Southern States Communication Association Executive Council Meeting Wednesday, November 20, 5:00 to 8:00 PM 2024 NCA Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA Location: Edgewood AB – 4th Floor Sheraton

Carl Cates, University of Texas Permian Basin, Presiding

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order Carl Cates
- 2. Welcome
- 3. Approval of Minutes of SSCA Executive Council Meeting

Published on the SSCA Web Page at https://www.ssca.net/business-meeting-minutes

- 4. Approval of Agenda
- 5. Officers' Reports:
- 5.1 President Carl Cates
- 5.2 Vice President Patrick Wheaton
- 5.3 Immediate Past President & Nominating Committee Ann Burnette
- 5.4 Vice President Elect Narissra Punyanunt-Carter
- 5.5 Executive Director John Haas
- 5.6 Strategic Communication Director Kevin Davis-Bryant
- 5.7 Member Services Elizabeth Hanson Smith
- 5.8 SCJ Editor Rebekah Fox
- 5.9 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair Mary Meares and Xiaoti Fan

5.10 NCA Legislative Assembly Representatives – Eletra Gilchrist-Petty, Laurie Metcalf, & April Chatham-Carpenter

- 5.11 NCA Nominating Committee Representative: Brandon Inabinet
- 5.12 NCA Regional Advancement and Promotion Advisory Board Representative Carrie Reif-Stice

6. Standing Committee Reports

- 6.1 Committee on Committees Carl Cates
- 6.2 Constitution David Nelson
- 6.3 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Mary Meares and Xioti Fan
- 6.4 Finance Leslie Pace
- 6.5 Nominating Committee Ann Burnette
- 6.6 Publications Hsiu-Jung (Mindy) Chang
- 6.7 Resolutions Joshua Pederson
- 6.8 Resource Development Carrie Reif-Stice
- 6.9 Time and Place Abby Brooks

7. Division & Interest Group Reports

- 7.1 African American Communication Division
- 7.2 Applied Communication Division
- 7.3 Argumentation & Forensics Division
- 7.4 Communication Theory & Methodology Division
- 7.5 Community College Division
- 7.6 Freedom of Speech Division
- 7.7 Gender Studies Division
- 7.8 Health Communication Division
- 7.9 Identity, Inclusion, & Social Justice Division
- 7.10 Instructional Development Division
- 7.11 Intercultural Communication Division
- 7.12 Interpersonal Communication Division
- 7.13 Mass Communication Division
- 7.14 Performance Studies Division
- 7.15 Political Communication Division
- 7.16 Popular Communication Division
- 7.17 Public Relations Division
- 7.18 Rhetoric & Public Address Division

- 7.19 Association for Communication Administrators Interest Group
- 7.20 American Society for the History of Rhetoric Interest Group
- 7.21 Ethnography Interest Group
- 7.22 Kenneth Burke Society Interest Group
- 7.23 Language & Social Interaction Interest Group
- 7.24 Philosophy & Ethics of Communication Interest Group
- 7.25 State Associations Interest Group

8. New Business

9. Announcements and Adjournment

Executive Director Report – John Haas

- 1. Association finances
- 2. Membership report
- a. Trends in membership
- b. Potential recruitment strategies
- 3. New executive director
- a. Director stipend proposal
- b. Professor Brandau
- 4. Newsletter(s)
- 5. Norfolk site visit
- 6. 2029 site visits
- 7. Affiliation agreement with NCA

Finances (as of 11/4/2024)

- Truist Accounts
 - Checking: \$159,599.24
 - CD: \$54,675.53
- UTK Federal Credit Union
 - CD: \$188,417.65
 - Hendrix: \$600.00
- Total: \$403,292.42

	2023	2022
Revenue		
Convention Fees	\$ 41,168 \$	28,355
Royalties	39,947	38,282
Membership Dues	34,860	38,435
Subscriptions	10,560	11,223
Interest	3,854	35
Donations	3,300	1,908
Other	0	805
Total Revenue	133,689	119,043
Expenses		
Convention Expenses	90,822	65,827
Contract Services	13,000	5,000
Professional Fees	7,850	5,950
Southern Communication Journal	7,114	8,482
Website	4,367	4,159
Bank Charges	4,073	3,947
Travel and Meeting Costs	2,783	3,100
Dues and Subscriptions	1,405	405
Insurance	1,211	1,153
Postage and Shipping	1,092	314
Office Supplies	811	694
Journal Exchange	778	4,338
Newsletter	0	210
Total Expenses	<u>135,30(</u>	103,579

Increase in Net Assets	\$ (1,617) \$	15,464
Ending Net Assets	\$ 423,642 \$	425,259

SOUTHERN STATES COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JULY 31, 2023

Note A – Nature of Activities and Significant Accounting Policies

Nature of Activities

Southern States Communication Association (the Association) is a nonprofit organization that promotes the study, criticism, research, teaching, and application of the artistic, humanistic, and scientific principles of communication. It exists for educational, scientific, and literary purposes only. Southern States Communication Association began activities May 2, 1930.

Cash Basis of Accounting

The Association's policy is to prepare its financial statements on the cash basis of accounting; consequently, revenues are recognized when received rather than when promised or earned, and expenses are recognized when paid rather than when the obligation is incurred. Accordingly, the accompanying financial statements are not intended to present financial position and activities in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Association considers all highly liquid investments available for current use with an initial maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Income Taxes

The Association is a not-for-profit organization that is exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and classified by the Internal Revenue Service as other than a private foundation.

The Association's Forms 990, Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax, for the years ended July 31, 2021, 2022, and 2023 are subject to examination by the IRS, generally for three years after they were filed.

Date of Management's Review

Management has evaluated subsequent events through March 15, 2024, the date on which the financial statements were available to be used.

Note B – Concentrations of Credit Risk

The Association maintains cash balances at two financial institutions. Accounts at each institution are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) up to \$250,000. The Association had no uninsured cash balances as of July 31, 2023 and 2022.

Southern States Communication Association

Membership Report 2024 Post Frisco

Current as of 19 Oct 2024

Membership Categories											
Categ	ory	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024

Regular	187	158	165	226	214	375	255	244	271
Sustaining	197	233	178	170	126	92	66	91	75
Patron	20	15	16	14	12	8	12	8	7
Student	172	204	171	192	173	168	148	151	148
Life	61	65	69	73	73	77	78	81	78
Emeritus	24	28	27	27	29	28	27	27	3
Total	658	703	626	702	628	678*	594	606	582
Regional Journal	17	15	8	9	7	5	8	7	7
Institutional	22	12	13	31	27	14	17	22	
Renew-Inactive						70			

*Due to COVID, memberships were renewed for free - last row is number of memberships renewed that were not counted

	Divisions									
Division	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
African Amer										36
Applied Comm	159	46	134	139	117		124	96	84	81
Arg & Forensic	20	48	32	45	42		56	38	35	37
Comm Theory & Meth	101	209	92	81	88		95	73	60	60

Division	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Community College	38	123	36	44	31		43	29	39	36
Freedom of Speech	21	30	25	39	28		32	32	22*	24
Gender Studies	69	75	89	106	91		96	58	57	59
Health Comm									24*	51
Ident, Incl, Soc Justice									31	59
Instructional Dev	57	97	66	72	71		97	70	76	72
Intercultural Comm	52	64	58	72	59		63	48	37	62
Interpersonal Comm	105	86	114	117	107		107	80	96	95
Lang & Social Interaction	50	74	4 5	41	26		30	30**	21*	
Mass Comm	73	46	75	93	72		90	70	58	58
None Selected		175	97	124	95		102	97	229	57
Performance Studies	46	32	49	53	49		43	41	27*	42
Political Comm	61	63	73	78	85		77	66	46	44
Popular Comm	140	74	51	56	56		64	56	47	45
Public Relations	35	44	51	47	45		51	44	41	41
Rhetoric & Public Address	221	§]	166	19	129		197	<u>169</u>	151	118

First year below 5% membership requirement for divisional status
 ** First year probation for not electing officers

	Interest Groups									
Interest Group	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Am. Soc. Hist Rhetoric	349	474	298	278	272		244	209	183	167
Assoc. Comm. Admin.	141	140	110	109	96		106	86**	89	80
Burke Society	145	119	104	119	101		103	86	67	61
Ethnography	152	165	151	159	141		146	132	109	114
None Selected		20	407	534	454		541	291	543	133
Lang & Social Interaction	50	74	45	41	26		30	30**	21*	87
Philosophy & Ethics of Communication	154	167	148	155	143		138	124	107	87
States Association		38	36	50	49		46	42	66	49

* First year below 5% membership requirement for divisional

Constitution Committee

Mid-Year Report

During this past year, the Constitution Committee remained in constant communication (email, via Zoom, etc.) to discuss identified topics regarding the SSCA Constitution to put forward to the Executive Council for adoption consideration by the organization's membership. The committee discussed three changes/updates to the constitution.

- I. Proposed change one: The committee discussed creating a clear path for submitting resolutions that require a vote from the Association at the business meeting.
- II. Proposed change two: The committee is correcting the language to reflect the number of association business meetings held.
- 111. Proposed change three: The committee discussed and suggested creating clear language on what duties fall under the role of the Executive Director. With new roles within the Association occurring, the proposed changes keep up with changes made by the Association.

Respectfully submitted,

David R Nelson Chair - Constitution Committee

Summary of SSCA Constitutional Changes

Item #: Provides the proposed amendment number and a general explanation of the change. The order is in the order in which the proposed changes occur in the constitution, not as an indication of the rank or importance level of the change.

Recommendation: Provide the revised version of the phrasing as changed. The Article.

Section information in the left column provides the position within the revised constitution where the proposed recommendation is located. For easy identification, the recommendation section uses <u>strikethrough</u> to identify words to be changed/removed and blue to identify words that are added/changed.

Justification: provides a brief explanation of why the change is recommended

Item #1	Resolutions
Recommendation ARTICLE VII: NOMINATIONS, ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, AND RESOLUTIONS	 Section 7. Resolutions A. Submission must be from a member of the Association in good standing. B. Items requiring a vote at the Association Business meeting must first be introduced for discussion and debate at an Executive Council meeting. Such items should be submitted to the Resolutions Committee 45 days prior to the Association Business meeting. C. All other resolutions must be submitted to the Resolutions Committee for review.
Justification	Provide clear directions for resolutions that require a membership vote.

ltem#2	Business Meeting
Recommendation	A. The Association shall hold at least two (2) one (1)
Article VI:	business meetings at each annual convention.
Meetings	
Section 1	
Justification	The Association only holds one annual business meeting for the Association. Changing it eliminates any confusion.

'.ltem,#3 :c•••''''c' ''- --- M-" ;;Executive Oirector Duties., -.-- ··-:-;u-.,...,_ ... --'''' •=;:

D. ED duties

Recommendation	3. The Executive Director has the authority to appoint
Article IV	staff to fulfill duties, such as a Newsletter Editor and a
Section 4 Duties of Officers.	Webpage Editor.

Justification	The constitution limits to only the existing two positions as appointed by the ED: Newsletter Editor and Webpage Editor. Changing to
	staff allows for adding new task positions to account for the
	organization's future growth and more evenly distributes the workload/duties to be completed throughout the year.

SSCA Finance Committee Report for mid-year Executive Council Meeting

The SSCA Finance Committee includes Nakia Welch, who will serve as chair next year, new member Eletra Gilchrist-Petty, and myself serving as committee chair.

ED John Haas gave committee members read-only access to SSCA financial accounts to assure greater transparency, and the committee has continued to monitor transactions.

The committee has not been given a specific charge for this academic year, nor have they been contacted by members of other committees, interest groups, divisions, or Executive Staff with concerns or questions.

Account balances for each account are as follows:

Truist Accounts:

- \$160,086.87 (checking account)
- \$54,675.53 (CD)
- UT Federal Credit Union:
 - \$189,017.65 (CD)

The Finance Committee met on October 9 to discuss the mid-year report. During that meeting we oriented our newest member to the committee, reviewed account activity, and discussed items that the committee would like me to present at the mid-year meeting. These include the following:

- 1. Request for access to budget requests as early as possible to allow time for the committee to discuss and make recommendations.
- 2. Request for information regarding the amount paid in life-time membership dues this year to determine if there is enough to require the committee to make a recommendation about how to invest it.

Respectfully submitted, Lesli K. Pace, Chair SSCA Finance Committee

AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNICATION DIVISION Southern States Communication Association 2024 Mid-Year Report

OFFICERS

Chair: Keven James Rudrow, Mississippi State University, <u>kjr357@msstate.edu</u> Vice Chair/Planner: Keven James Rudrow, Mississippi State University, <u>kjr357@msstate.edu</u> Vice Chair Elect: Cicely Wilson, Union University, <u>cicely@cicelytwilson.com</u> Secretary: Rico Self, North Carolina State University, <u>cself@ncsu.edu</u>

SUBMISSIONS: The African American Communication Division (hereafter, AACD) received 8 submissions (3 competitive papers, 2 paper panels, and 3 roundtable panels). Though the AACD was estimated to have 4 slots (including the annual business meeting), we accepted and ranked submissions resulting in 6 slots (not including our business meeting). To accommodate all submissions, we requested 3 additional slots. In total, we had a 100% acceptance rate.

REVIEWING: Each submission, excluding 1 special program, was peer reviewed by at least two anonymous reviewers. In total, we had 9 reviewers, experts at instructions across the country, participate in the anonymous peer review process. We thank these individuals for their service to the AACD, the association, and the discipline.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION: The AACD organized 1 top paper panel, which will include 3 competitive papers. The top faculty and the top student paper will be recognized during our annual business meeting.

SPOTLIGHT PANEL: The division requested and received a spotlight panel focused on the emergence and goals of the AACD as the association's newest division. We thank the association for giving us the opportunity to introduce the AACD to the lager association.

CONCLUSION: That concludes our 2024 mid-year report.

SSCA Communication Theory and Methodology Division Mid-Year Report October 18, 2024

Officers

Immediate Past Chair: Dr. Quinten Bernhold, University of Tennessee, bernhol@utk.edu. Chair: Dr. Kelly Morrison, University of Alabama at Birmingham, kmmcc@uab.edu. Vice Chair: Dr. Dennis McCarty, University of Florida, d.mccarty@ufl.edu. Vice Chair-elect: Dr. Mike Kotowski, University of Tennessee, mkotowsk@utk.edu Secretary: Dr. Steve McCornack, University of Alabama at Birmingham, smcc911@uab.edu.

2025 Convention Programming

Submissions

The division received 11 competitive paper submissions, 1 poster submission, and accepted 10 of the 12 submissions (83% acceptance rate). The division did not receive any panel submissions. The division did not receive any roundtable submissions.

The review process

Each submission was reviewed by two reviewers.

2025 Awards and recognitions

Top Paper Awards

Student: Lindsey Anton (Liberty University): "The Effects of Anti-GMO Rhetoric on a Potentially Life-saving Crop"
Faculty: Dr. Mike Kotowski (University of Tennessee, Knoxville) and Dr. Tim Levine (University of Alabama at Birmingham): "Ego-Validating: An Instrument Critique"
Faculty: Michelle Violanti (University of Tennessee, Knoxville): Validity Testing: An Underutilized Method
The recipient of the Outstanding Scholar in Communication Theory Award for 2025 is Dr. Jenny Crowley (University of Tennessee, Knoxville).

2024 Business Meeting

The division business meeting was held on Friday, April 5, 2024; 4:15 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Comanche Room, Frisco, Texas.

Gender Studies Division Report

I. Division Officers

- a. Chair: Hannah Tabrizi, Syracuse University
- b. Vice Chair: Cassidy D. Ellis, University of Cincinnati
- c. Vice Chair-Elect: Jonathan Bridenbaker, University of Memphis
- d. Secretary: Nance Heise, Texas A&M University

II. 2025 Convention Programming

- a. Submissions
 - i. 24 submissions received (+9 from 2023/24)
 - 1. 15 papers
 - 2. 8 extended abstracts
 - 3. 1 panel
 - 4. 14 debuts
 - a. 3 faculty
 - b. 9 students
 - ii. 18 accepted (+5 from 2023/2024)
 - 1. 11 papers accepted
 - 2. 7 extended abstracts
 - 3. 1 co-sponsored panel by programmer
 - iii. 6 rejected
 - 1. 5 papers rejected
 - 2. 1 extended abstract
 - 3. 1 panel rejected
 - iv. Overall acceptance rate = 75%
- b. Reviewing
 - i. Reviewer pool: 21
 - ii. Each submission had 2 reviewers assigned
- c. Paper Panels
 - i. Hashtag Gender: Circulating Gender across the Twittersphere Conversing with Patriarchy
 - ii. Digital Divides: Gender, Identity, and Representation in Virtual Spaces
 - iii. Gendered Body Politics, Sexuality, and Power in Media and Life Narratives
 - iv. Fleabags, Black Widows, or Barbies?: Post-feminism in Recent Film and TV
 - v. (Un)anchoring Gender: Top Contributed Papers in Gender Studies

d. Roundtables

- i. (Un)anchoring the South: Towards a Critical and Southern Worldmaking Project
- e. Top papers
 - i. Top faculty paper:
 - 1. Women Stepping up to the Plate: Exploring the Effects of Gender on Media Framing in 2024 Men's College World Series

- 2. Hanna Cooper, Troy University
- ii. Top student paper:
 - 1. Gun Culture 2.0: The 2014 Concealed Carry Fashion Show
 - 2. Amelia Little, Abilene Christian University

III. Award

a. Gender Studies Scholar of the Year

i. TBD

Identity, Inclusion, Social Justice Division Report and 2025 Programming Southern States Communication Association – Norfolk, Virgina

A. Division Officers

- i. Immediate Past Chair: Lisa Corrigan, University of Arkansas
- ii. Chair: Chandra Maldonado, Campbell University
- iii. Vice Chair: Josh Miller, Free Agent
- iv. Vice Chair Elect: Rico Self, North Carolina State University

B. 2025 Convention Program

- i. Submissions (18 Total Submissions: 12 papers and 5 panels)
- ii. Accepted 18 submissions (100%), 5 of which were panels or roundtables
- iii. Slots 12, including business meeting

C. 2025 Top Paper Awards

- i. **Student:** "Framing Activism: DisCrit Perspectives on Whiteness, Futurity, and the 30th Anniversary of a Capital Crawl Image" ****Shawna Shepard**, North Carolina State University
- ii. Faculty: "Rejecting the (Empty) Rhetoric of Plurality: A multidisciplinary analysis of the US House speakership transition from McCarthy to Johnson"
 **Joshua Guitar, Kean University
 **Mansi Brat, Kean University
 **Brianna DeJesus, Kean University

SSCA Midyear Report (November 2024) Norfolk, VA Instructional Development Division of SSCA Colleen L. Mestayer, Tennessee Tech University

The Instructional Division got 10 submissions: 10 panel submissions (we accepted all 10 panels), 4 faculty papers (we accepted 3), and 4 student papers (we accepted all four)

Of those papers accepted, 1 paper panel is faculty papers and consists of 3 papers; the other is a student paper panel consisting of all 4 student papers.

The total number of panels is 13, including the division business meeting

Immediate Past-Chair / Nominating Committee Representative Scott Christen Tennessee Technological University schristen@tntech.edu

Chair Jacob Metz Tennessee Technological University jmetz@tntech.edu

Vice Chair/ Program Planner Colleen L. Mestayer Tennessee Technological University cmestayer@tntech.edu

Vice Chair Elect Elizabeth Hanson Smith Independent Scholar ehansonsmith@yahoo.com

Secretary

Lakelyn Taylor University of Vermont lakelyn.taylor@uvm.edu

Interpersonal Communication Division - 2024 Annual Report

Immediate Past-Chair: Laura Miller, University of Tennessee Chair: Lindsey Aloia, University of Arkansas Vice Chair: Erin Basinger, University of North Carolina at Charlotte Vice Chair Elect: Kellie Brisini, Louisiana State University Secretary: David Roaché, Christopher Newport University

- A. Received 20 Total Submissions
 - a. Papers
 - i. 9 received
 - ii. 9 accepted, 1 rejected
 - iii. 100% acceptance rate
 - b. Posters
 - i. 10 received
 - ii. 8 accepted, 2 rejected
 - iii. 80% acceptance rate
 - c. Panels
 - i. 1 received
 - ii. 1 accepted
 - iii. 0 rejected
 - iv. 100% acceptance rate
 - d. Overall acceptance rate: 93%
- B. Reviewing
 - a. Each submission had 2 reviewers unless there was a graduate student reviewer, in which case there were 3 total reviewers
 - b. Thank you to the 12 reviewers for their service and timely feedback
- C. Proposed Programming
 - a. 8 panels
 - i. 4 paper sessions
 - ii. 3 panels (one co-sponsored with Communication Theory & Methodology and Health Communication)
 - iii. 1 poster session
 - b. 1 business meeting
- D. Awards and Recognitions
 - Top Student Paper: Speaking Parenthood: Mothers' Perspectives on Marital Communication Changes in the Postpartum Period Grace Nicholas, University of Alabama
 - b. Top Faculty Paper: "Trust yourself and your body": Advice from Fat Individuals on How to Navigate Fat Fertility, Pregnancy, and Birth Erin Basinger, University of North Carolina at Charlotte Maggie Quinlan, University of North Carolina at Charlotte Audrey Curry, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

E. Encourage growth

a. Submissions

I emailed our call to the division and asked them to share with their networks. I also emailed as many universities as I could find with graduate programs in Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina to encourage faculty and graduate students (and undergrads!) to submit.

Poster submissions were a success but would like to find a way to encourage growth of paper submissions.

- c. Reviewers
- d. Active members who attend the conference

I. SSCA Performance Studies 2024 Mid-Year Report

II. Officers

a. Immediate Past Chair: Dr. Cynthia Sampson, Louisiana State University,

		csamps7@lsu.edu
b.	Chair:	Dr. Nicole Costantini, SCAD Atlanta,
		Costantini.nicole@gmail.com
c.	Vice Chair:	Dr. Colin Whitworth, Georgia College & State
		University, colin.whitworth@gcsu.edu
d.	Vice Chair-elect:	Dr. Alex Davenport, St. Cloud State University,
		davenport.a.k@gmail.com
e.	Secretary:	Seth Knievel, Louisiana State University, ckniev1@lsu.edu

III. 2025 Convention Programming

- a. <u>Submissions</u>
 - a. We received 5 individual paper or performance submissions.
 - i. We accepted 4 individual papers or performances.
 - ii. We rejected 1 individual paper or performance.
 - iii. The acceptance rate was 80%.
 - b. We received 13 panel submissions.
 - i. We accepted 13 panels.
 - ii. We rejected 0 panels.
 - iii. The panel submissions included our annual Page to Stage panel and a Chair's Spotlight panel.
 - iv. The acceptance rate was 100%.

b. <u>The review process</u>

- a. We had 11 reviewers who all conducted between 3-5 reviews.
- b. Each submission had at least two reviewers, with more for the Page to Stage submissions.
- c. Awards and recognitions
 - a. The Top Student Paper will be awarded as a part of our top/contributed papers panel.
 - b. We're looking forward to our second Pre-Conference Virtual Symposium, which will take place in early 2025 and have a response panel included in our programming at the convention in Norfolk. The Symposium is being planned by Dr. Colin Whitworth and will feature scholars from East Tennessee State University.
- **IV. 2024 Business Meeting:** Friday 4:15 p.m. 5:30 p.m. Room: Indian Trail AV
- V. Any other issues or business during the previous year? Nope! Thank y'all so much for working with us this year. We look forward to Norfolk 2025

SSCA Popular Communication Division 2025 Report

Immediate Past Chair: Dave Nelson, Valdosta State University Chair: Rich Knight, Shippensburg University Vice Chair: John Saunders, University of Alabama, Huntsville Vice Chair Elect: Dani Williams, Georgia Gwinnett College Secretary: Dani Williams, Georgia Gwinnett College

Programming

- The division received a total of 9 submissions
 - o 4 papers
 - \circ 5 panels
- 2 reviewers were assigned per submission
- Acceptance rate:
 - Papers 100%
 - o Panels 100%
- 5 sessions programmed.

SSCA PR Division Mid-Year Report

NCA 2024

The PR division is planning for the 2025 conference in Norfolk. To foster engagement and growth, we are considering the creation of a social media chair to promote the division, with the discussion of an undergraduate or graduate student assuming this role. Although members discussed efforts to connect with graduate programs in the Norfolk area to increase submissions and participation, these efforts were not implemented. Overall, the number of submissions was slightly down compared to previous years, but the division will still have a total of six sessions, including five panels/roundtable discussions and one paper session featuring two papers. The division had an acceptance rate of 90% this year. Top paper awards have not yet been selected.

Chair Jessica Beckham University of Tennessee at Martin jbeckha4@utm.edu

Vice Chair Kelly Williams University of West Georgia kwilliam@westga.edu

Vice-Chair Elect

Brann Murphy

Jacksonville State University

bmurphy5@jsu.edu

Secretary Tiffany McBride Columbus State University mcbride_tiffany@columbusstate.edu

SSCA 2025: Rhetoric & Public Address Division Report

Jonathan Edwards – Chair

Sara Baugh-Harris – Vice Chair / Program Planner

The Rhetoric & Public Address division of SSCA will host nine panels this year. These panels were

formatted from 13 paper submissions and four panel submissions. We rejected six of 19 paper

submissions, giving us a 68% acceptance rate on individual papers. Of the four panels submitted, all were accepted and praised by reviewers. Our overall acceptance rate was 74%.

We had a good mix of graduate student papers and faculty papers accepted, and we are particularly excited to see several excellent grad student submissions for 2025. We remain a robust division, and we are thrilled to be part of a growing, diverse, and engaged association.

The Top Student Paper and Top Faculty Paper awards have been determined. Jack Wood of the University of Georgia won the Top Student Paper award for "Rethinking 'Resilience' in the Rhetoric of Urban Planning." Nikki Orth of Drake University won the Top Faculty Paper award for "Confrontational Memory and the Equal Justice Initiative's Community Remembrance Project."

Chair Jonathan Edwards University of South Carolina – Columbia <u>jjedwards@sc.edu</u>

Vice Chair / Program Planner Sara Baugh-Harris Davidson College <u>sabaugh@davidson.edu</u>

Vice Chair Elect Lionnell Badu Smith San Francisco State University <u>lsmith1914@sfsu.edu</u> Secretary Emily Kofoed University of South Carolina – Upstate <u>ekofoed@uscupstate.edu</u>

Graduate Student Representative Matt Parnell Penn State University <u>mkp5772@psu.edu</u>

Immediate Past Chair / Nominating Brandon Inabinet Furman University brandon.inabinet@furman.edu

SSCA Association of Communication Administrators Report for mid-year Executive Council Meeting

ACA's officers include Past Chair Jerry Hale, Chair Lesli Pace, Vice-Chair Chris McCollough, and Secretary Pam Bourland.

As of the 2024-2025 membership list, ACA has 145 members.

We received and accepted 1 submission for the upcoming 2025 convention.

Respectfully submitted, Lesli K. Pace, Chair Association of Communication Administrators

Language and Social Interaction Interest Group Report Southern States Communication Association – Norfolk, Virgina April 2nd-6th, 2025

79 members

A. Division Officers

- i. Immediate Past Chair: Rick Pulos, Texas A&M University
- ii. Chair: Eugenie Almeida, Fayetteville State University
- iii. Vice Chair: Robert R. Agne, Auburn University
- iv. Vice Chair Elect:

B. 2024 Convention Program

- i. Submissions (6 Total Submissions: 5 papers and 1 panel)
- **ii.** Accepted 5 submissions, 1 of which was a roundtable
- iii. Slots 3, including business meeting

C. 2024 Top Paper Awards

- i. **Student:** "Produce or perish: The productive ideograph i. **Sidney Miles,** *Pennsylvania State University*
- ii. **Faculty:** "Managing jealousy within non-monogamous romantic relationships: A critical discursive psychological approach.

Neil Korobov, University of West