**Southern States Communication Association**

**Annual Convention | “Anchors and Anchoring Communication”**

**April 2-6, 2025 | Norfolk, Virginia**

**SSCA Political Communication Division**

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The Political Communication Division invites submissions for competitive selection for the SSCA 2025 Conference to be held in Norfolk, Virginia. We especially welcome submissions that address the convention theme, “Anchors and Anchoring Communication.”

The Political Communication Division welcomes papers and panels that address emerging topics of inquiry in the field, employ new or established methods of examining political communication, and explore the exchange of ideas and opinions between citizens, public officials, various types of media, and other stakeholders and institutions. We encourage submissions connected to the theme of anchors and anchoring. As SSCA’s 2025 convention call articulates,

To anchor is to secure, attach, moor, support, or imbed. Just as an anchor holds a ship in place against the wind and rough seas of foul weather, communication anchors us, as individuals, as a society, and as a discipline. Papers and panels examining how communication attracts, attaches, secures, supports, and anchors individuals and communities are welcome, as are those examining how communication can de-anchor.

As a Division, we invite papers that grapple with these momentous elements of the human experience.

**Competitive Paper Submissions**: All paper submissions must be electronically submitted to the SSCA convention site at https://www.xcdsystem.com/ssca/member. For the paper to be assigned for review, please follow all of the instructions on the convention site. For the purposes of anonymous review, please omit all author- identifying information from the manuscript. All papers submitted will be considered for the Division’s Top Paper Award. For student papers, 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 submitted for consideration for the SSCA Bostrom Young Scholar Award.

**Panel or Roundtable Submissions:** Panels and roundtables are submitted through the same process as competitive papers; just be sure to select the appropriate submission type when prompted. The submitter will be able to add other panelists as “authors” after the initial submission. Upload a copy of the panel, listing the description/rationale, panelists, and, if appropriate, panelists’ individual topics; upload this at the “Upload Paper” prompt.

**Submission Deadline:**Submissions must be submitted online no later than 11:59 p.m. PST on **Sunday, September 15, 2024**. Go to the submission site by going to the conference website (https://www.xcdsystem.com/ssca/member) and clicking the submission link. 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 Division Vice-Chair and Planner **Matthew.Farmer@UGA.edu****.**

**Information Pertinent to All Calls**

*Anonymous Review*: All 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. Divisions reserve the right to reject papers not following these standards.

*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 and are not guaranteed.

*Panel Proposals*: Best practices, in the interest of divisions, is to submit a proposal with a diverse panel, comprised of individuals representing different institutions, and where possible and relevant, potential new members.

*Submission Protocol:* Submissions to SSCA 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.

*Student Papers*: For a submission to be considered a student paper and to be eligible for student awards or recognition, the author or authors of the paper must all be students at the time the papers is submitted. A paper co-authored by a student and a faculty member, for instance, will not be classified as a student paper.