

President's Report:

Over the last several months, the WCSA has been engaged in exciting work on several fronts.

The *Journal of Working-Class Studies*, in its second year, released a special, guest-edited issue on Academic Poverty (Volume 2, Issue 2, December 2017). Members of the Communications Committee, led by Courtney Maloney, are to be commended for their efforts with the *Journal's* editorial leadership, including Sarah Attfield, Liz Guiffre, and Sara Appel, to continue the excellent work of the *Journal*.

Membership renewals are underway. Please renew if you receive an email notice that it is time to do so. Please encourage colleagues and others to join! As a reminder, membership is now required for conference participants who are listed on the program. Our membership year is May 31—June 30 to follow our conference cycle. Visit our website at <https://wcstudiesassociation.wordpress.com/membership/> for electronic payment or to download a form to return with your check.

Communications Committee Chair Courtney Maloney updated our WCSA Wikipedia entry to reflect our history and recent updates. Please take a look at it: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Working_Class_Studies_Association.

Emma Pleasant and Sophie Rowland are doing a fantastic job managing our Twitter account and helping us spread the word about the WCSA and working-class life while connecting us to people, events, organizations, and communities across the globe with similar interests. Please forward information to Emma and Sophie that you would like placed on our Twitter feed: ep351@kent.ac.uk and sdr32@kent.ac.uk.

Member news at our website continues to grow, so keep sending us your announcements, accomplishments, and projects in the classroom, studio, and on the streets to promote working-class studies. Please forward that information to [Colby King](#).

There was a total of 64 nominations for our WCSA Awards this year. A huge thanks to the Awards Committee, led by Michele Fazio, for shepherding these nominations through the awards process. Awardees will be announced in May and, ideally, they will attend our June conference, especially the Awards Dinner.

We look toward the upcoming conference June 6-9 at Stony Brook University, hosted by the Center for the Study of Inequalities, Social Justice, & Policy. Our theme is Class at the Border: Migration, Confinement, and (Im)mobility. Please see the conference program and other information at our conference website, <https://wcstudies2018conference.wordpress.com/>, and note the following events:

- Our annual “Meet & Greet” will kick off the conference on Wednesday evening 6:30-9:00 pm and is open to all conference participants. You will meet new and returning members and enjoy conversation, food, and drinks.
- On Thursday morning we will open the conference with three workshops: first-generation and working-class students, dismantling racism, and writing for public audiences. Thursday will conclude with [Dr. Rhonda Y. Williams](#) of Vanderbilt University giving the Provost Lecture.
- On Friday journalists from *The Nation* will comprise our afternoon plenary. We will close the evening with a buffet Awards Dinner honoring outstanding achievement in our field. We will introduce a new annual award this year, the Jake Ryan Award for work that aids in understanding the working-class academic experience. A special thanks to Mara Fridell and Christine Walley for creating this award.
- On Saturday morning our plenary will be breakout sessions engaging participants in various WCSA field-building and action-oriented plans. Everyone is welcome to take part in these sessions and we are looking forward to hearing your ideas and commitments.

We hope to see you at our WCSA Business Meeting at the conference on Friday, June 8, 12:00-1:30 pm. Steering Committee officers will provide reports of our activities during the 2017-2018 year. All are welcome to attend.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Stony Brook.

In the meantime, please see our website for the Treasurer’s Report, the Secretary’s Report, and the Center Reports.

Terry Easton