Message from the Chair

Hello CSCA Political Communication Interest Group members!

I hope you enjoyed your summer and are having a great start to the fall semester. As you know, the submission deadline for the 2016 CSCA conference in Grand Rapids, MI is fast approaching. With the 2016 Presidential election on the horizon and upcoming primaries and caucuses, I am confident there will be plenty of fascinating research presented in Grand Rapids.

Last year's conference in Madison was a great success, due to the hard work of Dr. Kelly Winfrey. As our Chair and program planner, she did a fantastic job with our 2015 program. We had fifteen program slots, and solid attendance at our panels. A huge thanks goes to Dr. Winfrey for her diligence in planning a wonderful program in Madison. I'd also like to give a special thanks to the 31 reviewers that volunteered to review. Members can visit our Facebook page to volunteer to serve for this year as a reviewers, chair, or respondent by completing a survey, which is also located at the bottom of this newsletter. I'd like to thank everyone in advance for their service to our interest group!

This year's conference theme is *Foundation*, and it is a time to celebrate key research contributions to theory, methodology and history. At our last meeting several ideas were discussed such as: honoring a foundational scholar, celebrating a big anniversary of a piece of work, a panel on Gerald Ford possibly at the Ford Library and Museum, and the upcoming 2016 Presidential election. I encourage everyone to think about what "foundation" means to you, your research, and your teaching, and to submit papers or panels for this year's convention. Please be creative and reach out to scholars in our interest group and other groups and divisions. If you have an idea for a panel and would like assistance in putting it together, please contact me and I will do my best to help. Our Facebook page, "CSCA Political Communication Interest Group" is a great place to connect with other members and brainstorm ideas for papers and panels.

I hope to see you all in Grand Rapids for our 2016 conference. Thank you for your service to our interest group, and I look forward to your submissions!

Sincerely,
Terri M. Easley
University of Kansas

Chair	**Vice Chair**	**Secretary**
Terri M. Easley	Josh Hawthorne	Mike Kearney
University of Kansas	University of Missouri	University of Kansas
TerriEasley@ku.edu	Jhmf9@missouri.edu	MKearney@ku.edu

Call for Papers

Call for Submissions
2016 Central States Communication Association Conference
Grand Rapids, Michigan
Foundation
April 13-17, 2016

The Political Communication Interest Group invites the submission of competitive papers and thematic panel proposals to be considered for presentation at the 2016 CSCA convention to be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

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 an award for the top overall paper, and the J. Jeffrey Auer Award for the top competitive graduate student paper (which also includes a monetary award). A Competitive Paper Submission Form must be submitted along with the paper. This form is located on the CSCA website: www.csca-net.org.

Panel proposals: Panel proposals must be submitted using either the Discussion Panel Proposal Form or the Paper Panel Discussion Form. These forms can be found on the CSCA website: www.csca-net.org.

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 October 3, 2015.**
All paper/panel submissions should be emailed to:

Terri M. Easley
University of Kansas
TerriEasley@ku.edu

CSCA Political Communication Interest Group

Business Meeting Minutes – Friday, April 16, 2015

Madison, Wisconsin

Kelly Winfrey, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Shawn Wahl, the Second VP of CSCA, updated the interest group regarding the 2016 CSCA conference to be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan from April 13-17, 2016. The theme of the conference is "Foundation."

Old Business
1. The 2014 Minutes were approved.
2. Top papers
   a. Top Student Paper – Cassandra Bird (University of Kansas) with **"Converging Media and Political Discourse: A Reception History of the 1999 Columbine Shooting"**
   b. Top Paper – Ryan Neville-Shepard (Indiana University – Purdue University Columbus) with **"The Third Party Bind: Lar Daly and the Redefinition of Minor Parties in the Equal Time Debates of 1959"**
3. Report from 2015 Convention Planner
   a. 15 program slots including business meeting
   b. 33 papers submitted
   c. 5 panels submitted, 3 created by planner
   d. 31 reviewers, 3-4 papers per reviewer

New Business
1. Nomination and Election for Secretary (3 year term leading from Secretary, to Vice-Chair, and then to Chair during each year)
   a. Mike Kearney (University of Kansas) was elected as Secretary
2. 2016 Conference Planning
   a. Ideas for panels were discussed including:
      i. Honoring a foundational scholar or celebrating a big anniversary
      ii. Gerald Ford centric panel in conjunction with the Gerald Ford Library and Museum
      iii. 2016 Presidential Election
   b. Anyone with further ideas should email Terri Easley
3. New Business
   a. None

Kelly Winfrey, Chair, adjourned the meeting.

Reviewers, Chairs, and Respondents Needed

We hope to have another wonderful set of submissions for the 2016 convention, but your help is needed. Please volunteer to help as a reviewer, chair, or respondent. To volunteer please complete the short survey found here: LINK TO SURVEY!!

Follow the **CSCA Political Communication Interest Group** *on Facebook!*