

Instructional Development Division Business Meeting Minutes
Southern States Communication Association – Birmingham, AL
4:15 P.M. – 5:30 P.M. Friday, April 10, 2026
Colleen Mestayer, Tennessee Technological University Presiding

- I. Call to Order
- II. Time 4:20 pm central time
- III. Introductions of the leadership team
- IV. Attendance: Elizabeth Hanson-Smith, Colleen Mestayer, Jessica Rogers, Cynthia Sampson, Scott Christen, Stephanie Kelly, Rico Self, Laurie Metcalf, Marieke Keller, Twyla Coy, Samantha Chapuseaux, Katherine Hendrix, Sumeyya Akdilek, Janine Armstrong
- V. Approve Agenda 4:21
 1. Motion: Laurie Metcalf
 2. Second: Scott Christen
 3. Vote: 12-0-0
- VI. Approve minutes 4:22 pm
 1. Motion: Scott Christen
 2. Second: Laurie Metcalf
 3. Vote: 12-0-0
- VII. Officer Reports
 1. Division Chair, Colleen Mestayer 4:24 pm
 - a) *SSCA Executive Council Meeting Information*
 - (i) Two meetings - DEI committee name change voted to become community building to prevent targeting
 - (ii) New budget passed - some raises in next year's rates (but lots of money to put the conference losing money, but 3rd highest /
 - (iii) Position filled - Strat Comm Director (Nakia Welch)
 - (iv) SSCA 2030 will be 100 years at the Myrtle Beach Centennial committee to plan the conference with a historical focus. If you want to join, Narissa is in charge of the committee. Contact the officers if you need more info
 - b) *Hendrix Award Information*
 - (i) 3rd year with Dr. Hendrix in the audience
 - (ii) The award is for a published an article that deals with meaningful content
 - (iii) Rico Self won this year's award
 - (iv) Award ceremony tomorrow
 - c) *Top Paper Awards*
 - (i) Top student paper - Sumeyya Akdilek

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- (ii) Faculty Paper (Not present, but there were 4 faculty members represented)
Heather Riddell, University of West Florida; Alexis Miller, University of West Florida; Salina Randall, University of West Florida; Vanessa Rainey, University of West Florida

2. Division Vice-Chair (Program Planner) – Elizabeth Smith 4:32

(a) *Division Numbers - 23/25 submissions*

- (i) New Panels
- (ii) Created 2 paper panels
- (iii) Poster panel 5 submission
- (iv) 10 round table panels
- (v) Co-sponsored a panel with the community college and identity
- (vi) Hendrix winners responsible for the panel, all winners with Dr. Hendrix
- (vii) Sign up to be a chair, a reviewer, and be responsible for reviewing next year's submissions
- (viii) Restating - attendance / who were the reviewers from last year
- (ix) 12 reviewers for last year
- (x) Posters were a success

3. Division Vice-Chair Elect - Cynthia Sampson 4:37

(a) *Theme Curiosity, Mobile, AL; April 7-11th*

VIII. Elections 4:38

(a) *Vice-Chair Elect*

- 1. Nomination: Jessica Rogers & Laurie Metcalf
- 2. Candidates' speeches of why to vote for them (paper ballot)
- 3. Motion to close nominations: Scott Christen
- 4. Second: Stephanie Kelly
- 5. Vote: Laurie Metcalf 9; Jessica Rogers 7

(b) *Secretary*

- 1. Nomination: Ethan Hunter from Louisiana, Accepted Phone attendance
- 2. Motion: Scott Christen
- 3. Second: Stephanie Kelly
- 4. Vote: 13-0-0

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IX. Old Business 4:52

(a) *Proposal for Amendment to IDD Bylaws: Creation of the Katherine Grace Hendrix Article of the Year Award Standing Committee*

1. Amend Article XI by adding a section B, to add another standing committee
2. Wording of Section B: The Katherine Grace Hendrix Article of the Year Award Standing Committee shall be established to oversee the selection process for the award. The Committee shall be composed of the Chair, Vice-Chair Elect, and one person appointed by the Chair. The Committee shall review all submitted applications for the Award and select the winner based on the established criteria. The Committee shall communicate their decision to the IDD membership and the SSCA Executive Committee.
3. Vote on Amendment to by-laws
 - a) Motion: Scott Christen
 - b) Second: Stephanie Kelly
 - c) Vote: 13-0-0

X. New Business 4:55

- (a) Next Year's theme (curiosity)
- (b) Discussion and brainstorming led by Cynthia Sampson
- (c) Ideas: curiosity killed the CAT (Communication Accommodation Theory), More than 1 way to skin the cat, curious george, things are getting curiouiser and curiouiser, Alice and Wonderland, Ted Lasso, curious not judgmental, learning curiosity (eager to learn more), Queeriousity
- (d) Metaphors to help spark new ideas: fuel, desire, spark, doomscrolling, ocean, black hole, oxygen, light bulb, plug, recharging
- (e) Cynthia connects to teaching, "what are you trying to do outside of teaching, researching
- (f) Panel ideas:
 1. Curious about the people about the place from city
 2. Museum of Mysteries
 3. Walking performance tour - research area, then give a lecture/panel

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4. Inspiring curiosity for students
5. Persisting in curiosity
6. What made you curious about graduate school
7. Answering graduate students' questions about next steps and their role as a student
8. Curiosity about the work place
9. Curiosity and excitement about teaching
10. Graduate student curiosity panel (Q&A)

(g) GIFTS

1. We need a specific call for gifts
2. Co-sponsor with the community college

(h) Special Panels

1. Coordinating a planning event like a ghost tour, where people buy their own ticket
2. Setting up a meeting event

(i) Posters - they were a success, so continue

(j) Other Ideas:

1. Panels on creating content for the course as they have the same importance
2. Creating a panel with a variety of levels of expertise, including non-tenured track, tenure-track, adjunct, etc.
3. Start Google Docs with colleges now, so ready for submissions

XI. Pass gavel

- (a) Motion to adjourn: Stephanie Kelly
- (b) Second: Scott Christen
- (c) Vote: 13-0-0

XII. Adjournment 5:22 pm

XIII. Announcement: Encourage attendees to attend the community college event

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