

Ethnicity, Race, International, and Class Caucus
Virtual Business Meeting
April 2020

The 2019 business meeting minutes were sent by e-mail to all members of the Ethnicity, Race, International, and Class Caucus (ERIC) on April 5, 2020, at 4:12 p.m. Diana Trebing made a motion to accept the minutes, which was seconded by Jenny Korn. The minutes were open for discussion until April 7 at 6:05 p.m. when Al Gonzalez made a motion to accept the minutes by acclimation pending any minor edits; his motion was seconded by Nurhayat Bilge. The minutes then were e-mailed to incoming CSCA Executive Director Tiffany Wang.

The first course of action was making a motion (sent as an e-mail to all ERIC members on April 26, 2020 at 2:08 p.m.) to carryover the 2019-2020 Caucus officers to serve for the 2020-2021 year. This action was suggested as a way to establish stability and continuity for the Caucus given its recent establishment. (In addition, attendance at the 2019 Business meeting was extremely low, which is likely again to the recent establishment of the Caucus.) Roberta Robbins made a motion to accept this action, which was seconded by Eddah Mutua. This motion passed with a vote of 27 aye, 0 nay, and 0 abstain after online voting ended at 3:00 p.m. on April 28.

A few minutes later, an e-mail was sent to all ERIC members containing Old Business and the 2021 Call for Submissions (see below).

Old Business (from the 2019 CSCA ERIC Caucus Business Meeting)

1. It was pointed out that the ERIC Caucus was not listed on the options for CSCA membership. *Update: ERIC is now listed as of 6/17/19.*
2. It was further pointed out that the ERIC Caucus was not listed on the CSCA Website. *Update: ERIC is now listed as of 6/17/19.*
3. It was also pointed out that the Calloway-Thomas Speaker Series would need continuous funding.
4. There was discussion and approval for highlighting topical areas within the 2020 Convention theme. Topical areas chosen for panels under the convention theme were whiteness-identity, first generation post-secondary students in communication, class (socioeconomics), and international faculty in U. S. colleges and universities. It was not decided if these rubrics should be used by ERIC in the future under the yearly convention theme.
5. There was discussion of ERIC proposing to CSCA that there be an annual convention award given to the communication department within Central States that has the largest increase in minority graduate students or minority faculty during the course of a year. The award was to be patterned after an existing award given by the Southern States Communication Association. Verification would be required by departments self-nominated for the award. One award per year would be given. Minority faculty would refer to persons of color.
6. Uncertainty was present regarding the number of Convention slots that ERIC would be allotted for 2020.

2021 Call for Submissions for the 2021 Convention (Cincinnati/Netherland Plaza Hotel/3/23-28)

The Ethnicity, Race, International, and Class Concerns Caucus invites submissions of papers, panels, and creative/performance proposals that support concerns in all areas of CSCA members' academic lives. The convention theme, "Inspire," provides an opportunity to focus not on problems in ethnic, racial, international, and class concerns relations, but on presentations that reflect inspiring ways of overcoming and bridging existing barriers.

Thought-provoking topic examples (meant only to spark thinking, not to set parameters) include: inspiring/inspirational critical narratives of navigating ethnic, racial, international, and class barriers; inspiring/inspirational ethnographies across minoritized identities; how to inspire unmotivated students who view diversity curricular requirements as a requirement to be reluctantly endured; inspiring/inspirational research on reducing inequality in youth outcomes, especially in terms of success in academic and economic outcomes; inspiring/inspirational stories/reports of cultural, social, and racial justice; inspiring/inspirational theorization of intersectionality among ethnicity, race, internationalism, and class; and inspiring/inspirational reports of overcoming the language barriers to Covid-19 resources. Creative/performance presentations could include monologues, dance, poetry, song, pantomime. If creative/performance presentations are part of a panel, there should be only one creative act per panel and the performance should clearly illustrate the convention theme.

Papers may employ any methodology chosen by the author, including qualitative, quantitative, rhetorical, critical, grounded theory, etc. Paper length should be a maximum of 25 pages, excluding references, graphs, and illustrations. Submissions should include the title and a brief abstract. Author(s) name(s), institutional affiliation, and any identifying information should be omitted. Student papers should contain the word STUDENT in the upper right corner of the title page and if this is a student's first CSCA presentation, the term STUDENT DEBUT should be written in the upper right hand corner of the title page. Only completed papers and complete descriptions of creative/performance presentations will be considered.

Panels/Round Table Discussion should center on a common theme within the convention theme, explain the purpose of the panel/round table, as well as listing the names of all participants.

Deadline: All submissions should be made through CSCA's online submission system. The submission deadline is **October 9, 2020, at 11:59 p. m. Central time.**

Inquiries: Inquiries should be made to Dorothy Pennington, ERIC Caucus chairperson, at dpen@ku.edu.

Members were instructed to send all comments/concerns/issues/questions about either the Old Business or the Call for Submissions to me by 3:00 p.m. on April 30. No comments, concerns, issues, or questions were received.

An e-mail message was sent on May 4 at 9:00 a.m. to all members regarding new business and announcements. This message stated:

Good morning ERIC members:

Here are some points of new business, which we will discuss more in-depth at the 2021 business meeting in Cincinnati. However, if you have an idea, an opinion, or a point of view about any or all of these points, send them to me at scott.myers@mail.wvu.edu and I will compile them. Also, if you have an announcement, send it forward!

Some points of discussion:

1. How can we engage in continuous funding for the Calloway-Thomas Speaker Series?
2. What kind of awards should the ERIC Caucus present in the future? (e.g., top paper award, top student paper award)
3. In light of CSCA' stated commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion: Discussion of a proposal to present to CSCA to establish a CSCA-wide Minority Recruitment and Retention Award, patterned after such an award presented by the Southern States Communication Association, which states that the Minority Recruitment and Retention Award "honors institutions that have demonstrated a noteworthy commitment to the recruitment and retention of minority students for their campuses." Discussion to include such issues as: the value of such a proposal, the value of such an award, support for such a proposal, support for such as award, modification in wording in the award, compared the award given by SSCA, e.g., one option would be to modify the award's wording to read, "The Minority Recruitment and Retention Award honors communication departments that have demonstrated the presence of the largest number of minority students and/or faculty in their department and a commitment to the ongoing recruitment on minorities. The term minority refers to persons of color." Other options?
4. Discussion of an idea brought forth at the 2019 ERIC Caucus Business Meeting of inviting to the convention for remarks, high-level elected minority officials in cities where the CSCA Convention meets. For example, the African American mayor of Chicago was invited by an ERIC Caucus/CSCA official to the 2020 CSCA Convention but had to respectfully decline due to a conflict. Do we want to adopt this as a friendly, unbinding sentiment?
5. We need to create a committee to determine the members of the Calloway-Thomas Speaker Series. Once the initial committee is established, members will serve staggered three-year terms to allow for committee consistency. Each year a new committee member shall be elected at the ERIC caucus meeting beginning in 2020. The initial committee shall consist of Carolyn Calloway-Thomas and Jimmie Manning, with a third member being elected at the ERIC caucus business meeting in 2020. At that point, each of the committee members will serve at least two years before a member rotates off the committee to allow for another newly-elected person to join in 2021 to select a 2022 speaker. If you would like to nominate either yourself or someone else, please send your nomination to Scott.

One Announcement

Kathy Denker and Jimmie Manning are editing a special issue of *Review of Communication* on critical interpersonal and family communication studies. We are hoping that this is an opportunity to expand who is represented in interpersonal and family communication studies, and we encourage submissions from members of the ERIC Caucus. More details about the special issue can be found here: <https://think.taylorandfrancis.com/review-of-communication-upcoming-calls-for-papers/publish-interpersonal-family-communication/> Send all ideas, opinions, or points of view about any or all of these points, a committee member nomination for the Calloway-Thomas Speaker Series, or an announcement to me by noon this Friday May 8.

Only one item was received by noon, May 8, which was a nomination by Jimmie Manning (University of Nevada, Reno) for Eddah Mutua to serve as a member of the Calloway-Thomas Speaker Series. An e-mail was sent to all ERIC members for a motion and a second to accept the nomination. Tina Harris made a motion to accept the nomination, which was seconded by Diana Trebing. Shortly thereafter, another e-mail was sent asking ERIC members to vote on the nomination. Members were given until noon on May 11 to respond. This motion passed with a vote of 24 aye, 0 nay, and 0 abstain after online voting ended.

David Wendt (Iowa Wesleyan) made a motion to adjourn the business meeting, which was seconded by Jimmie Manning. The meeting was adjourned at 5:44 p.m., May 11, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Myers, Secretary