

89TH Annual Convention
Southern States Communication Association
Montgomery, Alabama
Breakfast Business Meeting
April 5, 2019 (Alabama Grand Ballroom B, First floor, 8:00-10:00am)

1. **Call to order** – The meeting was called to order by Jason Munsell at 8:30 am
2. **Welcome**—President Jason Munsell welcomed to the membership to Montgomery, AL and thanked Jerry for being here with his joyous spirit
3. **Approval of Minutes from Nashville Breakfast Business Meeting**— A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the 2018 Breakfast Business Meeting. The motion passed without objection.
4. **Approval of the Agenda**—President Munsell entertained a motion to restructure the agenda. A motion to restructure the agenda was made and seconded. The motion was approved without objection.

5. **OFFICERS' REPORTS**

5.1 **President's report – Jason Munsell, University of South Carolina Aiken**

Thanked the administrative staff for their hard work, Pam Bourland-Davis for a wonderful program, Shawn Long for UHC planning, and congratulated Wendy Atkins-Sayre for her election as the 2nd VP and planner of the Undergraduate Honors Conference for Frisco, TX in 2020.

5.2 **1st Vice President's Report – Pam Bourland-Davis, Georgia Southern University**

Panel numbers are down a bit from Nashville, but that is expect according to Jerry Highlighted and encouraged attendance at panels—including Protest Music at the Crossroads panel and Grappling with our Racial Sins, a Vice President Spotlight panel (3601 on Friday) – Vice President Bourland-Davis thanked Past President Victoria Gallagher for paneling this session. Vice President Bourland-Davis indicated that she moved to 45-minute business meetings and had three different paneled times so people can attend or become involved in more divisions.

5.3 **2nd Vice President's Report, Shawn Long, University of North Carolina Charlotte**

Indicated he is honored to have had the opportunity to plan the Clevenger Undergraduate Honor Conference. There were 110 submission with 65% of the submissions be accepted. There were 65 reviewers for the submissions and Vice President Long thanked the reviewers. There were 20 slots available and 16 went to paper panels. Vice President Long migrated to a completely electronic submission process and implemented a uniform evaluation rubric. He created a panel specifically to introduce the UHC participants to how a conference works – students were very involved and energetic. In addition to the usual UHC breakfast with university sponsors, Vice President Bourland-Davis added a grad info fair. A TOP Lambda Pi Eta Student Award will be presented. A new panel was established as a collaborative effort with the Argumentation and Forensics division to have a performative aspect represented in the UHC. Vice President Long thanked Kevin Bryant for organizing this panel. The Vice President the SSCA staff and offered special thanks to UNCC graduate student George Stock. Next years theme - Disruptive Communication a Discipline Without Restraints – was announced. The theme includes excellent opportunities to highlight social injustice and inequality research works that are much needed.

5.4 Immediate Past President and Nomination Committee Chair's Report – Vicki Gallagher, North Carolina State University

Expressed delight that we had wonderful candidates, Michael Scott Waltman and Wendy Atkins-Sayre, for the 2nd Vice President, and Andrew Pyle and Melody Lehn for NCA Legislative Assembly Representative. She offered congratulations to Dr. Atkins-Sayre and thanked both she and Dr. Waltman for faithful service to SSCA. Through two rounds of voting the NCA LA election ended in a tie and Dr. Gallagher attributed the close voting to the engagement each candidate had with SSCA. She offered thanks for wonderful service from Kristi Cates as the NCA K-12 Legislative Assembly representative. Representative Cates stepped down as part of a career transition and a new representative was selected by the SSCA Executive Council as per the SSCA bylaws. Pat Arneson will complete the remainder of the Cates term.

5.5 Executive Director's Report – Jerold Hale, College of Charleston

Thanked the membership for its outpouring of love and support in the aftermath of Janet's and his house fire which kept him from attending the Nashville conference. He expressed the belief that members' responses were truly representative of the family nature of SSCA. SSCA received a clean financial bill of health from Harvard and Associates, the accounting firm that works with the Association. Documents will be posted in the members area of the website. Mr. Harvard is transitioning to retirement, so SSCA has been working with a new representative with the same firm. SSCA had a large surplus for the year because of the timing of receipt of royalties from Taylor and Francis. A few CDs were moved to checking as they matured in preparation to the transition to a new Executive Director so that as much money will be liquid as possible so that the new ED can place them in appropriate investments. Award balances are doing well due to the continued support of Caring Connections. Membership numbers are lower compared to last year probably due to meeting in a destination city in 2018, but onsite registrations are not included in the numbers.

5.6 Marketing Director's Report – Ashli Stokes, University of North Carolina Charlotte

Thanked members for supporting #SSCA2019 and submitting awesome pictures and tweets. She noted that SSCA has 12 institutional members this year. She thanked Dave Nelson for operating the podcast over the past year and noted that the third episode is coming soon. Brigitta Brunner was thanked for her assistance to the marketing enterprise. Mention was briefly made of a proposal for reorganizing the marketing roles and it was noted that a more thorough discussion would come during new business. The Executive Council and Constitution Committee were thanked for their assistance in crafting the wording and new structure for the marketing functions.

5.7 Journal Editor's Report – Jennifer Samp, University of Georgia

Executive Director Jerry Hale delivered a brief account of the Editor's report. The report, which appears in its entirety in the Executive Council minutes is extensive. Members are directed to those minutes for the report.

5.8 NCA Legislative Assembly Representatives – Nakia Welch, San Jacinto College and Linda Jurczak, Valdosta State University

The Legislative Assembly representatives reported that proposed divisions in Military Communication, Chinese Communication, and Speech Anxiety were rejected by the Legislative Assembly.

5.9 NCA Nominating Committee - Christy Moss, University of Memphis

Members interested in serving on NCA committees were encouraged to reach out either face-to-face or through email to Dr. Moss to express their interest.

5.10 NCA Regional Association Promotion and Advancement Committee – Brigitta Brunner, Auburn University

Members were asked to suggest Solicited suggestions for future publication

6.0 Standing Committee's Reports

6.1 Committee on Committees-Jason Munsell University of South Carolina Aiken

President Munsell encouraged members interested in serving on SSCA committees to communicate their interest to him or to Vice President Bourland-Davis.

6.2 Constitution Committee Chair – Leslie Pace, University of Louisiana Monroe

Proposed changes to the constitution are on tables. Please review the proposed changes before the changes are considered in new business.

6.3 Finance Committee- Wendy Atkins-Sayre, University of Southern Mississippi

Thanks to committee members and the Executive Director for their assistance. No changes are proposed to the budget for the upcoming year. The year is needed to determine the impact of smaller conference cities on Association income. A motion came from the committee to approve the proposed budget. The FY 2020 budget passed without objection and will be posted to the members area of the website.

6.4 Publication Committee – Daniel Grano, University of North Carolina Charlotte

The Publications Committee is working with the Marketing Director to support the production of the SSCA podcast with Dave Nelson.

6.5 Resolution Committee – Larry Moore, Auburn University Montgomery

If anyone wants to add a resolution, please let us know before tomorrow's Awards Luncheon.

6.6 Marketing Committee – Abby Brooks, Georgia Southern University

Thank you to Katie Monk of the SSCA staff who hand wrote the pre-paid Caring Connections. Caring Connections are still for sale, please continue to support SSCA awards by buying them. We are taking suggestions for a new caring connections emblem. These ideas can be wide ranging but needs to be small enough to fit badges and economically efficient so that Caring Connections are not paying big production costs. Play BINGO! You can fill in Bingo squares by:

Visiting exhibitors

Posting about the conference on social media

Jerry Hale is the free square in the middle

Attending business meetings

WIN PRIZES!

6.7 Time and Place Committee – Frances Brandau, Sam Houston State University

Thanks to Janet Fisher for her help in negotiations between six different properties – None of the properties in the Houston, Texas were viable either because of location in the city or even after negotiations they were too expensive. After coming up empty in Houston we were contacted by a property in St. Petersburg, Florida. The hotel has ample space for our meetings, a \$12k Food and Beverage minimum. And several attractions nearby (e.g., professional sports, the Dali museum, several art galleries, and there are plenty of food and drink options. **Motion from committee was to hold the 2023 convention at the St. Petersburg Hilton – no second needed.** The motion passed unanimously.

7.0 NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Election of NCA Legislative Assembly Representative

Independent counters are Camille Lewis, Katie Anthony, Carol Blair
Election took place. Announcement of the winner will be via email as soon as the results have been certified.

7.2 Ratification of next Executive Director – Dr. John Haas

He is a past president of SSCA, administrator in multiple schools, has a heart for students, schedule flexibility, respect from membership, and many other wonderful traits

John Haas gave brief words

His first SSCA was Houston 1986 – I did that just to age you John!
Committee has recommended this appointment unanimously

Any discussion of recommendation? – Hearing none

No need to second motion coming from committee

Ayes have it, zero Nays and zero Abstentions

We did not make eye contact with John when he walked back in!

7.3 Constitutional Changes

7.3.1 Voting of Change 1: Changing name of Marketing Director to Strategic Communication Director

The motion came from the Constitution Committee – no 2nd needed

The motion passed unanimously

7.3.2 Voting of Change 2: Changing the descriptions of responsibilities for the marketing director to Strategic Communication Director

Article IV, Section 4.6

Jean Dehart suggested “Strategic Communication Director be added to the sentence starting “Oversees the functioning of the resource development and membership committee”

Amendment was accepted

Vicki Gallagher suggested a change to the same sentence where instead of saying “Oversees the functioning of the Resource Development and Membership Committee” to “...the Resource and Membership Development Committee”

Amendment was accepted

The motion came from the Constitution Committee – no 2nd needed

The motion passed unanimously

7.3.3 Voting of Change 3: Change the name and description of the resource development committee to align with new name and role of Strategic Communication Director and aid in completion of essential organizational tasks

Article IX (#9), Section 1.9

Motioned came from the Constitution Committee – no 2nd needed

The motion passed unanimously.

7.4 Voting of Constitutional 4: Change language regarding tie votes in elections change regarding the exclusion of abstentions in elections with a tie

Article #7, Section 3.3 of the SSCA Constitution states “Tie Between Two Candidates. If two candidates are the only ones on the ballot and receive exactly the same number of votes or a majority is not achieved, the Executive Director shall contact both candidates prior to conducting a second election. The second election shall open the voting at least thirty (30) days prior to the convention and close the voting at least fifteen (15) days prior to the convention. In the event that another tie or lack of majority ensues, the Executive Director shall conduct an election at the annual convention business meeting. The phrases “or a majority is not achieved” and “or lack of majority” is either redundant or creates ambiguity regarding abstentions. The motion is to remove those phrases. Motion coming from Constitution Committee- No 2nd needed. The motion passes unanimously

The motion came from the Constitution Committee - no 2nd needed

The motion passed unanimously

8.0 INTRODUCTION OF SSCA PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

8.1 Introduction of President Jason Munsell

1st Vice President Pam Bourland-Davis gave a wonderfully descriptive and praiseworthy introduction of President Jason Munsell prior to his presidential address.

8.2 2019 SSCA Presidential Address

President Munsell gave an insightfully developed, prudent address while balancing levity and brevity. His address will be published in an upcoming issue of SCJ and/or posted to the SSCA website in the members area.

9.0 Announcements and Adjournment

The election results for the NCA Legislative Assembly Representative will be announced at the Awards Luncheon Saturday. A motion was made to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 am.