

CSMC MANUSCRIPT ACCEPTANCE/REJECTION RATE Aug. 1, 2023 to July 31, 2024:

- (1) Number of new manuscripts received during this period: 336
- (2) Number of revised manuscripts received during this period: 51
- (3) Total number of manuscripts accepted for publication: 54
- (4) Number of manuscripts returned for revision and resubmission: 126
- (5) Number of manuscripts rejected: 160
- (6) Acceptance rate ((3) divided by (1+2)): 14%

EDITOR'S GOALS AND PROGRESS TOWARD MEETING THOSE GOALS:

- Diversify editorial board: We accomplished this goal fairly early in our tenure as it was a primary goal to ensure a diversity of voices and perspectives were included in our review process.
- Engage scholarship specific to technological advancements, biomedical political, and big data, as well eLorts to expand scholarship published on critical interpersonal and family communication: While we have specific essays published that address these areas of interest, there have not been an abundance of such essays submitted for publication at this time. It is incumbent upon us to generate greater interest in receiving such submissions. In fact, we will announce a call for guest editors at NCA 2024 conference with the expressed opportunity to support a special issue with these foci.

STRENGTHS:

- We remain committed to extending detailed, productive, and empathetic feedback to authors, in particular junior colleagues to support their eLorts toward academic publishing.
- It has been commented often by authors and CSMC readers how impressed they are with our range of scholarly essays published and the varied topics we are willing to consider for publication. I think this speaks directly to the fact that we are co-editors tasked with working on diLerent submissions. This allows us to work on the submissions from two diLerent insights and ideas about what works well for the journal. During our editorial team meetings, we often marvel at the variety of essays submitted and those accepted for publication reinforce the diverse range of scholarship produced in our discipline.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

- Our time to decision on a manuscript has unfortunately increased. In our final year as co-editors, we are most interested in moving through the review process quicker to respond to authors sooner.
- We have fallen short to submit each issue on time, according to our production schedule. While there is an abundance of submissions in queue to support each issue, we have struggled to meet our deadlines, largely due to our professional commitments as academic leaders. This is a primary area of focus for our final year with the journal.
- We would like to improve our communication to international scholars who appear to send all-things media to CSMC without noting the specific aims and scope of the journal. There is a need to articulate this point more clearly, which can be one with additional information on our website, as well as our emails in response to their special issue ideas and submitted essays.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION:

- This has served as the core of our goals as the first Black women co-editors of CSMC. We have accomplished this goal fairly early as a result of our diverse editorial board, including international scholars, as well as our value of publishing the works of junior scholars.
- Our special issue this year, “Lifting as we Climb: Elevating mediated epistemologies by and about Black women,” highlights our commitment to NCA’s IDEA eLorts. We dedicated the issue to scholarly essays on and about Black women in media, which is innovative among NCA’s communication journals. We were committed to ensuring a voice not often read in our journals that centers the role of Black women and their mediated representations. Most recently, Taylor & Francis shared that the issue was being made accessible for a period of three months to ensure its reach as they, too, recognized the issue as groundbreaking.