**2024 CSCA Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Interest Group Business Meeting Summary Saturday, April 6 3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.**

* **Introductions of officers and present members were made.** 
  + Gordana Lazić, Vice-Chair, Missouri State University
  + Alexandra Parr Balaram, Secretary, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
* **Review and approval of 2023 Business Meeting Minutes**
  + Motion to approve, seconded, and approved unanimously by those in attendance (5-0)
* **Election of Secretary for 2024-2025**
  + Nominations requested, brief discussion of duties of the role
  + Members asked for nominations and/or self-nominations
  + Dustin Greenwalt, Southern Illinois University – Carbondale, nominated, seconded, and unanimously approved.
* **Announcement of awards for top papers (to be presented directly after meeting at Top Paper Panel)**
  + Karlyn Kohrs Campbell Award
    - "’You Are Not The Victim Here’: Conspirituality and the Framing of Evangelical Patriarchy as a Victim of #ChurchToo Disruption (Top Paper)" Karly Poyner-Smith, University of Memphis; Patrick Loebs, Grace College
  + David Zarefsky award
    - "Language Strategies and Social Media Mobilization in #FixTheCountry: A Critical Discourse Analysis (Top Student Paper, Top Debut Paper)" Matthew Edor, Illinois State University
* **Chair’s Report**
  + Submissions continue to appear to be on track with pre-pandemic levels. We were able to fill our available slots with strong scholarship. We were not able to slate every submission we received.
  + 19 of 21 individual papers were accepted and slotted.
  + 3 of 3 panels were accepted.
  + Thank you to our reviewers.
  + Requested feedback on “Intersections, Transitions, and Silenced Voices in Rhetorical Studies” networking event.
    - None provided by those in attendance.
  + Conversation regarding state of the group, next year’s theme, calls, and other issues:
    - Next year’s theme: “Widening the Scope”
      * We could use a broader discussion of race, our call for scholarship next year needs to emphasize critical intersections of race, gender, etc.
      * Theme is to attempt to encourage us to think interdisciplinarily, so we should consider collaborating with other interest groups, such as Popular Culture, and ACES-J.
      * Consider how to encourage more attendance and participation in business meetings – encourage others, especially graduate students, to attend, emphasize that these are not closed meetings and we welcome the discussion
      * Suggestion to explore an Environmental Justice tour with activist group in Cincinnati
      * Request to update the listserv for the Interest Group
      * Suggestion to move Top Paper Panel and Business Meeting to Friday
        + Make sure not to conflict with Pop Culture, Performance, or ACES-J
        + Or, alternatively, have a social after the meeting and panel if we continue to schedule it end of day on Saturday
      * Suggestion to include discussion for changing the name of the interest group on next year’s agenda
        + Discussion of “theory” being a potential deterrent for submissions
        + Suggested change to “Rhetorical Studies”
      * Suggestion to have a Spotlight Panel at next year’s conference
        + Especially working with people in the region, reach out to local faculty (such as at the University of Cincinnati)
* New Business
  + No new business submitted
* Motion to Adjourn made and seconded