

MEETING MINUTES

SPORT COMMUNICATION INTEREST GROUP

Central States Communication Association

Date: April 5, 2025

Location: Cincinnati, OH

Meeting called to order by: Jerralyn Moudry, Chair

Call to order at 9:30 am by Chair Jerralyn Moudry.

MSP approval of minutes from the 2024 meeting.

Moudry and the rest of the members discussed the top panel, top student paper, and top paper awards. The chair reported on programming notes for the conference noting the desire to increase submissions for the next conference. Submission and acceptance rates were discussed as well as ideas for generating more submissions in the future. The top student paper was awarded to Margaret Murphy from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign for the second year in a row.

Nominations for Vice-Chair and Secretary for the 2026 conference were sought. Jake Manning was nominated and confirmed as next year's secretary along with Scott Jensen as Vice-Chair. Planning for the 2026 conference was discussed; the conference theme is *Translate*. Potential strategies to increase submissions were discussed such as, international avenues, translating and moving from fan to student to professional athletes, as well as co-sponsoring with other interest groups like political communication, LGBTQ+ caucus, interpersonal/family, etc.

The need to continue differentiating the division from sport management was also discussed. Specifically, the need to continue providing theory as a foundation to students, which translates sport communication as more than just a trade. The Chair encouraged members to continue thinking about panel/paper ideas for the future. Developing a social media presence for the interest group was discussed. A motion was made to establish a social media presence, it was seconded and approved. It will be maintained by the Secretary.

Officers for 2025 – 2026 are:

Emily Sauter, University of Nebraska-Omaha, Chair

Scott Jensen, Webster University, Vice-Chair

Jake Manning, Marshall University, Secretary

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Mac Williams, Secretary