

**Rhetorical Theory and Criticism: Business Meeting Summary**  
2025 Convention – Saturday, April 5, Cincinnati, OH

CALL TO ORDER: Gordana Lazić

- Welcome to all attendees
- Introduction of Interest Group leadership team: Alex Parr Balaram and Dustin Greenwalt

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Minutes from the 2024 meeting circulated and approved

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Secretary nominations for 2025/2026
  - a. Nominations requested.
  - b. Adam Hughes, Emporia State University, nominated, seconded, unanimously approved.
- b. Presentation of awards for top papers: Authors not in attendance
- c. Call to encourage membership, including changing the business meeting to a Friday slot. Business meeting attendance is 1.
- d. Chair's report
  - a. Submissions continue to appear to be on track. We were able to fill our available slots with strong scholarship. We were able to slate every submission we received.
  - b. 27 of 27 individual papers were accepted and slotted. Majority of submissions from graduate students.
  - c. We received no panel submissions this year
  - d. Thank you to our reviewers!
  - e. Next year's conference will take place from April 14 – April 19 in Minneapolis, MN
  - f. To submit your ideas for papers and panels, and to share your contact information if you are interested in serving as a reviewer for the Rhetorical Theory and Criticism division, contact Alex Parr Balaram.
- e. Discussion on changing the name of the interest group.

Suggested change to “Rhetorical Studies”, “Rhetoric and Public Address”, “Rhetoric, Culture, and Advocacy”

Need to contact executive director to pursue. Need to circulate survey to membership first. Goal by '27 conference.
- f. Call for '26 is Translate –
  - a. Calls for public focused scholarship
  - b. Paradoxically, rhetoric scholarship is focused on public affairs, but also isn't accessible to the public
  - c. Hauser's vernacular voices as a turn to the idea of common deliberation
  - d. Aim to cut down on the number of reviews peer reviewers need to do

Meeting Adjourned