

Mass Communication Division Bylaws

(Amended April 5, 2008)

Article I: Name

The name of this organization shall be the Mass Communication Division, hereafter referred to as MCD, a division of the Southern States Communication Association, hereafter referred to as SSCA.

Article II: Purpose

The purpose of the Division is to promote the study and teaching of mass communication at all academic levels and in various academic and non-academic settings.

Article III: Membership

Any member of SSCA may affiliate with the MCD. Only members who have registered their affiliation with SSCA may hold office or vote in its business meetings and elections.

Article IV: Meetings

An annual business meeting will be held during the annual SSCA convention, at a time and place designated by the SSCA Vice President and listed in the convention program.

Article V: Officers

The officers of the Division shall be Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary/Vice-Chair Elect. The term of office for all officers will be one year, and new officers shall assume their duties at the end of the business meeting at which they are elected. Succession to the office of Vice-Chair will be automatic from the office of Secretary/Vice-Chair Elect, and succession to the office of Chair will be automatic from the office of Vice-Chair, unless an office is vacated.

Article VI: Duties of Officers

Section 1. The Chair shall prepare the agenda for business meetings, preside at those meetings, serve as the MCD representative on the SSCA Executive Board. The Chair shall appoint ad hoc committees as needed.

Section 2. The Vice-Chair shall be responsible for overall planning of annual convention programs sponsored or cosponsored by MCD. The Vice-Chair coordinates MCD plans and prepares all correspondence for newsletter(s) for competitive papers and panels, solicited programs, the Production Showcase, panel chairs, and panel respondents. The Vice-Chair shall head the committee reviewing competitive papers and program proposals for the annual convention. At-large members of the committee will be selected by the Vice Chair. The Vice Chair will notify all those submitting competitive papers, panels, or Production Showcase materials as to the outcome of deliberations in accordance with deadlines set forth by the SSCA Vice President and Program Planner.

Section 3. The Secretary/Vice-Chair Elect shall take minutes at MCD business meetings, serve as official MCD correspondent, secure current MCD mailing lists from the SSCA Executive Secretary, and publish and distribute two newsletters between annual conventions. The first newsletter shall include the Vice-Chair's call for papers, panels, and the Production Showcase, as well as the minutes from the previous business meeting. The second newsletter shall include the MCD convention program for the upcoming convention.

Article VII: Convention Submissions

The committee reviewing papers and program proposals shall be composed of the Vice-Chair and at least two other MCD members at large. Competitive paper submissions will be submitted to the appointed members of the review committee on a blind basis, so that the identities of those submitting competitive papers are not known during the judging process. Individuals presenting papers or Production Showcase materials will be notified as to the time and place of their presentation, as will be any panel chairs or respondents. Where appropriate, presenters will be notified to provide papers or production materials to respondents prior to a deadline established by the Vice-Chair. The division will recognize the top paper and the top student paper in the division at the annual awards banquet.

Article VIII: Elections

Section 1. A new Secretary/Vice-Chair Elect shall be elected at the annual MCD business meeting held in conjunction with the annual SSCA convention.

Section 2. The immediate past Chair of MCD shall serve as the division's Representative to the SSCA Nominating Committee.

Section 3. Nominations for all offices shall be entertained from the floor. Election shall be conducted by ballot, and decided by a simple majority of votes cast.

Section 4. Vacancy in any office shall be filled by automatic succession if appropriate. A vacancy in the office of Secretary/Vice-Chair Elect or Representative to the SSCA Nominating Committee shall be filled by a member of the MCD appointed by the Division Chair until the next business meeting, at which time a new election shall take place. A person so elected shall serve the full term for that office.

Article IX: Quorum

Those members of MCD in attendance at the annual business meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Article X: Amendments

The bylaws of the MCD may be amended at any annual convention by a two-thirds majority of members present and voting.