

SSCA 88th Annual Convention
Call for Participation
“Muses and Musings in the Music City”
April 4-8, 2018
Sheraton Downtown
Nashville, Tennessee

Homer begins *The Odyssey* with something like “Sing to me, Oh Muse...” The theme “Muses and Musings in the Music City” (a strategic tongue twisting alliteration) calls on us all to consider inspiration, engage in reflection, and to listen to each other. “Muses and Musings” as a theme invokes *kairos* and provokes inspiration. Contemporary times demand invention and discovery requires a muse; a *telos* of passion. This conference asks us to sustain and stimulate enthusiasm in our craft(s), to offer motivational research and pedagogy, and to create art and action. Of course the conference theme—and themes are themselves muses--offers us many avenues of scholarly inquiry starting, of course, with the mythic muses. Generally, the muses inspired works of both art and science. Pausanias seemingly told of the original three: *melete* (practice), *mneme* (memory), and *aeode* (song). We also have the well-known mythic nine muses/goddesses and all their mythic doings: Calliope, Clio, Erato, Euterpe, Melpomene, Polyhymnia, Terpsichore, Thalia, and Urania. Can the original three muses and the well-known nine offer us inspiration for our scholarship, our teaching, our everyday lives? Of course, we can also consider work in mythology generally for this conference; the cultural stories we tell and re-tell impact all aspects of our lives. Further, considering that many of our contemporary practices/places/thoughts have their linguistic genealogy in “muse,” we can consider the voice of muse as she sings in such “rows” as museums, amusements, and music.

The state capital of Tennessee, Nashville bills itself as “Music City, USA” and its music industry is the second largest in the United States. There are countless opportunities to submit work in the area of music and communication from multiple interests and epistemological stances. But Nashville’s biggest industry is healthcare. Nashville is also home to an ever growing automotive industry as well as home to the headquarters of the United Methodist Church and Southern Baptist Convention. Even more, Nashville is home to a number of well-known museums (like the Johnny Cash Museum) and auditoriums, including the coveted Grand Ole Opry. Nashville has several civil war sites and, linking us back to the ancients, a full-scale reproduction of the Parthenon. Therefore, given the theme and the site, Nashville is an inspirational location for not only mindful reflection on communication research, scholarship, and pedagogy, but also inspired new work that will inspire others.

Each division and interest group is encouraged to program at least one panel consistent with the conference theme. Co-sponsored panels where thematic presentations cut across divisions or interest groups are also welcome. In addition to traditional panels of papers, the Vice President is interested in workshops and interactive programs that maximize opportunities for intellectual engagement and professional development. Where entire panels are proposed, submitters are encouraged to diversify the institutional affiliation of the panel participants. Program proposals that do not fit within SSCA’s divisional and interest group structure may be submitted directly to the Vice President for consideration as part of the Vice President’s Spotlight Series.

Common practices of professional ethics tell us that, if submitting traditional papers, authors should expect anonymous review and should not submit the same paper to more than one division. Additionally, professional norms dictate not that authors should not submit papers that have already been presented at another academic conference and/or published and/or accepted for publication. Further, graduate students should not submit to the Undergraduate Honors Conference; “student” in that context means “undergraduate student.” In division and interest group calls “student” traditional refers to “graduate student” unless otherwise indicated. Regardless, we allow undergraduate students to submit to the regular conference, particularly if they are a co-author working with a faculty mentor. The deadline for all submissions is September 8, 2017. For more information, contact Dr. Jason Munsell by email at drjmunsell@gmail.com or by phone at 803-719-0255.

We look forward to seeing you in Nashville in 2018!

Divisions:

Argumentation and Forensics Division

The Argumentation and Forensics Division (AFD) of the Southern States Communication Association (SSCA) invites submissions for the 2018 Convention (April 4-8 in Nashville, TN – Sheraton Downtown). The division welcomes papers, panels, posters, and workshops across the spectrum of argumentation (e.g., theory, criticism, pedagogy) and competitive speech and debate (e.g., pedagogy, history, praxis, culture, forensics across the curriculum, Urban Debate Leagues, public debate formats). Non-traditional formats such as roundtable discussions and performance showcases are encouraged. The division is especially interested in submissions related to the conference theme, “Muses and Musings in the Music City.” We additionally encourage submitters to contact other divisions to create co-sponsored presentations.

The division sponsors the SSCA Town Hall Debate and invites topic suggestions. Debate topics should relate to the conference theme. Those interested in debating, moderating, or coordinating the event should contact the division planner.

The division invites nominations for Forensics Educator or Contributor of the Year Award. Those wishing to nominate a peer should include a cover letter, the C.V. for the nominee, and up to five pages of supporting material including student and peer letters of support. Self-nominations are welcome.

Individual paper submissions related to the convention theme, teaching methods, research strategies, and other topics of interest are strongly encouraged. Submissions should include two separate documents. The first document should include the title page and the author or authors’ name(s), affiliation(s), mail address(es), phone/fax number(s), and email address(es). The second document should include a 150-word abstract and the manuscript of the paper with all author details removed to facilitate blind review. Submissions should not exceed 25 double-spaced pages, exclusive of the title page, abstract, references, diagrams, and appendixes. Submissions will be considered for the division’s Top Paper Award and Top Student Paper Award. Students

submitting papers should designate the paper as “STUDENT” on the title page. The top student paper will be submitted for consideration for SSCA’s Robert Bostrom Young Scholar Award.

Submissions for panels, workshops, and other innovative formats should include two separate documents. The first document should include the title and an abstract that explains the idea, as well as abstracts and titles for the individual components when appropriate (e.g., a panel of papers). Submitters must also provide a 250-word rationale for the proposed presentation, noting the expertise of the participants to address the topics to be covered. Additionally, be sure to specify the presentation type (e.g., panel, roundtable, workshop) in your submission. The second document should include the names, paper titles (when appropriate), affiliations, mail addresses, phone/fax numbers, and e-mail addresses for all participants.

Consult <http://www.scca.net> for general submission guidelines. Submissions must be received electronically with the email subject line “SSCA AFD Submission.” All papers and presentation proposals must be submitted as Microsoft Word files (.doc or .docx). Send all submissions to Keven J. Rudrow (Vice Chair and Program Planner), The University of Memphis, at kjrudrow@memphis.edu by 11:59 PM (EST) on Friday, September 8, 2017.

Applied Communication Division

The Applied Communication Division invites paper and panel proposals for competitive selection. We especially welcome works that address the convention theme, “Muses and Musings in the Music City.” A broad interpretation of this theme is encouraged as researchers explore how communication is, and will be, used in applied contexts.

The Applied Division welcomes research related, but not limited to, the following communication areas:

- Consulting
- Culture
- Group
- Health
- Instructional Development
- Mass Media
- Organizational
- Public Relations
- Rhetoric
- Training And Development

The Applied Communication Division will seek opportunities to co-sponsor panels with other Divisions related to these fields. Paper and panel submissions that support intersections among disciplines are encouraged. Graduate students are encouraged to submit papers.

Papers and panels may report empirical findings of applied research projects; advance applied communication theory; discuss ways to apply communication research in organizations or

teaching; or review, critique or synthesize applied communication theories or methods. In addition to traditional panels of related research presentations, we invite innovative panel formats such as: round-table discussions addressing an important issue, interviews with prominent scholars or spotlights on their work, discussions with local community members on issues significant to the region, and workshops or collaborative discussions on applied research and teaching.

Paper submissions must include two Microsoft Word file attachments: (1) a file containing a cover sheet listing the paper title and author name(s), affiliation, email, physical addresses and phone number for all authors, and (2) a file including a 50-word abstract and the completed paper not to exceed 25 double-spaced pages excluding references and appendices.

For the purposes of anonymous review, please omit all author-identifying information from the manuscript. All papers submitted will be considered for the Division's Top Paper Award. For student papers, indicate "STUDENT" on the cover sheet. The Division's Top Student Paper will be submitted for consideration for the SSCA Bostrom Young Scholar Award.

Panel proposals must include one attachment containing the following: (1) the SSCA Program Proposal Form (available on the SSCA website, <http://www.SSCA.net>), (2) a one-page rationale for the proposed panel, (3) a brief (50-word) description for the conference program, and (4) a list of all participants including names, affiliations and contact information (e-mail, physical address and phone number).

Submissions must be received by the Division program planner no later than the end of the day on Friday, September 8, 2017. Submissions must be sent electronically as email file attachments in Microsoft Word. Document file names should include the name of the Division and a short paper title; e.g.: Applied Comm-short title.doc. **To assist with the anonymous review process, do not identify the author in the file name or any other document properties.** Any submission not meeting the above requirements will not be accepted for review.

Send submissions to Division Vice-Chair, Dr. Andrew Pyle, at sscaapplied@gmail.com

Communication Theory Division

The Communication Theory Division of the Southern States Communication Association (SSCA) invites submissions for competitive papers, panels, and roundtable discussions for the 2018 convention. Given that the theme for the convention "Muses and Musings in the Music City" (a strategic tongue twisting alliteration) calls on us all to consider inspiration, engage in reflection, and to listen to each other, the division has a special interest in featuring papers and panels that address inspiration from theory and collaboration with communication theorists in a variety of subfields. We welcome submissions from all theoretical and methodological perspectives across all areas of the field of communication research. We especially welcome student papers and work from individuals who have not attended a prior SSCA convention.

Submissions should not exceed 25 pages (30 pages including references, tables, etc.), and should conform to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.).

Authors should submit two Microsoft Word documents: (a) the paper with all identifying information removed and (b) a title page with author's name(s), educational institution, and contact information. Student submissions should include the notation "STUDENT" on title page, and individuals submitting to SSCA for the first time should include the notation "DEBUT" on the title page. Note: All submissions should conform to the Universal Submission Requirements set by the Vice-President and Program Planner; the same paper should not be submitted to two divisions simultaneously. Individuals may not submit more than one paper as first author to the division. Panel submissions featuring only individuals from the same institution will not be considered. Suggestions for co-sponsorships of panels are welcome. The deadline for all submissions is September 8, 2017.

Audiovisual equipment is extremely limited. Any requests for audiovisual equipment (even if you intend to use your own) should accompany the submission. However, participants should be prepared to present *sans* audiovisual aids.

Please direct all submissions to pmadison@gmail.com using "SSCA Comm Theory Submission" as the e-mail header. You will receive a confirmation e-mail within 48 hours. If you do not receive a confirmation receipt, please contact Phillip Madison, Vice Chair, using the information below.

If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact us:

T. Phillip Madison, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Public Relations
University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Department of Communication
Burke-Hawthorne Hall, Room 106
P.O. Box 43650
Lafayette, LA 70504
(337) 482-6112

Community College Division

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

The Community College Division invites submissions for SSCA's 88th Annual Conference, "Muses and Musings in the Music City," April 4-8, 2016 in Nashville, Tennessee. We seek submissions that explore the muses and musings of communication – relevant to the mission of community college education, within the broad contexts of academics, professionalism, extracurricular involvement, and assessment/accreditation. Current employment at a community college is not a prerequisite for submitting or attending panels. Several ideas for panels have been suggested – but are certainly not limited to – topics focusing on:

- Musings on and implications of free community college systems
- Music, community college, and communication
- Music as an instructional tool
- Following one's muse in an era of standardization and assessment
- Musings on nontraditional populations, such as dual credit classes, prison classes, etc.

- Great Ideas For Teaching Students (GIFTS).

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

All submissions must include a cover/proposal page, which includes:

- (1) Program title of the submission (avoiding subtitles if possible)
- (2) Submitter/organizer's name & educational affiliation
- (3) Mailing address
- (4) Phone/fax number(s)
- (5) Email address
- (6) Special requests (special room, A/V equipment with rationale/explanation); submitters should plan to furnish their own audio/video if possible as availability at the conference is not guaranteed.

Additionally, please indicate by including on the cover/proposal page if the author is a "Student" and/or if a "Debut" submission. Please note, the program planner(s) may elect to create separate/individual panels from select Manuscript and/or GIFTS submissions if necessary.

Panels include the title (avoiding subtitles if possible), name of chair, each panelist's name & institutional affiliation, name of a Respondent/Discussant (optional), and an abstract - 200 words. A brief explanation/description of each panelist's specific contribution is required. Panel submissions must include a minimum representation of at least two institutions. Program planners may combine panels if necessary to ensure a more robust panel. GIFTS panels are not permitted as panel submissions; presenters are encouraged to submit GIFTS ideas individually, not as a panel.

Manuscripts, must be absent of all author-identifying information for purposes of anonymous review, adhere to current APA guidelines, and not exceed 25 pages (excluding tables & references).

GIFTS submissions are teaching ideas for any/all courses – Interpersonal, Organizational, Small Group, Media, Gender, etc. – not just Public Speaking. All ideas must be original to the presenter, does not duplicate any other previously published work, including your own previously published work, and has been implemented in the classroom. All GIFTS submissions will be considered for Top GIFTS recognition. GIFTS submissions are structured into individual sections as follows:

- (1) Title
- (2) Course/Program: The applicable course(s) for which the GIFTS was conducted
- (3) Abstract: 100 words
- (4) Rationale: A brief explanation of the reason for the activity, research question, hypothesis, etc.
- (5) Directions/Method: A description of the process, procedures, etc.
- (6) Results/Debrief: A discussion of the results, findings, benefits, etc.
- (7) Appendix (if applicable): FYI handouts, lists, examples, etc.
- (8) References (if applicable)

PROCEDURES

Please email your submissions as an attachment, either as a .doc or .rtf file ONLY (not as a PDF), to Laurie Metcalf, laurie.metcalf@blinn.edu. Deadline is the end of the day September 8, 2017. Write “SSCA Submission” in the subject line of the email.

For more information, visit: <http://www.scca.net/convention-information>

Freedom of Speech Division

SSCA’s Freedom of Speech Division is accepting scholarly papers and panel proposals on free speech issues for presentation at the 88th annual SSCA convention in Nashville, Tennessee on April 4-April 8, 2018. All papers will be peer reviewed. Papers and panels reflecting the conference theme, “Muses and Musings in the Music City,” are especially welcome.

Papers should be submitted by email to Pat Arneson (arneson@duq.edu) in Microsoft Word. Please submit two files: one copy of the paper with the author’s identifying information removed from the cover page, and one copy of the paper with the author’s identifying information included on the cover page.

Panel proposals should be submitted by email to Pat Arneson (arneson@duq.edu) in Microsoft Word. Please follow the posted convention instructions.

Submitters should indicate if the manuscript is a debut paper (first time presenting a scholarly paper at any professional communication conference anywhere) and/or a student paper (B.A., M.A., J.D., Ph.D.).

Completed panel and paper submissions must be received by Friday, September 8, 2017. Questions can be e-mailed to: arneson@duq.edu

All completed papers submitted by the deadline will compete for the division’s top paper awards.

Gender Studies Division

The Gender Studies Division of the Southern States Communication Association invites scholarly papers and panel proposals on gender issues for presentation at the 88th annual SSCA convention in Nashville, TN. Papers reflecting the conference theme, “Muses and Musings in the Music City,” are especially welcome. Possible approaches might include the following: the gendered musical industry, bro country, women in country music, heteronormativity in music, and queering musical genres; new ideas on gender and sexuality from inspirational muses in gender scholarship; musings on gender and sport, gendered fandoms, or gendered sports media; musings on gender and current politics including, women’s marches, women’s think tanks, consciousness raising, cultural memory, or activism and media platforms; as well as musings on fashion and gendered expressions or gendered dress codes.

Submissions should be sent via email attachment in Microsoft Word to Ashton Mouton at ashton.mouton20@gmail.com. Emails should be titled, "SSCA Submission."

Paper submissions should include two file attachments: (1) cover sheet listing the paper title and author name, affiliation, e-mail, physical address, and phone number for all authors; and (2) a file with 150-200 word abstract along with the paper, not to exceed 25 double-spaced pages excluding references and appendices. All completed papers submitted by the deadline will compete for the division's top paper awards.

Panel submissions should include two file attachments: (1) a cover sheet listing the panel title and presenters' names, affiliation, e-mail, physical address, and phone number for all authors; and (2) a file that includes session description (150-200 words), a session rationale (200-250 words), and titles and abstracts (100-150 words) for each paper.

All papers will be peer reviewed. To maintain anonymous review, please omit all author(s) identifying information from manuscripts and panel descriptions. Submitters should indicate if the manuscript is a **debut paper or a student paper** in the cover letters. In your cover letter, please include a statement indicating your commitment to attend the convention should your paper/panel be accepted. Although the availability of audiovisual technology will be very limited, please indicate your need for technology in your cover letter as well. Completed panel and paper submissions must be received by end of day Friday, September 8, 2017, EST.

Nominations are also sought for the **Gender Scholar of the Year** award. Nominees should have made a significant impact on gender scholarship in the communication discipline by demonstrating their commitment to the publication and presentation of research, teaching, participation in organizations, and/or participation in programs that promote and highlight gender issues. Nominations should be received by end of day Friday, September 8, 2017, EST. Please include the following: (1) the scholar's affiliation and a brief rationale for the nomination; (2) the nominee's CV; and (3) a statement ensuring that the nominee plans to attend the 2018 conference, as only nominees available to attend the convention will be considered; and (3) the nominee's CV. Send nominations to Ashton Mouton at ashton.mouton20@gmail.com. The selected scholar will be spotlighted and honored during our annual business meeting.

Instructional Development Division

The Instructional Development Division of the Southern States Communication Association invites submissions for papers and panels on any aspect of instructional development for the 2018 convention in Nashville, Tennessee. Submissions centered on the general convention theme, "Muses and Musings in the Music City," are especially encouraged. The Division welcomes submissions addressing this theme as well as related topics such as learning platforms, training of graduate students, assessment of courses/programs, service learning, and civic discourse in instructional contexts. The Division's top graduate student paper will be submitted for consideration for the Association's Robert Bostrom Young Scholar Award.

Submit papers and panel proposals electronically in Microsoft Word format to Dr. Scott Christen at schisten@tntech.edu no later than Friday, September 8th, 2017. Emails should have "SSCA submission" in the subject line. For paper submissions, please send the title page (with names, institutions, and mailing and email addresses of authors) as a separate email attachment. The submitted paper should be limited to no more than 25 pages (not including references or appendices) with an abstract of 100 words or less. Panel proposals should include a title, abstract of no more than 100 words, names, affiliations, and emails and mailing addresses of all participants. Panels with participants representing a variety of institutions will be given priority. Student submissions should be labeled clearly with "student" on the title page and in the submission email. A/V equipment should be requested only if absolutely essential to the presentation; availability cannot be guaranteed. All submissions will receive an email confirmation within 48 hours of receipt. If you have not received a confirmation email after 48 hours, please contact Scott by email at schristen@tntech.edu or by phone at 931-372-6357 to ensure submission receipt.

Intercultural Communication Division

The Intercultural Communication Division invites submissions for competitive papers, panel proposals, and roundtable discussion sessions on any aspect of culture and communication, from any theoretical or methodological perspective. Topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Music and Culture (race, class, gender, sexual identity, nationality, ethnicity, ability, religion, etc.)
- Culture and Tourism
- Culture and Technology
- Intercultural Competence and Cultural Diversity in the Workplace
- International Exchange, Migration, Refugees, and/or Adjustment
- Social Identity, Racism, Sexism, Xenophobia, and/or Intercultural (In)sensitivity
- Pedagogy: Teaching/Training about Intercultural Communication and related topics

Program proposals related to the 2018 SSCA convention theme "Muses and Musings in the Music City" will be given special attention. The division also welcomes panel submissions appropriate for co-sponsorship with other SSCA divisions.

Submit papers, panels, and other program proposals electronically in Microsoft Word or PDF format to Dr. Mary Meares at mmmeares@ua.edu no later than September 8, 2017.

- Competitive paper submissions should include two files: 1) a cover page file containing the paper title, and the name(s), institutional affiliation, and contact information of all authors, and 2) a file containing the completed paper with a 100-150 word abstract on the first page. Papers should not exceed 25 pages of text (not including abstract, references, tables, and appendices). Please be sure to remove any author identification from the

completed paper file. Student-authored papers should have STUDENT in the upper right hand corner of the title page.

- Panel or roundtable submissions should be sent as a single file containing the following materials: 1) title, as it should appear in the program book; 2) an abstract of no more than 50 words; 3) a list of all participants with affiliation and contact information; 4) a justification not to exceed 200 words; and 5) individual titles and abstracts for each presenter's paper or topic to a maximum of 100 words each.

Audiovisual equipment is extremely limited. Any requests for audiovisual equipment (even if you intend to use your own) should accompany the submission. However, participants should be prepared to present without a projector.

All submissions will receive an email confirmation of receipt. Consult <http://www.scca.net> for general submission guidelines.

Interpersonal Communication Division

The Interpersonal Communication Division of the Southern States Communication Association (SSCA) invites submissions for competitive papers, panels, roundtable discussions, and Spotlight Scholars for the 2018 convention in Nashville, TN.

Submissions that highlight the theme of “Muses and Musings in the Music City” are appreciated and encouraged. New and inventive ideas for panels are welcome. We invite papers reflecting contemporary and emerging interpersonal scholarship, as well as additional topic areas that overlap with the conference theme. The theme may be highlighted in the topic of the submission or in scholars’ methodology. This could possibly include (among other ideas):

- Interpersonal relationships set in musical, artistic, and even healing settings
- Concepts of play, improvisation, and creativity in interpersonal relations
- Practices of listening, mindfulness, and reflection in interpersonal communication
- “Muses” within interpersonal relationships: Inspirational or aspirational figures
- Cultural stories and storytelling that reflect the interpersonal context or themes

Paper submissions should follow the manuscript preparation guidelines established in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.).

Please submit all papers in Word or .pdf format by email to the division’s planner, Gary Beck, gbeck@odu.edu. Emails should have “SSCA submission” in the subject line. For paper submissions, please send the title page (with names, institutions, mailing, and email addresses of authors) as a separate email attachment and limit the paper to no more than 25 pages with an abstract of 100 words or less. Author information should be confined to the cover sheet. Panel submissions should include the names and affiliations of all participants in a document separate from the panel proposal itself, which should include a rationale for the panel and an abstract/summary for each presentation.

Papers submitted by graduate students should include the designation “STUDENT” on the cover sheet. The Division’s top graduate student paper will be submitted to the Vice President to compete for the SSCA Robert Bostrom Young Scholar Award.

You will receive an email confirming the receipt of your submission. All other inquiries can be directed to Gary Beck by email, or postal mail at Department of Communication and Theatre Arts, Old Dominion University, BAL3020, Norfolk, VA, 23529.

The deadline for submission of papers and panels is Friday, September 8th, 2017.

Language and Social Interaction Division

The Language and Social Interaction Division of the Southern States Communication Association invites submissions of competitive papers and panel proposals for the 2018 convention in Nashville, Tennessee. The division is interested in submissions focusing on discourse, language or gesture employing methods including conversation analysis, discourse analysis, critical discourse analysis, ethnography of communication, ethnomethodology, rhetorical analysis of language, or quantitative study of language variables. We welcome proposals using LSI approaches across all communication contexts, including mediated, public and political, interpersonal, small group, organizational, health, and environmental. Proposals relating to the convention theme, “Muses and Musings in the Music City” or to the convention site, are especially encouraged, and papers or panels exploring American music, Southern culture and language, and government, higher education or healthcare (Nashville’s leading employers) are pertinent. Panels jointly sponsored by LSI and other divisions are also most welcome. The LSI Division will submit its top graduate student paper to the SSCA vice president to compete for the Robert Bostrom Young Scholar Award.

Papers and proposals should be submitted as Word files to lstllngs@memphis.edu. Individual papers should not exceed 25 pages of text and should include a cover page with title, author(s) and institution(s) contact information for the submitting author, as well as a 100 word abstract. APA style is preferred. Panel proposals should include a cover page with the names, institutions, mailing and emailing addresses of all participants. Papers submitted by graduate students should be designated “Student” on the cover sheet. A/V equipment should be requested only if absolutely essential to the presentation. Deadline for submissions is Friday, September 8, 2017.

Please direct questions to Lori Stallings, Department of Communication, University of Memphis, lstllngs@memphis.edu.

Mass Communication Division

The Mass Communication Division invites papers and panel proposals in the field of mass communication for the 87th meeting of the Southern States Communication Association, to be held April 4-8, 2018, at the Sheraton Downtown in Nashville, Tennessee.

Papers and panels addressing the convention’s theme, Muses and Musings in the Music City, are especially welcome. Nashville will be the perfect place to discuss and present research based on

the music industry, live event production, sports programming and the future challenges facing mass communication.

The Mass Communication Division welcomes papers on all aspects of mass media, mass communication, computer-mediated communication, and new media technologies.

Previous papers in our division have presented research from areas that have included emerging technologies, the Internet, print journalism, online journalism, television, radio, film, international broadcasting, advertising, political communication within the media, sports media and communication, and more. The highest-ranked papers will be recognized in a Top Papers panel, and the Top Faculty Paper and Top Student Paper will receive an award at the conference.

Panel ideas may also be submitted, and they will also be peer reviewed. Panels may be co-sponsored with other divisions. Please include the names and affiliations of all those who would be participating in the panel.

In addition to traditional research papers and panels, the Mass Communication Division is soliciting proposals for multi-media showcases, presentations, and other innovative discussion formats about issues that are focal to the discipline. For more detailed submission guidelines, including how to submit audio/visual or film productions for the multi-media showcase, please visit the Mass Communication

Division's website at <http://www.commdoctors.org/ssca/>.

Students submitting papers are asked to indicate "Student" status on the paper's cover page. The top graduate student paper will receive recognition from this division and will also be considered for the Bostrom Award.

All submissions should include (separately) a cover page with the title, names, addresses (email and snail mail) and phone numbers of all authors or participants. Paper submissions should be no more than 25 pages, including references, tables, and figures.

All papers must include a 75-100 word abstract. Papers should be written in such a way that author identity remains hidden for the purposes of anonymous review. Panel submissions should be in the format consistent with recent SSCA programs for the annual convention. The Mass Communication Division limits authors to one first-author submission with unlimited second-author submissions. All work submitted for review must be the original work of the author(s) and must not have been previously published or presented at any other conference/convention. Also, papers submitted to the Mass Communication Division may not be simultaneously submitted to any other division of SSCA.

Any paper found in violation of these guidelines will be removed from consideration.

Paper and panel submissions must be received by Dr. Dean C. Cummings, vice chair of the Mass Communication Division, by September 9, 2017. Please email submissions as attachments in Microsoft Word to dcummings@georgiasouthern.edu.

For multi-media production showcase submissions, please follow the guidelines at <http://www.commdoctors.org/ssca/>.

Performance Studies Division

The Performance Studies Division invites submissions for the 2018 convention in Nashville, Tennessee, April 4-8, 2017. Submissions related to the conference theme, Muses and Musings in the Music City, are encouraged, as are submissions focusing on issues relevant to the convention location in Nashville. Submissions of performances, papers and panels on all topics of interest to the Division are also welcome.

The Division's top graduate student paper will be entered into the Robert Bostrom Young Scholar Award competition for the overall top graduate student paper in the Association. We also seek nominations for the Southern States Outstanding Performance Studies Scholar of the Year Award. Additionally we will also be continuing the Top Student Performance Panel. Audio-visual resources will be extremely limited so please limit requests and submit a clear justification for why AV would be necessary. All materials must be submitted electronically in Microsoft Word or PDF format to Sarah Jackson sarahkathrynjackson@gmail.com. Deadline is September 8, 2017.

Performance and panel proposals should include a rationale. All submissions should come with two files 1) contact information, rank and institutional affiliation for all authors and 2) a submission, including abstract, without identifying information. Students submitting papers should clearly designate the paper as "STUDENT" on the cover page. Award nominations should articulate scholarly, artistic, and service contributions to the Division. All submitters should receive a confirmation email within 48 hours of receipt.

Political Communication Division

The Political Communication Division of Southern States Communication Association invites submissions for competitive papers, panels, roundtable discussions, workshops or spotlight scholars for the 2018 convention, which will be held April 4-8 in Nashville, TN.

Submissions addressing the conference theme "Muses and Musings in the Music City" are especially welcomed. Papers and panels that explore emerging topics of inquiry, new ways of examining communication, and new ways of delivering educational programs are encouraged. Top faculty and student papers will be recognized at the conference.

Papers submitted by graduate students who wish to compete for Top Student Paper should be clearly designated "Student" on the cover sheet. The division's top graduate student paper will be submitted for consideration for SSCA's Robert Bostrom Young Scholar Award. All submissions and questions should be sent electronically to Nick Rangel at nicolas.rangel@hccs.edu.

Submissions must be received electronically by the end of the day on Friday, September 8, 2017. All papers and panel proposals must be submitted as Microsoft Word or PDF files. Authors are asked to remove all material that would link them to a paper, including information contained in the "Properties" category of each Word file.

Popular Communication Division

The Popular Communication Division invites competitive papers, media presentations, and panel proposals for the 2018 Southern States Communication Association annual convention. The division welcomes scholarship from a variety of theoretical or methodological approaches that are related to media, culture, and/or other aspects of communication within a popular communication framework. Special consideration will be given to submissions that emphasize cross-disciplinary scholarship related to the convention theme, "Muses and Musings in the Music City."

Please submit all proposals electronically to SSCAPopComm@gmail.com.

In the body of the e-mail provide your name, contact information, and paper/panel title. Paper submissions- Completed papers should be submitted as a Word document and remain within 25 pages, begin with an abstract, and should not include the author's/authors' names anywhere in the document. Student papers should be clearly marked "Student" in the paper header and in the cover e-mail. Any submission not meeting the above requirements will not be accepted for review.

Panel submissions- Panel submissions should be submitted as two Word documents. The first document should include the names, affiliations, and email addresses of all participants. The second document should include the panel's title, a description of the panel (200 words), a rationale for the panel (250 words) and an abstract/summary (150-200 words) for each presentation/discussant. Any submission not meeting the above requirements will not be accepted for review.

Individuals may not submit more than one paper and are limited to participating in only one panel presentation. All submitting panelists, presenters, and etc. will be expected to attend the conference if selected for inclusion in the program.

Please refrain from equipment requests unless AV equipment is essential to the presentation itself. Justifications for equipment must be made at the time of submission.

Consult <http://www.ssca.net> for general submission guidelines. Submissions must be received electronically by Friday, September 8, 2017. All papers and panel proposals must be submitted as Microsoft Word or PDF files. Direct your questions to Danielle E. Williams, Vice Chair of the Popular Communication Division, at dwilliams18@ggc.edu.

Public Relations Division

SSCA's Public Relations Division invites competitive scholarly papers and panel proposals for consideration for presentation. The division welcomes a broad range of theoretical and

methodological approaches to public relations issues. Papers and panels that consider the 2018 theme, "Muses and Musings in the Music City" are strongly encouraged.

All papers must include a 75-100 word abstract and be no longer than 25 pages (excluding tables and references). Authors should not be identifiable in the text of papers. Include a cover page with the names, affiliations, mailing addresses, telephone and fax numbers, and email addresses of all authors. Student papers should be clearly marked undergraduate student or graduate student.

Panel Proposals should include: (1) the Program Proposal Form, (2) a one-page rationale for the proposed program or abstracts of the proposed papers, (3) the program copy, if applicable, and (4) a list of all proposed participants, including their names, affiliations, mailing addresses, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail addresses. Details and examples may be found in the "Call for Panel Proposals" section of the SSCA website at www.sscanet.net.

Top paper recognition is given for competitive papers. The top graduate student paper will be submitted for consideration for the SSCA Bostrom Award.

Papers and panel proposals should be sent electronically as an email attachment in Microsoft Word format (i.e., as a ".doc" or ".docx" file) to amksmall@westga.edu. Requests and justifications for audio-visual equipment must be included with the submission. DEADLINE for submissions is Friday, September 8, 2017.

If there are questions or problems, please contact Amber Smallwood at amksmall@westga.edu or 678-839-6333.

Rhetoric and Public Address Division

The Rhetoric & Public Address Division of the Southern States Communication Association invites submissions for the 2018 convention. The RPA Division welcomes papers and panel proposals ranging across the spectrum of approaches to rhetorical theory and criticism. Submissions related to the conference site—Nashville—or the conference theme—"Muses and Musings in the Music City"—are especially encouraged.

The division solicits two types of submissions: (1) thematic panels and (2) completed papers. For thematic panels, please identify panelists and their institutional affiliations. Preference will be given to proposals that include panelists from multiple institutions. For completed papers, please remove identifying information to facilitate anonymous peer-review. Students submitting papers should clearly designate their papers as "STUDENT" on the title page and in the email. Audio-visual resources will be extremely limited, so please submit a clear justification for any AV requests.

The division recognizes excellent scholarship with Top Student Paper and Top Faculty Paper awards. The top student paper will be entered into the SSCA Robert Bostrom Young Scholar Award competition.

Submit all materials electronically in **DOC or DOCX** format only (pdfs will not be accepted) to Kevin Marinelli, Davidson College, at RPA.SSCA.2018@gmail.com by **Friday, September 8, 2017**.

In the body of your email please provide your name, contact information and panel/paper title. Please **limit papers to 25 pages** (excluding references). In the meantime, please submit any questions to Kevin Marinelli (vice chair) at kemarinelli@davidson.edu.

Interest Groups:

Association for Communication Administrators

The Association for Communication Administration (ACA) Interest Group invites papers and panel proposals for the 88th Annual Convention of the Southern States Communication Association. We invite authors to broadly interpret the convention theme, “Muses and Musings in the Music City,” to consider how communication administration practice can be informed by communication theory and scholarship. We encourage papers and panels that explore the grounding communication administration practice in our discipline’s humanities and social scientific roots. How can communication administration serve a “muse” for the rest of the academy in these challenging times for higher education?

All methodological approaches are encouraged. Panel submissions that could be co-sponsored by another interest group or division should be clearly indicated in the panel justification.

Completed paper submissions should include two files: 1) a cover page file containing the paper title, and the author’s name, affiliation, and contact information and 2) a file containing the completed paper with an abstract of no more than 100 words on the first page. **Note: Please be sure to remove any author identification from the completed paper file. If this is the author’s first conference submission, please include the designation “DEBUT” on the cover page.**

Panel submissions should be sent as a single file containing the following materials: 1) panel title, as it should appear in the program book; 2) a panel abstract of no more than 50 words; 3) a list of all participants with affiliation and contact information; 4) a panel justification not to exceed 200 words; and 5) individual titles and abstracts for each presenter's paper (or equivalent for other panel formats) to a maximum of 100 words each.

Audio-visual resources must be requested with the paper or panel proposal along with a clear justification for why AV would be necessary. SSCA has limited audio-visual resources so please limit requests only to necessary cases. All materials must be submitted via electronic mail by Friday, September 8, 2017 to Jeanne Persuit at persuitj@uncw.edu. Please indicate your e-mail subject line as "ACA-SSCA" for clarity. Preferred file formats include Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) or Microsoft Word (.doc/.docx). All submissions will receive a reply email confirming receipt of the submission within 48 hours.

American Society for the History of Rhetoric Interest Group

The American Society for the History of Rhetoric (ASHR) Interest Group of the Southern States Communication Association (SSCA) invites submissions for the 2018 convention in Nashville, Tennessee. While we always welcome submissions concerning the history of rhetoric broadly, for the 2018 convention we especially encourage work relating to 1) the robust history of the city of Nashville and the state of Tennessee, 2) the role of rhetoric, race, and religion 3) the rhetoric of the Civil Rights movement—especially work commemorating the 50th year anniversary of the death of Martin Luther King, and 4) the conference theme “Muses and Musings in the Music City.” While working from the convention theme, the interest group also encourages work that frames examinations in the history of rhetoric as resources for envisioning the future(s) of the fields of rhetoric and communication studies. For instance, Nashville is home of Andrew Jackson’s Hermitage; thus, we welcome rhetorical work on Jackson and its possible contemporary manifestations.

More broadly, the ASHR Interest Group is interested in work that enhances the theory and practice of rhetoric in all periods and languages. We invite submissions in the form of completed papers, as well as proposals for thematic panels, roundtables, or non-traditional panel formats. Please note that we strongly encourage panel submissions to contain participants from two or more different institutions.

Completed paper submissions should include two files: 1) a cover page file containing the paper title, and the author’s name, affiliation, and contact information and 2) a file containing the completed paper with an abstract of no more than 100 words on the first page. **Note: Please be sure to remove any author identification from the completed paper file. If the author is a student or if this is the author’s first conference submission, please include the designation “STUDENT” or “DEBUT” on the cover page.** Panel submissions should be sent as a single file containing the following materials: 1) panel title, as it should appear in the program book; 2) a panel abstract of no more than 50 words; 3) a list of all participants with affiliation and contact information; 4) a panel justification not to exceed 200 words; and 5) individual titles and abstracts for each presenter’s paper (or equivalent for other panel formats) to a maximum of 100 words each.

Audio-visual resources must be requested with the paper or panel proposal along with a clear justification for why AV would be necessary. SSCA has limited audio-visual resources so please limit requests only to necessary cases. The ASHR Interest Group will designate awards for the **top student paper** and the **top faculty paper** from the complete paper submissions. All materials must be submitted via electronic mail by Friday, September 8, 2017 to Andre E. Johnson, PhD and ajohnsn6@memphis.edu. Please indicate your e-mail subject line as "ASHR-SSCA" for clarity. Preferred file formats include Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) or Microsoft Word (.doc/.docx). All submissions will receive a reply email confirming receipt of the submission within 48 hours.

Ethnography Interest Group

The Ethnography Interest Group invites submissions for competitive papers, panels, workshops, and roundtable discussions for the 2018 Southern States Communication Association Convention in Nashville, Tennessee. Our theme this year, **Muses and Musing in the Music City**, invites ethnographic explorations of communication in ways that promise to be transformative, and we welcome paper and panel submissions that address this theme. We use the term ethnography broadly, encompassing ethnographic methods and innovative research as well as autoethnography, performance ethnography, narrative ethnography and more. We are especially interested in creative explorations of ethnography and welcome hands-on and alternative formats for both papers and panels.

All submissions will be peer-reviewed. To allow for anonymous review please omit all author identifying information from manuscripts and panel descriptions. Papers submitted by students should be designated —Student - on the cover sheet. The Interest Group's top student paper will be submitted to the Vice President to compete for SSCA's Robert Bostrom Young Scholar Award. Please understand that audio-visual requests can be challenging.

All **paper submissions** should include two file attachments in Microsoft Word. File 1 should include cover sheet listing the paper title and author name(s), affiliation, e-mail, physical address, and phone number for all authors. Note: Please identify the primary contact person for the submission. File 2 should include a 150-word abstract along with the paper not to exceed 25 double-spaced pages, excluding references and appendices.

All **panel submissions** should include two file attachments in Microsoft Word. File 1 should contain a cover sheet listing the panel title and presenters' names, affiliation, email, physical address, and phone number for all authors. Note: Please identify the primary contact person for the submission. File 2 should include (1) session description (150 words), (2) a session rationale (200 words), and (3) titles and abstracts (150 words) for each presentation.

Send your electronic submissions to the program planner at elizabeth.stephens@mtsu.edu with the subject line —SSCA (panel/paper) submission - no later than Friday, September 8, 2017. You will receive an e-mail confirming receipt of your submission. If you have any additional questions, please contact Dr. Elizabeth Stephens, Department of Communication Studies & Organizational Communication, 1301 E. Main, Murfreesboro, TN 37132, (901) 487-9224.

Kenneth Burke Society Interest Group

The Kenneth Burke Society of the Southern States Communication Association (SSCA) is seeking submissions for the 2018 SSCA Annual Convention in Nashville, Tennessee. The Kenneth Burke Society seeks to promote research in the theory and application of Burkean scholarship.

Papers and panels that engage with the 2018 convention theme, “Muses and Musings in the Music City,” will be given special consideration. Submissions that cut across disciplines are also encouraged. In addition to submissions connected to the convention theme, the group is interested in submissions related to the host city of Nashville, contemplating ways to teach Burke, or connecting Burkean thought and scholarship to areas of research beyond rhetorical studies.

Burkean scholars and scholars who incorporate Burkean ideas into their research are invited to submit alternative panel formats such as interactive sessions, workshops or roundtable discussions. The Kenneth Burke Society is friendly towards graduate student work; please identify such work by noting “STUDENT PAPER” on the first page. Top paper and top student paper will be awarded. The top student submission will be nominated for the Bostrom Award.

Please submit all proposals electronically to broussard.johanna@gmail.com by Friday, September 8, 2017. In the body of the email, provide your name, contact information, and paper/panel title. Completed papers should remain within 25 pages (double spaced, not including references), begin with an abstract, and should not include the name of the author(s). Panel submissions should include the names and affiliations of all participants in a document separate from the panel proposal itself, which should include a rationale for the panel and an abstract/summary for each presentation. It is expected that all those submitting will attend the conference if selected for inclusion in the program.

Please submit all questions to:

Dr. Johanna M. Broussard
Instructor
Department of Communication Studies
Louisiana State University
broussard.johanna@gmail.com

Philosophy and Ethics of Communication Interest Group

The Philosophy and Ethics of Communication Interest Group invites submissions for the 2018 Southern States Communication Association to be held April 4-8, 2018 at the Sheraton Downtown in Nashville, TN.

Submissions may be theoretical or applied examinations of philosophy of communication and/or communication ethics. All paper and panel submissions will be peer reviewed. Submissions reflecting the conference theme, “Muses and Musings in the Music City,” are especially welcome.

Paper Submissions: All papers must include a 75-100 word abstract and be no longer than 25 pages (excluding references). Authors should not be identifiable in the text of papers. Include a detachable cover page with the names, affiliations, mailing addresses, telephone and fax numbers, and email addresses of all authors. All completed papers will compete for the interest group’s top paper award. Student papers should be clearly marked “Undergraduate Student” or

“Graduate Student.” The top graduate student paper will be entered into the Robert Bostrom Young Scholar Award competition for the overall top graduate student paper in the Association.

Panel Submissions: We welcome interactive sessions that maximize opportunities for intellectual engagement. Submitters are encouraged to diversify the institutional affiliation of the panel participants. All panel proposals should include a title; an abstract and rationale for the proposed session; abstracts of the proposed papers, if applicable; and a list of all proposed participants including their names, affiliations, mailing addresses, telephone number, and e-mail addresses.

A statement of professional responsibility from all authors must accompany each submission: “In submitting the attached paper or proposal, I/We recognize that this submission is considered a professional responsibility. I/We agree to present this panel or paper if it is accepted and programmed. I/We further recognize that all who attend and present at SSCA’s annual meeting must register and pay required fees.”

Requests for audio-visual equipment are discouraged due to rental costs. If needed, the presenter should plan to bring the equipment to the conference. If the presenter cannot bring the equipment, a request and justification must be included with the submission.

Please save your paper/panel proposal as a Word Document and email it with “SSCA Submission” in the subject line to Jim Pickett: jpickett1@flagler.edu. Completed submissions must be received by the end of the day September 8, 2017. You will receive an email confirming receipt of your submission.

State Association Interest Group

The State Association Interest Group of the Southern States Communication Association invites submissions to be a part of a roundtable discussion titled “Undergraduates: The Muse of State Associations” at the 2018 conference in Nashville, Tennessee. We are looking for panelists who can address how state associations can increase membership and participation in their respective organizations by serving undergraduate students.

All submissions should include name, school affiliation, state association affiliation, and a brief paragraph describing your experience with your state association/s and the angle you would like to discuss under the panel’s theme. All submissions will be reviewed and the ones that best fit the panel’s theme will be chosen to participate.

Email all submissions as a Word document to Keith Perry, Vice Chair of the State Association Interest Group, at kperry@abac.edu by September 8, 2017.

Call for Submissions
Theodore Clevenger Undergraduate Honors Conference
88th Annual SSCA Conference
April 4-8, 2018 - Nashville, TN - Sheraton Downtown

You're invited to submit your research to the 28th annual Theodore Clevenger Undergraduate Honors Conference, held during the Southern States Communication Association's annual meeting in Nashville, TN, April 4-8, 2018. The UHC provides an opportunity for undergraduates to present their research, and engage in conversations about their research or future research topics with faculty and fellow students. Additionally, students can explore graduate study opportunities.

Undergraduate students can submit papers for the UHC on any topic relevant to the study of human communication. Past conference participants represent a wide range of colleges and universities primarily from the southern states region, and their communication-related research has represented rhetoric; social science; humanistic, critical, and performative approaches; and/or applied communication. We especially welcome papers or projects that connect to the conference theme, "Muses and Musings in the Music City." The theme provides opportunity for students to explore inspiration, mythology, storytelling and voices, among other topics. These are offered as possible areas of submission, and the papers do not necessarily have to link to the conference theme.

For the third year, and still on a pilot basis, the UHC will include at least one panel dedicated to digital and/or applied projects that are research based, demonstrating, illustrating, or interrogating aspects of rhetorical, media, performance and/or communication theory and practice. Public relations campaigns addressing the 2019 Montgomery, AL, SSCA Conference (promoting SSCA, and the conference location for faculty, and graduate and undergraduate students) are also welcome as part of this special call. Submissions must adhere to the stipulations for projects indicated below.

- Any student who is currently enrolled as an undergraduate student is eligible to submit a paper or project, but only ONE submission is permitted per student, whether submitted individually or as a group.
- In the case of multiple-authored papers or projects, one student must be designated as the submitting/presenting author, and, again, no student may present more than one paper or project.
- Submissions from anyone other than the author(s) will disqualify the paper or project from review.
- Please note that the submission of a paper or project implies the author's commitment to register for and attend the conference, if the paper or project is selected. Attending and

presenting at a conference is an honor, and not attending, if selected, goes against professional ethical practices.

- All submissions must be original, and cannot have been previously presented at SSCA, or any other state, regional or national academic conferences.

Papers:

- Must be double-spaced in 12-point font, and formatted with standard one-inch margins.
- Submissions should not exceed 25 pages (including all references, figures, tables, and appendices), should avoid sexist or racist language, and should include an abstract of 100-150 words.
- The identity of the author(s) or institution should not appear anywhere in the paper.

Projects:

Whether a campaign, film, or applied, digital, or performance project, the project length must conform to one of the following two stipulations: Either (1) the entire project can be attached to an e-mail and sent via e-mail (NOT shared via Google Docs), or (2) the author(s) will prepare a written description of the project and provide sample screen shots of the project, in a Word file, and adhering to the stipulations for papers indicated above. In other words, applied projects may need to be condensed for reviewing purposes. The exception to this would be film projects which may be submitted with a YouTube link. Any film/video/audio or recorded performance projects submitted should not exceed 10 minutes in length. Please note that PowerPoint presentations are not acceptable as digital projects, or as a mechanism for submitting other projects.

Deadline: the submission deadline for the UHC is **December, 15, 2017.**

Submission Process:

All paper and project submissions should be sent to Dr. Pamela G. Bourland-Davis, Georgia Southern University, pamelagb@georgiasouthern.edu

- Submit papers, in MS Word format as an e-mail attachment. The subject line of the e-mail should contain the phrase **UHC Paper Submission for** (name of student designated as the presenting author).
- Submit projects, in an MS Word file, with the subject of the e-mail as **UHC Project Submission for** (name of the student designated as the presenting author).

All submissions should include two files attached to the e-mail:

- File 1: A brief submission letter requesting review of the UHC paper or project that includes the title of the paper or project, name(s) of the author(s), institutional affiliation(s), mailing address(es), telephone number(s), and e-mail address(es). If the paper or project addresses the conference theme, "Muses and Musings in the Music City," please note this in the submission letter.
- File 2: Your paper or project, beginning with the title and abstract as page one. (Remember the author(s) and institution should not be identified here or elsewhere in the paper or project).

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Pamela Bourland-Davis at pamelagb@georgiasouthern.edu. Please be sure to include UHC Submission Question in the subject line. Hope to meet you in Nashville!