The Department of Communication and Culture is pleased to announce that Professor John L. Lucaites has been selected to receive two awards at the National Communication Association’s annual convention in Orlando, Florida in November. Lucaites will receive the Charles H. Woolbert Research award as well as the organization’s highest honor, the Distinguished Scholar Award. Lucaites’ work on iconographic photographs and visual rhetoric has put him at the forefront of scholars in rhetoric and public culture. As an NCA award recipient, he joins a venerable group of scholars and educators who have been honored for achieving excellence in research, teaching, and service. The Department of Communication and Culture proudly joins NCA in congratulating him on these high distinctions.

The NCA Distinguished Scholar Award was created in 1991 to recognize and reward NCA members for a lifetime of scholarly achievement in the study of human communication. The Woolbert Award is for Lucaites’ August 1997 essay: “Visualizing ‘The People’: Individualism and Collectivism in ‘Let Us Now Praise Famous Men’,” which has stood the test of time and become a stimulus for new conceptualizations of speech communication phenomena. This was Lucaites’ first essay on visuality and an early key essay that pushed the visual turn in rhetorical studies. He has gone on to publish an award-winning book, co-authored with Robert Harriman, on visual rhetoric and photography entitled, No Caption Needed.

Both awards will be presented to Lucaites at the annual 98th annual NCA convention. The awards presentation follows the NCA Presidential Address that begins at 5:00 p.m. Saturday, November 17th in the Southern Hemisphere Salon of the Dolphin Hotel. Indiana University and the Department of Communication and Culture will recognize Lucaites at a reception on Friday, November 16th, 2012 from 7-9pm in the Oceanic Room of the Dolphin Hotel.