Call for Participants – States Association Interest Group Vice Chair - Planner: Lakelyn Taylor, [lakelyn.taylor@knights.ucf.edu](mailto:lakelyn.taylor@knights.ucf.edu)

The State Association Interest Group (SAIG) invites papers and panel proposals for the 92nd Annual Convention of the Southern States Communication Association. We invite authors to broadly interpret the convention theme, “Resilience Through Resistance,” to consider how state associations can (and did) demonstrate resolve and resilience in the midst of push back. The term “resistance” is defined broadly but can refer to phenomenon such as:

1.) Calls from association members to have/not have in-person conferences

2.) Submission hesitancy by scholars who may question the value of state associations or state association journals

4.) Opposition against change from long-standing members of the association

Submissions trying to tie into the theme should place emphasis on how we pull through during these times of resistance and how we preserve after them as an act of resilience.

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

Completed paper submissions should be double-spaced, in accordance with the latest edition of APA (7TH ed.), and include a file containing the completed paper with the abstract. Preferred manuscript length is 15-25 pages, excluding references. Include a separate cover page with the title, author(s) name, address(es), e-mail address(es), affiliation(s) and an abstract of no more than 100 words. If this is the author’s first conference submission, please include the designation “DEBUT” on the cover page. If the author(s) are students only, please include the designation “STUDENT” on the cover page. Note: Please be sure to remove any author identification from the completed paper file.

Panel submissions are encouraged to attend to the conference theme. Potential ideas include:

1.) How do we foster diversity, equity, and inclusion in our state associations?

2.) How do we bridge the gap between theory and practice when attending to topics like resilience and resistance?

3.) Looking back over the past academic year to reflect on how we have persevered as state associations and what we are doing right

4.) How can state associations partner with other institutions such as educational institutions to determine what is working among teachers or other professionals?

Where entire panels are proposed, submitters are encouraged to diversify the institutional affiliation of the panel participants and to consider opportunities to bring in colleagues and peers who have not recently or never attended an SSCA conference. Program proposals which do not align with 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*.

Please submit only electronic submissions in Microsoft Word documents or PDF to the following link: <https://www.xcdsystem.com/ssca/member>. The deadline for all submissions is **October 1, 2021 by midnight CST**.