

SOUTHERN STATES COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION
RHETORIC AND PUBLIC ADDRESS DIVISION

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Constitution and Bylaws

ARTICLE I: NAME

This organization shall be called the Rhetoric and Public Address Division of the Southern States Communication Association.

ARTICLE II: SCOPE AND AFFILIATION

This organization shall function as a member activity group of the Southern States Communication Association. It shall serve the same geographic area as that encompassed by the Southern States Communication Association.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this organization shall be open to any bona fide member of the Southern States Communication Association.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of this organization shall be chair, vice-chair, vice-chair-elect, and secretary.

Section 2. The vice-chair shall automatically succeed the incumbent chair upon the expiration of the incumbent chair's term of office.

Section 3. The vice-chair-elect shall automatically succeed the incumbent vice-chair upon the expiration of the incumbent vice-chair's term of office.

Section 4. The chair, vice-chair, and vice-chair-elect shall be elected to office for a term of one year beginning on the date of election.

Section 5. The secretary shall be elected for a term of two years beginning on the date of election.

Section 6. In the event of a vacancy during these respective tenures of office:

A. The chair will be replaced for the duration of that chair's tenure by another chair, appointed by a committee consisting of the three immediate past chairs of this organization who are still members of this organization;

B. The vice-chair will be replaced until the next regularly scheduled business meeting of the division by a vice-chair appointed by the chair;

C. The secretary will be replaced until the next annual business meeting by a temporary secretary appointed by the chair: at the next business meeting the organization shall elect a secretary who will begin a regular two year term from the date of this election.

ARTICLE V: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. Between annual meetings of the division, the Executive Committee is empowered to act as necessary in the name of the division.

Section 2. The officers of the organization shall constitute the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The chair shall perform the duties normally associated with that position. In addition, the chair shall be responsible for the planning of all business meetings of this organization held during the annual convention of Southern States Communication Association, and for publicizing these meetings in the convention program. The chair shall establish and maintain organizational liaison with the officers and Executive Council of the Southern States Communication Association. The chair shall appoint ad hoc committees as needed.

Section 2. The vice-chair shall be responsible for the duties normally associated with that position and any others delegated by the chair. The vice-chair shall be responsible for the overall planning of convention programs sponsored by this organization.

Section 3. The vice-chair-elect shall assist the vice-chair in planning convention programs.

Section 4. The secretary shall take minutes of business meetings of this organization, serve as its official correspondent, keep other organizational records, and provide the executive director of the Southern States Communication Association with the minutes of the business meetings in a timely manner as determined by the executive director.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 1. There shall be at least one meeting of the Executive Committee each year.

Section 2. There shall be at least one business meeting of the organization each year.

Section 3. The above specified meeting shall be held in conjunction with the annual convention of the Southern States Communication Association. Additional meetings may be called at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS

The Constitution and By-Laws of the Rhetoric and Public Address Division may be amended at any annual convention by a two-third's majority of members present and voting. Amendments must be submitted in writing to the secretary and circulated among the membership at least one month in advance of the scheduled convention at which they will be voted upon. Amendments which have not been submitted in writing in advance may be proposed and discussed at any business meeting but cannot be approved until the next annual business meeting.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I: ELECTIONS

Section 1. Officers shall be elected at a business meeting of the Rhetoric and Public Address Division held in conjunction with the annual convention of the Southern States Communication Association.

Section 2. The vice-chair-elect shall be elected at each annual convention's business meeting. The secretary shall be elected at those conventions at which the term of office of the incumbent expires.

Section 3. All elections shall be conducted by ballot, and decided by a simple majority of the votes cast for each office in question.

Section 4. At the annual business meeting of this organization held in conjunction with the annual convention of the Southern States Communication Association, each member of this organization attending may write up to three names of members on a ballot as nominees for the nominating committee. These ballots will be tallied and the results announced at the business meeting. The three members receiving the largest numbers 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 person may serve on a nominating committee two successive years. The nominating committee is to

nominate at least one member for each office to filled at the next annual business meeting. In any case where there are at least two nominees for one office, the voting will be by secret ballot and the nominee receiving the highest number of votes will be elected to the office in question.

Section 5. Absentee or proxy votes will not be recognized in conducting the meetings of this organization.

Section 6. A quorum of ten members attending an official business meeting of the division will be sufficient to conduct the business of this organization.

AS ADOPTED 1979, AMENDED IN 1998