

93rd Annual Convention
Southern States Communication Association
Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront
Breakfast Business Meeting
Friday April 14th Grand Bay Ballroom South 8:00am

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

-8:31am

2. WELCOME TO St. Petersburg, Florida

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES.

Minutes of the 2022 SSCA Mid-Year Business Meeting at NCA, New Orleans, LA

-Motioned and seconded

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

-Motioned and seconded by Jon Braddy and Pat Wheaton

5. OFFICERS' REPORTS

5.1 President – Tina M. Harris, *Louisiana State University*

- Starting petition for African American Studies Division

5.2 1st Vice-President – Ann E. Burnette, *Texas State University*

- Thanked everyone for their help planning this year's conference

- Highlighted the newly created Health Comm, and Identity, Inclusion, & Social Justice divisions and their submissions numbers

- Asked members to attend the spotlight panels for Friday and Saturday

5.3 2nd Vice President – Carl M. Cates – *Arkansas State University*

- Thanked reviewers of UHC submissions; very quick turnaround time during the winter holiday which is both a truncated and busy time.

- Thanked Arkansas State and Dept Chair Scott Anderson for sponsoring the A/V equipment for one of the UHC panel rooms.

- Thanked Jacob W (graduate student assistant at A State) for all his help during the planning process.

- Our UHC submissions are down to 60ish but has been as many as 120; please encourage your undergraduates to submit in future years.

- Communicating Belonging is next year's theme

5.4 Past President & Nominating Committee – Wendy Atkins-Sayre, *University of Memphis*

- Announced that Pat Wheaton won the 2nd VP election this previous February

- Please let us know if you are interested in running in the future.

- Laurie Metcalf won the NCA LA Rep election

- Carrie Reif-Stice was appointed as our NCA Regional Promotion and Advancement Representative

- Updated the Officer Handbook to help new leadership understand what each position's duties and responsibilities are

- Strategic Planning Task Force was made to update and report on the Strategic Plan goal attainment

5.5 Executive Director – John Haas, *University of Tennessee*

- Thanked previous directors for the sound financial decisions

- Executive Director position will be taking nominations as this will be John's last year before shadowing
- Strategic Communication Director will be voted on later in this meeting.
- Please purchase Awards Luncheon tickets (there are only 4 left)
- Janet Fisher's last year working with SSCA – we will miss her dearly
- Lauralee Shapiro from ConferenceDirect will be leading us forward

5.6 Interim Strategic Communication Director – Kevin Bryant, *Clemson University*

- Report is in the E packet

5.7 SCJ Editor – Benjamin Bates, *Ohio University*

- This is Benjamin Bates' last year as Editor
- filled 100% of page space and we are very pleased
- Showed appreciation for the opportunity to serve SSCA

5.8 NCA Legislative Assembly Representatives –

Patrick Bennett, *Midlands Technical College*, Community College Rep (final year);
 Eletra Gilchrist-Petty, *University of Alabama - Huntsville*, 4 Year Institution Rep;
 April Chatham-Carpenter, *University of Arkansas – Little Rock*, K12 Institution Rep

- Report is in the Packet

5.9 NCA Nominating Committee Representative – Brandon Inabinet, *Furman University*

- If anyone is interested in getting involved with NCA leadership, please contact Brandon

5.10 NCA's Regional Association Promotion & Adv Committee– Carrie Reif-Stice, *Augusta Univ*

- No report

6. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1. Committee on Committees – Tina M. Harris, *Louisiana State University*

- No report

6.2. Constitution – Shana Bridges, *Georgia Southern University*

- Nakia Welch has proposed several minor grammar/outlining changes as well as a few new moderate language changes.
- Will flush out the exact wording and vote on changes at NCA business meeting

6.3. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – Antonio Spikes, *Coe College*

- Created the first annual DEI committee Workshop (Teaching for Survival); please attend
- DEI plans to have a workshop each year

6.4. Finance – Pavica Sheldon, *University of South Alabama*

- Proposed Budget came from committee so no 2nd needed
- All Ayes and no Nays; 2023-2024 budget was approved

6.5. Publications – Piyawan Charoensap-Kelly, *Southern Methodist University*

- Report is in the packet but we will vote on new Editor later in this meeting

6.6. Resolutions – Brandon Knight, *William Carey University*

- These will be read aloud during the awards luncheon

6.7. Resource Development – Gina Ercolini, *University of South Carolina - Columbia*

- Please continue to buy Caring Connections as these help fund our awards

6.8. Time and Place – Leslie Rodriguez, *Angelo State University*

- The Atlanta properties that were visited were not affordable or desirable
- Will be visiting a few more properties in Mobile, AL and will send out suggestions and ballot electronically in early summer.

7. DIVISIONS & INTEREST GROUPS REPORTS

- 7.1. Applied Comm – Brandon Boatwright, *Clemson University*
- 7.2. Argumentation and Forensics – Ryan Goke, *Murray State University*
- 7.3. Comm Theory & Methodology – Jenny Crowley, *University of Tennessee*
- 7.4. Community College – Laurie Metcalf, *Blinn College*
- 7.5. Freedom of Speech – Chandra Maldonado, *Campbell University*
- 7.6. Gender Studies – Keven Rudrow, *Syracuse University*
- 7.7. Health Comm – Kelly Morrison, *Univ of Alabama - Birmingham*
- 7.8. Identity, Inclusion, & Social Justice – Eletra Gilchrist-Petty, *Univ of Alabama - Huntsville*
- Will be approving our bylaws later at the division business meeting
- 7.9. Instructional Development – Michelle Garland, *Univ of South Carolina - Upstate*
- 7.10. Intercultural Comm – Margaret Butcher, *University of Arkansas*
- 7.11. Interpersonal Comm – Mindy Weathers, *Sam Houston State University*
- 7.12. Language & Social Interaction – Eugenie Almeida, *Fayetteville State University*
- 7.13. Mass Comm – Brian Brantley, *Texas A&M – San Antonio*
- 7.14. Performance Studies – Greg Langner, *Antelope Valley College*
- We would love to have new members join our division
- Please attend the panel about the state of the performance studies division at 11am today Friday
- 7.15. Political Comm – Pat Wheaton, *Georgia Southern University*
- Report is in the e packet
- 7.16. Popular Comm – Danielle Williams, *Georgia Gwinnett College*
- Report is in the e packet
- 7.17. Public Relations – Michelle Groover, *Georgia Southern University*
- Report is in the e packet
- 7.18. Rhetoric & Public Address – Scott Anderson, *Arkansas State University*
- 7.19. Assoc for Comm Admins – April Chatham-Carpenter, *University of Arkansas – Little Rock*
- Two panels that individuals should attend if they are interested in administration positions
- 7.20. Am. Society for the History of Rhetoric – Camille Lewis, *Furman University*
- 7.21. Ethnography – Pam Dykes, *Florida Southern University*
- 7.22. Kenneth Burke Society – Jaime Robb, *Marquette University*
- 7.23. Philosophy & Ethics of Comm – Chad Tew, *University of Southern Indiana*
- Two panels today and one is an Ethics quiz bowl that will be really fun and interactive
- 7.24. State Associations – Lakelyn Taylor, *University of Central Florida*
- Highlighted a DEI focused panel that links how State Associations can be involved in improving our situation.

8. Old BUSINESS

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1. Vote on amendments to SSCA Constitution

- after considerable conversation, Nakia Welch agreed to draft the exact wording of the proposed changes and present them as voting items at the NCA business meeting in National Harbor Nov 2024.

9.2. Vote for new Editor of SCJ

- Publication committee proposed Rebekah Fox from Texas State Univ as our new SCJ Editor
- Coming from Committee no 2nd needed
- Vote all Ayes and no Nays or abstentions

9.3. Discuss Convention Site 2027

- Looked at Atlanta, but didn't like either property.
- Will be looking at Mobile, AL within the next month
- Vote for new property site for 2027 will be voted on by electronic ballot this summer.

9.4. Petition to create an African American Communication Division

9.5. Executive Director position

- John Haas announced he would not seek another term as Executive Director
- An ad hoc search committee was created to collect applications/packets
 - Committee is Chaired by Jerry Hale (previous ED) and members include Wendy Atkins-Sayre (Immediate Past President), Pavica Sheldon (Finance Committee Chair), Antonio Spikes (DEI Committee Chair), and Kevin Bryant (Strat Comm Director)
- Job description will be distributed over summer and a recommendation for a new ED will be voted on by Executive Committee at NCA 2023.
- Ratification by membership will take place at SSCA 2024 business meeting in Frisco, TX.
- New ED will shadow John Haas for one year, serve for four, and then either be reappointed or shadow the new ED

9.6. Strategic Communication Director position

- Position was restructured several years ago, but we are struggling to fulfill that role/duties with just one volunteer
- We would like to award Kevin Bryant a one-year renewable contract while we look how this position should be structured
- Motioned by John Haas and seconded by Jessica Fabricatore
- All Ayes and no Nays or abstentions

10. Introduction of Tina M. Harris by Ann E. Burnette

11. Presidential Address was delivered by Tina

12. Meeting Adjourned at 9:30am

Attendance: 59 individuals

5.2 - 1st Vice President (Program Planner) Officer Report – SSCA 2023

Theme: “Communicating Our Future”

- Submission data for 2023 Convention:
 - Number of submissions: 406
 - Submissions accepted: 318
 - Acceptance rate: 78%
- Thank you to the 24 division and interest group planners as well as the 251 reviewers who evaluated submissions. People were conscientious about deadlines and created outstanding panels for the convention.
- Number of panels for each division or interest group including business meetings:

	<u>2021</u> (Online)	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
American Society for the History of Rhetoric Interest Group	7	7	4
Applied Communication Division	10	5	8
Argumentation & Forensics Division	8	8	6
Association for Communication Administration Interest Group	4	4	3
Communication Theory Division	6	6	6
Community College Division	4	8	4
Ethnography Interest Group	6	3	6
Freedom of Speech Division	6	5	4
Gender Studies Division	7	10	8
G.I.F.T.S.	2	4	3
Health Communication Division			6
Identity, Inclusion & Social Justice Division			11
Instructional Development Division	13	14	12
Intercultural Communication Division	10	6	6
Interpersonal Communication Division	9	8	10
Kenneth Burke Society Interest Group	3	3	4
Language and Social Interaction Division	3	2	4
Mass Communication Division	7	5	6
Performance Studies Division	13	7	7
Philosophy & Ethics of Communication Interest Group	4	4	3
Political Communication Division	9	5	9
Popular Communication Division	9	8	8
Public Relations Division	6	6	8
Rhetoric and Public Address Division	25	14	15

States Advisory Interest Group	2	2	3
Undergraduate Honors Conference	18	13	13

1st VP Notice - SSCA 93rd Annual Conference Program Addendum

SESSION ADDED:

3510

Friday 1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Room: Williams

Repetition, Resistance, and Resilience in Katori Hall's *P-Valley*

Sponsor: Performance Studies Division

Chair: **Khalid Y. Long**, *University of Georgia*

Contemporary Blueswoman Performance in Katori Hall's *P-Valley*

Maisha S. Akbar, *Fort Valley State University*

Revolutionary and Rebellious: Katori Hall's *P-Valley*

Kelundra Smith, *Emory University*

Moving Away from Realism: Katori Hall's Diasporic Oeuvre

Khalid Y. Long, *University of Georgia*

Contemporary playwright Katori Hall, a Memphis, Tennessee, native, has been dominating the American theatre scene with notable plays that center on the Black experience. This panel will consider Hall's most groundbreaking play thus far, *Pussy Valley*, and the subsequent television series adaptation *P-Valley*. With *P-Valley*, Hall effectively documents Black women's cross-generational, intersectional oppression within the setting of what was formerly a small-town Mississippi Blues juke joint, now converted into a strip club called the Pynk. Hall's drama/teleplay critically examines the cultural narratives, practices, and means of reproduction that oppress the club's owners, workers, and patrons dating back to the era and setting in which the Blues was born. Even further, *P-Valley's* deep South setting effectively evokes American slavery, which still thrives culturally as human sex trafficking, political corruption, and misogyny take center stage. The papers in this panel collectively examine how *P-Valley* is inspired by a dramaturgy of repetition, resistance, and resilience and how Hall revolutionizes contemporary theatre and television by comingling Southern Black life, Black/queer/non-binary characters, and traditions of haint and hoodoo culture.

SESSIONS CANCELLED:

5106

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

The University Back Stage: Looking Back to Look Forward

5211

Sunday 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Future/Tense (Perfect?): How Performances Predict the Future and Will Have Saved the World

5.3 - Second Vice-President's Report Carl M Cates, SSCA Convention, 2023

I was very pleased to plan the Clevenger Undergraduate Honor Conference. There was a total of fifty-nine submissions with ninety percent of the submissions being accepted. There were thirty-one reviewers for these submissions. Thank you to the reviewers for their efforts and contributions. The program is composed of thirteen paper panels. Selection for the Shirley Award was made by a set of reviewers that did not evaluate the original submissions. The Lambda Pi Eta Student will be presented during the convention. Thank-you to my graduate assistant, Jacob Wicinski, for his contributions to this year's conference.

SSCA 94th Annual Convention Call for Participation

April 3 – 7, 2024 / Embassy Suites / Frisco, Texas
“Communicating Belonging”

Southern States Communication Association's 94th conference brings us to Frisco, Texas, the location we were forced to abandon in 2020 with the advent of the pandemic. The months surrounding that event tested our relationships, our sense of place, and our professional habits. Our emergence from the depths of the pandemic has not relieved our alienation and deep societal fractures.

Belonging and the essential components leading to its fullness are the basis for this call. Papers and panels focusing on the communication components elemental in acceptance, diversity, equity, inclusion, and identity are welcome as are those examining roadblocks to belonging such as alienation and exclusion. All divisions and interest groups should program at least one panel on the conference theme, and division/interest group cosponsored panels which provide unique opportunities to reflect on the theme are encouraged.

Where entire panels are proposed, submitters are required to diversify the institutional affiliation of the panel participants beyond two institutions, and to especially consider opportunities to bring in colleagues and peers who have not recently or never attended an SSCA conference. Program proposals which do not align with SSCA's divisional and interest group structure may be submitted directly to the vice president for possible review. For Division and Interest Group calls, go to <http://www.sca.net/> and the Division (<https://www.sca.net/divisions>) or Interest Group (<https://www.sca.net/interest-groups>) pages.

The deadline for all submissions is on September 16, 2023, at midnight eastern time. All submissions will be handled through the conference website. For more information, contact Dr. Carl Cates, Vice President and Program Planner by email at ssca2024@gmail.com. We hope to see you in Frisco in 2024!

5.4 - Immediate Past President Report – Wendy Atkins-Sayre

March 13, 2023

To: SSCA Executive Council

From: Wendy Atkins-Sayre, 2022-2023 SSCA Immediate Past President

Re: Immediate Past President's Report for April 2023 SSCA meeting

In wrapping up my time in this leadership role, I have a short list of tasks to report back on:

First, my most important job was to **recruit new leaders for the organization**. I am happy to report the following election results:

- SSCA 2nd Vice President in 2023: Patrick Wheaton, Georgia Southern University
 - And special thanks to Lesli Pace, Southeast Missouri State University for running
- NCA Legislative Assembly Representative: Laurie Metcalf, Blinn College

We also named the NCA Regional Advisory Board Representative: Carrie Reif-Stice, Augusta University

Thanks go to all who have agreed to serve the organization in this capacity.

Second, I have made progress on **updating the SSCA Officers' Manual** (last updated in 2010) and will be sharing a draft before our April meeting. This document clearly explains leadership position expectations and procedures.

Third, I have worked with Tina Harris to set up the **Strategic Plan Task Force** to provide input to the Administrative Committee on strategic plan updates.

- Members:
 - Michael Arrington, Sam Houston State University
 - Kevin Bryant, Clemson University
 - Eletra Gilchrist-Petty, University of Alabama Huntsville
 - Christi Moss, University of Memphis
 - Jason Munsell, University of South Carolina Aiken
 - Leland Spencer, Miami University
 - Goyland Williams, University of Hartford
- They have now met twice and will be reporting for the first time at this conference

Finally, I will work with the Administrative Committee to revisit the code of professional ethics before we meet in April.

5.5 – Executive Director Report – SSCA 2023

Submitted by John Haas, University of Tennessee

- 5.5.1. Financial Statements from Harvard and Associates, C.P.A.'s
- 5.5.2 Account Balances
- 5.5.3 Budget
- 5.5.4 Membership
- 5.5.5 Award Balances
- 5.5.6 New Items
- 5.5.7 Strategic Communication Director position & position description
 - The Strategic Communication Director shall be responsible for development, implementation, and evaluation of association marketing activities. These include, but are not limited to: strategic planning, preparing and implementing various marketing activities, membership development, maintenance, organizational branding, securing advertising, and expansion of state, regional, and national organizational awareness.
- 5.5.8 Computers – three laptops (Toshiba laptops; 6 years old)
- 5.5.9 History of SSCA – We are losing our history; need to commission one or more people to document
- 5.5.10 Financial reporting changes – view-only access on checking account for finance committee members and quarterly financial statement reviews with committee

5.5.1 Financial Statements – Independent Accountant’s Review – Bill of Good Health

SOUTHERN STATES COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**AS OF AND FOR THE YEARS ENDED
JULY 31, 2022 AND 2021**

HARVARD & ASSOCIATES, CPA’S, P.A.

Certified Public Accountants

Tallahassee, Florida

**SOUTHERN STATES COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS AS OF AND FOR THE YEARS ENDED JULY 31, 2022 AND 2021**

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Harvard
AND ASSOCIATES, PA
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT

To the Board of Directors
Southern States Communication Association

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of Southern States Communication Association (a nonprofit organization) which comprise the statements of assets, liabilities, and net assets – cash basis as of July 31, 2022 and 2021, and the related statements of revenues, expenses and other changes in net assets – cash basis for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of management. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting; this includes determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement whether due to fraud or error.

Accountants' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to conduct the review engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance as a basis for reporting whether we are aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial statements for them to be in accordance with the cash basis of accounting. We believe that the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our conclusion.

Accountants' Conclusion

Based on our reviews, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in accordance with the cash basis of accounting.

Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note A of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our conclusion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Harvard & Associates, P.A.

Harvard & Associates, CPA's, PA

April 6, 2023

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**SOUTHERN STATES COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION
STATEMENTS OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND
NET ASSETS - CASH BASIS
JULY 31, 2022 AND 2021**

ASSETS

	425,259	\$ 409,795
	425,259	409,795
	2022	2021
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	
Total Current Assets		
 Total Assets	 \$ 425,259	 \$ 409,795

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Net Assets			
Unrestricted	\$	425,259	\$ 409,795
Total Net Assets		425,259	409,795
 Total Liabilities and Net Assets	 \$	 425,259	 \$ 409,795

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES AND
INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS'
REVIEW REPORT.

**SOUTHERN STATES COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION
STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND
OTHER CHANGES IN NET ASSETS - CASH BASIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JULY 31, 2022 AND 2021**

	2022	2021
Revenue		
Royalties	\$ 38,282	\$ 28,696
Convention Fees	28,355	24,770
Membership Dues	38,435	17,015
Donations	1,908	8,475
Subscriptions	11,223	7,845
Other	805	353
Interest	35	89
Total Revenue	119,043	87,243
Expenses		
Convention Expenses	65,827	89,230
Southern Communication Journal	8,482	11,070
Contract Services	5,000	8,912
Website	4,159	5,046
Professional Fees	5,950	3,825
Bank Charges	3,947	3,227
Journal Exchange	4,338	2,955
Postage and Shipping	314	1,561
Archives	0	1,500
Insurance	1,153	1,098
Travel and Meeting Costs	3,100	349
Newsletter	210	171
Office Supplies	694	110
Caring Connection Supplies	0	0
Dues and Subscriptions	405	0
Total Expenses	103,579	129,054
Increase in Net Assets	\$ 15,464	\$ (41,811)
Beginning Net Assets	409,795	451,606
Ending Net Assets	\$ _____	_____
	_____	_____
	425,259	\$ 409,795
	_____	_____

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES AND INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT.

**SOUTHERN STATES COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION NOTES TO FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS JULY 31, 2022**

Note A – Nature of Activities and Significant Accounting Policies

Nature of Activities

Southern States Communication Association (the Association) is a nonprofit organization that promotes the study, criticism, research, teaching, and application of the artistic, humanistic, and scientific principles of communication. It exists for educational, scientific, and literary purposes only. Southern States Communication Association began activities May 2, 1930.

Cash Basis of Accounting

The Association's policy is to prepare its financial statements on the cash basis of accounting; consequently, revenues are recognized when received rather than when promised or earned, and expenses are recognized when paid rather than when the obligation is incurred. Accordingly, the accompanying financial statements are not intended to present financial position and activities in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Association considers all highly liquid investments available for current use with an initial maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Income Taxes

The Association is a not-for-profit organization that is exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and classified by the Internal Revenue Service as other than a private foundation.

The Association's Forms 990, Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax, for the years ended July 31, 2020, 2021, and 2022 are subject to examination by the IRS, generally for three years after they were filed.

Date of Management's Review

Management has evaluated subsequent events through April 6, 2023, the date on which the financial statements were available to be used.

Note B – Concentrations of Credit Risk

The Association maintains cash balances at two financial institutions. Accounts at each institution are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) up to \$250,000. The Association had no uninsured cash balances as of July 31, 2022 and 2021.

5.5.2. ACCOUNT BALANCES

Bank Account Balances April 7, 2023

Truist Bank (formerly BB&T)

- 3. Checking Account: \$256,911
- 4. Certificate of Deposit: \$ 54,668 Matures 3/10/24

University of Tennessee, Knoxville Credit Union

- Certificate of Deposit: \$181,475 Matures 10/11/2023

TOTAL DEPOSITS \$493,054

5.5.3 PROPOSED BUDGET 2023-24

SSCA Budget		
	FY23 Approved Budget	Proposed Budget FY24
OPERATING REVENUE		
Memberships/Registrations		
Regular	\$ 14,300.00	\$ 16,575.00
Sustaining	\$ 15,680.00	\$ 6,600.00
Patron	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,400.00
Student	\$ 5,750.00	\$ 4,440.00
Extra Journal Option	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Institution	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ -
Total Memberships/Conference Registrations	\$ 43,730.00	\$ 34,015.00

Southern Communication Journal		
Taylor & Francis Royalties	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 22,000.00
Taylor & Francis Editor Support	\$ 6,365.00	\$ 6,365.00
Journal Exchange (Regionals)	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
Royalties/Microfilm	\$ -	\$ -
EBSCO	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Total Southern Communication Journal	\$ 41,865.00	\$ 41,865.00
Total Interest from Bank Account, CDs	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	\$ 86,595.00	\$ 76,880.00
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Administrative		
Accounting / Legal	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Administrative Assistants	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
Marketing Director Budget	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Archives	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Bank Charges	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Equipment	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Insurance	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,200.00
Postage & Shipping	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Newsletter	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 1,000.00
Printing/Stationery	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Relocation	\$ -	\$ -
Office Supplies	\$ 1,520.00	\$ 1,520.00
Strategic Planning Meeting	\$ -	\$ -
Website	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Total Administrative Expenses	\$ 35,020.00	\$ 33,420.00
Southern Communication Journal		
Editor	\$ 4,600.00	\$ 4,600.00
Past Editor	\$ -	\$ 500.00
Journal Publication	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 13,901.00
Journal Exchange	\$ 4,772.00	\$ 4,772.00

Total Southern Comm Journal Expenses	\$ 20,372.00	\$ 23,773.00
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 55,392.00	\$ 57,193.00
CONVENTION REVENUE		
Convention Pre-Registration	\$ 10,500.00	\$ 11,000.00
Convention Site Registration	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
Exhibits/Program Fees	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
UHC Registration	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Convention Program Advertising	\$ 5,250.00	\$ 5,250.00
Past Presidents' Luncheon (paid tickets)	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Awards Luncheon (paid tickets)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Reception Support, UHC Sponsorships	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00
TOTAL CONVENTION REVENUE	\$ 40,250.00	\$ 40,250.00
CONVENTION EXPENSES		
Program Printing, Shipping	\$ 7,100.00	\$ 2,000.00
Miscellaneous Office/Other	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,300.00
President's Convention Budget	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
1st VP Convention Budget	\$ 4,250.00	\$ 4,250.00
2nd VP-Elect Convention Budget	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
Awards	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Travel	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
Time and Place	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Audio-Visual Equipment Rental	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Total Food & Beverage	\$ 34,500.00	\$ 34,500.00
TOTAL CONVENTION EXPENSES	\$ 64,900.00	\$ 59,800.00
TOTAL PROJECTED REVENUE	\$ 126,845.00	\$ 117,130.00
TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENSES	\$ 120,292.00	\$ 116,493.00
TOTAL SURPLUS	\$6,553.00	\$637.00

5.5.4 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership Report *SSCA St. Petersburg, FL* Pre-Convention 2023

By Category	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Regular	187	158	165	226	214		375	255	244
Sustaining	197	233	178	170	126		92	66	91
Patron	20	15	16	14	12		8	12	8
Student	172	204	171	192	173		168	148	151
Life	61	65	69	73	73		77	78	81
Emeritus	24	28	27	27	29		28	27	27
Total	658	703	626	702	628		678*	594	606
Regional Journal	17	15	8	9	7		5	8	7
Institutional	22	12	13	31	27		14	17	22
Renew-Inactive							70		

*Due to COVID, memberships were renewed for free - last row is number of memberships renewed that were not counted

Division	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Applied Comm	159	46	134	139	117		124	96	84
Argument & Forensic	20	48	32	45	42		56	38	35
Comm Theory & Meth	101	209	92	81	88		95	73	60
Community College	38	123	36	44	31		43	29	39
Freedom of Speech	21	30	25	39	28		32	32	22*
Gender Studies	69	75	89	106	91		96	58	57
Health Comm									24*
Identity, Inclusion, & Social Justice									31
Instruction Development	57	97	66	72	71		97	70	76
Intercultural Comm	52	64	58	72	59		63	48	37
Interpersonal Comm	105	86	114	117	107		107	80	96
Lang & Social Interaction	50	74	45	41	26		30	30**	21*
Mass Comm	73	46	75	93	72		90	70	58
None Selected		175	97	124	95		102	97	229
Performance Studies	46	32	49	53	49		43	41	27*
Political Comm	61	63	73	78	85		77	66	46
Popular Comm	140	74	51	56	56		64	56	47
Public Relations	35	44	51	47	45		51	44	41
Rhetoric & Public Address	221	173	166	193	129		197	169	151
Interest Groups									
Am. Soc. Hist Rhetoric	349	474	298	278	272		244	209	183
Assoc. Comm. Admin.	141	140	110	109	96		106	86**	89
Burke Society	145	119	104	119	101		103	86	67
Ethnography	152	165	151	159	141		146	132	109
None Selected		20	407	534	454		541	291	543
Philosophy & Ethics of Communication	154	167	148	155	143		138	124	107
State Associations		38	36	50	49		46	42	66

* First year below 5% membership requirement for divisional status

** First year probation for not electing officers

5.5.5 AWARD BALANCES

5.5.3 - Awards Balances

SSCA Association Award Balances as of April 5, 2023	2023 Balance	2022 Donations	2022 Balance
Franklin Shirley Award (Top UHC Paper)	\$7,030	\$50	\$6,980
Robert Bostrom Young Scholar	\$7,887	\$10	\$7,877
Minority Recruitment and Retention	\$10,814	\$75	\$10,739
Shawn D. Long Outreach	\$7,975	\$275	\$7,700
Dwight L. Freshley Outstanding New Teacher	\$6,486	\$55	\$6,431
T. Earle Johnson - Edwin Paget Distinguished Service	\$6,499		\$6,499
Theodore Clevenger Jr. UHC (not an award)	\$8,156	\$220	\$7,936
J. Donald Ragsdale Mentorship	\$10,407		\$10,407
Rose B. Johnson SCJ Article	\$6,845		\$6,845
Suzanne Osborn Community College	\$10,200	\$130	\$10,070
John I. Sisco Excellence in Teaching	\$10,399	\$75	\$10,324
Michael M. Osborn Teacher-Scholar	\$15,007		\$15,007
Janice Hocker Rushing Early Career Research	\$77,657	\$70	\$77,587
Total	\$185,362	\$960	\$184,402

5.6 – Interim Strategic Communication Director Report – SSCA 2023 Submitted by Kevin Bryant, Clemson University

Revenue Streams

- Sold 5 Exhibitor Booths
 - Kendall Hunt
 - Stukent Publishing
 - Lumen Learning
 - Soomo Learning
 - Tophat Monocle
- Sold 19 Advertisements
 - 3 covers (Front Inside, Back Inside, Back Outside)
 - 14 Full Page
 - 2 Half Page
- Sold 15 UHC Sponsorships & Grad Fair Booths
- Sold 21 Institutional Memberships
 - Posted 10 Job Positions on website and social media accounts

SSCA 2020-2025 Strategic Plan

Background

The SSCA constitution states that the officers shall meet for the purpose of strategic planning, and that no more than five years shall elapse between such meetings. According to the SSCA constitution, members required to attend strategic planning sessions include current members of the SSCA Administrative Committee and those invited by the President.

Previous SSCA strategic planning meetings were: 2003 (Memphis), 2004 (Tallahassee), 2006 (Ellijay, Georgia), 2010 (Orlando, FL), 2016 (Charleston, SC), and 2021 (remotely).

Process

The Administrative Committee met several times over the 2021-2022 academic year to discuss plans for the next strategic plan. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 crisis and the untimely death of our president in 2019 (Dr. Shawn Long), this process has been delayed. The committee conducted all meetings online since an in-person gathering was not a possibility.

The committee included:

- John Haas, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Executive Director
- Jerry Hale, University of Tennessee-Chattanooga, Past Executive Director

- Wendy Atkins-Sayre, University of Memphis, President
- Tina M. Harris, Louisiana State University, First Vice-President
- Pamela Bourland-Davis, Georgia Southern University, Past President (serving for Shawn D. Long)
- Ann E. Burnette, Texas State University, Second Vice-President
- Patrick Wheaton, Georgia Southern University, Finance Committee Chair
- Benjamin R. Bates, Ohio University, *Southern Communication Journal* Editor
- Andrew Pyle, Clemson University, Strategic Communication Director
- Kevin Bryant, Clemson University, SSCA Executive Administrator

In preparation for the current strategic plan discussion, all committee members studied the two previous strategic plans, searching for ideas that might still be relevant to the organization today. We also discussed changes to the discipline, the organization, higher education more broadly, and social shifts that might guide our plan moving forward.

Accountability in the Strategic Planning Process

We acknowledge all the obstacles that the organization has recently faced and, focusing on the strengths of the organization, have devised a plan to strengthen SSCA over the next few years.

In reviewing previous SSCA strategic plans, we discovered that there were many ideas that were still relevant to the organization today. We recognize the difficulty of overseeing a five-year plan when the organization is led by volunteers who cycle out of positions. Consequently, one part of this current plan is to implement a completion plan.

The plan will include:

- Creating a task force to continue to develop ideas between strategic planning years, to collect ideas from members, and to assist the officers with implementation of the plan
- Reporting strategic plan accomplishments at the mid-year and annual business meetings
 - Kevin Bryant will do this for the 2023 convention
- Continuing to suggest changes to the strategic planning process
- Scheduling a session on strategic planning at the annual conference
- Decide on a committee/leadership structure for this task force

Looking Forward: Showing Resilience in the Association

The theme for the 2022 conference, “Resilience through Resistance,” also reflects the continued strength of our organization. Given all the obstacles that SSCA has faced in the last three years, it is noteworthy that we have emerged even stronger. We have shown resilience by working together. Looking beyond the conference and into the next few years, the Administrative Committee has drafted our newest strategic plan to keep our organization resilient. Pulling from the best ideas of our predecessors and recognizing needs that we feel haven’t yet been met, we created a plan that includes the six issues listed below.

1. Making Diversity and Equity Initiatives a Priority

We pledge to continue to make SSCA a welcoming and inclusive organization. In 2020, we oversaw the creation of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee and we introduced constitutional changes at the 2022 conference to make the DEI committee chair a sitting member of the Administrative Committee. In order to make these leadership positions more approachable, we will pursue the following actions:

- Incorporate a designated spotlight panel into the annual conference that examines the conference location, addressing the politics of place
- Ann Burnette created a spotlight panel for Florida 2023
- Develop resources for SSCA leadership, sharing them through panels and a web site section
- Hold scholar office hours at the spring conference, including scholars who are recruited to discuss leadership
- This should start at the 2024 conference in Frisco, TX.
- Develop short courses focused on professional development on topics such as
 - Chairing a department
 - Publishing
 - Leadership options in the discipline
 - Advising graduate students
- Recruiting in different areas to diversify membership
 - Also later in list—recruit at HBCUs, community colleges—invite faculty/students who haven't been involved
- Make DEI initiatives a part of each of the following strategic goals

2. Provide Additional Mentoring and Leadership Opportunities for all SSCA members

We see one of the strengths of SSCA as providing important leadership opportunities for our members. With a diverse and broad pool of leaders, the organization and the discipline more broadly are stronger. Members are also able to take that leadership experience back to their home institutions. In order to make these leadership positions more approachable, we will pursue the following actions:

- Provide regular conference panels on leadership and mentoring topics
- Develop resources for SSCA leadership, sharing them through panels and a web site section
- Undertake an update of the Officers' Manual
- Wendy Atkins-Sayre completed this during the 2022-2023 convention cycle. An updated officers manual is available under the "Members" tab of our website.
- Develop short courses exploring leadership topics
- Hold scholar office hours at the spring conference, including scholars who are recruited to discuss leadership
- This should start at the 2024 conference in Frisco.

- Work with the DEI Committee to develop more ways to provide mentorships for all, but especially underrepresented groups
- Inform members how they can become a part of leadership
- Implement a formal mentoring process
- This could include the creation of a Student Caucus/Interest Group to foster mentoring opportunities from and for undergraduate/graduate students

3. Providing Additional Professional Development Opportunities for all SSCA Members

Not only do we want to provide more leadership opportunities for a wider group of people and provide guidance for those individuals, but we also want to give all SSCA members—at every type of institution, at every level of education and higher education position—resources for meeting their professional goals. Consequently, we will work to provide additional opportunities through the following actions:

- Continue scheduling annual panels on professional development
- Develop web resources for members that address:
 - Advice for tenure and promotion
 - Advice on publishing
 - Job listings
 - Teaching materials
 - Programmatic assessment info
 - Information about chairing a department
- Consider options for planning online mini conferences committed to professional development (also serving as another revenue generator)
- Develop short courses focused on professional development on topics such as
 - Chairing a department
 - Publishing
 - Leadership options in the discipline
 - Advising graduate students
- Plan a panel for the Undergraduate Honors Conference on selecting and applying to graduate programs
- Continue to develop offerings for a graduate school open house in order to provide more opportunities for undergraduate and MA students to connect to regional programs
- Increased the number of UHC sponsors and Grad Fair booths from 9 to 15 for 2023 convention
- Increased the hours of operation of the Grad Fair from 1.5 to 3 hours for the 2023 convention

4. Improving Communication

Although we have made improvements to our communication channels (web site, emails, newsletters) in recent years, we recognize that there is additional, important work to do to communicate with our members more effectively. In order to improve those channels, we will commit to:

- Continue working on the SSCA web site, exploring the best options for host sites and web site design/layout. In particular, we want to improve the experience for membership renewal and conference registration.
- New website editor coming
- Improve our use of social media, regularly using those options to communicate with members and others
- Strat Comm Director will work with Resource & Member Development committee on a social media campaign
- Send quarterly emails with consistent content, including
 - Planning report
 - Newsletter
 - Award spotlight
- Undertake an update to the officers' manual, including information for program planners
- Wendy Atkins-Sayre completed this during the 2022-2023 convention cycle. An updated officers manual is available under the "Members" tab of our website.
- Produce the SSCA podcast more regularly
- Continue work on creating a schedule of pod release dates
- Bring in local hosts at conference sites in order to improve communication about those locations

5. Increasing Revenue for the Association

Although the organization is financially strong, we know that it is imperative that the leadership continue to find new ways to bring in revenue in order to keep membership and conference rates as low as possible. Consequently, we will pursue the following goals:

- Explore more options for revenue streams more broadly, especially searching for options that might bring in revenue throughout the year, such as web advertisements and other member services.
- Explore the option of eliminating the printed program without sacrificing the income that program advertisements bring
- Plan for ways to fundraise for named awards and receptions so that those expenses do not require as much funding from the SSCA budget
- New Strat Comm Director
- Approved by the ED John Haas during the 2022-2023 convention cycle

6. Study the Future of our Conference

After experiencing the benefits of online conferences, we will consider possibilities for enhancing our spring in-person conference.

- Continue to consider the future of our spring conference, given online and hybrid options that have emerged in recent years
- Survey members to better understand their needs and desires in relation to the spring conference
- Reconsider the planning process, making sure that we have the best online platform, planner training, and model for scheduling panels.
- Ann Burnette hosted two planner sessions at the 2022 Greenville conference and two additional planner sessions with XCD – our submission platform
- Explore best practices in risk communication, making a leadership plan that will help guide the organization through future challenges
- Establish African American Comm Division

7. Misc Ideas from Task Force Meeting

- UHC recruitment – Improve communication and outreach with HBCU and community colleges so they know about options for involvement
- Develop small scholarships for these students to come and observe/participate based on the NCA model
- Get more people involved who haven't historically been involved
- Implement a "comments section" spot at conference registration—someone who can listen and take notes

5.7 - Editor's Report - Southern Communication Journal

Benjamin R. Bates

The Southern Communication Journal published all issues on time for the volume 87 (2022) year. Issues for volume 88 are all on time.

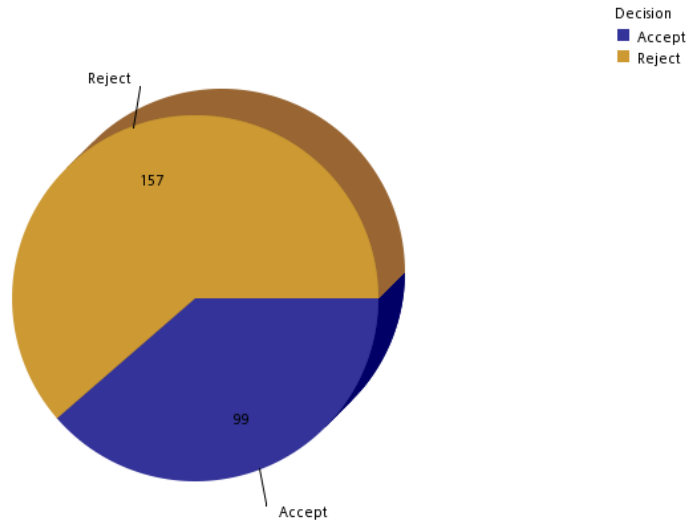
In volume 87, we used 100% of our page space, indicating robust submissions recommended by two or more reviewers for publication and approved by the editor.

Beginning with the 2023 year, we will no longer be using page counts to calculate our journal space. In conversation with Taylor & Francis, we have moved to an unlimited page space model. The minimum unit of measurement to meet the new T&F page budgeting is that SCJ should produce 26 “core” articles and 12 “non-core” articles per year. “Core” articles include research articles and review articles, which are currently published by SCJ, but also allows the opportunity for the next editor to consider case reports, data notes, systematic reviews, and other forms that are not popular in SCJ but are published by other communication outlets. Although our peer journal group – *Communication Quarterly*, *Communication Studies*, and *Western Journal of Communication* – do not publish these items, it is important to note that we may be losing excellent data notes and brief reports to WSCA and ECA because they publish *Communication Reports*, *Communication Research Reports*, and *Qualitative Research Reports in Communication*. “Non-core” articles include front matter and back matter, but also book reviews, editorials, letters, expressions of concern, corrections, and similar items. We already are credited with 5 “non-core” articles by virtue of our front matter, and an additional non-core article for our reviewer list at the end of the year. The next editor may wish to consider using the space for editorials, but also inviting some reviewers to write “letters to the editor” that could expand on review notes for eventually published articles.

SCJ received 233 manuscripts, 130 of which were original submissions. This is about 100 total manuscripts higher than the previous year.

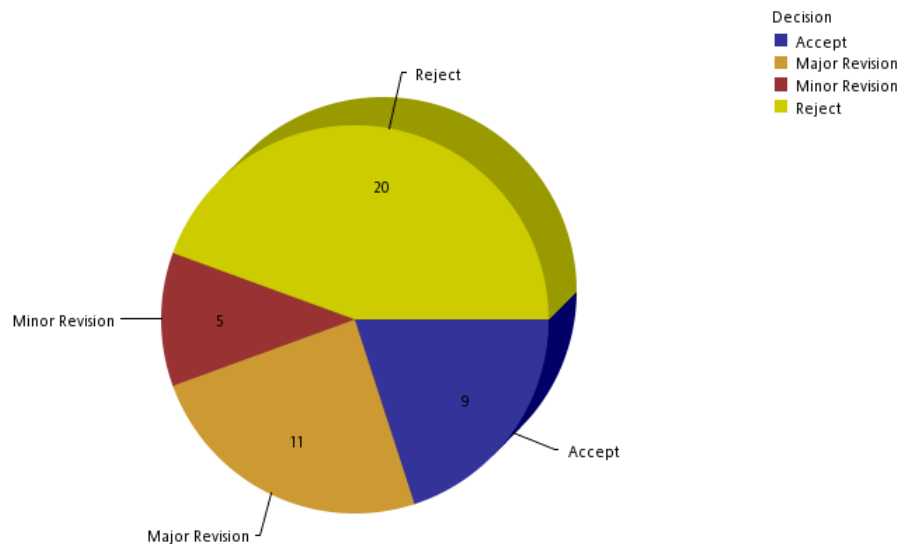
For the period January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022, final disposition was 157 rejections after desk or peer review and 99 acceptance after peer review. This represents an acceptance rate of ~39% for 2022 (first chart). This is lower than the 44% acceptance rate for volume 86. This percentage is higher than T&F requests, but reflects (1) that my team and I are committed to using our page space as fully as possible and (2) we are committed to development of manuscripts by using peer review as a strengthening process in addition to using peer review as a gatekeeping process.

Number of Manuscripts by Decision



Preliminary numbers for 2023 show that we will process fewer manuscripts in the final year of my term. This is because we have some backlog from the 2022 calendar year and because we are in the wind-down phase of my editorship. Nevertheless, in 2023, we will be maintaining our decisions to publish from the perspective of peer strengthening. Our preliminary 2023 decisioning shows that our reviewers continue to coach authors through the writing. If the current trend holds, volume 88 will have an acceptance rate between 35 and 40%.

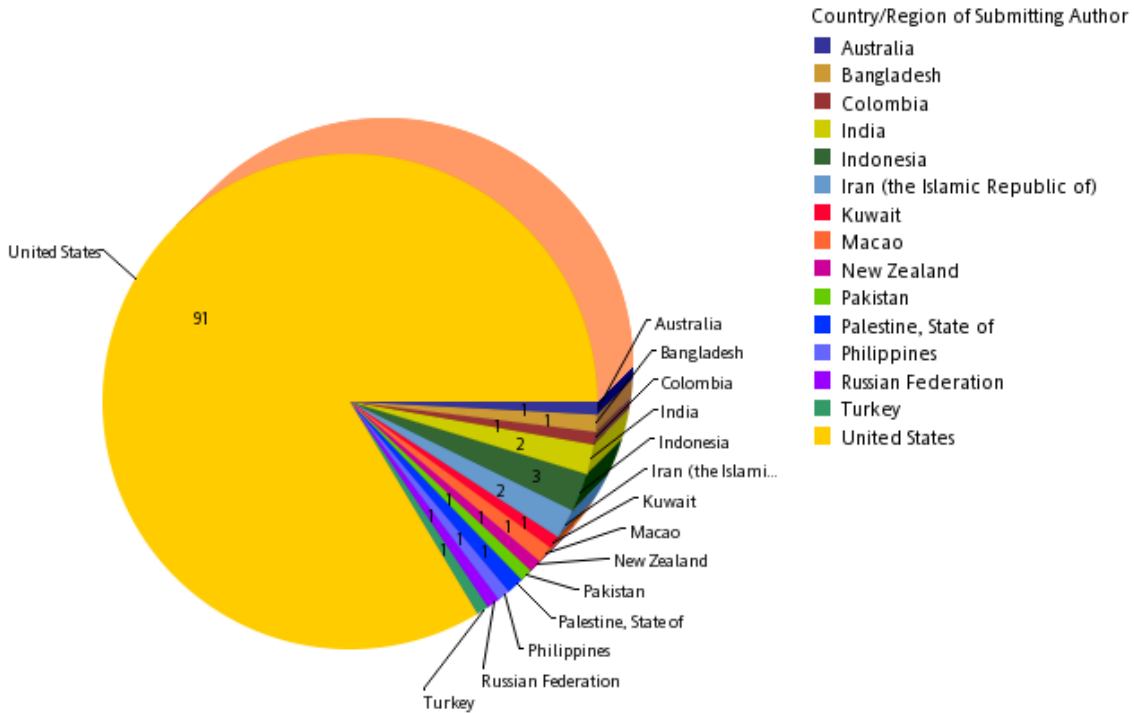
No. of Manuscripts by Decision



SCJ continues to maintain its international footprint in two ways. Although our editorial board consists mainly of scholars established in the American South, we have actively recruited and actively have reviewed for us scholars from the Global South as well. I encourage the next editor to continue to maintain an internationalized editorial board. Second, we continue to see significant international interest in publishing in our journal. We have received submissions from all inhabited continents and from all world regions. Moreover, although most of our authors (both at submission and at eventual publication) are based in the United States, in volume 87 we

published scholars from North America, South America, Europe, Asia, North Africa and the Middle East, and Oceania.

Number of Manuscripts by Country/Region



Finally, reviewers are becoming more difficult to recruit and are taking longer with their reviews. In conversations with the other regional editors, SCJ is not alone in this. Over the course of the pandemic, the pandemic and the recognition of general exploitative workloads by universities and colleges, our colleagues are becoming more reluctant to take on voluntary tasks and those who do agree are struggling to fit reviews in. Although our average time from submission to decision is a respectable 49 days, it is incumbent on our colleges and universities to find ways to recognize and reward this form of disciplinary service to enable more of our colleagues to participate in reviewing.

5.8 - NCA Legislative Assembly Report

SSCA Legislative Assembly Representatives:

Patrick Bennett - Midlands Technical College

April Chatham-Carpenter - University of Arkansas at Little Rock

Eletra Gilchrist-Petty - University of Alabama in Huntsville

The following is our report from the annual National Communication Association Legislative Assembly Meeting held on November 16 & 19, 2022, in New Orleans, LA.

A. NCA Finances

1. An independent auditor's report was presented, along with the proposed 2023 budget
 - a. Our operating expenses exceeds our revenues and has done so for the past several years (by about \$700,000 annually)
 - b. Operating budget doesn't include our investment portfolio
 - c. 74% of revenue comes from investments
2. NCA has lost money on the convention for the last several years due to increase in costs associated with the convention.
3. NCA as an organization expects to break even in 2022 but suffered some investment loss due to stock market changes.
4. Publication contract will run out in a few years, changing the source of input potentially.
5. Trying to reinstate their charitable status in states because there may be donors interested
6. Carriage House property is a possible way of generating revenue if rent it out - 1500 square feet, but needs renovations

B. Membership Survey

1. NCA distributed a membership survey for the first time regarding the organization - a consulting firm designed the survey and analyzed survey results. They received 1290 responses (23% response rate), with a slight over-representation of regular vs. student members.
2. There was a mixture of positive and negative comments. Positive comments focused on the convention, communication from the NCA, and the opportunity to build community and networking. Negative comments were centered around the convention experience, the culture of NCA, and the cost of the convention.
3. Most respondents indicated they were likely to renew membership next year.
4. Overall satisfaction ratings - 57% were satisfied or very satisfied with NCA; about 1/3 are neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
 - a. Dissatisfied reasons were the convention (accessibility, health, travel, location), culture (political nature & toxic), & cost (too high)
 - b. Satisfied reasons were the convention (sharing of resources & research), communicating mechanisms of NCA, community/networking, &

connecting to the discipline

5. Concerns were raised about the survey, such as collapsing the categories, and some important things being excluded from the survey, such as (dis)ability.

C. Strategic Plan

1. The NCA approved an amended five-year strategic plan after a long discussion on language centered around balancing the budget and reducing deficits.
 - a. Vision: Transforming lives through communication
 - b. Mission: Advancing scholarship, teaching, and practice to foster a better world
 - c. Four goals & objectives
 - i. Create conditions to support & empower members
 - ii. Promote communicator's value
 - iii. Embrace & enact inclusion, diversity, equity, and access
 - iv. Cultivate a thriving and responsive organization
 - d. Five strategic priorities
 - i. Cultivate communication research
 - ii. Enhance communication teaching & learning
 - iii. Disseminate knowledge about communication
 - iv. Facilitate professional development for communication scholars & educators
 - v. Manage the association effectively & efficiently
2. Along with an approval of the strategic plan, NCA also approved the IDEA (inclusion, diversity, equity, & access) strategic plan, in light of recent problematic policies and the distinguished scholars controversy.

C. The Communication and Anxiety Apprehension was approved as a new Interest Group.

6.1 - Committee on Committees Report – Tina M. Harris

- a. Thank to you everyone who has tirelessly volunteered their services and time to various leadership positions. Please continue to volunteer and encourage others to be engaged in SSCA.
- b. We are in talks about how to best deal with membership concerns regarding states in the SEC that pass laws and policies that are in direct opposition to academic freedom, human liberties, diversity, and more. As a 501(c)(3), we cannot plan or promote a protest; however, members as individuals can do so and not on hotel property.

6.2 - SSCA Constitution Committee Report (Spring 2023)

Submitted by:

Shana Bridges, Georgia Southern University (Chair)

Nakia Welch, San Jacinto College

David Nelson, Valdosta State University

Note from Chair: I regret that limited travel funds have kept me from attending this year's SSCA conference. I truly appreciate the help of my fellow committee members, Nakia and David, throughout this process. I am also grateful to them for presenting the updates in my absence.

Sincerely, Shana

The following changes were suggested and implemented for the SSCA Constitution. Special thanks are extended to Kevin Bryant and Nakia Welch for their thorough attention to detail.

General:

- The constitution was edited to correct grammatical issues and structural alignment (Roman numerals, Section numbers, spacing, indentation, etc.).
- Clarifying language was suggested and implemented in various sections.
- Nakia Welch proposed some larger questions that need to be discussed. Those questions are preserved in the document "SSCA Constitution Proposed Revisions Implemented." I have listed the questions below.

Article IV: Officers of the Association

Section 4 – Duties of Officers; Executive Director (#2)

- Currently states: The Executive Director shall notify the National Communication Association Executive Offices of the names and addresses of the newly elected High School, College/University, and Community/Two Year College Representatives to Legislative Assembly as soon as possible after the election results have been announced.
- **Question/Suggestion for discussion:** This needs to just state LA Reps b/c what if we don't have a HS rep? This issue was addressed a year or two ago, I believe, where the wording was changed to basically state when possible (for HS)...I think that's what I remember from a meeting.

Section 5: Vacancies (#3)

- In the event of an Executive Director vacancy, the Executive Council shall put forward a replacement for ratification by the association membership.
- Replace with '...for ratification...' (DONE) This better described the process and it doesn't make it sound like they MUST be ratified (accepted/approved) b/c what happens if the association membership doesn't ratify that person? Not likely to happen, but it could become a constitutional issue as the argument would be made that once a name is put forward, they are guaranteed that position...that the association has no choice but to ratify them.

Article V: Executive Council

Section 1-Membership.

- Numbered list changed to bullet points.
- **Question regarding numbering:** All members, regardless of which Arabic number they are specified in here, are members...so why the numerical separation and numbering? What makes the chairs #2 (over) the immediate past members #3?

Section 5 – Emergency Procedures.

- **As Currently Written:** In case of an emergency that would make it either impossible or impractical for the president to convene the Executive Council, the President may empower an Emergency Council consisting of the President, the Immediate Past President, the 1st Vice President, the 2nd Vice President, and the Executive Director to act for the Executive Council. The President may consult each member to determine what action is to be taken on behalf of the Executive Council. Items not requiring an immediate decision are to be decided by polling the entire Executive Council.
- **Question regarding this policy:** It seems that this is a response to the Covid situation we found ourselves in during 2021. Perhaps crafting an additional statement that indicates meetings may be held remotely, in cases of emergency, would be beneficial. For example, it's better to be allowed for the EC to meet via Zoom (or whatever new remote meeting technology exists in the future) than to not meet at all – leaving meeting content to be held only by the five-member emergency council. There's no reason the entire EC can't meet in cases of emergency (even if remote/Zoom-style).

Section 6 – Quorum

- **As Currently Written:** Those members of the Executive Council present at a regularly scheduled and announced meeting of the Executive Council shall constitute a quorum.
- **Clarification Question:** This could be interpreted as requiring all members present...should there be a set minimum number or % of EC members present?

Article VII: Nominations, Elections, and Appointments

Section 4. Elected Officers (#2)

- **As currently written:** Officers to be elected every three years are the representative to the NCA Nominating Committee.
- **Clarification Question:** In Art. VII, Sec. 1, #1, it states one year service...but here it states 3 years. Which one is correct?

Section 6. Appointed Officers.

- **As Currently Written:** The Executive Director and Journal Editor shall be appointed one year prior to taking office.
- **Clarification Question:** Does this mean that the ED is appointed one year prior to taking office? Is this saying they are elected the year prior? Is it saying they are appointed by the Exec Council the year prior? The wording makes it seem like the appointment occurs a full year prior, THEN they take office. How can we word this in clearer way?

Article X: Divisions

Section 2. Division Names

- **As Currently Written (Numbered list of divisions)**
 1. Communication Theory and Methodology
 2. Freedom of Speech
 3. Intercultural Communication
 4. Performance Studies
 5. Mass Communication
 6. Rhetoric and Public Address
 7. Argumentation and Forensics
 8. Language and Social Interaction
 9. Instructional Development
 10. Applied Communication
 11. Gender Studies
 12. Popular Communication
 13. Interpersonal Communication
 14. Public Relations
 15. Community College
 16. Political Communication
 17. Health Communication
 18. Identity, Inclusion, and Social Justice
- **Clarification Question:** Is there a purpose for the current order of this list? Should the numbered list of divisions be alphabetized?

Section 5. Officers and Responsibilities.

- **As Currently Written:**
 1. The Chair, who shall be the chief officer of a Division and shall be responsible to the President of the Association. The Chair will also be responsible for acting as division planner in cases where the Vice Chair is unable or unwilling to serve in this capacity.
 2. The Vice Chair, who shall serve as division planner for the section's programs at the annual convention, shall be responsible to the 1st Vice President of the Association and ascends to the office of Chair.
- **Clarification question:** Who runs the business meetings and should that be specified here?

Article XI: Interest Groups

Section 5. Officers and Responsibilities.

- **As Currently Written:**
 1. The Chair, who shall be the chief officer of an Interest Group and shall be responsible to the President of the Association. The Chair will also be responsible for acting as Interest Group planner in cases where the Vice Chair is unable or unwilling to serve in this capacity.
- **Suggestion:** (Related to previous comment) -- I believe it should specify and be included in the Chair's responsibilities to run the program/business meeting

6.3 - DEI Committee Report

- Members
 - Antonio Spikes (Chair)
 - Lisa Corrigan
 - Leland Spencer
 - Niya Miller
 - Xiaoti Fan
- Meetings
 - Initially, we met over Zoom. Our last Zoom meeting was in October. However, we have since decided to email each other about important issues.
- Points of Interest
 - Inaugural DEI Keynote Workshop
 - SSCA Minority Recruitment and Retention Award
- Inaugural DEI Keynote Workshop
 - In our first meeting in September, we had an open agenda where we devised strategies for creating DEI programs and opportunities for engagement at SSCA. Out of the ideas we created, what captured our attention was the possibility of creating an annual keynote workshop where various senior scholars are invited to discuss issues related to DEI, pedagogy, and scholarship. Our committee created a budget proposal, which was accepted, and then invited Dr. Mark Hopson to be the first DEI keynote workshop conductor, which he accepted.
- SSCA Minority Recruitment and Retention Award
 - We were unable to select a winner due to a lack of applications.

6.6- Publications Committee Report - SSCA 2023

Piyawan Charoensap-Kelly, Chair

Ratification: The Committee forwards Dr. Rebekah Fox as the committee recommendation for the next editor for *Southern Communication Journal (SCJ)*.

Rebekah Fox (Ph.D., Purdue University) is a Professor of Communication Studies at Texas State University. She has received multiple research awards including the SSCA's Janice Hocker Rushing Early Career Award, the James Madison Prize for First Amendment Studies from the SSCA Freedom of Speech Division, top paper awards, and Texas State's Presidential Award of Distinction in Scholarly/ Creative Activities. She is a current member of SSCA in good standing.

Dr. Fox's research falls into three categories; 1) organizational rhetoric, with a focus on power, control and learning in organizations, 2) health communication with a focus on the U.S. nursing shortage and nursing work, and 3) the rhetoric of social movements, with foci in environmental rhetoric, freedom of expression, and political communication. Her works appears in outlets as varied as *Health Communication*, the *Journal of Contemporary Rhetoric*, *Environmental Communication*, *First Amendment Studies*, *International Journal of Wildland Fire*, *American Journal of Nursing*, and *Nursing and Health Sciences*. She is an applied scholar who values research that both advances theoretical understandings and offers practical applications.

Dr. Fox served as the editor of *Communication Law Review* where she learned the importance of a diverse and dedicated editorial board, and how important it is to maintain and grow this group, including mentoring new reviewers. Additionally, she served as the editor for the conference proceedings for three *International Association of Wildland Fire* Conferences, which provided her the opportunity to work with authors whose first language was not English. She worked to polish arguments, format scientific findings, and confirm translation accuracy. She is also proficient in helping others build arguments that justify their research design and their overall contributions. She believes this skillset will be helpful in her role as editor of *SCJ*.

She currently serves as a manuscript reviewer for *Management Communication Quarterly*, *Fire, Communication Law Review*, *Texas Speech Communication Journal*, and *Communication Teacher*. She also consistently reviews submissions for the SSCA annual convention for the Freedom of Speech Division, Applied Communication Division, and Instructional Communication Division.

Dr. Fox values multiple methods and uses multiple methods in her own work. She recognizes the importance of understanding when to use different methods and how they match up with research questions and specific research designs. She is also committed to the priorities of ethical, timely, and effective peer review that reflect the standards of *SCJ*.

6.6 - Resolution Committee Report

Resolutions Presented at the 2023 Annual Awards Luncheon to SSCA

Recognition of SSCA Officers

WHEREAS, Tina M. Harris has served SSCA as the current President; and

WHEREAS, Ann E. Burnette has served SSCA with distinction as the current 1st Vice President and planned an outstanding 2023 conference; and

WHEREAS, Carl Cates has served as 2nd Vice President, and skillfully planned the 2023 Theodore Clevenger, Jr. Undergraduate Honors Conference; and

WHEREAS, Wendy Atkins-Sayre has served SSCA with distinction as the Immediate Past President; and

WHEREAS, John Haas has served SSCA as the association's Executive Director; and

WHEREAS, Patrick Bennett has served SSCA and completed his term as the association's NCA Legislative Assembly Community College Representative; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the association gives special thanks to the officers of SSCA.

Recognition of Strategic Communication Director

WHEREAS, Kevin Bryant has served SSCA as Strategic Communication Director, has served SSCA as Marketing Director, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the association extends special thanks for his important service.

Recognition of SCJ Editor

WHEREAS, Benjamin Bates has provided skillful editorial leadership for SSCA's *Southern Communication Journal*, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the association thanks him for his service as the SCJ editor.

Recognition of Service on Standing Committees

WHEREAS, the following individuals have served SSCA as the Chair of the following standing committees:

Constitution: Shana Bridges;

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Antonio Spikes;

Finance: Pavica Sheldon;

Nominating: Wendy Atkins-Sayre;

Publications: Piyawan Charoensap-Kelly;

Resolutions: Brandon Knight;

Resource Development: Gina Ercolini; and

Time and Place: Leslie Rodriguez; and

WHEREAS, the work of standing committees provides necessary leadership to the association; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the association thanks the standing committee chairs for their years of service on SSCA standing committees.

Recognition of Service on Awards Committees

WHEREAS, the following individuals have served SSCA as Chair of the following awards

committees:

Dwight L. Freshley Outstanding New Teacher Award committee: Caroline Sawyer;

The John I. Sisco Excellence in Teaching Award committee: Todd Lee Goen;

Janice Hocker Rushing Early Career Research Award committee: Jenny Crowley;

Shawn D. Long Outreach Award committee: Pat Wheaton;

T. Earle Johnson – Edwin Paget Distinguished Service Award committee: Robert Baron;

Michael M. Osborn Teacher-Scholar Award committee: Antonio de Velasco;

Minority Recruitment and Retention Award committee: Antonio Spikes;

Suzanne Osborn Community College Award committee: Brad Bailey;

J. Donald Ragsdale Award for Mentoring: Sean Patrick O'Rourke, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT SSCA thanks the award committee chairs for their service to the association.

Recognition of Janet Fisher of ConferenceDirect

WHEREAS, Janet Fisher of ConferenceDirect has provided support and invaluable assistance to the SSCA President and members of the administrative committee in site selection; and

WHEREAS, Janet Fisher has provided ongoing support of the association's Vice Presidents and Executive Director in planning SSCA's annual conventions; and,

WHEREAS, the 2023 St. Petersburg Convention will be Janet Fisher's last hurrah with SSCA; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT SSCA gives special thanks and recognition to Janet Fisher for her service to the association.

Recognition of Registration Desk Staff

WHEREAS, the following persons who have worked to make the 2023 conference a success:

Kevin Bryant, Clemson University;

Ryan Goke, Murray State University;

Sarah Schmid, University of Tennessee;

Anna McClure, University of Tennessee;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the association thanks them for their dedication and service.

And finally, with compassion:

Recognition of Condolences

WHEREAS, we were saddened to learn of the passing of Dwight L. Freshley, longtime SSCA member and leader. He earned his B.A. from North Central College, his M.A. from Northwestern University, and Ph.D. from Ohio State University, the first in his family. He served as Professor and debate coach at Lehigh University and Vanderbilt University, and was awarded a Fulbright Grant to teach in Greece in 1958. Dwight came to the University of Georgia in Athens as a Speech Professor in 1963, and became the first Department Head in the Department of Speech Communication. Dwight was a visiting lecturer in Moscow, Russia and in Beijing, China. He was the co-author of 6 books, author of 20 articles and retired as Professor Emeritus. Dr. Dwight Freshley, the first Head of the Department of Communication Studies at UGA, passed away on June 3. His colleagues at Georgia had this to say: Dwight was our longest-serving Department Head. He did a tremendous job getting the Department started and

helping it to grow as a source of care and excellence. Throughout his time at UGA he was a positive and supportive presence. Even after retirement, he would often show up to say “hi!” with a tennis ball in his hands. We here note our gratitude for having benefited from Dr. Freshley’s kindness, good spirits, insight, and hard work. Without Dwight, the Department would surely not have had the same incredible positive growth and development. The following poem was penned by Dwight and read during his memorial last summer.

Every season brings a reason to believe;
Every blade of grass and each mountain pass do not deceive;
When hope fades, flowers bloom,
When you're lonely, sunshine fills the room;
See the snowflake, here the waves break.
They testify there's a God above
Creator of the earth and sky;
If faith fails, the sun will rise,
After sadness will come blue skies,
Every season brings a reason to believe.
therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT SSCA extends our sincere condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues.

7.1 - Applied Comm Division - 2023 Exec Council Annual Report

Immediate Past Chair: Noah Franken, West Texas A&M University

Chair: Brandon Boatwright, Clemson University

Vice Chair: Ashton Mouton, Sam Houston State University

Vice Chair-Elect: Amanda Walsh, The University of Southern Mississippi

Secretary: Brian Bowman, Campbell University

A. Received 26 Total Submissions

a. Papers

- i. 19 received
- ii. 15 accepted
- iii. 4 rejected
- iv. 79% acceptance rate

b. Panels

- i. 3 received
- ii. 1 accepted
- iii. 2 rejected
- iv. 33% acceptance rate

c. Roundtables

- i. 4 received
- ii. 2 accepted
- iii. 2 rejected
- iv. 50% acceptance rate

d. Overall acceptance rate: 69%

B. Reviewing

- a. Each submission had 3 reviewers, with the exception of 1 paper that only had 2 returned
- b. All top papers nominations received an additional review for selection on the top paper panel and ultimate selections of the top faculty and student papers
- c. Thanks to all the reviewers for their service and timely feedback!

C. Proposed Programming

a. 7 panels

- i. 4 paper sessions (one co-sponsored with health com division)
- ii. 1 panel
- iii. 2 roundtables

b. 1 business meeting

D. Awards and Recognitions

- a. Top Student Paper: Organizational Identification among Social Media Influencers, by Mary Pitts, Western Kentucky University
- b. Top Faculty Paper: An Examination of University Students' Perceptions of Physicians' Humor, Source Credibility, and Fear of Physician, by Matthew Charles Ramsey, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania

7.2 - Argumentation and Forensics Division Report

I. Division Officers

- a. Immediate Past Chair: Kevin Bryant, Clemson University
- b. Chair: Ryan Goke, Murray State University
- c. Vice Chair: Michael Gray, Louisiana State University
- d. Vice Chair Elect: Mik Davis, University of Georgia
- e. Secretary: Jonathan Bridenbaker, University of Memphis

II. 2023 Convention Programming

- a. Paper Panels
 - i. *Drained and Disused: Research, Publication, Competition, and Pedagogy in the Life of the Forensics Academic*
 - ii. *Arguments in Online Gaming Contexts*
- b. Roundtable Discussions
 - i. *The Future of Florida Forensics*
 - ii. *Communicating The Future of Forensics Competition: Developing New and Innovative Competitive Speech Events*
 - iii. *Communicating Our Political Future: Forecasting the Major Issues Which Will Emerge in the 2024 Presidential Election Cycle*
- c. NOTE: There is no Town Hall Debate this year.

III. Award

- a. Forensic Educator / Contributor of the Year
 - i. Recipient: Ryan Goke, North Dakota State University

IV. Business Meeting

- a. Date/Time: Saturday at 5:45pm-6:45pm
- b. Room: Demens

**7.3 - Communication Theory and Methodology Division Report
Southern States Communication Association – St. Petersburg, FL
April 12-16, 2023**

Chair: Dr. Jenny Crowley, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Vice Chair: Dr. Quinten Bernhold, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Vice Chair-Elect: Dr. Kelly Morrison, University of Alabama, Birmingham
Secretary: Dr. Steve McCornack, University of Alabama, Birmingham

2023 Conference Submissions: We had 13 total submissions (eight competitive papers, three round tables, and two panels). We were able to accept ten of the 13 submissions (76.9% acceptance rate). One competitive paper, one round table, and one panel were rejected.

2023 Conference Planning: We had a total of six slots to fill. The slots were divided as follows: one top paper slot, one competitive paper slot, two round table slots, one panel slot, and one business meeting slot.

2023 Top Faculty Paper: Grandchildren's Experiences of Support Gaps in Their Relationships with Grandparents and Mental Well-Being
Jenny Crowley, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Sarah Devereux, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Quinten S. Bernhold, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

2023 Top Student Paper: Apologia Trio: Taking Inspiration from Burke's Pentad to Advance Apologia Analysis
Amanda Walsh, University of Southern Mississippi

7.5 - Freedom of Speech Division Report
Southern States Communication Association – St. Petersburg, FL 2023

a. 2023 Convention program

i. Presentations – 14 presentations were grouped together into 3 panels.

ii. Presentation Topics

- nostalgia and counter-narratives as free speech
- free speech across the South on issues such as book banning, campus speech, critical race theory censorship, and runoff laws and identity politics
- freedom of expression associated with AI, private commemorative expression, and feminist critiques of limits on abortion rights.

iii. Slots – 4, including business meeting.

b. 2023 James Madison Award

i. John Banister (University of Georgia) will receive the award for the essay "On Performativity and Compelled Commercial Speech: Toward a Workable Standard" published in *Communication Law* (2022).

7.8 - SSCA Identity, Inclusion, & Social Justice Division 2023 Annual Report

- I. Division Officers
 - A. Chair - Eletra Gilchrist-Petty, The University of Alabama in Huntsville
 - B. First Vice Chair - Lisa Corrigan, The University of Arkansas
 - C. Second Vice Chair - Chandra Maldonado – Campbell University

- II. New Business: The IISJ Officers performed three major goals:
 - A. Bylaws: As a newly formed Division, it was necessary to draft the Bylaws. The Division officers collaborated with drafting the Bylaws, and the IISJ Division Chair emailed the Bylaws to the SSCA President on September 19, 2022, for adoption consideration.

 - B. Membership Solicitation: In order to boost the IISJ Division’s membership, on September 21, 2022, an electronic appeal was sent out to the SSCA membership encouraging them to officially affiliate with the Division. The correspondence also gave step-by-step instructional guidance regarding the joining procedure.

 - C. 93rd Annual SSCA Convention Call and Programming
 1. The IISJ Division’s First Vice Chair distributed the Call for Papers via several mediums, including the SSCA website, COMMNotes, Facebook’s Communication Scholars for Transformation, and personal communications to SSCA members who identified interest in the division.
 2. The Division received 28 complete submissions, which included 23 individual papers and 5 panels. Of the 28 total submissions, 22 were accepted, which included 4 panels or roundtables. SSCA estimated the IISJ Division would need 4 presentation slots; however, we ended up with 10 presentation slots, far exceeding expectations for the Division’s first conference appearance.
 3. Each paper and panel underwent double-anonymous peer review. We accepted any submission with a mean score over 33.

 - D. Awards
 1. Top Paper Award: “Academic Labor, Diversity, and the Communication Studies Job Market: A Critical Reading of Tenure-Track Postings” by Ryan D’Souza, Chatman University; Jessica Rauchberg, McMaster University; and Beatriz Nieto-Fernandez, Florida Atlantic University
 2. Top Graduate Paper: “A Friend or Foe of Social Movements: A Thematic Analysis of the Effectiveness of Hashtag Activism and the Representation of #SayHerName on Twitter” by Melissa Williams, University of Southern Mississippi

7.9 - Instructional Development Division Report – SSCA – St. Petersburg, FL

A. Division Officers

- i. Immediate Past Chair – Kevin Bryant, Clemson University
- ii. Chair – Michelle Epstein Garland, University of South Carolina Upstate
- iii. Vice Chair – Scott Christen, Tennessee Technological University
- iv. Vice Chair Elect – Ruth Martin, Southeast New Mexico College
- v. Secretary – Beau Foutz, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College

B. 2023 Convention Program

- i. Submissions – 23 total submissions (10 papers and 13 panels)
- ii. Panels (paper and discussion) recommended for inclusion – 2 paper sessions, 10 panel sessions
- iii. Slots – 13, including business meeting

C. 2023 Top Paper Awards

- i. Student - “Just Call Me the Silly-bus Driver”: Using Humor in Online Communication Chatbot Interactions

Melissa Looney – University of Central Florida

- ii. Faculty - “You Get Out of It What You Put Into It”: Experiences of Social Presence & Community in Online Communication Classrooms

Desiree Doyle – University of South Florida

Alexandria Spadaro – University of Kansas

April Chatham-Carpenter – University of Arkansas Little Rock

- D. We appreciate all of the submissions, reviewers, and division officers who helped our division.

7.10 - 2023 SSCA Intercultural Division Report Submitted by Mary Meares March 12, 2023

We had nine papers submitted to the division. After review, all were accepted. These were divided into the Top Paper panel, and two panels: (a) Culture, Religion, and Communication, and (b) Intercultural Communication in Popular Culture. We also had two panels accepted.

- Our Top Paper was “Zora Neale Hurston’s *Barracoon*: Towards a Cosmopolitan Ethics of Language, Race, and Culture” by Lionnell “Badu” Smith from the University of Memphis. Awards for top papers will be given out at the Business Meeting.

We had one additional time slot allocated for the business meeting.

Thanks to Jon Braddy, Eunhui Kim, Pavica Sheldon, Todd Goen, Margaret Butcher, and Margaret D’Silva for reviewing.

7.11 - Interpersonal Communication Division Report April 2023, St. Petersburg, FL

Division Officers

Immediate Past Chair: Emily Scheinfeld

Chair: Melinda Weathers

Vice Chair: Laura Miller

Vice Chair Elect: Lindsey Aloia

Secretary: Dennis McCarty

Submissions

This year we had 16 competitive papers submitted and accepted 14 of them (88%). We had 3 panels submitted and accepted 2 of them (67%). We had 4 roundtables submitted and accepted 3 of them (75%).

We are co-sponsoring 1 panel with the newly created Health Communication Division.

We had 14 reviewers, so each submission was reviewed by 2 reviewers.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered as reviewers, chairs, and respondents this year!

Programming

In total, we had 9 slots to fill. We have 5 paper panels, 3 roundtables, and 1 business meeting.

In addition to our paper panels, we have several interactive roundtables, including a Scholarly Quiz Bowl and a roundtable in which both panelists and participants will informally discuss the publishing and tenure process.

Thank you to our program planner, Laura Miller, for her time and effort in planning a great conference for our division!

Top Paper Awards

Top Paper, *Antecedents and Consequences of Interpersonal Electronic Surveillance in Romantic Relationships*, Lindsey Aloia, University of Arkansas

Top Student Paper, *Expectancy Violations, Uncertainty, and Partner Perceptions of COVID-19 Information Sharing*, Malcolm Evans, Louisiana State University

Congratulations to our award winners!

7.12 - Language and Social Interaction Division Report – SSCA 2023

The Division of Language and Social Interaction (LSI) received 12 submissions: 2 roundtables, 4 faculty papers (one debut), and 6 debut student papers. Two panels of papers were constructed and one panel discussion. The two panels of papers are entitled "Race and Gender in Language and Social Interaction" and "Approaches to Language and Social Interaction: Theories and Methods." The panel discussion composed of seven panelists is entitled "Is You Is or Is You Ain't: Articulating a Manifesto for Future Discourses of Allyship."

Four scholars were awarded the Top Paper Award for the paper entitled "Communicating Politeness: Considerations for 2022 and Beyond"

Andrew Tollison, Merrimack College*

Abby Brooks, Eastern Kentucky University*

Mary Beth Asbury, Middle Tennessee State University*

Kenneth Levine, University at Albany, SUNY*

Eugenie Almeida, Chair, Language and Social Interaction

7.15 - Political Communication Division Report 2023 - SCA

At the 2022 meeting of the Political Communication Division held in Greenville, Southern Carolina, Carson Kay was elected Vice Chair-elect and will be the division planner for the 2024 conference to be held in Frisco, Texas. Colin Cameron, then a graduate student at the University of Southern Mississippi and now a PhD student at Ohio University was elected Secretary for the division. Thus, the division officers for the 2022-2023 year are:

- Immediate Past-Chair / Nominating Committee Representative
 - Robbyn Taylor, Troy University,
- Chair
 - Patrick Wheaton, Georgia Southern University
- Vice Chair / Division Planner
 - Melissa Smith, Mississippi University for Women
- Vice Chair Elect
 - Carson Kay, Washburn University
- Secretary
 - Colin Cameron, Ohio University

Per Melissa Smith, Vice Chair, for the 2023 Convention, the Political Communication Division received a total of 14 submissions, including:

- 11 competitive paper submissions
- 3 panel submissions.

Of those, eight papers and all of the panels were accepted. The division is sponsoring or co-sponsoring 8 panels. The co-sponsored panels include:

- a Vice Presidential Spotlight Panel titled: "Politics and the Future: Communicating About Issues, Enemies, and Images in National Politics"
- a panel co-sponsored with the Rhetoric and Public Affairs Division
- a panel co-sponsored with the Argumentation and Forensics Division

The division's top student paper award went to Jonathan Bridenbaker of The University of Memphis for his paper titled: "The Digital Citizen as Technoliberal Subject: Constitutive Rhetorical Approach to the European Union's Digital Decade"

There were no other paper awards for the division.

The Division Business Meeting at the St. Petersburg convention is scheduled for 5:45pm on Friday, April 14, 2023 in St. Petersburg II

7.16 - Popular Communication Division Report - 2023

Immediate Past Chair: C. Wesley Buerkle, East Tennessee State University

Chair: Dani Williams, Georgia Gwinnett College

Vice Chair: Dave Nelson, Valdosta State University

Vice Chair Elect: Rich Knight, Shippensburg University

Secretary: John Saunders, University of Alabama, Huntsville

Programming

- The division received a total of 20 submissions.
- 2 reviewers per submission.
- Acceptance rate: 95%.
- 7 sessions programmed.

7.17 - Public Relations Division Report

Chair: Michelle Groover

Paper Submissions:

5 Competitive Faculty Papers

3 Student Papers

7 papers accepted

1 paper rejected

There are 2 panels of paper presentations

Top Faculty Paper: Don't Mess with Ukrainian Farmers: An examination of Ukraine and Kyiv's official twitter accounts as Crisis communication, and public diplomacy, and nation building during Russian Invasion

Brandon Boatwright & Andrew Pyle

Top Student Paper : Consumer Social Media Activism: Exploring Strategies

Consumers used to articulate their concerns in the #NestleBadMilk Case

Claire V. Wanzer

Panels:

Five Panels submitted - All 5 accepted

7.20 - American Society for the History of Rhetoric Interest Group Report 2023

The ASHR Interest Group received a total of 8 submissions to be considered for acceptance to SSCA 2023 in St. Petersburg, Florida. Of these, we accepted 7 submissions, rejected 1, and created a total of 3 panels. Here is a list of ASHR's panels for SSCA 2023:

1. Rhetorics of the Black Experience in American History
2. Intersections of Philosophy & Rhetoric in History
3. The Presence of the Past in Modern Conservative Rhetorics

I would also like to extend my thanks to the following scholars who provided their time, labor, and expertise as peer-reviewers for ASHR's 2023 paper submissions:

- Deborah Breede, Coastal Carolina University
- Wanda Little Fennimore, University of South Carolina at Sumter
- Sean O'Rourke, Sewanee: University of the South
- Megan Mapes, Georgia State University
- Rebekah Fox, Texas State University
- Camille Lewis, Furman University

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Wernecke
Vice Chair and Program Planner
cwernecke1@gsu.edu

7.24 - State Associations Interest Group Report - 2023

- I. Interest Group Officers
 - a. **Chair: Lakelyn E. Taylor**, *University of Central Florida*
 - b. **Vice Chair: Michael Gray**, *Louisiana State University*
 - c. **Vice Chair Elect: Roy W. Samuelson**, *Florida Gulf Coast University*
 - d. **Secretary: Ray Ozley**, *University of Montevallo*

- II. 2023 Convention Programming
 - a. 2 Panels
 - i. Rounding the Mentor Cycle: How State Associations Help Graduate Students Communicate the Future of the Discipline
 - ii. But We've Always Done It This Way Part II: What Have We Done to Encourage Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
 - b. Business Meeting
 - i. Friday at 5:45pm-6:45pm ET
 - ii. HTC 1