

***Meeting Minutes of the Philosophy of Communication Interest Group  
of the Eastern Communication Association***  
**2024 Annual Convention in Cambridge, MA**  
**March 20 - 24, 2024**  
**Meeting Friday, March 22, 2024 at 2:30PM**

**In attendance:**

Özüm Üçok-Sayrak, Duquesne University  
 Joel Ward, Geneva College  
 Janie Harden Fritz, Duquesne University  
 Matthew Mancino, Indiana University South Bend  
 Austin Hestdalen, Purdue University-Northwest  
 Micheal Kearney, Dordt University  
 Ryan McClullough, West Liberty University  
 Basak M. Guven, Duquesne University  
 Steven Joseph, ASW Paradise Valley Community College  
 D. L. Stephenson, Western Connecticut State University  
 Rana Ramadan, King Abdulaziz University

1. Özüm Üçok-Sayrak called the meeting to order at 2:35PM.
2. Dr. Sayrak called for approval of the 2023 meeting minutes.
  - a. Joel Ward moved
  - b. And Dr. Fritz seconded.
  - c. Meeting minutes approved.
3. Dr. Sayrak (2024 Chair & planner) gave the planner report
  - a. 3 competitive paper submissions
  - b. 5 panel proposal submissions
  - c. 1 round table submission
  - d. All were accepted and scheduled thanks to Jeanne Persuit's accommodation, as we originally had only 5 allocations
  - e. 7 total sessions were scheduled for 2024 ECA
  - f. A note for future planners---working with conference organizers can be very helpful to get extra allocations
  - g. Dr. Sayrak announced the new ECA Member Hub and acknowledged its functions in terms of uploading meeting minutes and posting any other document like a new publication that you would like to share with ECA members
  - h. Reviewers are thanked by Dr. Sayrak
    - i. Janie Harden Fritz
    - ii. Matt Mancino
    - iii. Susan Mancino
    - iv. David DeIuliis
    - v. Sarah DeIuliis
    - vi. Paul Lucas
    - vii. Tiffany Petricini
  - i. Top Paper Award:
    - i. "Philosophical Hermeneutics as an Approach to Communication Research"  
David Errera, UNC-Greensboro

4. Old Business
  - a. Tiffany Petricini, chair and planner of the previous year, recommended creating a record of running list of roles and responsibilities for the division and the names of the people who have served as an institutional memory
  - b. There is a document posted at the Hub that lists the roles and responsibilities
  - c. A motion was made last year and approved anonymously that we will add language to the bylaws to the secretary role, maintaining and keeping this list of roles and responsibilities who have served for the division
5. New Business–
  - a. Dr. Sayrak introduced the idea of updating the bylaws of running list of roles and responsibilities
    - i. Austing moved to add the update to existing bylaws
    - ii. And Dr. Fritz seconded.
  - b. Dr. Sayrak announced the current running list of roles and duties
    - i. The current Executive Council representative is Austin Hestdalen, he will serve one more year
    - ii. Joel Ward is serving as vice chair this year and will be the chair and planner for 2025 ECA so will need to elect a vice chair for next year
    - iii. Dr. Fritz mentions that we will need two people for next year
6. Elections
  - a. Dr. Sayrak thanked Sarah DeIuliis for serving as the secretary since 2022.
  - b. Secretary
    - i. Starts Sunday 2024 and ends Thursday 2027
    - ii. Dr. Fritz nominated Basak M. Guven
    - iii. Dr. Sayrak asked if there were any other nominees
    - iv. Joel Ward seconded the motion and moved to close the nomination
    - v. Motion passes
  - c. Vice Chair
    - i. Vice Chair for 2025
    - ii. Austin nominates Matt Mancino
    - iii. Dr. Fritz moves to close the vote and seconds
    - iv. Motion passes
    - v. Matt Mancino is elected as the vice chair for 2025, thus chair and program planner for 2026
  - d. Vice Chair Elect
    - i. Vice Chair Elect for 2025
    - ii. Austin nominates Michael Kearney
    - iii. Dr. Fritz moves to close the vote and seconds
    - iv. Motion passes
    - v. Michael Kearney is elected as the vice chair for 2025, thus vice chair program planner for 2026
7. Dr. Ward presented the report for this year's conference
  - a. Very good panels this year
  - b. We will have 6 slots in next year's convention. We were allocated 5 slots last year so that's a good development.
  - c. Dr. Sayrak reminded that when renewing membership, it's important to check our division which increases our recognition

- d. One of the attendees who is a member of the Communication Law and Ethics Division suggested joining both divisions. Yet, the group agreed on the necessity of keeping both divisions and decided to support the Communication Law and Ethics Division in various ways.
  - e. Dr. Ward continued with the report
    - i. Next year's conference will be held March 26-30
    - ii. Moving back to more normal traditional time
    - iii. The deadline for submissions is October 16
    - iv. Dr. Sayrak: What is the theme?  
Dr. Ward: Contemporary Problems Creative Solutions
  - f. Dr. Sayrak thanked Dr. Ward for his service as the vice president
8. New Business
- a. Michael: Summer conference at Duquesne University
    - i. Michael: 6<sup>th</sup> Biennial Philosophy of Communication Conference. The conference will be held in Pittsburgh at Duquesne University June 11–13, 2024. This year it will be back to an in-person conference after being online for a while with Covid circumstances. This year's theme invites the exploration of multiple coordinates engaging theory, rhetoric, and practice of technology. One of the wonderful things about this paper is that you don't need to provide a full paper at the time of the submission. You can submit abstract or panel proposals with your colleagues. April 19<sup>th</sup> is the deadline.
    - ii. Austin: Any keynotes identified?
    - iii. Dr. Fritz: Richard L. Lanigan and Corey Anton most probably.
  - b. Dr. Ward: Conference in Geneva entitled "Orality and Literacy" April 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>  
Interesting keynotes, worth coming.  
Joel Ward also encouraged division members to consider submitting to the Communication Technology division for 2025 ECA since he will also be planning for this division next year.
9. Executive Council Report presented by Austin Hesteldan
- a. Came in under budget
    - i. ECA ended the year with too much money to be a non-profit
    - ii. An appeal process had to be followed to maintain the non-profit affiliation
    - iii. Discussions included how to better support students and provide more food; ultimately, a decision was made to form a task force to address these needs.
    - iv. Austin shared with the group that they are looking for volunteer members who would like to serve in the financial committee. They are looking for diversity
  - b. Phil Comm Division member numbers
    - i. Consistently losing members
    - ii. It might be a post-Covid issue
    - iii. A decision was made to encourage members to check membership boxes
    - iv. Austin also shared with the group that these are 2023 numbers. The numbers for 2024 are probably higher.
10. Dr Fritz has moved to close the meeting
- a. Michael has seconded this motion
  - b. All in favor