

**FINAL**

**Minutes  
National Communication Association  
Legislative Assembly Meeting  
November 20 & 23, 2024  
New Orleans, Louisiana**

**Presiding:** Marnel Niles Goins, President

**Parliamentarian:** Nicole A. Learson

**Recording:** Justin Danowski, Executive Director

**INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS**

**Call to Order:** President Niles Goins called the 2024 Legislative Assembly (LA) meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. Eastern on Wednesday, November 20.

**Land Acknowledgement:** President Niles Goins read the land acknowledgment.

NCA would like to acknowledge that the land on which we gather for the 110th Annual Convention in New Orleans and Louisiana is the ancestral and unceded territory of the Choctaw, Houma, Chitimacha, Tunica, Biloxi, and Bulbancha people, past and present.

NCA acknowledges that it has often gathered upon unceded lands and that those gatherings manifested the exclusions and erasures of many Indigenous peoples. We acknowledge the grave harm that colonialism brought to these lands, in particular, the erasure of both Indigenous and African identities via slavery and racist laws that segregated all peoples into binary classifications of “white” and “black.” This acknowledgment demonstrates our commitment to beginning the process of working to dismantle the ongoing legacies of settler colonialism.

**Credentials Report:** First Vice President Jeanetta Sims announced that at 12:55 p.m., 103 delegates were registered from the 180 members of the LA. *A motion was made that the roll of delegates submitted be the official roll of the voting members of the assembly. Seconded. Motion carried.*

**Standing Rules:** President Niles Goins directed the body to the standing rules on the meeting webpage. *A motion was made to adopt the standing rules as presented. Seconded. Motion carried.*

**Agenda:** President Niles Goins directed attention to the proposed agenda. *A motion was made to adopt the agenda. Seconded. Motion carried.*

**IN MEMORIAM**

The Legislative Assembly observed a moment of silence to honor those who have passed away during the past year.

Michael P. Kelley  
Robert J. Doolittle  
Ronna Liggett

JW Paterson  
Sandra Petronio  
Chad McBride

James Booth  
James Herrick  
Thomas Jenings Pace Jr.  
Stephen Littlejohn  
Fred Lutz Casmir  
Jean Ann Steiff  
Larry Powell  
Kristin Bervig Valentine  
Edwin Hollatz Jr.  
Orlando Taylor  
Kathleen Kendall

Marion Kleinau  
Michelle Simpson  
Andrew Rancer  
Douglas Springer  
Mary-Jeanette Smythe  
John Makay  
Carl Larson  
Margaret Tully  
Sadie Chandler  
Jennifer Samp

## **ASSOCIATION UPDATES**

President Niles Goins provided an update on the Ad Hoc Presidential Address Inquiry Committee.

President Niles Goins provided an update on the Ad Hoc Ethics Committee.

President Niles Going recognized the following individuals:

- First Vice President Sims updated on important sessions and events at the convention.
- Second Vice President Tina Harris provided an update on convention planning for 2025 in Denver, Colorado.
- Immediate Past President Walid Afifi provided an update on his time as an elected officer of NCA.
- Executive Director Justin Danowski provided an update on the current work of the National Office.
- IDEA Council Chair James Cherney updated the LA on council goals.
- President Niles Goins, on behalf of the Mentorship and Leadership Council Chair Laurie Lewis, updated the LA on council goals.
- Publications Council Chair John Sloop updated the LA on council goals.
- Research Council Chair Shaunak Sastry updated the LA on council goals.
- Teaching and Learning Council Chair Katherine Thweatt updated the LA on council goals.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

**Nominating Committee Report:** President Niles Goins provided a report on behalf of the Nominating Committee. Second Vice President Candidate, Shaunak Sastry from the University of Cincinnati addressed the LA for five minutes.

Recess at 1:40 p.m. for 10 minutes.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

**Financial Reports:** President Niles Going introduced Finance Committee Chair Jimime Manning to present the financial reports. Manning updated the LA on the Association’s financial status from 2023 independent auditor’s report, and the 2025 proposed calendar year budget.

- *A motion was made by the Finance Committee to adopt the proposed 2025 budget. Discussion ensued. Motion carried.*

**Proposed New Interest Group:** President Niles Going recognized the submitters of the proposed African Communication Division.

- *A motion was made to add the African Communication Division as one of NCA’s Interest Groups. Seconded. Discussion ensued. Motion carried.*

**Proposed New Interest Group:** President Niles Going recognized the submitters of the proposed Women of Color Section.

- *A motion was made to add the Women of Color Section as one of NCA’s Interest Groups. Seconded. Discussion ensued. Motion carried.*

**Affiliate Approval:** President Niles Goins reviewed the process of Affiliate renew with the LA.

- *A motion was made to approve the list of Affiliates for the term of January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2029. Discussion ensued. Motion carried.*

#### List of Affiliates

American Debate Association	Kenneth Burke Society
American Forensic Association	Korean American Communication Association
American Society for the History of Rhetoric	Media Ecology Association
Association for Business Communication	National Federation of High School, Debate, & Theatre Association
Association for Communication Administration	National Forensic Association
Association for the Rhetoric of Science, Technology, and Medicine	National States Advisory Council
Central States Communication Association	New York State Communication Association
Communication Association of Eurasian Researchers (CAER)	Partnership for Progress on the Digital Divide
Cross Examination Debate Association	Religious Communication Association
Eastern Communication Association	Rhetoric Society of America
Institute of General Semantics	Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction
International Chinese Communication Association	South African Communication Association
International Forensics Association	Southern States Communication Association
International Listening Association	The Association for Chinese Communication Studies
Japan-U.S. Communication Association	Urban Communication Foundation
The	Western States Communication Association
	World Communication Association

With no further business, President Niles Goins adjourned the meeting at 2:57 p.m.

**Saturday Session**  
**November 23, 2024**

**INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS**

**Call to Order:** President Niles Goins called the 2023 Legislative Assembly (LA) meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. Eastern on Saturday, November 23.

**Land Acknowledgement:** President Niles Goins read the land acknowledgment.

NCA would like to acknowledge that the land on which we gather for the 110th Annual Convention in New Orleans and Louisiana is the ancestral and unceded territory of the Choctaw, Houma, Chitimacha, Tunica, Biloxi, and Bulbancha people, past and present.

NCA acknowledges that it has often gathered upon unceded lands and that those gatherings manifested the exclusions and erasures of many Indigenous peoples. We acknowledge the grave harm that colonialism brought to these lands, in particular, the erasure of both Indigenous and African identities via slavery and racist laws that segregated all peoples into binary classifications of “white” and “black.” This acknowledgment demonstrates our commitment to beginning the process of working to dismantle the ongoing legacies of settler colonialism.

**Credentials Report:** President Niles Goins recognized First Vice President Sims to give the credentials report. First Vice President Sims announced that at 8:15 a.m., 122 delegates were registered from the 180 members of the LA.

- *A motion was made that the roll of delegates submitted be the official roll of the voting members of the assembly. Seconded. Motion carried.*

**Standing Rules:** President Niles Goins reminded the body of the standing rules in the meeting binder.

Presidential Citations: President Niles Goins recognized recipients of Presidential Citations for 2024.

**Outgoing Executive Committee Members**

Walid Afifi, Elected Officer

Jimmie Manning, Finance Committee

James Cherney, IDEA Council Chair

**Outgoing Editors**

Robin Boylorn, Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies

Jake Simmons, Text and Performance Quarterly

**Universities**

Auburn University – Host of the Mid-Career Scholar’s Writing Retreat

University of Utah – Host of the Doctoral Honors Seminar

Duquesne University – Host of the Institute for Faculty Development

## BUSINESS ITEMS

**Election of Leadership Development Committee Positions:** President Niles Goins provided a summary of the two open positions on the Leadership Development Committee. The following LA members expressed interest in serving on the committee:

- Melissa Harris
- Narissra M. Punyanunt-Carter

*With two candidates for two positions, President Niles Goins declared the above elected.*

**2024 Leadership Development Committee Report:** President Niles Goins recognized Leadership Development Committee Chair, Walid Afifi. Dr. Afifi announced the slate of candidates nominated by the committee.

*A motion was made by the LDC to approve the slate of candidates. The motion carried.*

### Legislative Assembly, LA Director

- Wan Wei
- Sergio Juarez

### Nominating Committee At-Large

- Jayne Cubbage
- Nicholas Lacy
- Qingwen Dong

### Finance Committee

- Michael Lechuga

### Mentorship and Leadership Council Chair

- Kathleen Roberts

### Mentorship and Leadership Council

- Diana Martinez
- Muniba Saleem

### Publications Council

- Joshua Barnett
- Andrew High

### Research Council Chair-Elect

- Iccha Basnyat

### Research Council

- Sean Upshaw
- Janelle Applequist

### Teaching and Learning Council

- Kandace Harris
- Renee Houston

### Resolutions Committee

- Mathieu Balay

### Convention Committee

- Joy Daggs
- Shana Kopaczewski

### Bernard J. Brommel Award for Outstanding Scholarship or Distinguished Service in Family Communication

- Amnee Elkhaid

### Distinguished Scholar Award Selection Committee

- Sahar Khamis

### Donald P. Cushman Memorial Award for Student Scholarship Selection Committee

- Richard Craig
- John Saunders

Franklyn S. Haiman Award for Distinguished Scholarship in Freedom of Expression Selection Committee

- Michael Park

Gerald M. Phillips Award for Distinguished Applied Communication Scholarship Selection Committee

- Corey Liberman

Global Communication Award

- Sudeshna Roy

Golden Anniversary Monograph Award Selection Committee

- Tamara Afifi
- Jordin Clark
- Carlos Morrison

Interpretation/Performance Studies Selection Committee

- Laura D. Oliver

Mark L. Knapp Award Interpersonal Communication Selection Committee

- Rene Dailey
- Katheryn Maguire

Marsha Houston Award Selection Committee

- Darlene K. Drummond

Orlando L. Taylor Distinguished Scholarship Award in Africana Communication Selection Committee

- Cicely Wilson

Professional Service Awards Selection Committee

- Sharnine Herbert
- Madison Pollino

Rhetorical Scholarship Award

- Patricia Davis
- Noor Ghazal Aswad

Stephen E. Lucas Debut Publications Award

- Jennifer F. Wood

Committee on International Discussion and Debate (CIDD)

- Erika Thomas

Doctoral Education Committee

- Mason Myles

Leathers Fund Trustee Selection Committee

- Alena Vasilyeva

## Resolutions Review

President Niles Goins provided an overview of the resolution process.

Executive Director Danowski provided a review of committee work.

President Niles Goins recognized Resolutions Committee member, Michelle Violanti.

### 1. Resolution Regarding State Legislative Limits on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- a. Violanti provided a rationale for the resolution.
- b. *The Resolutions Committee forwards the resolution as revised. Discussion ensued.*
  - i. *An amendment to the motion was made to include "Access" in lines 30 and 37.*

*Seconded. The amendment to the motion carried.*

*c. Motion carried 105 yes, 3 no.*

**2. Credo for Ethical Communication**

*a. Violanti provided a rationale for the resolution.*

*b. The Resolutions Committee forwards the resolution as revised. Discussion ensued.*

*c. Motion carried 107 yes, 2 no.*

**3. Credo for Free and Responsible Communication is a Democratic Society**

*a. Violanti provided a rationale for the resolution.*

*b. The Resolutions Committee forwards the resolution as revised. Discussion ensued.*

*c. Motion carried 112 yes, 1 no.*

**4. High School Communication Education (Speaking, Listening, & Media Literacy) as a Graduation Requirement**

*a. Violanti provided a rationale for the resolution.*

*b. The Resolutions Committee forwards the resolution as revised. Discussion ensued.*

*c. Motion carried 115 yes, 0 no.*

**5. Policy on Affirmative Action and Nondiscrimination**

*a. Violanti provided a rationale for the resolution.*

*b. The Resolutions Committee forwards the resolution as revised. Discussion ensued.*

*i. An amendment to the motion was made to remove "NCA believes..." in line 33 and replace with, "Affirming such principles, however, does not relieve NCA..."  
Seconded. The amendment to the motion carried.*

*c. Discussion continued.*

*d. Motion carried 102 yes, 11 no.*

**New Resolution**

President Niles Goins provided an overview of the resolution process.

Executive Director Danowski provided a review of committee work.

President Niles Goins recognized Resolutions Committee member, Michelle Violanti.

**1. Resolution Denouncing the Dehumanization of Palestinians and its Impacts**

*a. Violanti provided a rationale for the resolution.*

*b. The Resolutions Committee forwards the resolution as revised. Discussion ensued.*

*c. Motion carried 69 yes, 48 no.*

**Adjournment:** With no further business, President Niles Goins adjourned the meeting at 9:46 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Justin Danowski  
NCA Executive Director