

Message from the new Graduate Student Liaison: Rachel LoMonaco-Benzing

I am honored to be your new Graduate Student Liaison, following a wonderful term by So Young Song. I will do my best not only to provide opportunities for us all, but to represent our graduate student perspectives, needs, and ideas to the Council. I am YOUR VOICE to the organization, so I need to hear from you! What would you like to see to make your participation in ITAA easier, more enjoyable, or more valuable as a graduate student? I would truly love to hear from those with more experience in the organization and different perspectives than my own. Please reach out to me with any ideas at relvkc@mail.missouri.edu.

One area I knew personally would be the most challenging coming into a graduate program was publishing. Yes, the big 'P' Publishing. It can be a scary notion and loom over our heads as we consider futures in academia. However, I think this is one area where we can lean on one another for advice, support, and yes, even a little humor to get us through. As So Young brought up on Facebook shortly before handing over the reins, we should begin to share our latest publications with one another. It will help us all see what research is currently being done, how it is being done, and where it is being published. In addition, it will give us ideas about who to reach out to for collaborations, and who knows, it may even be the kind of article that was *just* what you were looking for to help fill in the blanks on your own research! In addition, we can share resources with one another. Are there interesting workshops, websites, books, or articles that you have come across to help you get through the arduous process of publishing? Are there tools to help you organize your ideas or citations that you really enjoy using? Or are there ones you would steer people away from using? I had the chance to attend a graduate student writing workshop at my university this past fall, which was very helpful. Don't forget to look for similar opportunities near you! Share your ideas and advice with us all by joining our Facebook community (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/103438323022645/>). Here's to a successful *and* enjoyable 2017!