

**Health Communication Interest Group
Business Meeting Agenda
Central States Communication Association Annual Convention
Saturday, April 5, 2025 – 12:30 – 1:45 PM
Cincinnati, OH**

Chair: R. Amanda Cooper (University of Connecticut)
Vice Chair: Jessica Rick (Illinois State University)
Secretary: Xiaoxia Cao (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)
Attendees: 12 other members

I. Call to Order

- A. Motion approved to start the meeting at 12:32pm.
The motion was approved unanimously
- B. Introduce the current leadership (at the table).
Chair: Amanda Cooper (University of Connecticut)
Vice Chair: Jessica Rick (Illinois State University)
Secretary: Xiaoxia Cao (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)

II. Old Business by presented by Amanda Cooper

- A. Update to the bylaws – initiated during our last business meeting and approved following the last meeting (in May 2024)
 - 1. 1st Amendment - Adding a social media coordinator, 2-year term
 - a) Change language in bylaws from web coordinator and explicate it in the bylaws (two for each year: one senior and one junior).
 - b) See slide for description
 - c) Follow our Social Media! (like our Facebook page and join our Facebook group)The amendment was voted and approved online.
 - 2. 2nd Amendment – updated language regarding online solicitation and voting for positions
The amendment was voted and approved online.
 - 3. Funding for our interest groups and starting an endowment committee
Presented by Lance Lipperd
 - The committee formation is in the process
 - Need to draft policies and be approved by the board
 - Need to discuss how to use the fund (e.g., funding awards, funding students' travel and membership, and research initiatives but not for food unless having a sponsor)
 - Need 2,500 to start the endowment and can only spend 3% of the fund each year
 - The money can come from donations and sponsorships
 - We need to apply for 501(c) status.
 - Can't send mass emails for fundraising before we get the 501(c) status approved, but we can send individual emails.
 - Lance Lipperd will draft the document
 - Lance Lipperd is currently in charge of the matter supervised by HCIG board
- B. Report of 2025 Paper and Panel Submissions:

1. The HCIG accepted 13 submissions in total this year. 10 papers and 3 panels, not including the spotlight panel
 - a) 10 papers were accepted for presentation, 2 were declined, 4 submissions were declined because they were extended abstracts
 - b) 2 papers were added from other divisions to create a co-sponsored panel with the Intercultural COMM division
 - c) 3 panels were accepted, 2 declined.
2. Standing sessions
 - a) Business meeting
 - b) Spotlight panel, “Widening the Scope of Health Communication Research” (created by the Vice Chair—Jessica Rick, not peer-reviewed)
3. Additional sessions
 - a) Co-Sponsored a tour of the Cincinnati Children's Hospital and Medical Center with Org & Professional Communication
-HUGE thank you to Dr. Jessica Rick and Dr. Anne Kerber for organizing this event
4. The HCIG had 31 reviewers, including the Chair, Vice-Chair, Past Chair and Secretary
 - a) Each submission was reviewed by 3 reviewers.
 - b) Each reviewer had #1-3 submissions to review.
 - c) Reviewer scores were used to determine top paper, top student paper, and top panel awards.
 - d) Thank you to all the reviewers! We can always use more to help lighten the load!
5. Awards Acknowledgement:
 - a) **Top Paper:** "Entangled in Multiple Cultures of Care: South Asian Women’s Meanings of and Dilemmas Related to Health Talk” by Sara Babu, Charee Thompson, & Zainab Haque, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
(1) **Also received the *Top Inclusive Scholarship Award***
 - b) **Top Student Paper:** "Mediated Cancer-related Information Disclosure by the Family Members and Seeking Social Support" Md. Sumon Ali, Ball State University
 - c) **Top Panel:** “Faith and Fact: Communication at the Intersection of Health Practices in African Communities” featuring
 - (1) Chair: Ademola Adelu, University of Alabama
 - (2) Panelist(s):
 - (a) Shirley Olatunji, University of Kansas
 - (b) Amaka Peace Onebunne, Northern Illinois University
 - (c) Bukola Oloba, North Dakota State University
 - (d) Veronica Andoh, North Dakota State University
 - (e) Salome N. Mbah, North Dakota State University

Motion to move to new business at 11:59pm
The motion was approved unanimously

III. New Business led by Current/Old IG Chair

- A. Membership numbers – 171 members (including folks who are in the 3 mo. grace period for renewal)
- B. Officer election results (Voting occurred online, 3 nominees for Vice Chair, 1 nominee for secretary, 2 nominees for Social Media Coordinator)
 - 1. **Social Media Coordinator(s)** – Teresa Nabangala & Ngozi Oguejiofor
 - a) 2-year term
 - b) Manage the Facebook page and strategically connect with members to generate participation and interest in HCIG programming
 - c) The goal for the upcoming year is to increase the number of followers
 - 2. **Secretary** – Najma Akhther
 - a) 1 year term – more details in the bylaws (print copies and emailed out)
 - b) Take notes at 2026 conference in Cincinnati, OH
 - 3. **Vice-Chair** - Michelle Matter
 - a) Serve 2-year term. Year 1: Vice Chair. Year 2: Chair (year 3 is Past-Chair position)
 - b) As chair, serve as program planner for 2026 conference
 - 4. **Incoming Chair** - Jessica Rick
 - a) Will be planning next year’s conference
- C. Covering of the budget - \$100 dollars every year
- D. Petronio Dissertation Fellowship Announcement

IV. **New Business led by Incoming IG Chair**

- A. **Passing of the “Stethoscope” to New Chair, Dr. Jessica Rick**
- B. 2024 Convention Information
 - 1. Submission deadline: **October 10th**
 - 2. Conference dates: **April 14-19**
 - 3. Conference location: **Minneapolis, MN, Hyatt Regency**
 - 4. Conference theme: **Translate**
 - 5. Look for reviewers, mentors and panel chairs etc.
 - a) Additional theme information/allocated spots:
 - (1) Health comm is guaranteed 2 spots
 - (2) Number of slots depend on total submissions
 - b) Brainstorming of theme about the next year’s idea.
 - Have a tour at Mayo Clinic
 - Invite professionals (e.g., from the field of women’s health or Mayo Clinic) to speak
 - Collaboration across institutions
 - How to translate the knowledge we create to tools/ideas useful for practitioners
 - How to use social media (e.g., TikTok) to communicate the knowledge we create, especially to young people and how to control the narrative about health topics
 - 6. The possibility of accepting extended abstracts
 - Need mentor(s) to comment on the work
 - No more than 5 pages for each submission
 - Need to create guidelines for the extended abstract call

The extended abstract panel is meant to benefit graduate students and may not need to include findings

Mentor(s) will give detailed/extensive feedback.

C. Reviewer and chair sign-up – posted QRC code that will also be disseminated through email.

D. Motion to adjourn at 1:32pm

The motion was approved unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Xiaoxia Cao