**Argumentation and Forensics Division**

**Business Meeting**

**Southern States Communication Association – Virtual**

**April 5, 2021**

1. Call to order and welcome
   1. 4:05pm
   2. Attendance
      1. Nick J. Sciullo
      2. Kevin Bryant
      3. Lakelyn Taylor
      4. Pat Wheaton
      5. Nina-Jo Moore
      6. Jonathan Bridenbaker
      7. Richard Cook
      8. Michael Grat
      9. Nayonya Listach
      10. John Koch
      11. Ryan Goke
2. Approval of minutes from 2019
   1. Motion to amend the minutes to reflect accurate membership numbers - Kevin
   2. Second – Pat Wheaton
   3. Approved – 10/0/0
   4. Approval of the Minutes – 10/0/0
3. Officer reports
   1. Nick Sciullo – Chair
      1. We have retained the status quo from the pandemic (whoop whoop!)
      2. Notes from the executive council meeting
      3. Submissions – only 4 this year (bummer) 🡪 2 papers and 2 panels; we accepted all of them
      4. Had to hustle to get reviewers because of the conference planning
      5. Non-unique to other divisions throughout SSCA
      6. Top Reviewers
         1. Lakelyn Taylor
         2. John Koch
         3. Jacob Justice
      7. 2022 Conference
         1. Theme: Resilience through Resistance
         2. Dates:
            1. May 7th deadline for calls
            2. October 1st deadline for submissions
            3. October 29th conference planners assign panels
            4. November is the award deadline and the program will be announced at the NCA business meeting
            5. April 6th-10th conference
   2. Kevin Bryant – Vice Chair
      1. Should be coming from Hannah Tabrizi
      2. 3 panels created in total
      3. Overall, panels down 50%
   3. Ryan Goke – Vice Chair Elect
      1. No report
      2. Had to step away for the Planners meeting
   4. Secretary – Lakelyn Taylor
      1. No report
4. Old business
   1. 2020 Un/Convention
      1. Commiserating
      2. Appreciate everyone for their continued support
      3. Town Hall debate Wed. April 7th at 2:30pm – be there!
         1. Nick says this is a traditionally well attended panel
         2. Nina-Jo confirms the Town Hall is a popular tradition with this division and everyone needs to be there
   2. 2021 Convention program
      1. Submissions, Panels, & Slots
         1. Submissions – 4; 2 Invited panels were created (Townhall and CRAFTS)
         2. Panels (paper and discussion) recommended for inclusion (100%)
         3. Slots – 5, including business meeting and co-sponsored sessions
      2. Appreciation for reviewers
         1. Nick and Kevin reaffirms appreciation for reviewers
         2. All submissions received at least 3 reviews 🡪 all were lengthy and of high quality
         3. Nina-Jo volunteered to be a reviewer
         4. Nick put a call out for other reviewers
   3. 2021 Top Paper Awards
      1. Racism and Discrimination in Debate and Forensics: The Art of Persuasion is Not Always Beautiful and Just – Autumn Zimmermann
      2. Race-based Arguments: Race, Judging Norms, Assessment, and Policy Debate – Nick J. Sciullo
      3. Did not assign a Top Paper between the two 🡪 similar to 1/3 of the other divisions at SSCA
      4. Discussion about how we are awarding/non-awarding
   4. 2021 Forensic Educator of the Year
      1. 2 nominations
      2. Award winner: Jonathan Bridenbaker
      3. Congratulations Jonathan!
5. New business
   1. SSCA Business meeting update
      1. Executive Council meeting announcements
         1. Refer to the announcements Nick made above
         2. Passed 7 changes to the constitution 🡪 most are minor and nothing that really impacts the division 🡪 ethics statements about not submitting the same paper to different panels
         3. So…don’t be unethical AFD members
      2. Division numbers – Highest membership in over 10 years!!!
         1. Reach out to individuals to become members of SSCA and join our division
         2. Especially graduate students 🡪 We love student scholarship!

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| 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| 23 | 26 | 20 | 48 | 32 | 45 | 42 |  | 56 |

* 1. Elections
     1. Vice-Chair Elect
        1. John Koch self-nominated
        2. Move to close nominations – Pat Wheaton
        3. Motion un-seconded so is dropped
        4. Kevin nominated Michael Gray – accepted
        5. John rescinds self-nomination
        6. Motion to close nominations – Pat Wheaton
        7. Seconded – Lakelyn
        8. Michael Gray approved – 9/0/0
     2. Secretary
        1. Lakelyn nominates Jonathan
        2. Jonathan’s cat is also nominated but is disqualified for being over qualified for the position
        3. Jonathan Bridenbaker approved – 9/0/0
     3. Congratulations to our new Vice Chair Elect and Secretary!
  2. 2022 Convention in Greenville, SC April 6-10 – Hyatt Regency
     1. Location
        1. Should be in Greenville, SC
        2. Should be in-person
     2. Brainstorming with theme: “Resilience in the Resistance”
        1. Nick explained what this theme may mean for our division
        2. Jonathan offered the suggestion of “getting people comfortable with being uncomfortable” in forensics
        3. Michael offered the suggestion of people choosing not to partake in certain formats of debate because of its issues of inaccessibility 🡪 possibly a panel presentation
        4. Keep brainstorming and coming up with ideas!!!
     3. Serving the Argumentation and Forensics Division
        1. Reviewers, Chairs, and Respondents
           1. Help Ryan out by volunteering
           2. You don’t have to do everything, but something is better than nothing
           3. Ryan will send out an email to entire AFD membership about signing up 🡪 so, if you aren’t a member of AFD yet, wait until May to update your membership
           4. Students are also welcome to volunteer!
  3. Out-going chair remarks by Nick Sciullo
     1. Nick recognized the hard work of this division and advocated we must preserve this division as well as the activity of forensics in general
     2. He said it was his great honor to serve this division and wished everyone luck with the rest of the conference!

1. Passing of the gavel
   1. Nick passed an imaginary gavel to Kevin
   2. Kevin sent us off with a word of encouragement – “Do well!”
2. Adjourn
   1. Kevin motioned to adjourn
   2. Seconded – Michael
   3. Approved – 8/0/0
   4. Adjourned at 5:08pm