

Political Communication Interest Group Minutes

Meeting Date: April 4th, 2025

- I. Call to Order
 - a. Greeting and Introduction of Officers
- II. Approval of 2024 Meetings
 - a. Unanimously approved
- III. Chair's Report
 - a. Interest group received 15 slots for the 2025 Convention due to increased number of submissions. Increase came from extended abstracts.
 - b. 43 submissions with two rejected
- IV. Vice Chair's Report
 - a. Ant Woodall reported on behalf of Xavier Scruggs
 - i. 2026 Convention will be April 14-19 in Minneapolis, MN and the theme is Translate.
 - ii. Planner Kristina Scharp is interested in submissions that focus on translating findings to the public
- V. Presentation of Awards from Joshua Atkinson
 - a. Top Debut Paper Award given to Isaac Asare Kwakye
 - b. Top Paper Award given to Ant Woodall
 - c. Jeffrey Auer Award for Top Student Paper given to Emmanuel Mylo Dadzie and Beatrice Quarm
 - d. Judith Trent Award given to Robert Hinck
- VI. New Business
 - a. Trent Award (Calvin Coker)
 - i. Called for input on suggested changes to increase scope of target audience. The award winners are consistently white men and the committee believes it should not be.
 - ii. Trent Committee has suggested increased scope of outreach and improved deadlines and timelines. Attending members suggested the following:
 1. Improve transfer of information across chairs and increase transparency of timeframe.
 2. Expand the committee from 3 to 5.
 3. Get the NCA PolComm Division involved in publicizing the award. Put it on the agenda at the business meeting.

Business Meeting Minutes

4. Pay close attention to how the award is described.
 5. Consider additional divisions and interest groups as places to identify more applicants.
 6. Improve the appeal of the award to eligible scholars.
 7. Ensure organizational promotion of the award .
 8. Reconsider using a Trent Award Panel with winner giving guest lecture.
 9. Ensure any changes and new information goes into CSCA website
- iii. Committee will review suggestions and write language to incorporate additions into bylaws of the interest group.
- b. Issue with Officers not Attending Conference
 - i. Consider decoupling the secretary position to be an immediate appointment at the start of the year.
 - ii. The life cycle of the chair position matters for ensuring the chair has time to move into position, attend program planner meeting.
 - iii. Consider creating vice-chair elect
 - iv. Consider re-extending the expectation to faculty
 - v. Bylaw amendment language will be drafted to
 1. Create a Vice-Chair Elect
 2. Decouple the Secretary Position
- c. Nominations for Secretary-Elect
 - i. Josh Bolton-Salzburg University by unanimous vote with no abstention.
- d. Suggestions of Call for 2026 Call for Submissions
 - i. Papers about the 2024 Election
 - ii. Host an exhibition deliberation/debate about a subject
 - iii. Public engagement events bring together civic engagement
 - iv. Panel of local organization representatives
- e. Announcements
 - i. Call for syllabi on the political communication course
 - ii. New Editor for *Communication and Democracy* and suggests members submit and review for the journal
- VII. Move to Adjourn