

Southern States Communication Association Argumentation and Forensics Division

Division Bylaws

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Argumentation and Forensics Division of the Southern States Communication Association.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The purpose of the organization is to encourage the growth and development of argumentation and forensics education and activities.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Members of SSCA with an interest in forensics, rhetoric, or argumentation may attend, participate, and vote on matters of concern to the organization.

ARTICLE IV: QUORUM

A quorum of five members, including two officers, is sufficient to conduct business during an official business meeting. In the absence of a quorum, those present may authorize another meeting to conduct division business.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS & ELECTIONS

1. The officers of the AFD shall include Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer.
2. The Chair and Vice Chair will each serve one-year terms. The Vice-Chair will be required to generate the call for papers and programs, select the programs for inclusion in the annual convention program, and notify submitters concerning the disposition of their program and paper proposals.
3. The AFD Secretary shall record the proceedings of the annual business meeting and then prepare and submit the minutes to the SSCA Executive Director. The Secretary shall serve a 2-year term.
4. The AFD Treasurer shall maintain the organization's financial records and coordinate the disposition of deposits and withdrawals from the association's bank account.
5. The treasurer will serve a 2-year term of office and may be reelected at the discretion of the membership.
6. Officer elections shall be conducted at the AFD annual meeting. Nominations will be accepted prior to the convention and forwarded to the chair. Additional nominations for officers may be made from the floor.
7. The officers will assume their duties immediately upon election. In the event an elected office is vacated, a special election may be held to fill the position.
8. A minimum of five AFD members must attend the annual business meeting for voting to occur. In the absence of a quorum of five, the officers may be elected by a

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mail in ballot conducted within 30 days after the convention business meeting or those in attendance may allow the current Chair to appoint a nominated candidate to the post of Vice-chair so that the AFD is represented at the convention planning meeting held during the convention's final days.

ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES

1. The officers of the organization shall constitute the Executive Committee of the organization.
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 the business meeting.
3. An Argumentation and Forensics Contributor award committee, Town Hall Debate committee, or ad hoc committee may be elected or appointed at a business meeting. Such committees may also be appointed between meetings by the Chair with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS & GOVERNANCE

1. The regular business meeting of the association shall be held during the annual SSCA convention at a predetermined time listed in the official meeting program.
2. In the event of the absence of the Chair from the business meeting, the meeting shall be conducted by his or her designated alternate, selected from among the AFD membership.
3. Measures may be initiated and presented by correspondence at any time. Upon the written request of any member, the Executive Secretary shall submit any germane proposal for a vote of the membership.
4. For ordinary items of business, a majority vote of the voting membership is required for items submitted by correspondence. A majority vote of members present and voting is required for adoption of items presented at a regular business meeting.

VIII: REVIEW PROCESS

1. The Vice Chair shall select an appropriate number of reviewers to read, evaluate, and recommend paper and panel proposals. The Vice Chair is responsible for determining which proposals are accepted based on the recommendations of reviewers.
2. The Vice Chair may identify a Top Paper and/or Top Student Paper to be recognized by the association.

IX: DIVISION AWARD

1. The division award shall be called: "Forensics Contributor of the Year."
2. Nominations for Forensics Contributor of the Year will be accepted by the Vice Chair prior to the start of the Southern States Communication Association's annual

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convention. The Vice Chair is responsible for determining who will receive the award and for notifying the recipient prior to the business meeting. If an award committee exists, the Vice Chair shall consult with the committee before determining an award recipient.

3. The Forensics Contributor of the Year award will be presented during the division's official business meeting.

ARTICLE X: TOWN HALL DEBATE

1. Proposals for the Town Hall Debate may be made through the Southern States Communication Association proposal process or through any other means determined by the Vice Chair.
2. The Vice Chair is responsible for determining whether a Town Hall Debate will be scheduled and who the participants will be. If a Town Hall Debate committee exists, the Vice Chair shall consult with the committee before making a final determination.

ARTICLE XI: FINANCES

1. The organization will fund awards and other valuable forms of recognition through use of the SSCA annual stipend and with the support of the SSCA Executive Director's office.
2. Other funding for association activities will be gleaned from additional funds donated and maintained in a separate organizational bank account administered by the AFD Treasurer.

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENTS

This document may be amended by votes taken during the annual meeting and mail in votes where appropriate. A proposed amendment must be submitted to a regular business meeting, where it must receive a majority vote of those present and voting. Within 30 days of such an action, the AFD Secretary shall mail a ballot to all members.

A two-thirds majority of AFD members responding within 30 days will be required for ratification of the amendment.

ARTICLE XIII: ARCHIVED SFA BYLAWS

The organization honors the legacy of past leadership through the preservation of the Constitution of the Southern Forensics Association as an archive within this document (Appendix A).

APPENDIX A

CONSTITUTION OF THE SOUTHERN FORENSICS ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Southern Forensics Association.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The purpose of the organization is to encourage the growth and development of forensics activities in varied forms throughout the region and the nation.

ARTICLE III: PHILOSOPHY

The Association is a division of the Southern States Communication Association and is affiliated with a number of major forensics organizations including the Cross Exam Debate Association, the National Education Debate Association, the National Forensics Association, the American Forensics Association, the American Debate Association, and the National Parliamentary Debate Association.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

Members of SSCA with an interest in forensics, rhetoric, or argumentation may attend, participate, and vote on matters of concern to the organization.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

SECTION 1: The officers of the SFA shall include Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer.

SECTION 2: The Chair and Vice Chair will each serve one-year terms. The Vice-Chair will be required to generate the call for papers and programs, select the programs for inclusion in the annual convention program, and notify submitters concerning the disposition of their program and paper proposals.

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SECTION 3: The SFA Secretary will be asked to record the proceedings of the annual business meeting and then prepare and submit the minutes to the SSCA Executive Director for inclusion in the organization's newsletter. The Secretary shall serve a 2 year term.

SECTION 4: The SFA Treasurer is required to maintain the organization's financial records and coordinate the disposition of deposits and withdrawals from the association's bank account. The treasurer will serve a 2 year term of office and may be reelected at the discretion of the membership.

SECTION 5: The officers will assume their duties immediately upon election. In the event an elected office is vacated, a special election may be held to fill the position.

SECTION 6: Officer elections shall be conducted at the SFA annual meeting. Nominations will be accepted prior to the convention and forwarded to the chair. Additional nominations for officers may be made from the floor. A minimum of five SFA members must be in attendance at the annual business meeting for voting to occur. In the absence of a quorum of five, the officers may be elected by a mail in ballot conducted within 30 days after the convention business meeting or those in attendance may allow the current Chair to appoint a nominated candidate to the post of Vice-chair so that SFA is represented at the convention planning meeting held during the convention's final days.

ARTICLE VI: GOVERNANCE

SECTION 1: The regular business meeting of the association shall be held during the annual SSCA convention at a predetermined time listed in the official meeting program.

SECTION 2: In the event of the absence of the Chair from the business meeting, the meeting shall be conducted by his or her designated alternate, selected from among the SFA membership.

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ARTICLE VI (CONTINUED)

SECTION 3: Measures may be initiated and presented by correspondence at any time. Upon the written request of any member institution, the Executive Secretary shall submit any germane proposal for a vote of the membership.

SECTION 4: For ordinary items of business, a majority vote of the voting membership is required for items submitted by correspondence. A majority vote of members present and voting is required for adoption of items presented at a regular business meeting.

ARTICLE VII: FINANCES

SECTION 1: The organization will fund awards and other valuable forms of recognition through use of the SSCA annual stipend and with the support of the SSCA Executive Director's office.

SECTION 2: Other funding for association activities will be gleaned from additional funds donated by the SFA membership and maintained in a separate organizational bank account administered by the SFA Treasurer.

ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS

This document may be amended by votes taken during the annual meeting and mail in votes where appropriate. A proposed amendment must be submitted to a regular business meeting, where it must receive a majority vote of those present and voting. Within 30 days of such an action, the SFA Secretary shall mail a ballot to all members. A two-thirds majority of SFA members responding within 30 days will be required for ratification of the amendment.