**Southern States Communication Association**

**Annual Call for Papers and Panels**

**For the 94th Annual Convention**

***Communicating Belonging***

**April 3-7, 2024**

**Frisco, TX**

**Embassy Suites**

SSCA’s Public Relations Division invites competitive scholarly papers and panel proposals in the field of public relations for the 94th meeting of the Southern States Communication Association. The division welcomes papers on all theoretical and methodological approaches to public relations research. Papers and panels addressing the convention’s theme, “Communicating Belonging,” are specifically welcome.

**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 and

institutional affiliations. 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**

All work submitted for review must be the original work of the author(s) and must not have been previously published or presented at any other conference/convention. Also, papers submitted to the Public Relations Division may not be simultaneously submitted to any other division of SSCA. Any paper found in violation of these guidelines will be removed from consideration.

Paper, panel, and round table submissions must be submitted to the online submission system by 11:59 p.m. (PDT), Saturday, September 16, 2023, using the following link: <https://www.xcdsystem.com/ssca/member>.

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.

*Anonymous Review*: All 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 reserve the right to reject any papers not following these standards.

*Audio-Visual Support*: To maintain affordable conference rates, audio-visual support is extremely limited. It must be requested only if needed with supporting rationale and should be part of the submission to the division planner. Requests will be considered and are not guaranteed.

*Panel Proposals*: Best practices in the interest of divisions is to submit a proposal with a diverse panel, comprised of individuals representing different institutions, and where possible and relevant, potential new members.

*Submission Protocol*: Submissions to SSCA must be original research that has not been published or presented at another regional, national, or international conference. Also, the same paper or panel should not be submitted to more than one division.

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

If you have additional questions, please contact the Public Relations Division Vice-Chair and Planner, Jessica Beckham, at [jbeckha4@utm.edu](mailto:jbeckha4@utm.edu).

We look forward to seeing you in Frisco in 2024!