In 2016 the SSSA President Patrick Barr appointed a communications director to assist the President in the re-design and maintenance of the organization’s website as well as to handle the public communication and social media presence. This temporary position was maintained through Presidential appointment in 2017.

After evaluation of the benefit to the association of having a designated person responsible for these procedures, it is the recommendation of the President that the position be made permanent.

Therefore, it is proposed that we amend the By-laws of the Southwestern Social Science Association to add the position of Communications Director to the Council. To do so, the following changes to the By-laws would be required:

* Amend Article VIII, §8.1 (which lists all the organization) to insert “a Communications Director,” after “a General Program Director,”.
* Amend Article VIII, §8.2(b) (which lists the officers to be elected) to insert “Communications Director” after “Treasurer,” and renumber all subsequent positions within this section accordingly.
* Amend Article VIII, §8.7 (which lists the tasks currently assigned to the Secretary) by deleting the following subsections, and renumbering all subsequent subsections in this section accordingly:
  + d) Care for all correspondence of the Association;
  + f) Be responsible for maintenance of and updates to the Website;
  + i) Publish proposed amendments to the Association’s Constitution and Bylaws in the manner required of the Bylaws; .
* Amend Article VIII, to insert a new §8.10 as follows and renumber all subsequent sections of Article VIII accordingly:

Communications Director. The Communications Director shall have the following duties:

a) Care for all correspondence of the Association;

b) Be responsible for maintenance of and updates to the Website and social media accounts;

c) Develop and recommend Association communications policy;

d) Publish proposed amendments to the Association’s Constitution and Bylaws in the manner required of the Bylaws;

e) Publish to the Website all reports which must be made available to the Membership and/or general public for their inspection;

f) Submit a report to the Executive Committee, Council, and Business Meeting of the Membership;

g) Have such other powers and duties as may be prescribed by the Council or these Bylaws; and,

h) Serve as Communications Director for a term of three (3) years.

These changes will be voted on at the SSSA General Business meeting at the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Association. All Association members are welcome to attend and vote on this proposal.

If the amendment is passed, then there will be an election at the Saturday SSSA Council Meeting to fill the position.

All association members from all affiliates are eligible to run for this position. Nominations will be accepted from any member of the association and any affiliate.