

Intercultural Communication Interest Group 2025 Business Meeting

Central States Communication Association

Friday, April 4, 2025

From 9:30 to 10:45 am (location – Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza, Salon I)

Officers

- Chair: Ahmet Aksoy, Columbia College (SC)
- Vice Chair: Jennifer Willis-Rivera, University of Wisconsin-River Falls
- Secretary: Kim Omachirnski, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

I. Call to Order

Good morning. Thank y'all for joining us today. My name is Ahmet Aksoy from Columbia College and I am the chair and program planner this year. Now, I call this meeting to order at 9:30 am on Friday, April 4, 2025. There are several important topics that we need to visit today including top paper awards, reports on our latest efforts at canvassing and inviting new members, and some ongoing discussions about changes to the bylaws.

Before we begin to discuss our agenda, I would like to remind you a rule of voting. The election of officers shall be conducted by written ballots. Ballots shall be tabulated by at least two members of our interest group. All voting matters, other than the election of officers, shall be conducted by voice support of yes for in favor, no for opposition, or abstain. The voting majority will be determined by the Chair. If any member present deem the voting majority to be unclear by voice support, a second vote shall be conducted using hand-raising designation.

II. Approval of 2024 minutes

The first item is approval of 2024 minutes. The minutes were sent to you in March and are also accessible under the ICIG tab on the CSCA website. If anyone approves the minutes, please say approve.

III. Report on 2025 submissions (see Appendix A)

[The next item is the report on 2025 submissions. Remember to discuss canvassing.](#)

IV. Top Paper Awards

- a. *Top Paper*: Emi Kanemoto, Faculty, Bryant University and Tra Vo, Ellen Gorsevski, Bowling Green State University

Title: "What's Wrong with a Little 'Barbenheimer' Movie Fun?: Rhetoric and Peacebuilding Perspectives on the Oppenheimer Film Blockbuster"

- b. *Top Student Paper*: Bryce Thomas, Graduate Student, Grand Valley State University

Title: "Communication & Identity: A Study of Midwestern LGBTQIA+ College Student Experiences Navigating Spaces and Performing Identity"

- c. *Top Debut Paper*: Ruth Yeboah, Graduate Student, Grand Valley State University

Title: "Africanism: Experiences of African Students In a U.S Midwestern University"

- d. *Top Inclusive Paper*: Kehinde Oladeji , Graduate Student, Western Michigan University

Title: "Transnational Triumphs: Expanding the Scope of Cultural Identity in Nigerian Diaspora Entrepreneurship"

- e. *Top Panel*: Al Gonzalez, Bowling Green State University; Nurhayat Bilge, SUNY- FIT; Emi Kanemoto, Bryant University; EunYoung Lee, Central Washington University; Michael Ofori, University of Minnesota; Sofia Carballo, Independent Scholar

Title: "Widening the Scope of Protest Songs: The Intercultural Influence of Bob Dylan"

V. New Business

- a. Revisiting Top Panel award and revisions of bylaws
b. Nominations/elections of new officers

Are there further nominations for vice chair? Hearing none, nominations are closed for vice president.

Are there further nominations for secretary? Hearing none, nominations are closed for secretary.

- i. Vice-chair:
ii. Secretary:
- c. Discussion on 2026 convention
i. Discussion on the 2026 Theme:
ii. Solicitation of CSCA 2026 potential panels
iii. Sign-up for reviewers for the 2026 convention
- d. Announcement of new officers
e. Change of new leadership: Next year's planner.

Before I announce the new leadership next year, I would like to express my genuine gratitude for Kim Omachirnski, who served as our secretary.

I would like to congratulate the upcoming chair and program planner, Jennifer Willis-Rivera, and would like to thank her for her service for our interest group next year in advance.

VI. Announcements & Closing

If we don't have further items to discuss, we have completed all of our business items, and we will officially adjourn this meeting at _____.

Appendix A. 2025 IC Interest Group Planner Report

Number of Panel Slots & Submissions

- 16 slots: 1 business meeting, 11 discussion sessions, and 4 paper sessions.
- 14 papers (3 faculty, 11 student) were submitted, 7 of the 11 student submissions were debut papers, and one paper was rejected, and one paper was transferred to another interest group (w/ us being put as a co-sponsor).
- 11 discussion panels.

From 2021 to 2025 (parentheses indicate accepted)

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Slots	9	8	8	8	16
Paper submissions	10 (8)	6 (6)	11 (10)	13 (12)	14 (12)
Discussion panels	4 2 (2)	2 (2)	4 2 (2)	4 2 (2)	11 (11)
Special panel	0	0	1 (1)	1 (1)	0
Paper panel submissions	1 (1)	0	0	0	1 (1)
Co-sponsored panels	2 (2)	0	1 (1)	0	6
Reviewers	12	11	24	18	24

Special Thanks to the Reviewers!

Seokhoon Ahn, Amanda Anka, John R. Baldwin, Nurhayat Bilge, Carolyn Calloway-Thomas, Erin Carlson, Lindsay Cramer, Becky DeGreeff, Andrew R Donofrio, Al Gonzalez, Amy N. Heuman, Atinut Inthajak, Emi Kanemoto, Xiaodong Kuang, Scott Mitchell, Anjana Mudambi, Sofia Carballo, Anthony Spencer, Nihar Sreepada, Bryce Thomas, Alexis Thrower, Diana Trebing, Jennifer Willis-Rivera, Ruth Yeboah

Special Thanks to the Chairs! Anjana Mudambi, Nurhayat Bilge, John R. Baldwin, Al Gonzalez, Carolyn Calloway-Thomas, Aimee Miller, Matthew Meier, Salome N Mbah, Sandra L. Pensoneau-Conway, Rick Malleus, Eddah Mutua, Keisuke Kimura, Diana Trebing,

Special Thanks to the Respondents! John R. Baldwin, Carolyn Calloway-Thomas, Anthony Spencer, Lance Rolland Lippert

Special Thanks to our Co-sponsors! Communication Education, ERIC, Health Communication, Political Communication, and Performance Studies and Autoethnography