

**Central States Communication Association**  
***Political Communication Interest Group Bylaws***

**(Amended on April 3, 2014)**

**ARTICLE I: NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the Political Communication Interest Group of the Central States Communication Association.

**ARTICLE II: PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Political Communication Interest Group is to support the teaching and research of political 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.

**ARTICLE III: MEMBERS**

Membership in the Political Communication Interest Group shall be open to all those who are members in good standing in the Central States Communication Association and who are interested in advancing the purpose of the Interest Group.

**ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS**

Section 1. The officers of the Political Communication Interest Group shall be: Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary.

Section 2. The Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary serve for a staggered three-year term. The Secretary will serve for one year, then succeed to the office of Vice-Chair for one year, and then succeed to the office of Chair for one year,

Section 3. The Chair shall serve as the presiding officer of all Interest Group business meetings and at all Executive Committee meetings. This officer shall discharge the usual responsibilities adhering to such an office, shall serve as a representative of the Interest Group, and shall be responsible for seeing that the provisions of the By-Laws of the Interest Group are enforced. The Chair shall serve as the Interest Group's primary program planner for the annual meeting of the Association.

Section 4. The Vice-Chair shall assist the Chair in planning the Interest Group's program offerings for the annual convention, and shall perform the duties of the Chair in the event of that officer's absence or incapacity.

Section 5. The Secretary shall perform the functions usually adhering to such an office, including archival responsibilities by maintaining historical records of the Interest Group, and reporting regularly to members the Interest Group's business and activities. The Secretary shall determine the most efficient manner in which to communicate with members. At a minimum, Interest Group members will receive an annual Interest Group newsletter at least one month prior to the Association's annual convention.

#### **ARTICLE V: INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS**

Section 1. The Political Communication Interest Group shall conduct its annual business meeting in conjunction with and at the site of the annual Central States Communication Association Convention. The election of officers and reports of officers shall occur at the annual business meeting.

Section 2. The number of members of the Interest Group present at each meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Section 3. The Chair shall be responsible for determining an Agenda for the annual business meeting.

#### **ARTICLE VI: ELECTION OF OFFICERS / VOTING**

Section 1. Members attending the Interest Group's annual business meeting shall make nominations for the office Secretary.

Section 2. Voting will be made by written ballot.

Section 3. The individual who receives the most votes will be deemed the newly elected Secretary and will assume office at the adjournment of the annual business meeting.

#### **ARTICLE VII: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Section 1. The officers of the Interest Group shall constitute the Executive Committee.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Interest Group between its business meetings. The Executive Committee shall be subject to the orders of the Interest Group, and none of its acts shall conflict with majority action taken by members of the Interest Group.

Section 3. Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the Chair and shall also be called upon request of two members of the Committee.

Section 4. Action by the Executive Committee shall require the assent of at least two members.

#### **ARTICLE VIII: STANDING COMMITTEES**

Section 1. Standing or special committees shall be appointed by the Chair as the Interest Group or the Executive Committee shall from time to time deem committees necessary to carry on the work of the Interest Group.

Section 2. The Chair shall be ex officio a member of all Interest Group committees.

#### **ARTICLE IX: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the Interest Group in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the By-Laws and any special rules of order the Interest Group may adopt.

#### **ARTICLE X: AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS**

These By-Laws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Interest Group by a majority vote of those individuals present and voting, provided that the amendment has been included in the Interest Group's most recent newsletter. If a proposed amendment to the By-Laws has not been included in the newsletter, it may be considered at an annual meeting, but the amendment requires a majority vote of the Interest Group's entire membership to pass.

#### **ARTICLE XI: AWARDS**

Each year at the annual conference, the interest group will present two awards: The Top Paper Award for the member of the interest group who submits the most impressive competitive paper of the convention, and the J. Jeffrey Auer Award for the top competitive paper presented by a student.

#### **ARTICLE IX: FINANCES**

The Executive Committee of CSCA allocates funds to the interest group each year. These funds shall be used at the discretion of the chair.