

# A Symposium in Rhetoric: "Media & Kairos"

*Open to faculty, graduate students, and independent scholars*

The Federation Rhetoric Committee of the Federation of North Texas Area Universities

Texas Woman's University - Denton, Texas

Where: ACT Bldg. 2nd Floor

When: February 24, 2006

"News...is both pulled and pushed through our society...through all societies: the uninformed anxious to obtain news, the informed eager to give it away. Even without the benefit of sophisticated information technologies, the news, driven by these complementary desires, can attain impressive speeds." Mitchell Stephens *A History of News*

We are seeking proposals for papers that address the idea of *Kairos* in mass communications.

## **Kairos: Definition**

"The opportune occasion for speech. The term *kairos* has a rich and varied history, but generally refers to the way a given context for communication both calls for and constrains one's speech. Thus, sensitive to *kairos*, a speaker or writer takes into account the contingencies of a given place and time, and considers the opportunities within this specific context for words to be effective and appropriate to that moment. As such, this concept is tightly linked to considerations of [audience](#) (the most significant variable in a communicative context) and to [decorum](#) (the principle of apt speech)." Quoted courtesy of Silva Rhetoricae (rhetoric.byu.edu)

Journalism

Citizen Journalism

Internet

Web Blogs

Vlogs

Television/Radio

Film Studies

Media studies

Advertising

Disability Rhetoric in Mass Communications

Historical papers

Media Ethics

The Rhetoric Symposium broadly defines *Kairos* to incorporate a wide variety of research interests. The panel is interested in papers, which present an interdisciplinary approach to mass communications.

## **Submission guidelines:**

- Proposals should be in abstract form (approximately 250 words); electronic submissions are preferred.
- Please send abstracts and a brief biography to Janet Johnson [janet@janetnews.com](mailto:janet@janetnews.com)
- The deadline for submission of all proposals is December 15, 2005

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Brenda Brueggemann of Ohio State University.

For additional details about the symposium, please visit the conference web site: [www.frs.suavecat.com](http://www.frs.suavecat.com)