

EASTERN COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION
Argumentation and Forensics Interest Group

Bylaws

Article I – Name

The name of this organization shall be the Argumentation and Forensics Interest Group of the Eastern Communication Association (ECA). It shall operate under the constitution and bylaws of ECA and shall be bound by all applicable rules and decisions of that association.

Article II – Purpose

The purpose of the Argumentation and Forensics Interest Group is to explore the various theories and practices associated with argumentation, debate and forensics as they relate to scholarly research, classroom pedagogy and community life.

Article III – Membership

Membership in the interest group shall be open to all members of ECA who are interested in argumentation and forensics theory and practice.

Article IV – Meetings

Section 1: An annual business meeting shall be held in conjunction with the ECA convention, the time and place of which shall be determined by the First Vice President of ECA.

Section 2: Those members present at the annual meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Article V – Officers

Section 1: The officers of the interest group shall be the Chair, the Vice Chair, the Immediate Past Chair and the Secretary. These officers shall perform the duties prescribed by the organization's bylaws.

Section 2: The Chair shall preside at the business meetings of the interest group, act as program planner for the annual convention and discharge such duties as normally adhere to this position. The Chair shall automatically succeed to the position of Immediate Past Chair.

Section 3: The Vice Chair shall assist the Chair in planning the program for the annual convention, shall attend all meetings scheduled by the ECA First Vice President Elect for program planning and shall discharge such other duties assigned by the Chair or as normally adhere to this position. The Vice Chair shall automatically succeed the Chair.

Section 4: The Immediate Past Chair shall represent the interest group at the ECA Nomination Committee Meetings and shall act as an advisor to the interest group Chair.

Section 5: The secretary shall record the minutes for meetings of the interest group and shall see that those minutes, once approved, are provided to ECA.

Section 6: A vice chair and a secretary shall be elected at the annual business meeting. The term of office shall be for one year and officers shall approve their positions at an appropriate time near the end of the business meeting at which they were elected.

Article VI – The Executive Committee

Section 1: The officers of the interest group shall constitute an Executive Committee.

Section 2: The Executive Committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the interest group between its annual meetings and shall perform such other duties as may be specified in these bylaws.

Section 3: The Executive Committee shall meet at the call of any one of its officers. Business may be conducted by regular mail, telephone, fax, Internet or other means on which the Executive Committee may agree.

Article VII – Representative to the ECA Executive Council

Section 1: Each interest group shall select a representative to the association's Executive Council in accord with the principle of rotating membership in that body.

Section 2: An Executive Council member shall serve a two-year term.

Section 3: An Executive Council member is responsible for attending all meetings of that body at the association's convention and at other prescribed times during the year when the ECA Executive Council convenes.

Section 4: The Executive Council member shall present timely reports to the interest group about the deliberations of the Executive Council and shall undertake any special tasks assigned by the association's president.

Article VIII – Parliamentary Authority

American parliamentary practice as set forth in the most recent edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised* shall govern the conduct of the interest group and the procedures at its meetings.

Article IX – Amendments to the Bylaws

These bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the interest group by a majority vote, provided that a previous notice of at least thirty days has been given, or by a two-thirds vote without notice.