

Minutes
National Communication Association
Executive Committee of the Legislative Assembly
Virtual Meeting
Wednesday, May 20, 2026

Participating in the meeting:

Executive Committee Members: Tina Harris, President; Shaunak Sastry, First Vice President; Srivi Ramasubramanian, Second Vice President; Jeanetta Sims, Immediate Past President; Michael Lechuga, Finance Committee Director; Ambar Basu, Finance Committee Director; Kathleen Roberts, Mentorship and Leadership Council Chair; Julie-Ann Scott-Pollock, IDEA Council Chair; Iccha Basnyat, Research Council Chair; Katherine Thweatt, Teaching and Learning Council Chair; Justin Danowski, Executive Director/Secretary (non-voting).

National Office Staff: LaShawn Duckett, Director of Convention and Meetings; Pallavi Guha, Director of Research, Publications, and Professional Advancement; Alexis Rice, Director of Communications, Membership, and Marketing; Jennifer Fletcher, Organizational Development Manager; Monica Yang, Governance and Strategic Initiatives Manager

Proposal Presenter: Stephen M. DiDomenico

1. Call to Order

President Harris called the meeting to session at 3:04 PM Eastern Time.

2. Presentation of the Proposal to for a Name Change for the Language and Social Interaction Division by NCA member, Stephen M. DiDomenico.
- a. EC discussion ensued.

A motion was made to approve the interest group name from the Language and Social Interaction Division to the Discourse and Social Interaction Division. 10 yes. 0 no. 0 abstained. Motion carried.

3. President Updates

- a. Harris provided an update on the action plan regarding the NCA land acknowledgement review. More updates will come from Scott-Pollock in a later EC meeting.

4. Executive Director Updates

- a. Danowski provided an update on staffing and hiring processes of National Office Staff, including the addition of Tracy McDonald, Manager of Sales and Exhibitor Services, and Pallavi Guha, Director of Research, Publications, and Professional Advancement, and the search for a Convention & Meetings Manager, Digital Content & Multimedia Specialist, and Communications Associate.
- 5. Strategic Plan Task Force
 - a. Thweatt provided an update on the progress of assembling the task force, adding four at-large members instead of three. The Strategic Plan Task Force will begin meetings in June.
- 6. Review of Texas Tech University (TTU) Memorandum
 - a. Harris summarized a request from an NCA member to address the April 9, 2026, Memorandum to Texas Tech University Presidents from TTU Chancellor Brandon Creighton and the Academic, Clinical, & Student Affairs Committee Board of Regents
 - i. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made for the EC to sign onto the American Historical Association (AHA) statement opposing the TTU Memorandum. 9 yes, 0 no. 0 abstained. Motion carried.

A motion was made for the EC to approve a subcommittee to craft an EC public statement in light of the TTU Memorandum. 9 yes, 0 no. 0 abstained. The subcommittee shall consist of Basu, Guha, and Lachlan.
- 7. Taylor and Francis Review
 - a. Danowski provided a summary of a complaint involving NCA members and Taylor and Francis's review process.
 - i. Discussion ensued. Danowski and Guha to follow up.
- 8. Harris adjourned the meeting at 4:59 PM Eastern. Remaining agenda items are moved to the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Monica Yang
Governance and Strategic Initiatives Manager