

MIDWEST PCA/ACA
Annual Membership Meeting
Saturday, October 5, 2024
12:30pm – 2pm

- I. Call Meeting to Order - Meeting called to order by Julia Kuttler at 12:34 pm
- II. Approval of agenda - Agenda approved by voice consent
- III. Reading and Approval of 2023 Minutes - Corey Barker motions, Paul Peters seconds; Past minutes approved by voice consent

- IV. Report of Conference Coordinators—Paul Booth
 1. Thank you all who have made this year possible
 2. 2025 Location - Iowa City - University of Iowa. Conference will be held October 3-5, 2025
 1. We have never been to UIowa, so this will be a great opportunity to reach the grad student population in Iowa
 2. Christopher Innes - Will accommodation be provided?
 1. No - we will work to identify hotels/accommodations in the area
 3. If you know people in the area for featured/keynote speakers, reach out!
 3. 2024 Conference Report
 1. Thank you all so much for your support - We have been pretty consistent with our money over the past few years
 2. Registration number this year - We experienced a bit of a downturn this year. Not huge. Last year - 250 registrants; this year - 228 registrants. We have far more full-time faculty this year (17 more); the dip this year was with graduate students (12 fewer this year). If you have any grad students and you want to encourage them to come, please do.
 3. Danica Jenck- Did you include subpopulations of who came from which states?
 1. We've been at the same place for three years. Because we've been here, geographically it may not make a difference
 4. This year, we've been working hard to push for undergrads attend. Last year, 5 undergrads; this year - 27 undergraduate students. This year, we have a DePaul rate for students here. We are looking to do the same at UIowa.
 5. Financially, we will be slightly under this year. It is not significant (a couple hundred dollars). Canceling Sunday saved us financially (by a couple thousand dollars)
 6. On the flip side, since DePaul changed its hours of operation, we can't do the Pub Quiz here tonight (we will be at a restaurant in the area)
 1. CarrieLynn Reinhard - Will we be at Iowa for a couple of years
 1. Julia - unless we really like Iowa, we will be there for a year.
 2. Don Eberly - Will next year be a two day or a three day conference?
 1. We are aiming for a three day conference
 7. Please remember we are all volunteers.

- III. Report of Executive Council—Julia Largent Kuttler, President

1. This year's conference at DePaul University
 1. **Please pay attention to deadlines** - we had a ton of late changes this year. The September 15 deadline is a hard deadline. If you want a printed program, we have to have an end date. You are welcome to ask if you have registered. We would rather do that than not. We also do that because it can be frustrating to show up to see a panel that DIDN'T show up. We want you to present, so we will do our best to accommodate you.
 2. If you were a late change, it will be added to the program and posted to the final program
2. Keynote or Featured Speaker ideas?
 1. We are in Iowa City. Featured speakers tend to be local academics with a cool feature presentation. Our keynote tends to be a non-academic pop culture speaker.
 2. Suggestions
 1. Sarah Licht - two options for featured speaker coming from Grinnell College; Dr. Lakisha Johnson - research on Black Neo-soul artists and musicians; Dr. Nick Philips - research on Latin American detective fiction
 2. Ralph Beliveau - Gigi Durham teaches there - her work is in Girl Culture
 3. Caryn Millsap-Spears - Riverside, Iowa has the Voyage Home Museum. THis would be fan studies/museum studies. They've partnered with Paramount. Riverside is maybe 30 miles from Iowa City
 1. Birthplace of Captain Kirk
 4. Francis Agnioli - Max Allen Collins - the author of **Road to Perdition**; Featured Speaker - Deborah Elizabeth Whaley - African American Studies
 5. Darryl Clark - There has to be a Grant Woods society; Meredith Willson; Jean Seaburg
 6. CarrieLynn - Iowa City has an antique car museum
 7. John Dowell - If you go to SuperheroWorkshop.org - Jerry Care - He is an illustrator for Marvel
 8. Francis - in Iowa City, they have Film Scene (nonprofit in the area)
 9. If you have other suggestions, let us know. Julia looks at them every year.
 3. Elections close TODAY at 6pm! Two different positions being voted on: Representative-at-large and Student/New Professional Representative.
 1. Result of Exec. Council Appointed:
 1. Michael Blouin: PCSJ Editor
 2. Aisha Powell: Awards Coordinator
 1. She's the one with the cute doggie!

VI. 2025 Elections—Julia Largent Kuttler, President

1. Nominations are due June 30, 2025: <https://bit.ly/MPCA25noms>
 1. Vice President/President-Elect (3 years as VP, 3 years as President, 3 years as Past-President)
 1. If you are curious and have any questions, talk with Julia, Corey, Paul, or Angela
 2. Program Committee Member (2 positions) (selected by Executive Council)

1. This is a committee of three for a three year term. The workload is heavy in June through the end of the conference. It is a lot of work during the summer. If you are an organized person
 3. Marketing & Communication Chair (selected by Executive Council)
 1. This person is in charge of marketing and social media.
 2. Post-conference survey
 1. We started this last year and will do it again this year. We do read these and take them seriously as we consider the conference each year.
 1. You should talk about Echidnas more in Public Speaking!
- VIII. Virtual Graduate Student Mini-Conference—Julia Largent Kuttler, President
1. Report on the conference - This was our third year. We have done a two day conference for the past few years. Due to low attendance, we have decided to sunset the conference. In the future, we will do professional development panels throughout the year. Keep an eye out for newsletters in the future (example topics include how to publish, moving from undergrad to grad, etc)
 2. If you have ideas, reach out to Julia or Cory
- IX. Area Chairs—Cory Barker, Vice President
1. If anyone is looking to get more involved in the organization outside of the election, we have historically had area chairs in charge of building calls, reviewing papers, and organizing panels. We may be experiencing some transitions here. If you want to be involved, reach out to VicePresident@MPCAACA.org
 1. Great for grad students wanting to start getting involved in the organization
 1. Julia - Zoe volunteers as tribute (without the killing)
- X. Award Committees & Volunteering—Aisha Powell
1. Congrats to the winners - Only a few were in attendance last night.
 2. Please send us your books and papers - The call for books is due the end of May. We will be discussing the submission date for papers at Executive Council
 3. Please be a reviewer. An email will be sent out soon seeking reviewers. If you have any questions, reach out to Aisha
- X. Report of the Journal—CarrieLynn Reinhard
1. I'm leaving, so this is the last time I have to do this. The journal will be in good hands with the new editor. We are looking for submissions on a rolling basis (and looking for reviewers). If you want to be a reviewer or a copyeditor, you can find information at MPCAACA.org
 2. Volume 12 issue 2 will be published on October 15
 3. We have upcoming special issues on Religion and Dance (different issues)
 4. IF you have an idea for a special issue, let us know!
 5. We also try to publish multimedia. YOU can submit a video essay. If you want to submit something, let us know
 6. Reviews - We review scholarly books, graphic novels, memoirs, and other pop culture texts (movies, plays, professional wrestling matches, video games, etc.) We have a pretty robust selection this year. If you have an idea, reach out to Chris Olson

XI. Unfinished/Old Business - NONE

XII. New Business (matters initiated at this meeting based on reports and/or new information)

1. University pitches for future conferences

1. Allen Babiarz-Lira and Ines Petrovic Garcia - Volunteer State Community College (Nashville)

1. Brendan Reilly - PCA has divided up the country and we could potentially encroach on PCA South's area

2. Darryl Clark - Southern Illinois University Carbondale (plethora of student organizations to make it affordable, catering services, campus is in the heart of the mountains, cute restaurants in downtown Carbondale, where Dick Gregory graduated from)

1. Danica Jenck - Marian is closeby and has solid restaurants

3. Sarah Bahaji - Northern Illinois University

4. Christopher Olson - North Dakota State University in Fargo (Come see me and I wouldn't be all alone in the middle of nowhere)

1. Julia - You have CarrieLynn and cats!

5. Angela Nelson - Bowling Green State University

6. Barry Cole - Northwestern University

7. Cory Barker - we haven't been in Michigan since 2009

8. John Dowell - Michigan State University

9. CarrieLynn - UW Madison, Marquette University in Milwaukee, and UW Green Bay

10. Laura Hrycaj - Wayne State University

11. Indira Neill - Concordia College in Minnesota

12. One of the reasons we are asking you all specifically is because we have people on the ground and we could also receive discounts

2. Next Steps - Paul will reach out to begin budget stuff.

XIII. Announcements

1. Keynote Address: 5:45pm in this room!

2. Pop Culture Pub Quiz: 7:30 at Exchequer - it's a wonderful pub quiz!

3. Walking Movie Tours tomorrow morning - These are full. Check your email to see if you are part of the tour!

4. Elections close today at 6pm.

5. Pictures! Send us your pictures! Send to President@MPCAACA.org

XIV. Adjourn - Cory Barker motions, Darryl Clark seconds. Meeting adjourned at 1:29 pm