Intercultural Communication Division
VP & Program Planner: Curtis Ladrillo Chamblee, c.chamblee@memphis.edu

The **Intercultural Communication Division** invites submissions for competitive selection for the SSCA 2026 Convention in Birmingham, Alabama. In alignment with this year's theme, "Comm-AI-nity: Conversations in the Age of Intelligence," we welcome a wide range of scholarly, creative, and critical engagements that explore culture, communication, identity, and power in both traditional and emerging contexts. We especially encourage submissions that examine how artificial intelligence, algorithmic systems, and digital technologies are reshaping the ways we understand and engage difference, build relationships, share knowledge, and sustain communities. From interpersonal encounters to mediated interactions, global dialogues to local practices, we invite work that expands, reimagines, or challenges what "intercultural communication" means in an age where intelligence is distributed across platforms, systems, and people.

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 four types of submissions: (1) completed competitive papers, (2) performance submissions, (3) thematic panels, and (4) roundtables. For thematic panels and roundtables, preference will be given to proposals with panelists from multiple institutions.

Competitive Paper and Performance Submissions: Competitive papers and performance submissions are completed research projects dealing with a substantive critical, methodological, or theoretical contribution. Submissions will consist of 1) the paper/performance script with all identifying information removed, 2) a separate cover page with the paper/performance title, author(s)' names, institutional affiliation(s), contact information, and an abstract of no more than 200 words. Papers should be limited to 25 pages (excluding references). All submissions must be electronically submitted to the SSCA convention site at https://www.xcdsystem.com/ssca/member.

For the competitive paper or performance submission 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. 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 paper is submitted. A paper co-authored by a student and a faculty member, for instance, will not be classified as a student paper.

Anonymous Review: All competitive papers and performance scripts 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 and interest groups reserve the right to reject any papers not following these standards.

Thematic 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.

> Thematic 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 (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 (no more than 200 words per abstract). Compile each of these sections into one single document/file and submit in the "paper upload option" on the XCD platform.
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> A best practice for all divisions is to submit panel proposals with diverse participants comprised of individuals representing different institutions, and where possible and relevant, potential new members.
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> Roundtable proposals bring together a group of scholars to discuss a topic or theme. This type of session typically has between 4-7 presentations. Submissions must include 1) a session title, 2) an overall session rationale (no more than 200 words), 3) a list of participants' names with their institutional affiliations and contact information. Each of these sections should be compiled into one single document/file and submitted in the "paper upload option" on the XCD platform.
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> A best practice for all divisions is to submit roundtable proposals with diverse participants 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. Divisions and interest groups reserve the right to reject any submissions not following these standards.

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 (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 Intercultural Communication Division Vice-Chair and Planner, Curtis Ladrillo Chamblee (c.chamblee@memphis.edu).

Audio-Visual Support: Audio-visual equipment should be requested ONLY if it is essential to a presentation. Most submissions do not require A/V equipment, and there will be limited

availability during the conference. Your judiciousness is appreciated in considering whether a request is appropriate for your presentation. Due to prohibitive cost, A/V requests will be considered but may not be met. The final program will indicate which sessions have A/V capability. An alternative may be a shareable QR code that audience members can access from their own personal devices.