



COUNCIL FOR PROGRAMS IN TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATION

June 10, 2009

The Council for Programs in Technical and Scientific Communication (CPTSC) is pleased to announce its first CPTSC Award for Excellence in Program Assessment recipients – Karen A. Schriver, PhD, and John R. Hayes, PhD. Their report to Rice University, “Bioengineers as Professional Communicators: Assessing the Impact of the Cain Project on Undergraduate Student Performance in Professional Writing and Public Speaking at Rice,” exemplifies the authors’ sustained excellence in and commitment to assessment. The CPTSC Program Review and Assessment Committee found that this six-year study makes an outstanding contribution to our literature and practice with its empirical research on learning outcomes in technical communication. In his nomination letter noting the success of the university’s bioengineering students as communicators, Rice University Provost, Eugene H. Levy, said, “Dr Schriver and Dr. Hayes have provided us with an assessment approach that will enable us to build on this record and improve our preparation of bioengineering students and other students as communicators.”

The CPTSC Program Review and Assessment Committee received many qualified nominations for this first-time award which signifies the historic importance of assessment of learning outcomes in our field. The Program Review and Assessment Committee was formed in January 2009 to enable CPTSC to play a leadership role in how we define, describe, and measure the quality of technical and scientific communication programs.

The award, which recognizes outstanding contributions to program assessment in technical and scientific communication, will be presented to Drs. Schriver and Hayes at the CPTSC Annual Meeting in Aarhus, Denmark, on Friday morning, August 21, in room M209 of the Aarhus School of Business.

We hope you will join us in congratulating the researchers who have done so very much to provide an empirical basis for work in the field of communication.

The CPTSC Program Review and Assessment Committee
Nancy W. Coppola, Kelli-Cargile-Cook, and Norbert Elliot