

## SCSMT 2026 Business Meeting Minutes

Welcome – SCSMT president Clare Eng welcomed members and opened the business meeting at 10:48 am EST.

### **Approval of 2025 Business meeting minutes**

A QR code link to the 2025 Business Meeting Minutes was shared for society approval. Rebecca Long moved to approve, Jeremy Orosz second. Unanimously approved.

**Treasurer Election Recap** – Eng shared that the society overlooked the treasurer election in last year’s business meeting. She then reported that there was an online election, resulting in Douglas Rust being re-elected for the 2025-2028 term. The next treasurer election will be held during the 2028 business meeting.

**President Election** – Election Officer Jason Jedlicka managed the presidential election. Candidates included incumbent President Clare Eng. No other candidates were nominated prior to business meeting and no nominations came from the floor. (?) moved to accept Eng’s re-election. Motion seconded by Jeremy Orosz. Motion passed by unanimous acclaim.

**2028 Virtual SCSMT Conference** – Eng gave a brief update for the 2028 virtual conference. The tech chair will be Madison Stepherson and we will need session hosts/chairs with fast, stable internet. In addition to an all-virtual conference, SCSMT is looking for possible physical meeting location for people to optionally meet and socialize outside of sessions. No motions or decisions were made.

### **Program Committee report** – 2026 Program Chair John Latartara

Latartara expressed thanks to the members of the program committee and shared data on proposal submissions. Full details are contained in the program committee chair report.

Program Committee consisted of Anne Delphin, University of Alabama, Jacob Gran, Louisiana Tech University, Ruixue Hu, Eastman School of Music, and Zach Lookenbill, University of Arkansas

### PROPOSAL SUBMISSIONS

53 proposals submitted (2 repetitions)

44 were submitted as 20-minute papers

11 were submitted as either 20- or 10-minute papers

25 papers were accepted (47% acceptance rate)

21 (20-minute papers accepted)

4 (10-minute papers accepted)

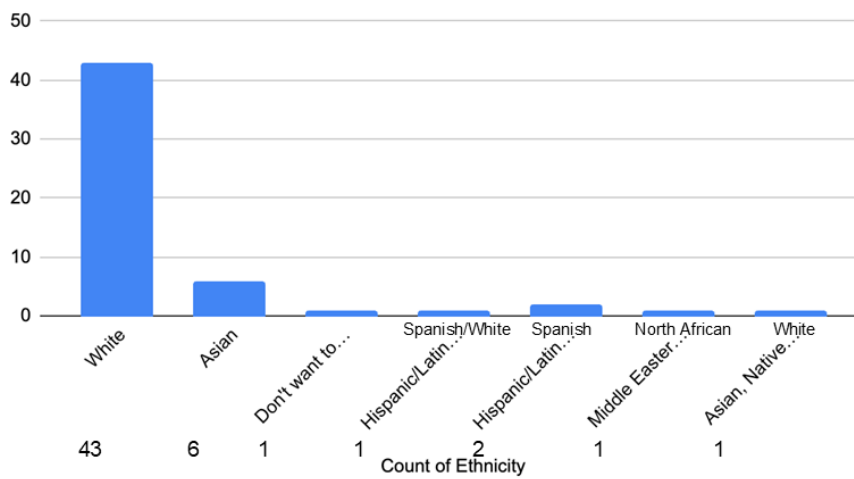
25 papers presented: 3 lightning talks and 22 20-minute papers

(1 accepted but never registered or responded to emails (20-minute paper), first alternate chosen)

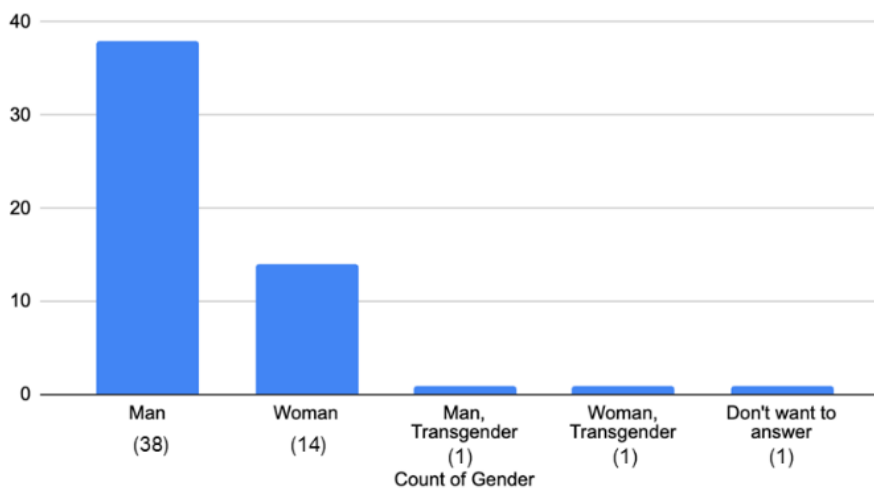
Submissions were received from Florida, Indiana, Kentucky, Texas, New York, Tennessee, Michigan, Ohio, Louisiana, Missouri, Virginia, Maryland, Georgia, North Carolina, Colorado, Mississippi, Montana, United States, Turkey, and Poland.

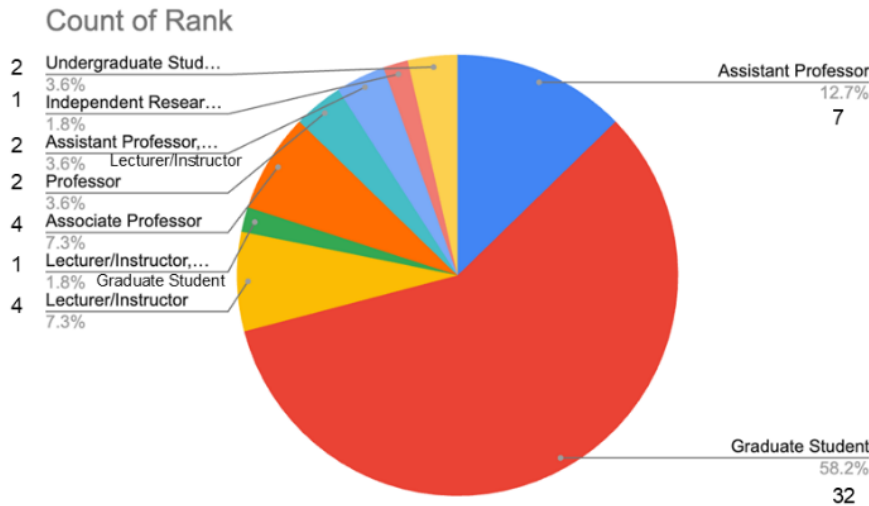
The remaining data is summarized in the following images provided by Latartara.

Count of Ethnicity

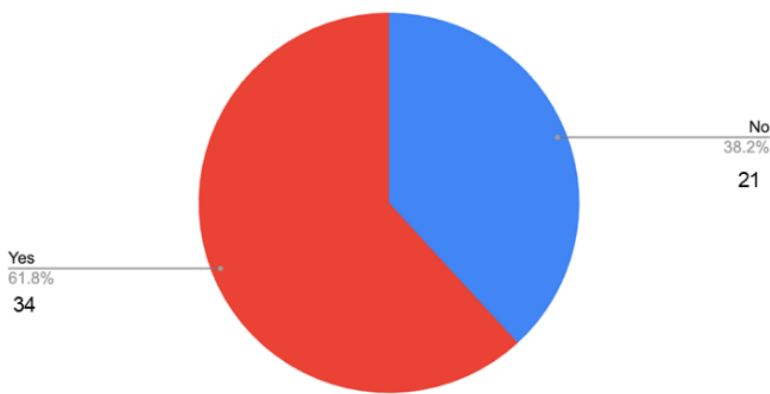


Count of Gender





Count of Are you interested in having your submission considered for the SCSMT Student Award?



### Rideshare Report – SCSMT Secretary Wesley Bradford

Bradford reported that only 1 respondent completed the rideshare/roommate locator. Requested feedback on whether the society should continue to offer a rideshare/roommate locator or discontinue the service. Members noted that they were not aware of the rideshare/roommate locator and offered ideas to improve visibility and communication. Two specific ideas included adding a link on the local arrangements page (which was done this year) and to include a link in the acceptance email. Bradford noted that he can plan to work with the Program Chair to implement the suggested changes and see if the form is more useful for next year.

**Treasurer’s Report – SCSMT Treasurer Douglas Rust**

Century First FCU
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Balance from before 2025 conference: \$2,643.57

	Payment	Deposit	Balance
11/18/2024		\$300 donation from LSU	\$2,943.57
3/12/2025		\$250 donation from UCA	\$3,193.57
3/14/2025	\$1,000 two workshops		\$2,193.57
3/15/2025	\$100 student paper award		\$2,093.57
3/15/2025	\$239.39 conf. food & coffee		\$1,854.18
4/8/2025		\$1,361.66 PayPal transfer conf. reg. + donations	\$3,215.84
1/16/2026	\$1,000.00 18-month CD @ 4.51%		\$2,215.84
	\$1,000.00 Keynote & workshop		\$1,215.84
	\$100 student paper award		\$1,115.84

Note that SCSMT has invested \$1,000 which will pay dividends of \$69-70 in July 2027. The plan is to invest another \$1,000 after this conference with the aim of providing SCSMT with around \$60 interest income each year. With this strategy, we hope the interest will help us to break even each year on conference costs.

PayPal
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Balance from 2025: \$199.99

	Payment	Deposit	Balance
As of 3/18/2026		\$1,369.84 2026 conference registration	\$1,569.83

**BOTTOM LINE:**

Between PayPal (\$1,569.83) and FCU (\$1,115.84) accounts, we currently have \$2,685.67. That looks like \$42.10 more than we had before the conference last year. However, we also have \$1,000 invested in 2026.

Rust opened with the news that the society is in a slightly better financial position than at this point last year, with a \$42.10 net gains after conference registrations and expenses. He then shared that the executive board has opened an 18-month CD for \$1000 in order to help stabilize the society’s financial future. The executive board has also discussed opening a second \$1000 CD and asked for input from the society. Orosz noted that if conference expenses are typical, opening a second CD could be a good strategy, but

projected expenses for next year's joint conference should be confirmed. Eng shared that expenses next year may be lower if the hosting institution is able to secure a conference hosting grant. Anne Delfin inquired whether investing will impact the society's non-profit tax status. Eng and Rust responded that as long as the society completes paperwork with IRS, investments should not affect the non-profit status. Jedlicka suggested opening a high-yield savings account to insure liquidity of funds. Long suggested the possibility of a shorter-term CD so monies can be available for conference expenses but can still yield higher interest rates than a savings account. No actions taken.

Hu Ruixue suggested considering a permanent membership or similar status that could help boost SCSMT funds. Eng noted that SCSMT just updated so that conference fee & membership are the same, and expressed concern that a one-time membership gain could hurt the long-term stability through lowered registration fees. Long suggested lifetime membership could offer "grad student rate" for life, saving long-term members on yearly dues while also creating a cushion of immediate funds. Discussion was tabled and the executive board will discuss any changes and hold online votes if necessary.

### **2027 Meeting**

The 2027 Meeting will be a joint conference with MTSE at Georgia State University. The meeting is scheduled for March 19-20, 2027. The local arrangements chair is Abby Xieyi Zhang.

Zach Lookenbill motioned to adjourn, seconded by Orosz. Meeting adjourned at 11:18 EST.