

Instructional Communication Interest Group Business Meeting  
Hyatt Regency, Buffalo NY  
Scheduled for March 28, 2025 2:30-3:45 pm

In attendance:

- Katie Armstrong
- Jennifer Hennessey-Booth
- David Roach
- Deirdre L. Simmons
- Dana Borzea
- Sara Pitts
- Catie Clark-Gordon
- James Baker
- Zac Johnson
- Sara LaBelle
- Candice Thomas-Maddox
- Sara Weintraub
- Ann Frymier
- Stephen Kromka
- Alan Goodboy
- Carly Densmore
- Crystal Nguyen
- Joviannie Belmudez

1. Call To Order from Catie Clark-Gordon at 2:35pm
2. Approval of 2024 Minutes
  - a. Motion to Approve by Zac Johnson, Seconded by Dana Borzea
  - b. Minutes Approved
3. Officer Reports
  - a. From the Chair
    - i. Submission Stats
      1. 11 slots for interest group, up from 8 last year!
      2. 6 competitive papers, 5 panels, 3 round tables.
      3. Big increase from last year
      4. One panel was rejected, but all other selected and scheduled (2 papers, 4 panels, 3 round tables)
      5. Used 10 of 11 slots, which is great!
    - ii. Business Meeting Time
      1. Year 3 of an afternoon business meeting
      2. Hopefully this continues
    - iii. Thanks to Reviewers!
      1. Katie Armstrong, James Baker, Maria Hannah, Zac Johnson, Stephen Kromka, Sara LaBelle, Scott Myers, Sara Pitts, Casey Stratton, Sara Weintraub

- iv. Award Presentations (Top Papers)
  - 1. "It was something I didn't quite feel prepared for, because nothing ever prepares you for grief and whatnot:" Grief Education in Graduate Teacher Training
    - a. Jessica Cherry, Fairfield University and Carly Densmore, University of Idaho
  - 2. Sustaining Students' Attention to Facilitate Deep Processing: Clear Teaching and the Moderating Role of Intrinsic Load
    - a. San Bolkan, California State University, Long Beach and Alan K. Goodboy, West Virginia University
  - 3. Colorblindness in the Classroom is a Microaggression: A Dual Autoethnographic Exploration of Identity and Pedagogy
    - a. Crystal Hoang Nguyen, Chapman University and Jovianne Belmudez, San Diego State University
- b. From the Vice-Chair (Stephen Kromka)
  - i. Updates for Pittsburgh Conference passed off to Dana
- c. From Executive Council (Dana Borzea)
  - i. Other Sites
    - 1. 2027-Falls Church, VA
    - 2. We are too large to split between 2, too small for one hotel
    - 3. In Southern's region, we did receive approval for this location from that organization
  - ii. Pittsburgh 2026 Updates
    - 1. Theme is "Emergence"
    - 2. April 9-12, 2026
    - 3. Submission Deadline: October 19th, 2025, 11:59pm PST
    - 4. Undergrad Scholars/Grad Poster Deadline: December 15, 2025, 11:59pm PST
    - 5. Yoga Mediation, 5:30am walking crew, riverboat tours, steel industry, incline, other fun events!
      - a. Other things discussed: PNC park and pirates game, Mount Washington Incline to watch fireworks
    - 6. Location: Sheraton Station Square
      - a. AV in every room, 17 breakout rooms
      - b. Standard Queen: \$185 a night
      - c. Sara LaBelle asked if we can put in a request for tables in room, also a request for water in the rooms
  - iii. Buffalo
    - 1. 416 pre-registers, 517 listed on program
    - 2. 51 papers across 14 panels, 43 posters, 95 people signed up for the dinner
    - 3. 12 short courses that were free! 17 participants on average registered across them
    - 4. AV in all the rooms

5. 96% rooms of hotel rooms filled, doing well financially
6. \$16,875 in sponsorship funds
7. #ECABuff-use the hashtag
- iv. New Positions/Participation
  1. Talk to Dana about interest!
    - a. Social Media Director
    - b. Presidential Candidates coming up
    - c. Editor of Communication Research Reports is open
  2. How do we increase participation in divisions?
    - a. James suggested offering incentives to people who volunteer within divisions
    - b. This was discussed at EC
    - c. Ask for 10 below rate rooms and offer those to key volunteers in addition to comp rooms
    - d. Reward should not be too big though, because intent of participating changes
    - e. Any ideas send to Dana!
  3. New Membership Committee exists on EC to make sure attendees get as much as possible out of conference
  4. New Location Ideas (Brainstorming by Division)
    - a. Bethesda, MD
    - b. Brooklyn, NY (pricey!)
    - c. Clifton, NJ (American Dream Mall, Paramus)
    - d. Jersey City, NJ
    - e. Somewhere in Maine (Portland)-Hard to get to!
    - f. Providence (Not new)
    - g. Baltimore (Not New)
    - h. Hershey, PA (Hard to get to)
    - i. Philadelphia, PA (Society Hill, Old City, Center City)
    - j. Buffalo as an option again
    - k. Vermont/NH
    - l. Puerto Rico (Not realistic financially)
4. New Business
  - a. Changes to Bylaws
    - i. Current practice is that chair plans for interest group, vice chair plans next year.
      1. As written, the vice chair is planner, so it does not match current practice. Brings them in line with current practice (Article V, Section 2-4)
      2. Stephen was elected vice chair and is planning Pittsburgh, but he wouldn't plan based on current bylaws
      3. This got off way before any of our times, but this current system seems to be working.

4. Motion raised by James Baker to change the bylaws, seconded by Dana Borzea
  - a. 11 yes, 0 nos, 5 abstention, motion passed
  - b. When it goes to EC, this reflects what we are currently doing!
  - c. If EC does not approve, we will circle back next year
5. Ann-Does the vice chair have enough time to learn effectively to be able to plan?
  - a. We struggle to fill positions as is, is it worth adding a new position.
  - b. It is do-able, once you attend the planning meeting and can ask if needed.
  - c. We need to know what conferences to be at, but they do have sufficient time to learn the basics and be able to plan
- b. Nomination/Elections
  - i. Election Needed for Vice Chair
    1. Will plan Falls Church Conference
    2. Nominations: Sara nominated Carly Densmore, Seconded by Ann Frymier
    3. Zac voted to close nominations, seconded by Dana
    4. Carly Densmore elected to this role
  - ii. No Election Needed for Secretary
    1. Katie Armstrong will serve in this role until 2026
    2. Will elect a new secretary next year in Pittsburgh
  - iii. Election Needed: EC Rep
    1. Dana Borzea currently serves in this role and will until Thursday of 2026. New person: Sunday 26-Thursday 28
    2. Nominations: Ann Frymier nominated Sara Pitts, Seconded by Katie Armstrong
    3. Zac voted to close nominations, seconded by Ann Frymier
    4. Sara Pitts elected to this role
  - iv. No Election-Volunteers for Next Conference
5. Announcements and Discussion
  - a. Gavel passed to Stephen Kromka
  - b. Stephen will send out a survey for reviewers, respondents, chairs
  - c. We want to keep seeing growth in the division
6. Meeting Adjourned
  - a. Sara Pitts moved to closed, Katie Armstrong seconded.
  - b. Meeting adjourned at 3:24pm