



CCCC Executive Secretary-Treasurer Report March 6, 2026

CCCC Fiscal Year 2026 Financial Summary

As with NCTE and each of its conferences, the current environment continues to present challenges for the Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC). The CCCC leadership needs to determine how CCCC can lead and serve members in this era when resources are tenuous and the situation is highly dynamic.

Long-term financial position: Balances of reserves and future liabilities

CCCC Required Reserve Fund: \$2,102,888*

CCCC Contingency Fund: \$2,464,184**

Future CCCC Liabilities (future Convention sites):

- Milwaukee 2027, \$345,243

*required to be 150% of annual operating budget

**projected CCCC Contingency Fund balance less contracted Future CCCC Liabilities

CCCC's reserves will decrease by \$200,625 in FY26, based on the budget approved by the CCCC Executive Committee on May 20, 2025, and amended on August 18, 2025, to include expenses for the CCCC 2026 Livestream attendance option. Investment earnings continue to be volatile alongside anticipation of future decreases in earned income from Convention attendance, publications purchasing, and similar funding lines as financial constriction ripples across institutions. As investments decrease overall, whether by consumption or market changes, the pace by which the investments decrease will accelerate.

Continuing this spending and income depression year over year is unsustainable. CCCC membership has declined 37.5% since 2019 (pre-pandemic). Potential good news is that the membership numbers for FY26 have remained stable between July 1, 2025, (the start of the fiscal year) and December 31, 2025. However, institutional subscriptions to the *College Composition and Communication* journal are down 1.26% over the same period. Additional efforts around membership retention and recruitment have aided membership stability, as has NCTE's new membership system, which was implemented at no cost to CCCC. As a result, CCCC currently has more than 1,400 members (more than 50%) opting for multiyear membership and/or automatic annual renewals.

The in-person CCCC Annual Convention has historically been the largest source of earned revenue. The CCCC Convention has created the financial means to fund much of its mission, including research grants, member programming and support, and general expenses. While navigating difficult times in higher education simultaneously with financial inflation, the CCCC Executive Committee approved a proposal to include a livestream option for the 2026 Annual Convention. This adds an expense of \$131,095 and prior deployments of CCCC online conventions have had low engagement. During the August 18, 2025, meeting, the CCCC Executive Committee approved a proposal from the CCCC Task Force to Develop a Plan for Actionable Accessibility at the Convention to include a livestream option for 2026 with further

additions approved for 2027. The total expenses for the CCCC Annual Convention have now risen to \$834,860. This increases the net loss for the Convention from a budgeted (\$14,885) to (\$38,860). Further, the 2026 Convention, based on current numbers, is not anticipated to meet revenue from registration fees, exhibits, and sponsorships.

It remains critically important for CCCC leaders to keep in mind the financial realities of protecting and sustaining the CCCC's annual event and its bearing on CCCC's overall financial health in the short and long term. As discussed with the CCCC Executive Committee, every decision made carries with it concerns about substantial (and perhaps irreversible) impact on the viability of the CCCC Annual Convention and the potential for conference-wide implications.

While increasing Convention attendance is a primary focus, it is imperative that CCCC continue to diversify opportunities for member engagement that focus on long-term member retention and serving the timely needs of many members. Expanding the success of thoughtful experiments, such as the continuation of the Fall Virtual Institute, and looking for new fee-for-service offerings, while also reducing expenses, is required.

Sales of Studies in Writing and Rhetoric series (SWR) titles decreased by 30.96% in FY25, with FY26 year-to-date activity slightly ahead of the prior year. Four SWR titles are slated for release in FY26, three of which have been released so far as of March 2026. One of the three already-published titles is open access copublished with the WAC Clearinghouse.

CCCC has a budgeted operating loss before investment income of (\$403,475) in Fiscal Year 2026 (ending on June 30, 2026). The dynamic nature of the Convention held in March 2026 may change that number significantly. The decisions the CCCC Executive Committee makes for the FY27 budget and future years must set a course for sustainable growth and address the broader landscape of trends in higher education alongside the needs of those CCCC seeks to serve.

—Emily Kirkpatrick, Executive Secretary-Treasurer