

What members say about RCC . . .

RCC continues to be my primary professional association as a religion communicator. RCC has provided continuing education and networking for me during the past two decades. It has also provided meaningful personal relations with communication professionals across North America.

– The Rev. Daniel R. Gangler,
director of communication, Indiana
United Methodist Communications

I originally joined the RCC because, as a minority religion, I felt it was important for us to be represented in this national interfaith organization. Once I met the other RCC members and began to talk with them at local and national meetings, I came to realize the value of being able to have informal conversations about common challenges that we face when trying to communicate our faith stories to the public through the media.

– Ellen Price, religion communicator,
Baha'i Faith

I've been a member of RCC for nearly two decades. It's brought close friends, professional development, and too many memories to count. National conventions are a highlight for me. I'm ever impressed by the Wilbur Awards and the litany of media professional winners who exclaim, with earnest, how much the award means to them, and how it promotes improved coverage of America's vibrant religious scene.

– Anuttama Dasa, governing body
commissioner, director of communications,
International Society for Krishna
Consciousness (ISKCON)

The Religion Communicators Council is an interfaith association of some 500 members who work in a variety of disciplines.

Established in 1929, it is the oldest association of religion communicators in North America.

The logo of Religion Communicators Council is a central dot surrounded by concentric circles representing the evolution of the ways we communicate and the expansion of communication disciplines in the information age.

The central core also signifies a well-planned public relations program from which the concentric circles emanate and exemplify the many interdependent relationships that make the program successful.



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Become part of a dynamic network of interfaith communicators!



*An Interfaith Association of
Religion Communicators Since 1929*



Join the Religion Communicators Council (RCC), and experience the prestige and professional development that come with being part of the oldest public relations professional organization in the United States.

Religion Communicators Council is an interfaith association of religion communicators in journalism, marketing, public relations, advertising, communication technology and more.

RCC is dedicated to promoting excellence in communicating religion in today's media, as well as providing resources that enable our members to improve their skills and professionalism. By learning from fellow RCC professionals, members gain a greater understanding of various faiths and backgrounds while promoting excellence in the communication of religious faith and values in the public arena.

RCC has local chapters in cities around the country that add value to those members who take advantage of regular meetings for programming and networking. Communicators not near a chapter are considered members-at-large and still have the opportunity to network with almost 500 professionals nationwide.

RCC offers three membership categories:

- **Professional** – a major portion of the member's time is in religious public relations or communication work;
- **Associate** – less than half the member's time is in religious public relations or communication work; and
- **Student** – enrolled in college, university or seminary (journalism/communication/public relations/religion major or minor)

Membership Benefits

Professional Development

Our extensive professional development opportunities include continuing education classes, workshops led by today's leading professionals and assistance to earn the Accredited in Public Relations (APR) credential.

Networking Opportunities

RCC provides a forum to exchange ideas and best practices to a diverse group of faith professionals. These opportunities are advanced by including online access to our membership directory – more than 500 communication professionals across the continent.

Annual Convention

The annual national convention includes prominent speakers, networking, workshops, tours, fellowship and business.

DeRose-Hinkhouse Awards

These awards recognize outstanding work completed by RCC members during the year. Awards are presented in categories such as periodicals, printed materials, graphic design, public relations, photography, video, advertising, Web design, social media and more.

Wilbur Awards

Honoring excellence in religion issues covered by secular media, the Wilbur Awards are presented at the national convention each spring. Categories include newspaper and magazine writing, photography, books, movies, television, commercials, radio programs and more.

Publications

The *Counselor*, RCC's official newsletter, is published in both print and electronic formats throughout the year with information about members, chapters, new resources and the latest issues in communication.

Speaking Faith: The Essential Handbook for Religion Communicators provides practical expertise in public relations, communication planning, celebrating diversity, layout and design, television and more.

Joining as a Young Professional



Whether you are currently a student studying communication or religion or have a few years' experience in your field, there's no better time to begin your professional enrichment with RCC membership. Royya James who joined RCC as a convention scholarship recipient in 2004,

was elected to serve on the RCC Board of Governors in 2010.

"The RCC has enriched my career greatly. I heartily recommend membership to other young professionals," said James.



Photo by George Conklin

Best of Class Winner David Barnhart, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance of the PCUSA, receives his trophy from RCC President Deb Christian.



Photo by George Conklin

RCC President Deb Christian (left) presents a Wilbur Award to Michelle Miller, a correspondent for the CBS Evening News.