

2026 CALL FOR PAPERS

COMMUNICATION THEORY AND METHODOLOGY DIVISION

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Call Opens: JUNE, 2025

Deadline: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2025 at 11:59p PST

The communication theory and methodology division seeks competitive papers, paper sessions, extended abstract, and panel discussions concerning the development, testing, or application of human communication theory and methodology. Specifically, the division welcomes theoretically driven research or discussions investigating the processes governing human message production and/or processing. The context of the study (e.g., face-to-face, group, mediated, health, etc.) is secondary. In the main, submissions must be (a) theoretically and methodologically sound, (b) empirically driven, and (c) develop, test, or apply theory or method that drives forward our knowledge of and ability to describe, explain, understand, predict, and control human communication processes. Purely theoretical or methodological work is welcome, but in place of being empirically driven, must offer exceptionally sound logical argument possessing internal and external logical consistency. Maximum length is 25 pages, excluding front matter, references, tables, and figures.

All 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 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. Extended abstracts and panels are submitted through the same process as competitive papers; just be sure to select the appropriate submission type when prompted. For panels, 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.

Submissions must be submitted online no later than 11:59 p.m. PST on Monday, September 15, 2025. Go to the submission site by going to the conference website Comm-AI-nity: Conversations in the Age of Intelligence (<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: Michael R Kotowski, mkotowsk@utk.edu.