my fellow ILA members I am reminded why the International Listening Association is my favorite of all my professional affiliations. We don't just teach and preach effective listening, ILA members practice it also. In post conference surveys, some of the most cited reasons people identify for both enjoying the convention and for returning from year to year are the warmth, welcome, friendship, and respect they experience at ILA.

A few weeks ago I was reminded of this warmth when I attended the Fall Board meeting in Salem. The camaraderie, the dedication, the respect, the engaged conversation, and the genuineness of each and every Board member made the long trip from Florida well worth it. All this AND the extraordinary beauty of the Pacific Northwest! I can't imagine why anyone would miss the April conference!

The conference theme, "Listening: The Language of Peace," sums up for me the experience of ILA. When we truly listen to each other, we send the message that we honor and respect the other. When we truly listen to each other, we send the message that we value the ideas and opinions of others and that we are willing to take the time genuinely to process and respond. When we truly listen to each other, we open our minds and our hearts. When we truly listen to each other, we pave the way for deeper understanding. When we truly listen to each other, we speak the language of peace.

I hope you will join me and all of our ILA family April 19 to 23, 2006 in Salem, Oregon to celebrate **Listening: The Language of Peace.**

ILA WANTS TO LISTEN TO YOU! The ILA Board has agreed to participate in an Organizational Identity study in conjunction with Dr. Bey-Ling Sha. We believe that the results of her study will assist us in better communicating with our current members and reaching out to find prospective members.

You will receive an ILA e-mail from Dr. Sha with a link to to a website that will allow you to participate in the study. Your responses will be anonymous, and the results will be aggregated and shared with the Board so that we can better serve you. If you do not have access to e-mail and would like to participate in the study, you may call Laura Janusik at 816-501-3186 for a hard copy of the questionnaire. We appreciate your help!

Executive Director's Report

by Jim Pratt, E.D.



There's always a bit of anxiety involved in planning a convention in a place that hasn't been built yet. When I first visited Salem, Oregon, in January of 2004 our convention site was nothing more than a block-square hole in the ground, right in the middle of the downtown area.

I met with representatives of the Salem Conference Center and the Phoenix Hotel chain in temporary offices in a renovated woolen mill where we looked at drawings and floor plans. I was skeptical; they were enthusiastic. They drove me past the hole in the ground and described how the Phoenix Grand would rise there. I looked troubled; they reassured me. And so the ILA became the first international organization to sign a contract to hold a convention in this new facility, a year and a half before it was scheduled to open.

I arrived in Salem for the September board meeting with great expectations, and I was not disappointed. The expansive, elegantly-furnished lobby, complete with a circular high-backed settee, recreates the historic atmosphere of Salem's first hotel, which occupied the same site. The oversized guest rooms and suites are fully equipped, including a refrigerator and microwave as well as free high-speed internet connections. A swimming pool and whirlpool are on the second floor, adjoining the fitness center. Bentley's Grill, opened just a week before our meeting, was crowded with diners; next door, the complimentary extended Continental Breakfast Buffet was served to hotel guests every morning. The two-story conference center is directly connected to the hotel and features state-of-the-art media facilities as well as environmentally friendly architecture. We will have our registration and display area, and all of our coffee breaks, in the glass-enclosed second floor lobby. Meeting rooms and meal functions will be just a few steps away. And an underground garage offers free parking for those who drive.

Outside the hotel we found a variety of restaurants, ranging from white tablecloth to down home to funky. An enclosed downtown shopping mall is a block from the hotel, and the historic state capitol building is a few blocks to the east, across the street from the campus of Willamette University. Two blocks to the west of the hotel is beautiful Riverfront Park, with its famous

carousel and sternwheeler on the Willamette River. And a few miles outside of town are wineries and a casino. We will have no shortage of things to do when we leave the conference center!

Local specialties include delicious Marionberries (jams, pies, etc.) and excellent local wines. I was pleased to discover that Oregon has no sales tax, and surprised to learn that self-service gas stations are banned!

Convention information will be mailed to all members in December, but for those who want to start early, here are the details:

- Wednesday, April 19th, through Saturday, April 22nd, 2006 (programs will be on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, and a business conference is scheduled for Wednesday)
- Rooms are \$129 (single or double) at the Phoenix Grand Hotel (503/540-7800 or toll-free 877-540-7800) located at 201 Liberty Street Southeast, Salem, OR 97301
- A variety of options for transportation from the Portland, Oregon, airport (PDX) are available. We are presently negotiating special rates for our members and will publicize them in the convention mailing and on-line.
- You will be able to register for the convention on-line and pay with a credit card through our website (www.listen.org) using the secure PayPal service. Check the website also for updated convention program and information.
- And for those who really want to plan ahead, remember that our 2007 convention will be held in Frankfurt, Germany, at the NH Frankfurt City Hotel on July 17-22, 2007, where we anticipate a closing banquet in the historic city hall! The board has just approved the site selection committee's recommendation of Portland, Maine, as the location for our 2008 convention, with preferred dates in late March.

Thanks for listening.

PS: Please take a few moments to look over the list of new members, published elsewhere in this issue, and you will note that we continue to extend our membership throughout the world.

ILA Represented at WCA in Japan

The World Communication Association (WCA), Pacific and Asian Communication Association, and the International Association of Health-Communication Sciences held their joint conferences in Sapporo, Japan, in August. The WCA theme, COMMUNICATION AND GLOBAL CULTURES: TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES, allowed convention delegates to share ways that people interested in various aspects of communication can help to create global communities. Melissa Beall represented ILA in the plenary session where presidents and representatives of national and international organizations were invited to share their association's views on the conference theme.

Conference participants came from Australia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, and the U.S. The six-day conference included cultural tours to a Shinto temple, the Hokkaido Historical Village, and various sites in the Hokkaido Prefecture. Kazuo Akasaka (Tatchan), Dick Halley, Barbara Penington, and Hugh and Melissa Beall were ILA members among the group of participants. Melissa presented a two-hour workshop on Intercultural Listening and a panel on Research in Intercultural Listening. There is a Sapporo photo gallery on the WCA site: facstaff.uww.edu/wca/Conferences.htm.

The next WCA, North America conference, GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON COMMUNICATION AND CULTURE, will be held August 2-5, 2006, at the Western New England College in Springfield, Massachusetts. Lodging will be at the Springfield Sheraton. Melissa is the conference organizer. There will be a Call for Papers in an ILA Blast to the Membership. Flyers will also be distributed at the ILA meeting in Boston at NCA in November. The 2007 international site has not yet been selected, but Australia is one of the locations under consideration.

Your suggestions about ways ILA can further collaborate with like-minded people of other organizations would be welcomed!



PLAN EARLY FOR 2007 IN FRANKFURT

by Margarete Imhof

The City of Frankfurt is currently undergoing major beautification and general enhancement activities – I like to think that this is in order to look our best here in 2007 when we have the privilege to welcome the ILA members. Well, that may be only part of the truth. Let's put it this way: In 2006, Frankfurt, Germany will, among other cities, host the World Soccer Championship, which I prefer to consider as a kind of test run for the ILA convention in 2007. Seriously, as we are getting ready for the Salem convention next April, it might be not too early to think ahead.

The local arrangements committee is growing, doing well, and having fun. Right now, there are four of us who enjoy generating ideas as to what we could do to make the convention in Frankfurt a unique experience for everybody. Frankfurt, after all, is a convenient place to travel to, because most major US American airlines serve Frankfurt Airport, some of them in cooperation with German Lufthansa. So, if you start looking for reasonable fares, it is certainly a good idea to compare carefully, because there might be different price tags attached by various airlines.

Also, it might be a good idea to check if your passport will need renewal by then. I had this happen to me once because I felt that a passport is (almost) forever, but.... So, if you need to renew or have never had a passport, save your nerves, you might take a look at your documents and begin the process now. Once you have your passport, it will be good for another 10 years.

If you plan to extend your stay, I recommend that you make plans early. Major autobahns, railroads, and even cruise lines converge here, so it is a perfect point of departure for visiting other European countries or traveling around Germany.

Some web pages of interest:

<http://www.frankfurt.de/sis/English.html>

<http://www.germany-tourism.de>

<http://www.nh-hotels.com>

(select Germany, Frankfurt City).

Everyone on the local arrangements committee is looking forward to welcoming you in Frankfurt.

COMMITTEE GOALS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Look for continuing updates on committee goals and accomplishments in upcoming newsletters and at www.listen.org.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE *Chair: Melissa Bealle*

Accomplishments

- Sent emails to committee members asking them to consider ideas for a membership plan (included some ideas—a contest offering a free one-year ILA membership to the person who brings in the most new members). Sent out additional information to members who identify themselves with business and asked for help in finding nominees. Contacted previous 2nd Vice-Presidents and Presidents to ask for suggestions. Am preparing a CRTNET posting.
- Worked with UNI Pride organization (undergraduate PR majors) who met with me again on Sept. 12 to begin a membership plan and campaign.
- Will run campaign and plan by committee members and advise ILA Exec. Board about what we're doing.
- Distributed ILA posters and membership brochures at the August joint conference. Distributed membership brochures to 20 students in the Introduction to Graduate Study and Research in our department. Have created an ILA bulletin board display in departmental classroom.
- Will display posters and membership brochures at Iowa, Illinois, and Nebraska conventions this fall.
- Set up an ILA meeting at NCA.

Goals

- Organize the 2006 Business Mini-Conference.
- Get more participants for Business Mini-Conference. Each Business Committee member has been challenged to recruit at least one businessperson to present a workshop and/or to attend the Business Mini-Conference and/or to present a business-related workshop and/or to attend the ILA main conference.
- Local business people need to be approached as presenters and participants for workshops and possible keynote(s).
- Develop a strong publicity campaign for 2006 Business Mini-Conference.
- Reach out to potential and current committee members during ILA conference to invite them to the Business Committee meeting at 2006 conference so they feel welcomed.

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

Chair: Nanette Johnson-Curiskis

Accomplishments

- All digital photos from the last 3 years compiled onto a CD to sell at Conference Boutique
- Compiled several years of LPs for scanning

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

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ILA Research Updates

By Laura Janusik, Research Committee Chair

The ILA Research Committee has been hard at work this year. Through a process led by Graham Bodie, we have adopted a mission statement that will focus our future efforts. We hope that subsequent committees will select their projects to further listening research through our mission.

The mission of the International Listening Association Research Committee is to facilitate the development and dissemination of quality research in listening. The Committee is committed to the interdisciplinary structure of listening research and to supporting a diversity of methodological and metatheoretical frameworks.

To further this mission, the Committee is engaged in:

- Building the research infrastructure within ILA
- Providing means by which quality listening research can be conducted
- Providing resources that stimulate quality listening research
- Ensuring that listening research is of high quality
- Encouraging a strong sense of community among those who do listening research
- Maintaining the cultural diversity of the organization
- Promoting the use of diverse research methods and approaches

In addition, the committee has coordinated the *Top Research Paper Panel* that will begin in Salem. Authors must submit their final papers for consideration in January. A blind review of the papers will determine the top three papers, which will comprise the panel. The panel will be designated in the ILA program in an effort to draw a larger audience. The final top paper will be announced at the banquet on Saturday evening. The criteria for this award are currently being reviewed and revised by committee members, and we expect them to be posted on the website by November.

Finally, through Maria Roca, we have secured a meeting time in Salem to “talk about research.” A time slot that will not conflict with other research presentations and will allow researchers and potential researchers to discuss and propose projects. Researchers of all levels,—from those interested with ideas to share, to those who have access to large samples from populations, to those who want to be lead investigators—are welcomed.

The research committee is on the move, and we’re looking for new members to help our efforts. Come join us!

TOP RESEARCH PAPER AWARD!

Presenting a research paper at the Salem Conference? Consider entering it for the *Top Research Paper Award* sponsored by the Research Committee. Peer reviewers from the committee will select that top three papers for the *Top Research Panel*, and the Top Paper will be announced at the Saturday evening banquet.

To be eligible, you must meet the following criteria:

1. Your paper must be accepted for the Salem conference.
2. You must send a complete copy of your paper, as a Word attachment, to:
Laura.Janusik@Rockhurst.edu. Include a separate title page, and remove all identifying information from your submission.
3. Check the ILA website for award criteria to be posted in November.
4. Questions? Contact Laura Janusik at:
Laura.Janusik@Rockhurst.edu

*Note: if your paper was accepted through an abstract only, you’re still eligible as long as you meet the subsequent criteria.

OUTGOING STUDENT BOARD MEMBER

A Message from: Stephanie Materese



Greetings from the Yale School of Public Health, where I am pursuing my second master's degree! I feel at the center of amazing research and teaching and hope to find many new outlets to spread the word about ILA and the importance of listening research, teaching, and practice.

Given the time commitments needed for the completion of my M.P.H. degree at Yale, and my desire for a capable person to serve in the position, a new student board member has been appointed, Jennie Gill of Auburn University. I have enjoyed my terms serving the board, and I thank you all for the amazing opportunity to be part of the process. I attribute much of my development as an academic to my role as the student board member of the ILA. I hope to serve the ILA in the future in another board position after the completion of my degree program at Yale

Jennie Gill, a master's candidate in Communication at Auburn University, is a wonderful person to fill this position. I have had the pleasure of working one-on-one with Jennie Gill in research and I vouch for her intelligence, work ethic, and dedication to listening. I look forward to hearing about the Jennie's valuable contributions to the Executive Board.

INCOMING STUDENT BOARD MEMBER

A Message from: Jennifer Gill



Wouldn't you like to help the future of ILA? As you know, the future of ILA lies in the students. The problem is that we don't have that many students involved in the association. One of the main reasons students do not join ILA or attend the conferences is because they cannot afford it.

Thus, a sponsorship program has been developed. With this plan, ILA members can sponsor a students through donations. If you decide to sponsor a student, you will be introduced to "your student" at the conference. Donations can range from \$15 to \$150.

Participating in the sponsorship program would not only help "your student," but you would also be helping the association grow and secure its future.

To contribute to the sponsorship program, please send a check (payable to "ILA" and note "Sponsorship Program" on the check) or send your credit card (Visa or Mastercard) number, expiration date, and name that appears on the card) to: ILA, P.O. Box 744, River Falls, WI 54022 USA.

If you have any questions regarding the program, please call 1-800-ILA-4505.

"We'll miss Stephanie's insightful contributions to our discussions, and her passion for reaching the college-age potential members, who will be the future of our organization." Barbara Nixon, ILA President

ADVANCES IN LISTENING EDUCATION

Mary Bozik, University of Northern Iowa, is involved in a major project working with the College Board as a representative of the National Communication Association (NCA). The College Board is in the process of developing curriculum standards for grades 6-12 for speaking, listening, and media literacy. These English language arts standards will include standards for reading, writing, speaking, listening, and media literacy. The Board has convened a committee of experts with experience in curriculum, instruction, standards development, and assessment for middle school and high school English language arts. They have also included committee members who are experts in reading comprehension, composition theory, and rhetoric. The project began will be completed in fall 2006. The results will have a significant effect on what is taught in 6th-12th grades Language Arts classes and should bring greater recognition to the importance of the development of communication skills to be successful in college.



Spirituality in the Listening Classroom

by Donald Turk

Donald Turk, who teaches in the Dept. of Communication at the College of St. Benedict/St. John's University, was one of the presenters at the 2005 session: SPIRITUALITY IN THE LISTENING CLASSROOM. As we prepare for next year's conference, LISTENING, THE LANGUAGE OF PEACE, Donald shares more of his thoughts on integrating spirituality into the listening classroom.

The listening classroom provides an especially supportive context for spiritual exploration. Of course, the setting must be respectful of varied belief systems and degrees to which people may choose to embrace spirituality. If a setting of trust and respect is established, I believe a listening course can invite both teachers and students to activate, participate in, and develop that which is deepest and highest in all of us.

Teaching oneself and others to listen intently to the world illuminates a way of functioning at deeper levels of awareness than those supported by popular culture and day-to-day social interaction. Waking our students up to the personal and socio-cultural barriers that impede attentiveness and facilitating movement beyond those barriers shows them a highly novel way of experiencing life, a way of being that some of my students have labeled "authentic," "alive," even "spiritual."

Many students become empowered when they begin to realize their attention can be freed from some of the shackles it has accumulated through living in a world

unconsciously committed to mindlessness. They become aware of the transformational power of listening to themselves and others closely.

The banalities of daily existence become fascinating laboratories for observation, awareness, and change. A sleeping and arguably spiritual dimension of the psyche begins to awaken through certain types of listening instruction. I have found no greater joy in teaching than witnessing this process as it occurs in myself and in my students.

Students in a listening course have the opportunity to see that effective relational listening is a vehicle for love, acceptance, and tolerance. Proper instruction in other-oriented listening nourishes impulses towards interpersonal openness, sincerity, fearless vulnerability, honesty, empathy, sensitivity, and other values undoubtedly useful for the development of more intimate, meaningful relationships.

Indeed, some relational listening modules informed by eastern spirituality call into question the entire notion of "other," thereby opening up capacities for the experience of non-differentiated oneness among humans. Independent of whether one favors occidental or oriental notions of "self-other," any instructional approach in a listening course that shines light on the mental mechanisms sustaining interpersonal strife empowers students' choice of harmony over conflict, forgiveness over attack, compassion over hate.

In the listening course, inward attentiveness is one of the most fundamental and valuable skills we pass on to students. Here, teacher and student both have an opportunity to explore the mind and being in an enlightened way—a way that optimizes the incredible power of attention. Inward listening activities (in and out of class)—including silent contemplation, meditation, and self-reflection—encourage students' searching out and freeing hidden dimensions of themselves, their unexpressed dreams, their fears and growth areas. Inward listening offers us the gift of fully expressing and expanding consciousness. The depth of our being speaks to us when we give a listening ear to its profound truths. There is hardly any pleasure richer for me than participating in and exploring silent inward contemplation with my students. I am startled (and even a little embarrassed at times) that I get paid to do it.

Strangely, as a communication professor at a small private Benedictine Catholic institution, it is only in my listening course that I am legitimately able to overtly display my passionate commitment to spiritual realization. Students easily see the link between listening (both inward and outward) and the adventurous journey into what some of us feel is the most meaningful arena of human development.

The formal teaching and learning of listening, with lessons so essential to the human spirit, offers unique advantages for all of us, both individually and collectively.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE IN THE NEXT *ILJ*

The next issue of the *International Journal of Listening* offers as great a variety of material as there is diversity in the membership of IJL.

Andy Wolvin, Jerry Catt-Oliason and James Floyd address the political implications of listening, while Debra Wothington and Laura Janusik continue investigations of listening as an integral part of interpersonal communication. Other authors address listening in foreign language instruction, the state of the art in listening research in Germany, and listening in the classical philosopher Heraclitus. Danial Gross offers a perspective on teaching the history of listening, while other authors address the place of listening in the K-12 curriculum and higher education.

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF LISTENING SUBMISSIONS

The *ILJ* is accepting submissions for its 2006 edition. Of special interest are articles and book reviews on the following topics:

- Listening and Second Language Acquisition
- Listening Assessment
- Listening, Audience Behavior and Media Studies
- Listening, Audience Behavior and Political Rhetoric
- Historical Studies of Listening and Audience Behavior
- Intersections between Listening and Reading
- Listening in Professional or Managerial Communication
- Insights of Cognitive Theory, Psychology or Philosophy on Listening
- Listening and Rhetorical Theory
- Listening Research in K-12 Education
- Listening in Health Communication
- Listening and Service Learning
- The Intersections between Musical Listening and Listening to Messages (listening as aesthetic vs. epistemic process)

Please send submissions electronically to:
David Beard, Editor at bearoo43@umn.edu



President's Perspective

by Barbara B. Nixon, President

This afternoon, I "Googled" the expression "too busy to listen," and guess how many web pages used this expression? Get ready . . . there were more than 22,000 pages!

I wonder how many of us, in our day-to-day lives, ever say to one another, "Sorry, I was just too busy to listen." I bet it would be more than we'd like to admit.

The Rev. Adrian Dieleman posted a sermon on his church website, where he shares a Dennis the Menace cartoon that illustrates this so very well. Dennis wanted to tell his parents something important, but he just couldn't get their attention. They were too busy cleaning out the closet or something. Dennis even rang the doorbell. Finally, out of desperation, he deliberately dropped his mother's crystal vase on the floor and broke it. Then, and only then, did his parents listen to him.

Rev. Dieleman continues, "There are many parents who say 'later' or 'don't bother me now' to their children. There are lots of people whose busy lifestyle does not allow them much time to visit elderly parents. There are many corporations that are so busy trying to capture new markets and make bigger profits that they don't take the time to listen to the complaints, problems, or suggestions of their employees."

What's going on in your life? Family? Work? Volunteering? Oh yes, and time for yourself?

What happens when we make the choice not to listen? We harm relationships and we miss out on an opportunity to make a difference in someone's life. Sometimes, that "someone" is you.

Take time to listen. There's power in listening.

LISTENING POST SUBMISSIONS

Please share with the ILA community if you:

- Have a listening story to tell or an experience or inspiration of interest or ILA members.
- Have listening news to share.
- Have written a listening-related article.
- Had a radio-television interview on listening.
- Guided a unique or inspiring listening seminar or workshop.

Please send submissions to: listeningpost@listen.org

HELP SHAPE THE ILA

NOMINATIONS FOR ILA OFFICE 2006

Please give some careful consideration to those who could best serve the ILA. Officers are expected to attend one fall Executive Board meeting and the annual convention at their own expense. **These officers will assume duties at the 2006 convention.**

First Vice President-Elect: 4 year term. Ascends to First Vice-President then to President. Serves an additional year on the Executive Board as Past President.

Your nomination: _____

Second Vice President: 2 year term. Major responsibility: Membership

Your nomination: _____

Secretary: 2 year term. Responsibilities: Take minutes of Business Meeting and Executive Board meetings.

Your nomination: _____

Member at Large: Special Projects: 2 Year term. Oversees special projects designated by the President or requested by the Executive Board.

Your nomination: _____

Nominating Committee: 1 year term. Five members. Selects the slate of officers to be considered at the next annual convention. (Nominations may also come from the floor.) No two members may be from the same state. No member may serve two consecutive terms. NOT required to attend Executive Board meetings.

Your nominations: _____

Please submit this nominations form to Michael Purdy by January 15, 2005:

Mail:
Michael Purdy
Communications Program
1 University Parkway
Governors State U.
University Park, IL 60466

Fax: (708) 534-7895

E-mail: m-purdy@govst.edu
(Please put "ILA Nominations" in the subject line and clearly list names by nominated posts.)