

POLITICAL COMMUNICATION INTEREST GROUP NEWSLETTER

Volume 6, Issue 3

September 2011

A Message from Mike Milford, Chair

So it begins! Welcome back to campus political communication scholars. This is certainly an exciting time to have one's eye on the discourse coming from our capitols, both national and state: the debates over the debt ceiling, the stands taken for and against raising taxes and or cutting the federal budget, the downgrading of U.S. credit, and a looming presidential election to boot! I can't remember a time when political communication had such presence in the national conversation. I was surprised to find out that my students knew more about the debt ceiling debate than Kim Kardashian's recent wedding. Shocking, I know.

Considering these developments I'm truly looking forward to our 2012 CSCA convention in Cleveland, Ohio this spring. The events of the past year certainly provide us with a wealth of opportunities for research. Make sure you take a look at the call included in the newsletter and send your panels and papers to the newly

minted Dr. Ben Warner at the University of Missouri.

In closing I'd like to thank you all for making the 2011 convention such a success. More than one convention-er told me how much they enjoyed the discussions among the panelists and audience members, so kudos to you Interest Group Members for your work in making our convention lively and informative. I'd also like to give a special thanks to Erin Blocher for her help and supportiveness, the past officers of the group for their insight and direction, and those of you who were willing to review, respond, and chair panels. You're the tops. With members like you, it's good to be the chair.

Mike Milford
Auburn University

Political Communication Interest Group Officers

Chair:

Mike Milford
Auburn University
milford@auburn.edu

Chair-Elect:

James M. Schnobelen
Washburn University
jim.schnobelen@washburn.edu

Vice-Chair:

Benjamin Warner
University of Missouri-
Columbia
warnerbe@missouri.edu

Secretary:

Ryan Neville-Shepard
Indian University-Purdue
University Columbus
nevshep@iupuc.edu

Secretary-Elect:

Kelly Winfrey
University of Kansas
kwinfrey@ku.edu

Inside this issue:

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| <i>Message from Chair</i> | 1 |
| <i>2012 Call</i> | 2 |
| <i>Meeting Minutes</i> | 3 |
| <i>Reviewers Needed</i> | 3 |

2012 Call

POLITICAL COMMUNICATION INTEREST GROUP

CALL FOR PAPERS Central States Communication Association Cleveland, OH March 28-31, 2012 "Connecting in Cleveland" Exploring Intersections that Unite a Discipline

The Political Communication Interest Group invites the submission of competitive papers and thematic panel proposals to be considered for presentation at the 2012 CSCA convention to be held in Cleveland, Ohio.

Submissions to the Political Communication Interest Group should explore theoretical and/or critical issues related to the study of politics and communication. The scope of this Interest Group is broad, as the study of politics and communication may encompass the communicative activity of citizens, individual political figures, governmental institutions, the media, political campaigns, advocacy groups, and social movements. This Interest Group recognizes and encourages research that addresses political communication topics in all contexts and levels of analysis, employing a variety of methodologies.

Proposals that explore connections with other interest groups are especially encouraged. We seek interactive and innovative formats to further develop and increase participation in the discussions. Examples of formats include:

Competitive Papers Panel - Three to four scholars and a respondent with Q & A from the audience.

Roundtable Discussion - Four to six people with a moderator featuring brief presentations followed by audience interaction and discussion.

Dialogue Sessions - Select a key issue, debate, or article that will serve to open the session and then become the focus of conversation.

Spotlight Sessions - Focus on a noted scholar and a particular aspect of teaching or research.

Debates - This format encourages a town hall atmosphere with a prearranged solution. Teams argue for and against the resolution.

Senior-Junior Scholar Master Classes - An opportunity for junior scholars to receive input on their research interests and programs from senior scholars in the field.

Paper submission: Only completed papers will be accepted. Papers must include a title page that is separate from the paper, allowing the author's identity to be concealed. Remove all author references in the text of the paper. Students (including graduate students) should mark their papers as "STUDENT" papers in the upper right hand corner of the title page. Debut papers, meaning papers from scholars who have never presented before, should mark their papers as "DEBUT" papers in the upper right hand corner of the title page. All papers should contain a 50-75-word abstract. The Interest Group will present the J. Jeffrey Auer Award for the top competitive graduate student paper, which also includes a monetary award.

Panel proposals: Each thematic panel proposal should include a rationale for the panel, identification and contact information for the panelists, and abstracts for each paper. Also include any media equipment requests.

All papers and panels must be submitted electronically using Microsoft Word. Documents sent in any other format will be returned to the sender. All media requests must be made at the time of submission. Projectors and screens are available; computers are not. Please only request the media if it is absolutely essential. Papers and Panel Proposals must be received by September 30, 2011.

All paper/panel submissions should be sent to:

Dr. Benjamin R. Warner
University of Missouri - Columbia
Department of Communication
115 Switzer Hall
Columbia, MO 65211
warnerbe@missouri.edu
(417) 773-5877

CSCA Political Communication Interest Group Minutes from the April 9, 2011 Meeting Milwaukee, Wisconsin

There were 15 attendees at the meeting.

- I. Called to order at (3:34) by Erin Blocher, Chair
- II. Approval of Minutes: Minutes were approved by those members in attendance.
- III. Old Business:
 - A. Report from the Chair, Erin Blocher: Commendation went to Mike Milford for his oversight of the 2011 CSCA Political Interest Group Panels, and to all of those members of the group who helped putting the panels together.
 - B. Report from Convention Planner (Mike Milford):
 1. The Auer Award was presented to Benjamin Warner (KU)
 2. Other top paper panelists: Kelly Winfrey (KU) and Kristina Horn-Sheeler (PUI)
 3. Top Faculty Paper: Bill Benoit (Ohio University) & Jane Henson (Mizzou)
 4. There were a total of 11 panels in the interest group at the 2011 meeting (there were 9 the previous year), though submissions were down a bit this year. Ben Warner was tasked with starting a database to track panel and submission numbers for future conferences.
 5. Mike thanked Erin Blocher, Mary Banwart, and Mitchell McKinney for their help in planning the 2011 conference.
 - C. Report from the Vice-Chair (Ben Warner): We should reach out to various other divisions and groups to co-sponsor panels, discussions, etc. in keeping with the "Making Connections" theme for Cleveland next year.
- IV. New Business
 - A. Elections:
 1. Kelly Winfrey (KU) was elected Secretary-Elect by acclamation.
 2. James Schnoebelen (Washburn University) was elected Vice-Chair Elect by acclamation.
 3. Ben Warner, Vice-Chair and program planner for 2012 entertained many suggestions for panels for next year. Suggestions were also offered for ways to reach out among divisions in terms of putting panels together for next year.

Adjourned at 4:13

Reviewers Needed For 2012 Conference

Ben Warner, our Chair-Elect and Program Planner, is busy preparing for the submission deadline for the 2012 conference in Cleveland. Please be sure to read the call on page 2 and pay special attention to the submission procedures when you submit your paper and/or panels.

We hope to have a great schedule of panels for the 2012 conference. If you have any ideas for unique programs or questions regarding submissions, please contact Ben as soon as possible. If you were not able to attend the business meeting in Milwaukee but are interested in serving the CSCA Political Communication Interest Group as a reviewer for the 2012 conference, please contact Ben Warner by Friday, September 30 at warnerbe@missouri.edu.