**Southern States Communication Association**

**Annual Convention | “Communicating Belonging”**

**April 3-7, 2024 | Frisco, TX**

**Rhetoric & Public Address Division**

**Vice-Chair & Program Planner: Jonathan Edwards,** [**edwardjj@mailbox.sc.edu**](mailto:edwardjj@mailbox.sc.edu)

The Rhetoric & Public Address Division welcomes papers and panel proposals that range across the spectrum of approaches in rhetorical theory and criticism. Submissions relating to the conference theme—“Communicating Belonging”—or the conference site—Frisco, Texas—are especially encouraged. Considering the location and theme, for example, submission topics might include, but are not limited to: activist and resistance movements; athletics; education; gender policies; gun regulations; migration; and the 2024 elections.

The division recognizes excellent scholarship with two awards: Top Student Paper and Top Faculty Paper. The Top Student Paper will also be entered into the SSCA Robert Bostrom Young Scholar Award competition.

The division welcomes two types of submissions: (1) thematic panels and (2) completed papers. For thematic panels, please identify all panelists and their institutional affiliations. Panel proposal submitters are required to diversify the institutional affiliation of the panel participants beyond two institutions. Papers should be limited to 25 double-spaced pages (excluding references).

All submissions must be original research that has not been published or presented at another regional, national, or international conference. Also, the same paper or panel should not be submitted to more than one division. The Rhetoric & Public Address Division reserves the right to reject any submissions not following these standards.

**Competitive Paper Submissions**: All papers must be electronically submitted to the SSCA convention site at <https://www.xcdsystem.com/ssca/member>

Competitive papers are completed research projects making a substantive critical, methodological, and/or theoretical contribution to the field of Rhetoric & Public Address. Submissions will consist of 1) a paper of no more than 25 pages (excluding references) with all identifying information removed and 2) a separate cover page including: a) the paper title, b) the author(s) with their institutional affiliation(s) and contact information, and c) an abstract of no more than 200 words.

Anonymous Review: All competitive papers submitted should follow standard procedures for removing any information that identifies the author and/or the institution within the paper and within any document metadata. The Rhetoric & Public Address Division reserves the right to reject any papers not following these standards.

Student Papers: For a student paper submission, indicate “STUDENT” on the first page of the manuscript, and indicate “Student Paper” during the submission process. The division’s Top Student Paper will be entered into the SSCA Robert Bostrom Young Scholar Award competition. In order for a submission to be considered a student paper and to be eligible for student awards or recognition, all authors of the paper must be students at the time the paper is submitted. A paper co-authored by a student and a faculty member, for instance, will not be classified as a student paper.

Debut Papers: A “debut paper” is one submitted by an author or authors who are presenting at SSCA for the first time.

**Panel Submissions**: All panel proposals must be electronically submitted to the SSCA convention site at <https://www.xcdsystem.com/ssca/member>

Panel proposals are for a slate of papers focused on a central topic or theme. This type of session typically has between 3-5 presentations. Submissions must include 1) a panel title, 2) an overall panel rationale of no more than 200 words, and 3) the following information about each presentation on the panel: a) the presentation title, b) the presentation author(s) with their institutional affiliation(s) and contact information, and c) the presentation abstract of no more than 200 words. All of this should be compiled in a single document and submitted in the “paper upload option” on the XCD platform.

Panel proposal submitters are required to diversify the institutional affiliation of the panel participants beyond two institutions, and they should especially consider opportunities to bring in colleagues and peers who have not recently or never attended an SSCA conference.

**Pertinent to All Submissions**:

**Audio-Visual Support**: To maintain affordable conference rates, audio-visual support is extremely limited. It must be requested only if needed with supporting rationale, and should be part of the submission to the division planner. Requests will be considered, but are not guaranteed. Please consider alternatives to A/V presentations whenever possible.

**Submission Deadline**: The deadline for submissions to all divisions and interest groups is **September 16, 2023 by 11:59 p.m. PDT**. All submissions must be electronically submitted to the SSCA convention site at <https://www.xcdsystem.com/ssca/member>. First time visitors to the site will need to create an account. Return visitors will need to make sure to use the same email address that they used to establish the account. To avoid technical problems, **early submission is strongly advised**. Any submission not meeting the above requirements will not be accepted for review. If you have additional questions, please contact the Rhetoric & Public Address Division Vice-Chair & Program Planner, Jonathan Edwards at [edwardjj@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:edwardjj@mailbox.sc.edu)