Language and Social Interaction (LSI) Interest Group
Program Planner: Dr. Dorothy Andreas (dca20a@acu.edu.)

The Language and Social Interaction (LSI) Interest Group invites papers and panel proposals for competitive selection for the 96th conference of the Southern States Communication Association to be held April 8-12, 2026 in Birmingham, AL. We especially welcome works that address the convention theme, "Comm-AI-nity: Conversations in the Age of Intelligence."

The LSI Interest Group welcomes papers and panel proposals that range across the spectrum of approaches in language and social interaction including, but not limited to, discourse analysis, conversation analysis, ethnomethodology, ethnography of communication, textual analysis, narrative analysis, sociolinguistic analysis, critical analysis, and quantitative analyses of language.

Submissions relating to the conference theme - "Comm-AI-nity: Conversations in the Age of Intelligence" – or the conference site – Birmingham, AL – are especially encouraged, as are submissions focusing on the communication involved in diversity, equity, inclusion, identity, and social justice.

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 three types of submissions: (1) completed competitive papers, (2) extended abstracts, and (3) thematic panels. All submissions must be electronically submitted to the SSCA convention site at https://www.xcdsystem.com/ssca/member. For submissions 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.

Competitive Paper Submissions: For the purpose 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 Abstract Submissions: Extended abstracts are "works in progress." These should include a title for the paper (without author(s) information for blind review) and be 1,500-3,000 words in length (including notes and references). Within the body of the extended abstract, you must explain what materials you aim to add by the conference. The abstract should contain all the relevant parts of the full paper like background/context, literature review, methods, and expected findings. We should be able to get a sense of the theoretical framework as well as the

trajectory of your argument. Although you will not need to submit a completed paper for the conference, you will need to be far enough along with the project to present at SCCA.

Thematic Panel Submissions: Identify panelists and their institutional affiliations. Papers should be limited to 25 pages (excluding references).

The deadline for all submissions is September 15, 2025, at midnight eastern time. All submissions will be handled through the conference website. For more information, contact Dr. Dorothy Andreas, Program Planner, by email at dca20a@acu.edu.