**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