Argumentation and Forensics Division

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The Argumentation and Forensics Division (AFD) of the Southern States Communication Association invites submissions for the 2020 Convention in Frisco, Texas. 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, coaching, and all debate and speech activity formats). The division is especially interested in submissions related to the conference theme, “Disruptive Communication.” We additionally encourage submitters to contact other divisions to create co-sponsored presentations.

Division Awards: Forensics Educator of the Year, Top Paper, and Top Student Paper.

Sample ideas related to the 2020 SSCA theme:

Arguments in Debate that Disrupt the Activity or Norms

Political Argument as Disruptive

Arguments that Disrupt Political, Social, or Communicative Norms

Disruptions to Speech and Debate

Disrupting Theories or Types of Argument in Speech and Debate

Disrupting Sexism, Classism, Racism, Islamophobia, Heterosexism, etc. in Speech and Debate

Disruption, Civility, and Public Argumentation

Arguments about Disruption

Disruptive Political Argumentation

Disruptive Argumentation, Speech, or Debate Pedagogies

Disruptive Speech and Speeches

Disrupting or Disruptions of Forensic Rhetoric

And many more!

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. Any debate style is acceptable, and any level of competitor (undergraduate and graduate students, and coaches/scholars).

The division invites nominations for the Forensics Educator 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 and coaching methods, theoretical explorations, empirical scholarship, and other papers that pursue rhetorical, critical and cultural, and social scientific theories and methods examining argumentation and forensics (speech and debate) are encouraged. Submissions should include two separate documents. Submissions should not exceed 25 double-spaced pages, exclusive of the title page, abstract, references, diagrams, and appendices. 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, mailing addresses, phone/fax numbers, and e-mail addresses for all participants.

For prepared panels, roundtables, and workshops, preference will be given to those submissions with a diversity of presenters (different universities/organizations, different statuses, different perspectives, etc.).

If you would like to serve as a reviewer, chair, or respondent… especially reviewer, please send your name, affiliation, email address, and phone number. You can review even if you don’t submit or cannot attend. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Consult http://www.ssca.net for general submission guidelines. Submissions must be received electronically at [https://www.xcdsystem.com/ssca/abstract/index.cfm?ID=PugAYz3](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.xcdsystem.com_ssca_abstract_index.cfm-3FID-3DPugAYz3&d=DwMFaQ&c=URKFmO0h1-PpCttSQ3v_bEhalPi_sNmh-_LG0Bso5YA&r=bGY36FwQPnRSqeFp6bVQ0laJCTKNwTjT4ZDr29X8Gu8&m=kyWnleDxWtWvQdGTGd_C5iPF4-ql4pNQcwxc5NNDEuI&s=QCd5Pl1m0E57TGBZXQXR8MUS85vgsHaBePsK9hPi-iQ&e=). All papers and presentation proposals must be submitted as Microsoft Word files (.doc or .docx). Contact the division planner at Dr. Nick J. Sciullo, Vice Chair & Program Planner, Texas A&M University – Kingsville, at [nick.sciullo@tamuk.edu](mailto:nick.sciullo@tamuk.edu).