

LANGUAGE AND SOCIAL INTERACTION DIVISION,

SOUTHERN STATES COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE 1: NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. This organization shall be called Language and Social Interaction Division of the Southern States Communication Association.

Section 2. The purpose of this organization shall be to promote the study of language, social interaction and related processes in communication.

ARTICLE 2: MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this organization shall be open to any bona fide member of the Southern States Communication Association. Only SSCA members who have registered their affiliation with this Division with the SSCA office may hold office or vote in the Division's business meetings and elections.

ARTICLE 3: OFFICERS

The officers of this organization shall be the Chair, Vice Chair, Vice Chair-Elect, and Secretary. Succession to the Vice Chair and Chair shall be automatic from the Office of Vice Chair-Elect unless an office is vacated. The term of office for the Chair, Vice Chair, and Vice Chair-Elect shall be for one year. The term of office for the Secretary shall be for two years.

ARTICLE 4: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The Chair shall prepare the agenda for business meetings, and serve as the Division's representative on the SSCA Executive Board. The Chair shall appoint ad hoc committees as needed. The Chair is the chief officer of the Division and gives leadership to the Division.

Section 2. The Vice Chair, in cooperation with the Chair and appropriate committees, shall be responsible for the overall planning of convention programs sponsored by this Division. The Vice Chair is responsible for the Division's "Call for Papers" for the upcoming convention. The Vice-Chair coordinates the Division's plans for competitive papers and panels, soliciting programs, chairs, and respondents as necessary.

Section 3. The Vice Chair-Elect shall work with the Vice Chair in the planning of the convention

program and otherwise assist the Chair and Vice Chair as needed.

Section 4. The Secretary shall take minutes of business meetings of this organization, serve as it's official correspondent, and keep other organizational records.

ARTICLE 5: COMMITTEES

Section 1. The officers of this organization shall constitute the Executive Committee of the organization.

Section 2. Between meetings of the Division, the Executive Committee is empowered to act as necessary in the name of the Division, subject to review of those actions at a business meeting.

Section 3. The Nominating Committee, elected at the annual meeting, shall be responsible for proposing candidates for each position to be filled and for executing an election.

Section 4. Temporary (ad hoc) committees may be appointed by the Chair with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee. Such committees may also be created by the membership of the Division at a business meeting.

ARTICLE 6: MEETINGS

Section 1. An annual business meeting shall be held at the time and place designated by the SSCA vice president and listed in the SSCA convention program.

Section 2. Additional meetings, or meetings of the Executive Committee, shall be scheduled as necessary by the Chair.

ARTICLE 7: PAPER REVIEW PROCESS

Section 1. The Vice Chair shall review the submitted papers and panels, selecting additional reviewers to read and evaluate the submitted papers and programs as necessary. The Vice-Chair may identify a top paper and/pr a top student paper to be recognized by the Association.

Section 2. The Division supports the Association's Bostrom Young Scholars Award and forwards high quality student papers to the Association for consideration in that competition.

ARTICLE 8: ELECTIONS

Section 1. The Officers and Representatives of the Division shall be elected by a mail ballot of the membership of the Language and Social Interaction Division. This election shall be held at least two months prior to the annual business meeting.

Section 2. At the annual business meeting, each member may write up to three names of members on a ballot as nominees for the Division Nominating Committee. These ballots will be tallied by members of the outgoing Nominating Committee and the results announced at the business meeting. The three members receiving the largest number of votes will constitute the nominating committee for the following year with the person receiving the highest number of votes serving as committee chair. No member may serve on the nominating committee two successive years. The nominating committee shall nominate at least two members for each office. The nominating

committee, with the assistance of the Executive Committee and the Executive Director of the Association, shall execute the mail balloting, tabulate the votes and announce the results at the annual meeting. The nominee receiving the highest number of votes will be elected to the office in question. The term of office for the Nominating Committee shall be for one year.

Section 3. The Vice Chair-Elect shall be elected each year and will assume office at the end of the next annual meeting. The Secretary will assume office in odd-numbered years. The division's representative to the SSCA Nominating Committee will be elected to assume office at the beginning of the annual meeting during even-numbered years.

Section 4. a vacancy in any office shall be filled by the Executive Committee until the next business meeting at which time an election shall take place. a person so elected shall serve the remaining term for that office.

ARTICLE 9: QUORUM

A quorum of seven members, including two officers or their proxies, attending an official business meeting of the Division will be sufficient to conduct the business of this organization. In the absence of a quorum, those present may authorize another meeting or a mailing to conduct Division business. If a quorum fails to appear at two successive annual meetings, the Division's Executive Committee shall consider dissolution of the Division.

ARTICLE 10: AMENDMENTS

Section 1. The By-Laws of the Language and Social Interaction Division may be amended at any annual business meeting by a two-third's majority of members present and voting. Amendments must be submitted in writing to the Chair and circulated among the membership at least one month in advance of the scheduled convention at which they will be voted upon. Publication in a division or Association newsletter shall constitute circulation to the membership. The By-Laws of the Division may also be amended by a two-thirds majority of those voting in a mail ballot coordinated by the Executive Committee.

Section 2. In case of an emergency, as determined by the Executive Committee or the membership, a unanimous vote of those present at a business meeting, a quorum being present, shall be sufficient to amend these By-Laws.

Section 3. At any annual meeting those present may, by majority vote, adopt standing rules consistent in principle with these By-Laws.

ARTICLE 11: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

In all cases not covered by these bylaws or by any Standing Rules adopted by the Division, the current edition of *Sturgis Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure* shall be consulted. A parliamentarian may be appointed by the Chair with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee.

PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL AND ADOPTED BY THE LANGUAGE AND SOCIAL
INTERACTION DIVISION AT THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING IN NEW ORLEANS,
LOUISIANA, APRIL, 1995