

Fall Newsletter

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Hello CSCA Political Communication Interest Group members,

I hope you enjoyed your summer and are having a great start to the fall semester. As you know, the submission deadline for the 2019 CSCA conference in Omaha, Nebraska is fast approaching. All submissions will be done through the electronic submission system this year. Please consider submitting your best papers and panels to our interest group. With mid-term elections and the current political climate, I am confident there will be plenty of fascinating research presented in Omaha.

I would like to thank Dr. Soo-Hye Han for her hard work on making the 2018 conference in Milwaukee a great success. Soo-Hye served as our Chair and program planner and did a wonderful job with our program.

If you are willing to serve as a reviewer, chair, or respondent for this year's conference, [please sign up via the short survey](#). You can also find the link on our Facebook group – "CSCA Political Communication Interest Group." Your service to the interest group is much appreciated.

This year's conference theme is Dialogue, which I think is quite timely and important to our interest group. I encourage everyone to think about what "dialogue" means to them, their research, and their teaching. All methods are encouraged and respected. If you have any questions or would like assistance in putting together a panel, feel free to contact me.

We have a new award which will be given for the first time in Omaha. The Judith S. Trent Award for Early Career Excellence in Political Communication has been established and the call for nominations is included in this newsletter. We will also be honoring Juddi in Omaha with a special panel.

I am looking forward to our 2019 conference, and hope to see you in Omaha! Thank you all for your service to our interest group, and I look forward to your submissions!

Sincerely,

Terri Easley-Giraldo
Professor, Speech & Debate
Johnson County Community College

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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Dr. Trent is a Professor of Communication in the Department of Communication at the University of Cincinnati. Her research and teaching interests are primarily in political communication with a strong focus in communication in presidential campaigns and the campaign strategies and presentational styles of women in elective politics.

In 1982, Dr. Trent served as the president of the CSCA and in 1997 was elected president of the National Communication Association. She has been selected as the keynote speaker for numerous states and regional communication associations. She was the recipient of the National Communication Association Distinguished Service Award in 2004 and was inducted into the Central States Communication Association Hall of Fame in 2006.

Dr. Trent is the author, co-author, or editor of 27 books and book chapters, 40 academic journal articles, and more than 200 presentations published in communication journals or presented at state, regional, national and international communication conferences. A frequent media commentator during the 1992 through 2008 presidential campaigns, Dr. Trent appeared more than 60 times as a political communication analyst for the ABC, NBC, and CBS television affiliates in Cincinnati, numerous times on radio, and has had her research cited in various newspapers in Ohio and elsewhere, including *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*.

TRENT AWARD—CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

We are now accepting nomination applications for the 2019 Central States Communication Association (CSCA) Judith S. Trent Award for Early Career Excellence in Political Communication (Trent Award). This award honors an early career scholar who has an outstanding record of research in the area of political communication. “Early career” is defined as within the first 15 years of receiving a Ph.D. in Communication or a related field.

Nominees must (a) be in their first 15 years of receiving a Ph.D. in Communication or a related field; (b) demonstrate an outstanding record of research in the area of political communication; (c) be a member of CSCA at the time they apply; and (d) attend the conference the year in which the award is presented (2019 in Omaha, Nebraska).

To be considered for the Trent Award, nominees must electronically submit a packet as a single PDF file. This packet should include the following items, arranged in this order: (a) a letter of nomination not to exceed 2 pages (self-nominations are welcome), and up to two additional support letters from established scholars in political communication, each not to exceed 2 pages; (b) a 1-2 page statement summarizing the candidate’s program of scholarship, specifically noting key contributions to the area of political communication; (c) a full curriculum vita; and (d) a single published journal article or book chapter that they believe best showcases their work.

The materials must be received by Thursday, November 1, 2018, 11:59 pm CST. Please submit the materials and any inquiries electronically to: Terri Easley-Giraldo at teasley3@jccc.edu referencing TRENT AWARD in the subject line. An email response confirming receipt of materials will be provided for all nominations submitted by the deadline.

The recipient of the Trent Award will receive a cash award from the endowed fund and a plaque as well as recognition at the 2019 CSCA convention in Omaha, Nebraska.

Endowed by a \$2,500 gift from Dr. Trent, the Judith S. Trent Award for Early Career Excellence in Political Communication will honor an early career scholar who has an outstanding record of research in political communication.

CALL FOR PAPERS AND PANELS

2019 Central States Communication Association (CSCA)
Annual Convention in Omaha, NE
April 3-6, 2019
Dialogue

The Political Communication Interest Group invites the submission of competitive papers and thematic panel proposals to be considered for presentation at the 2019 CSCA convention to be held in Omaha, Nebraska.

Submissions to the Political Communication Interest Group should explore theoretical and/or critical issues related to the study of politics and communication. The scope of this Interest Group is broad, as the study of politics and communication may encompass the communicative activity of citizens, individual political figures, governmental institutions, the media, political campaigns, advocacy groups, and social movements. This Interest Group recognizes and encourages research that addresses political communication topics in all contexts and levels of analysis, employing a variety of methodologies. Papers and proposals that highlight and explore the theme of this convention, *Dialogue*, are especially encouraged.

Proposals that explore connections with other interest groups are especially encouraged. We seek interactive and innovative formats to further develop and increase participation in the discussions.

Awards: All top papers will be recognized during our business meeting. Awards will be given to the top overall paper and the J. Jeffrey Auer Award for the top competitive graduate student paper (which also includes a monetary award).

Guidelines for Submission:

Papers: Only completed papers will be accepted. Remove all author references in the text of the paper. Graduate and undergraduate students should type "STUDENT" on the upper right-hand corner of the title page. If the paper will be a student debut, please type "DEBUT STUDENT" on the upper right-hand corner of the title page and label it as graduate or undergraduate. To be considered a student debut paper, (1) the author must be a student, (2) the paper must have single authorship, and (3) the paper must be the author's first paper to be presented at CSCA. Indicate if author(s) are CSCA members. All papers should contain a 50-75-word abstract.

Panels: Proposals that explore connections with other interest groups are encouraged. Panels with institutional diversity are highly encouraged and preferred. If you would like to propose a different format for your panel, please describe the format briefly in the panel description.

We seek interactive and innovative panel formats to further develop our program and provide opportunities for discussion at the convention. Some examples of different formats include:

Dialogue Sessions: Select a key issue, debate, or article that will serve to open the session and then become the focus of conversation.

Spotlight Sessions: Focus on a noted scholar and a particular aspect of teaching or research.

Debates: This format encourages a town hall atmosphere with a prearranged solution. Teams argue for and against the resolution.

All technology requests must be made at the time of submission. Projectors and screens are available; computers are not. Please only request the media if it is absolutely essential.

CSCA will have a new online submission system. Details will be available on the CSCA website closer to the submission deadline.

Proposals must be submitted electronically through our online submission system via **Wednesday, October 10th 11:59pm CST.**

Questions about submissions to the Political Communication Interest Group can be sent to the Political Communication Interest Group Chair/Program Planner: Terri M. Easley-Giraldo, Johnson County Community College, teasley3@jccc.edu

INTEREST GROUP OFFICERS, 2018-19



Chair

Terri Easley-Giraldo
Johnson County Community College
Teasley3@jccc.edu



Vice Chair

Colene J. Lind
Kansas State University
colenejlind@ksu.edu



Secretary

Joel Reed
University of Missouri Columbia
joelreed@mail.missouri.edu



PURPOSE

According to the bylaws, “the purpose of the Political Communication Interest Group is to support the teaching and research of political communication. The scope of this Interest Group is broad, as the study of politics and communication may encompass the communicative activity of citizens, individual political figures, governmental institutions, the media, political campaigns, advocacy groups and social movements. This Interest Group recognizes and encourages research that addresses political communication topics in all contexts and levels of analysis, employing a variety of methodologies.”

For more information, click through [to the group's pages on the CSCA website](#).

CSCA members may join the interest group free of charge by emailing your request to csc.ed@gmail.com

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Political Communication Interest Group
Business Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 5, 2018

Meeting called to order by Soo-Hye Han (Kansas State University), chair.

Guests and Announcements

CSCA second VP candidates each addressed the group, asking for support for their respective candidacies.

CSCA incoming VP and 2019 planner Chad McBride updated the group on next year's conference. To be held at the downtown Doubletree in Omaha under the Theme “Dialogue,” McBride encouraged the group to consider panels that with local connections and practitioners. McBride also announced that an online submission system will be used next year, similar to NCA's.

Dianne Bystrom announced her retirement and Iowa State's search for a new director of the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women in Politics. She encouraged members to share the call and apply.

Business

Chair introduced current interest group leadership, including herself, Vice Chair Terri Easley-Giraldo (Johnson County Community College) and Secretary Colene Lind (Kansas State University).

2017 meeting minutes were approved.

Chair announced the proposed creation of the Judith S. Trent Early Career Excellence, thanks to a initial gift of \$2500 donated by Juddi Trent (University of Cincinnati) to start an endowment in support of the award. The award would honor political communication scholars in the first 15 years of their careers who have an outstanding record of research. Han asked for group consideration of the award. Group voted unanimously to accept and approve creation of the award, followed by a brief statement by Juddi on her vision for the award and its purpose. Han announced that a committee would be formed to create an application process and select the first recipient.

2018 Conference Report

Chair then recognized this year's top paper panelists:

- Molly M. Greenwood, Josh C. Bramlett (University of Missouri, Columbia) and Joshua P. Bolton (Loras College; Top Paper)
- Sara Kitsch (Monmouth College)
- Kirsten Theye (Concordia College Moorhead) and Steven Melling (University of Missouri, Kansas City)
- Josh C. Bramlett and Joel Lansing Reed (University of Missouri, Columbia; J. Jeffery Auer Award for Top Graduate Student Paper)

Chair then reported interest-group statistics and activities for 2018 conference:

- 15 volunteers reviewed 15 submitted papers.
- 12 slots allotted and used by the interest group. Two panels were co-sponsored with other groups, and two were senior-scholars panels; chair thanked Mitchell McKinney (University of Missouri, Columbia) for organizing senior-scholar panels.

Election of Officers

Chair asked for nominations for Secretary. Joel Reed's (University of Missouri, Columbia), nomination was offered, seconded, and approved.

After conference planning and brainstorming on Omaha connections to leverage for potential panels, chair adjourned meeting.