

Performance Studies Division 2025 Norfolk Business Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

Motion to Approve Minutes, 2024 Division Business Meeting

- Mindy motions
- Cynthia seconds
- Unanimous approval

1. Chair's Report

1. Division Membership – 33 members
2. Chair's Spotlight Panel
3. Bylaw Ad hoc Committee Update

i. Discussion

- ii. Mindy confirms changes to awards and syntax update
- iii. Cynthia asks about how awards are decided/awarded
 1. Alex responds by reading from the proposed bylaws
 2. Colin asks about the scholar of the year award
 1. Few nominations, increased requirements for nomination (CV + 2 rec letters)
 2. Charlie concurs
 3. Colin reads the language directly from the suggested bylaws
 4. Travis says that this used to be an award for a single year of achievement, but the suggested change expands it to a body of work
 5. Colin asserts that this award was generally awarded to pre-tenure individuals
 6. Trish suggests we alter the process each year based on activity in the field. The Executive Committee would determine the criteria each year, including the "scope and aim"
 7. Mindy suggests we open it up to self-nominations
 3. Mindy moves to send it back to the committee to make suggested changes and vote via listserv
 4. Alex made changes along the way and presents them to the division, calling for a "friendly amendment"
 5. Cynthia asks how many total awards are available after this change – Colin says it's 6
 6. Chair's Spotlight has the potential to take away a programming slot, which is why we focused on the symposium

7. Colin inquires whether the top competitive paper and the top competitive debut paper go to the same submission, which they can

iii. Vote on Changes

1. Trish moves to approve the friendly amendment
2. Mindy seconds
3. Unanimous approval

ii. Vice Chair's Report

- A. Submission Numbers: 18 (5 papers, 1 extended abstract, 5 Page-to-Stage, 8 panels)
- B. 94% acceptance rate
- C. Total Panels/Sessions: 13
- D. No top student performance award because there were no submissions
- E. Pre-Conference Symposium
 - (a) Meant to allow folks without travel funding to engage in the conference
 - (b) ETSU Storytelling program – Nancy Donoval storytelling symposium
 - (c) Colin asks for more participation next year
 - (d) Nicole says that the SSCA admin has yet to contact us with concerns about the symposium, which may suggest that it is in line with expectations and rules
 - (e) Cynthia lauds looking for symposium selections within the geographic area of the conference

iv. Vice-Chair Elect's Report

- A. Upcoming Conference Theme: "Comm-AI-inity: Conversations in the Age of Intelligence"
 - a. Alex invites us to submit work that responds to the conference theme, also encourages submissions that critically think about/speak back to AI
 - b. Conference will occur April 8-12, 2026, in Birmingham, AL
- B. Awards
 - a. Top Student Paper Award: William Mitchell Kahalley, Louisiana State University
 - b. Page-to-Stage: Patricia Suchy and Vince LiCata, Louisiana State University
- C. Nominations and Election
 - a. Cynthia nominates Laura Oliver (Xavier University)
 - b. Charlie Seconds
 - c. Unanimous approval by acclamation

iv. Announcements and Celebrations

2. Colin invites everyone to happy hour after the meeting
3. Nicole invites members to attend/support her and Greg's experimental puppet theatre show *and* her solo show at the Atlanta Fringe Festival
4. Mindy announces an upcoming instructor hire at USC
5. Travis congratulates Ethan Hunter on his upcoming graduation
6. Travis invites scholars to the upcoming Petit Jean Performance Festival, with the theme: Nostalgia
 1. Notes the limit of space because of renovations at the Lodge
 2. Festival will take place on October 9-12, 2026

Adjournment

Mindy moves to adjourn

Colin second

Unanimous Approval