

**Southern States Communication Association**  
**Annual Convention | “Communicating Our Future”**  
**April 12-16, 2023 | St. Petersburg, FL**

**Mass Communication Division**

**Vice-Chair & Program Planner: Barry Smith, [bpsmith@muw.edu](mailto:bpsmith@muw.edu)**

The Language and Social Interaction Division invites paper and panel proposals for competitive selection. We especially welcome works that address the convention theme, “Communicating Our Future.”

The division welcomes a broad range of papers and panels on all aspects of mass media, mass communication, computer-mediated communication, and new media technologies. Previous papers in our division have included research on emerging technologies, the Internet, print journalism, online journalism, television, radio, film, international broadcasting, advertising, political communication within the media, sports media and communication, video games, and more.

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.

All paper submissions should be no more than 25 pages, including references, tables, and figures. All papers must include an abstract of less than 200 words. **The division limits authors to one first-author submission with unlimited second-author submissions.**

The division also accepts thematic panel proposals, and they will also be peer reviewed. Panels may be co-sponsored with other divisions. Preference will be given to proposals with panelists from multiple institutions.

**Competitive Paper Submissions:** All submissions must be electronically submitted to the SSCA convention site at <https://www.xcdsystem.com/ssca/member>.

Competitive papers are completed research projects dealing with a substantive critical, methodological, or theoretical contribution. Submissions will consist of 1) the paper with all identifying information removed, 2) a separate cover page with the paper title, author(s) names, institutional affiliation(s), contact information, and an abstract of no more than 200 words. Please check the for division/interest groups’ calls for specific length and formatting requirements.

Anonymous Review: All competitive papers submitted should follow standard procedures for removing any information that identifies the author and/or the institution within the paper and within any document metadata. Divisions and interest groups reserve the right to reject any papers not following these standards.

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

**Debut Papers:** A "debut paper" is one submitted by an author or authors who are presenting at SSCA for the first time.

**Panel Submissions:** All submissions must be electronically submitted to the SSCA convention site at <https://www.xcdsystem.com/ssca/member>.

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). All of this should be compiled in a single document and submitted in the "paper upload option" on the XCD platform.

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.

**Round Table Submissions:** All submissions must be electronically submitted to the SSCA convention site at <https://www.xcdsystem.com/ssca/member>.

Round table 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. All of this should be compiled in a single document and submitted in the "paper upload option" on the XCD platform.

A best practice for all divisions is to submit round table proposals with diverse participants comprised of individuals representing different institutions, and where possible and relevant, potential new members.

### **Pertinent to All Submissions**

**Deadlines:** The deadline for submissions to ALL divisions and interest groups is **September 16<sup>th</sup>, by 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time**. Go to the paper submission site by going to the conference website (<https://www.xcdsystem.com/ssca/member>) and clicking the submission link. First time visitors to the site will need to create an account. Return visitors will need to make sure to use the same email address that they used to establish the account. To avoid technical problems, early submission is strongly advised. Any submission not meeting the above requirements will

not be accepted for review. If you have additional questions, please contact the Division or Interest Group Vice-Chair and Planner, **Barry Smith**, [bpsmith@muw.edu](mailto:bpsmith@muw.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.

**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.