

Instructional Development Division
Business Meeting Agenda
Southern States Communication Association – Frisco, TX
April 6, 2024

- I. Attendees:
 - a. Scott Christen
 - b. Colleen Mestayer
 - c. Lakelyn E. Taylor
 - d. Elizabeth Hanson-Smith
 - e. Katy Schoonover
 - f. Cole Franklin
 - g. Varaidzo Nyamandi
 - h. Ryan Goke
- II. Call to order and welcome
 - a. Scott called the meeting to order at 4:24pm CT.
- III. Reading and approval of the minutes
 - a. Colleen made a motion to approve the minutes
 - b. Katy seconded
 - c. Approved – 7/0/0
- IV. Reports of the officers
 - a. Chair: Scott Christen, Tennessee Tech University
 - i. NCA
 - 1. Budget
 - a. NCA is still in the red
 - b. Continues to operate in the red
 - 2. Planning
 - a. NCA does not have a conference planned out after the next three years
 - b. That may be a hint at something but no one knows for sure
 - 3. Scandal
 - a. Someone who was invited to perform at the President’s Meeting at NCA was told they could not perform their piece about Palestine
 - b. It started a protest at the NCA convention
 - ii. Executive Council Report
 - 1. Business Meetings
 - a. Business meetings being stacked on top of each other, as was the case at this convention, isn’t effective

because it inhibits them from attending meetings they may otherwise go to.

- b. SSCA is going to try to scatter them throughout the program.
- c. Considering them going virtual
- d. We need more representation and diversity who are willing to serve on the IDD board.
 - i. Colleen echoed Scott's thoughts and advocated for bringing in more people.
 - ii. Elizabeth acknowledged seeing the same people rotating through positions.

2. Approvals

- a. Strategic communication and marketing position
 - i. Exploring ways to fund those positions
 - ii. Fundraising for those positions and may be its own position
 - iii. Approved a one-year time range for these two positions overseen by John Haas
 - iv. Evaluating hiring someone to manage all four of the regional websites
- b. Approved an African American Communication Division

iii. SSCA

- 1. Numbers go down when the location isn't appealing
- 2. Lifetime members are not attending
- 3. Locations for the next three years:
 - a. Birmingham
 - b. Mobile
 - c. Our 4 years out isn't planned yet, but potential locations include:
 - i. Little Rock, Arkansas
 - ii. Houston, Texas
 - iii. Memphis, Tennessee
- 4. Anchor locations:
 - a. Central location we continue to go back to
 - b. Will help keep costs low
 - c. Potential anchor location: Birmingham
 - d. Scott argued that the anchor location doesn't have to be central but should be based on the appeal factor.
 - i. Colleen echoed Scott

- ii. Colleen advocated for a place with an international airport
 - e. There will be survey sent out so please fill that out.
 - 5. People did cancel at the last minute
 - 6. Cup promotion increased our Caring Connections which are donations that go directly into SSCA
 - 7. SSCA's budget is good
 - a. We went over budget for this convention by about \$1000.
 - b. We had room in our budget to cover the extra \$1000.
 - c. Our budget doesn't include the money we bring in from
- iv. Katherine Grace Hendrix Award
 - 1. Approved last year
 - 2. For instructional research about marginalized populations
 - 3. Has become a fully funded award at the SSCA Exec level
 - 4. First Awardee: Adam Key
 - a. Title: "Sounds about White: Critiquing NCA Standards for Public Speaking Competency"
 - b. Katherine Grace Hendrix was his mentor.
 - c. Winning the award meant a lot to him.
 - d. Elizabeth advocated for Adam and his research and why he was nominated (outside being Katherine Grace Hendrix's mentee)
 - e. Will maintain our own standards for this award
- b. Vice Chair: Jacob Metz, Tennessee Tech University
 - i. 24 Submissions
 - 1. 9 papers
 - 2. 15 panels
 - 3. 21 accepted | 87.5% acceptance rate
 - ii. New System
 - 1. Much easier than last year
 - 2. Still some kinks but the communication and organization is so much better
 - 3. Elizabeth echoed the same sentiments
- c. Vice Chair Elect: Colleen Mestayer, Tennessee Tech University
 - i. SSCA 2025
 - 1. Theme: Anchors and Anchoring Communication
 - a. How does communication anchor us?
 - b. What things shouldn't anchor us?
 - c. Having some panels outside of the norm

- i. Walking tour panel
 - ii. Aesthetic panels (e.g., music panels, art panels)
 - iii. The Ethnography Division held a writing workshop panel
 - d. Encourage poster submissions
 - i. Scott echoed the poster idea.
 - ii. He really likes that idea.
 - e. We can add things to our call like accepting extended abstracts.
 - i. Scott said we cannot do extended abstracts because in our by-laws says submissions must be full panels.
 - ii. If our by-laws doesn't preclude us from accepting those types of submissions, then we can.
 - iii. Lakelyn asked if we could amend the by-laws
 - f. Reach out to membership
 - i. Elizabeth asked if we have created a Google form or something to solicit ideas from the membership
 - ii. Scott affirmed the idea and mentioned it would be discussed later in the meeting.

2. Location: Norfolk, VA

- a. Has a huge maritime museum
- b. Seaside community

3. Conference Location: Hilton Norfolk The Main

4. Date: April 2-6, 2025

ii. Needed

- 1. Reviewers
- 2. Chairs
- 3. Respondents

V. Old Business

a. Katherine Grace Hendrix Award

i. Standing committee needs to be created

- 1. We need people to volunteer to be on this committee
- 2. Not an anonymous submission because it must be published so we have to be careful of conflicts of interest
 - a. We discussed making it more of a blind review
 - b. Scott expressed that it would be hard to do but there are some ways we can get around it.

3. Scott would like a minimum of three people on this committee
 4. Volunteers last year:
 - a. Elizabeth Hanson-Smith
 - b. Stephanie Kelly
 - c. Alex Spadaro
 - ii. Standards for the award
 1. Stephanie Kelly created the standards last year but Scott didn't feel comfortable asking her to create standards because she submitted an award
 2. The members who volunteer to review and help set the standards/criteria
 - iii. Volunteers
 1. Colleen
 2. Elizabeth
 3. Varaidzo
 - iv. A new by-law needs to be created for this standing committee
- VI. New Business
- a. Virtual meetings
 - i. Scott's Thoughts:
 1. Could work
 2. How do we ensure members are there and not non-members
 3. Therefore, Elizabeth's idea about a Google doc or virtual meeting could still work.
 4. Good Doc: Get all people in IDD to add information about themselves and their collaboration ideas
 5. Formats for business meetings
 - a. Business
 - i. Should it be in-person, virtual, or both?
 - ii. Solicit feedback from our members about these ideas.
 - b. Social
 - i. We already have extra social-esc meeting.
 - ii. No voting happens.
 - iii. General discussion takes place.
 - iv. It's a way for us to build connections with each other.
 - ii. Executive Council created an ad hoc committee for it
 - b. Elections
 - i. Vice Chair Elect
 1. Description:

- a. Three-year commitment
- b. 1st year: Shadow as Vice Chair Elect
- c. 2nd year: Plan for the convention as Vice Chair
- d. 3rd year: Run meetings, give awards, and help officers as Chair
- e. 4th year: Help out as Immediate Past Chair

2. Nominations

- a. Elizabeth Hanson-Smith
- b. Cole Franklin volunteered to be Vice Chair Elect for 2025

3. Colleen made a motion to call to question

- a. Ryan seconded the motion
- b. Elizabeth provided a nomination speech
- c. Approved – 8/0/0

VII. Ideas for next year

- a. Theme: Anchors and Anchoring Communication
- b. Elizabeth
 - i. Anchors are big and heavy and meant to keep us safe.
 - ii. Anchors don't always work
 - iii. Colleen: So maybe instructors as anchors
 - iv. Anchors of instruction
 - v. Anchors in walls make the infrastructure stronger
 - vi. Thinking about how what we do strengthens: 1.) Our students, 2.) Our community, 3.) Our scholarship, etc.
- c. Scott:
 - i. Anchors not just as ships but also for balloons.
 - ii. Anchoring communication to bring in and increase enrollment and retention.
 - iii. The ways communication is a fundamental anchor for keeping students involved.
 - iv. Strengthening our skills
 - v. Anchoring communication in students' skill sets
 - vi. Instructional communication is an anchor to the field
 - vii. Our field doesn't go anywhere if we aren't doing those instructional behaviors
 - viii. Specific theories that anchor communication
 - ix. Invite an author who is well-known to cover foundational theories (Ex. Stephanie Kelly to create a panel about immediacy)
- d. Ryan:
 - i. Anchoring as being stopped or not drifting away

- ii. Making sure you don't drift away from the anchor point
- e. Lakelyn
 - i. What about foundational theories that shouldn't anchor our discipline/field?
 - ii. How do we anchor alternative communication theories (e.g., by non-White authors, about non-White populations) as foundational to the field/discipline?
- f. Colleen
 - i. Fundamental communication behaviors that anchor interpersonal relationships?

VIII. Adjourn

- a. Scott motions to adjourn.
- b. Approved – 8/0/0
- c. Meeting is adjourned at 5:26pm CT