

BY-LAWS OF THE IDENTITY, INCLUSION, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE DIVISION

Article I: NAME

The organization shall be called the Identity, Inclusion, and Social Justice (IISJ) Division of the SSCA.

Article II: PURPOSE

The purpose of this Division is to engage issues of identity, inclusion, justice, diversity, and access across various methodological perspectives.

Article III: MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the IISJ Division shall be open to any member of the Southern States Communication Association. Only members who have registered their affiliation with this Division may hold office or vote in the IISJ's Business Meetings or Elections.

Article IV: MEETINGS

An annual business meeting will be held at the SSCA convention at the time and place designated by the SSCA vice president as listed in the convention program. Additional general meetings and/or meetings of the Division's Officers, shall be scheduled by the Chair as necessary.

Article V: OFFICERS

Section 1. The Officers of the IISJ Division shall be Chair, Vice-Chair, Vice-Chair Elect, and Immediate Past Chair. The term for each office shall be one year. New officers shall commence duties at the end of the business meeting at which they are elected. Succession to Chair shall be automatic from the office of Vice-Chair Elect unless an office is vacated.

Section 2. The Chair is the chief officer of the IISJ and provides leadership to the Division. The Chair shall prepare the agenda for business meetings, preside at meetings of the Division, serve as the Division's representative on the SSCA Executive Board, and be responsible to the President of the Association.

Section 3. The Vice-Chair shall, in cooperation with the SSCA First Vice-President, Division Chair, and appropriate committees, plan Division programs for the annual convention. The Vice-Chair shall oversee the Division's solicitation, review, and acceptance of competitive papers and panels. The Vice-Chair will assume all Chair responsibilities in the absence of the Chair.

Section 4. The Vice Chair-Elect shall assist the Chair and Vice-Chair as needed, including maintaining the Division's records. The Vice-Chair Elect will also keep the minutes of each Business meeting of the Division and of each Officer meeting and will channel appropriate information to the Association's newsletter, CONNECTIONS.

Section 5. The Immediate-Past Chair will serve on the SSCA Nominating Committee.

Article VI: ELECTIONS

Section 1. Prior to the annual convention the IISJ officers will email the current membership to solicit officer nominations. Nominations will be accepted prior to the conference and from the floor at the convention.

Section 2. Elections will be conducted at the annual business meeting by secret ballot and decided by a simple majority of votes.

Section 3. The Chair will oversee the election process and abstain from casting a vote. In the event of a tie, the Chair will vote, breaking the tie.

Article VII: PAPER/PANEL REVIEW PROCESS

Section 1. The Division will accept both completed papers and thematic panels for conference presentation.

Section 2. The Vice Chair shall select at least two reviewers to assist with the evaluation process. A review sign-up list shall be circulated at the Business meeting, where members will be encouraged to volunteer and serve as reviewers. All reviews shall be evaluated by a blind process. The Vice Chair will break any tie occurring among members of the review panel.

Section 3. The Division recognizes excellent scholarship with two awards: Top Student Paper and Top Faculty Paper. The Division supports the Association's Bostrom Young Scholars Award and forwards the Top Student Paper for consideration into that competition.

Article VIII: PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

In all cases not covered in these Bylaws or by any Standing Rules adopted by the Division, the most recent version of Sturgis Standard Guide of Parliamentary Procedure shall be consulted.

Article IX: QUORUM

Quorum shall consist of members present at the annual business meeting of the Division, inclusive of at least two IISJ officers.

Article X: AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendment to these Bylaws may be initiated by majority vote of the Division's Officers or by petition of two-thirds majority of the Division's Members.

Section 2. Amendments may be voted on either at the annual business meeting or electronically. An amendment may be adopted by two-thirds of those present at the business meeting or by two-thirds of the total Division's membership, if voting electronically.

Section 3. In case of emergency as determined by the SSCA Executive Committee or IISJ Division Officers, a unanimous vote of the Division Officers shall be sufficient to amend these Bylaws.

Approved in April 2023