

Medical Rhetoric Standing Group Minutes
Annual Business Meeting
April 6, 2021

- I. Welcome
 - A. President Kelly Pender welcomed everyone to the meeting, noting that she had missed seeing everyone at the 2020 meeting which was cancelled due to COVID, and wishing that we could have met in person this year.

- II. Announcements
 - A. Associate Chair Lucía Durá announced the upcoming elections for the standing group. The positions of Chair and Communications Officer will be open. Each term is for two years. The Chair serves as the primary liaison to Cs, while the Communications Officer is responsible for maintaining communication channels and taking meeting minutes.
 - 1. E-mail nominations to Lucía Durá ldura@utep.edu (send self-nominations w/ a 200 word statement & if possible a picture; if nominating others send me their name and e-mail)
 - B. Member-at-Large Molly Kessler announced the cfp for the CCCC 2022 Roundtable, “Justice-Oriented Work in RHM.”
 - 1. The full cfp will be circulated via twitter, facebook, listservs, and medicalrhetoric.com
 - C. Communications Officer Amy Reed reminded attendees about the [bibliography](#), compiled summer 2020 on Race and Racism in Health and Medicine
 - 1. Suggestions for further contributions to the bibliography can be emailed to medrhetbibliography@gmail.com.
 - D. Lisa Meloncon provided updates on the symposium, website, and journal. Most notably, she mentioned that the journal will be transitioning to two new editors, Cathryn Molloy and Kim Hensely Owens.

- III. Introductions: The group then turned towards introducing themselves and their research interests.
 - A. Jacqueline James: UMN, rhetorical history, polio care and syndrome
 - B. Kelly Pender: VT, genetic risk
 - C. Daniel Kenzie: ND State, traumatic brain injury, vaccines
 - D. Cailin Ray: U of Louisville and U of Nebraska, rare diseases
 - E. Sara Doan: Kennesaw St, visualizations of COVID data and health disparities
 - F. Danielle Stambler: UMN, health practices outside of medical institutions
 - G. Michael Klein: JMU, narrative medicine, COVID and ethos
 - H. Liz Angeli: Marquette, emergency medicine, entrepreneurship
 - I. Jill Dalhman: California North State, healthcare representations in Indigenous cultures
 - J. Madonna Kemp: Middle Tenn State, breast cancer philanthropy rhetoric
 - K. Kelly Whitney: OSU, women’s preventative health, sensory rhetorics
 - L. Bryna Seigal Finer: IUPUI, breast cancer epistemology

- M. Cathryn Molloy: JMU, mental health rhetoric and stigma
 - N. Susan Popham: health insurance and systems
 - O. Luciana Herman: UTEP, intersections of patient literacy and digital literacy
 - P. Molly Kessler: UMN, chronic gastrointestinal conditions and misinformation
 - Q. Brynn Fitzsimmons- U of Kansas, health and activism
 - R. Laura McCann: Carnegie Mellon, infertility and vicerality
 - S. Lucia Dura: UTEP, innovative methods, end of life discussions, vulnerable populations
 - T. Erin Fitzgerald: Auburn, vaccine rhetoric
- IV. Discussion: Kelly Pender posed the question, given the overlapping goals of this group with other groups such as ARSTM, the medical rhetoric symposium and website, NCA's health comm group, what would members like this group to be and do?
- A. Discussion quickly turned to the need for mentoring. Graduate students and early career scholars would find it helpful to be paired with mentors outside of their home institutions.
 - B. Discussed the possibility of using a mentoring model created by the Disability Studies standing group, which paired people with mentors but did not monitor their participation. The strengths and weaknesses of this approach were discussed.
 - C. Discussed the possibility of also forming peer-to-peer mentoring groups, such as a dissertation group.
 - D. Discussion then turned to the possibilities of moving scholarship beyond academia and into the public sphere. Many requested that training for doing this kind of work would be beneficial. And it was suggested that the next annual meeting could include a guest speaker on this topic.