

**CSCA Annual Conference  
April 2-5, 2014**

**Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Panels**

**Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>**

0100 Skyway Suite AB  
1:00 – 4:00 pm

**Central States Communication Association Preconference Social Media:  
Convergence of a Discipline**

Sponsor:           Second Vice-President David T. McMahan  
Presenters:       **Jeffrey T. Child**, Kent State University  
                      **Amy Janan Johnson**, University of Oklahoma  
                      **Andrew M. Ledbetter**, Texas Christian University  
                      **Catalina L. Toma**, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
                      **Stephanie T. Tong**, Wayne State University  
                      **David Westerman**, North Dakota State University

The study of social media emphasizes the importance of scholars from such areas of the discipline as interpersonal communication and media coming together and recognizing points of overlap in their respective research. It is also a topic of study that our students want to explore and that would benefit both their personal and their professional lives.

Featuring leading scholars in the area, participants in the preconference will be presented with the most recent discoveries in the study of social media, encompassing social networking sites, online dating sites, and computer-mediated communication as a whole. Among the topics of discussion will be online social support, deception, privacy, and the development and maintenance of personal relationships through the Internet. The preconference will conclude with a general conversation among presenters concerning the “State of Social Media” scholarship and instruction as well as directions for the future.

This special preconference will benefit both those participants with limited experience with the study of social media and those participants whose primary focus is social media. Everyone in attendance will be provided with stimulating presentations, ideas for future research, and strategies for incorporating the discussion of social media into their classrooms.

**Thursday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>**

1103 Minnehaha  
8:00 – 9:15 am

**Elevating our Understanding of Aphasia and Nonverbal Communication in Healthcare Contexts**

Sponsors: Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Interest Group and  
Health Communication Interest Group

Chair: **Randy K. Dillon**, Missouri State University

“Cerebral Palsy and Aphasia: A Patient’s Perspective”

**Diana K. Nagy**, University of Florida

“Connecting the Dots: Embodying Health in a Mute Context”

**Aarti B. Arora**, Ohio University

“The Chair: Nonverbal Communication Considerations Unique to the Dental Operatory”

**Lance Brendan Young**, Western Illinois University-Quad Cities

Aphasia is a disorder that results from damage to portions of the brain that are responsible for language. The disorder impairs the expression and understanding of language as well as reading and writing (NIH, 2008). Sometimes verbal communication impairment is temporary, as in a dental encounter, but other times it is permanent. Healthcare providers need to be acutely aware that patients with any form of aphasia will attempt to communicate through nonverbal means.

1301 Mirage  
11:00 am – 12:15 pm

**Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Spotlight Panel: Saluting the Scholarship, Teaching, and Service of Sandra Metts**

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Interest Group

Chair: **Katherine J. Denker**, Ball State University

Respondent: **Sandra Metts**, Illinois State University

“What Does It Take to Be Among the Best Mentors, Scholars, and Teachers in the Discipline?  
A Tribute to Dr. Sandra Metts”

**Stephen K. Hunt**, Illinois State University

“Honoring the Unassuming Scholar and Mentor”

**Sandra Petronio**, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis

“She Cannot Be Contained (to a Title): The Complexity of Professor Sandra Metts”

**Leah E. Bryant**, DePaul University

“Perfect for Rainbows and Silver Linings: And Other Clichés We Live”

**Bryan Asbury**, University of Iowa

“‘Touched (with Scholarly Inspiration) for the Very First Time’: The Sexy Side of Sandra Metts”

**Jimmie Manning**, Northern Illinois University

“I’ve Got All My Life to Live, I’ve Got All My Love to Give’: Working and Playing with Sandra Metts”

**Dawn O. Braithwaite**, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

“Dear Sandra: They Can’t Take that Away from Me... (Or You)”

**William R. Cupach**, Illinois State University

“Closing Remarks: Ya Gotta Ride the Roller Coaster to Get the Thrill”

**Sandra Metts**, Illinois State University

This panel celebrates the accomplishments of CSCA Hall of Fame member Sandra Metts. An array of scholars who have been touched by Professor Metts’ work through the years will each tell their stories, experiences, and moments of inspiration before a response from Dr. Metts herself. Then audience members will be invited to share their own memories before we engage a champagne toast. Whether you are a close friend of Professor Metts or someone who only knows her on the page, this is one event you will not want to miss!

1403 Minnehaha

12:30 – 1:45 pm

### **Elevating Communication and Grief**

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Interest Group

Chair: **Donna Pawlowski**, Bemidji State University

“Coping and Empathy: Spousal Loss and Friendship”

**Dena Huisman**, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

“Now What? Support for Happily Ever After”

**Donna Pawlowski**, Bemidji State University

“Reaching Up: Friendship and Grief”

**Linda Dickmeyer**, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

“Expect the Unexpected: Elevating through Action”

**Marlene Hunt**, Hope United Grief Group (HUGG)

Grief and bereavement are frequently explained through interdisciplinary research. Both academic and mainstream presentations of grief include predictable stages or grief as a process. However, grief is also personal, unpredictable and unique to the individuals who experience it. This panel allows us to *elevate* the communication of grief by revealing narratives, stories and interpretations from a personal perspective. We elevate not just academic discourse but also community discourse about a difficult yet important journey as experienced by partners, parents, friends, and children.

1501 Minnehaha  
2:00 – 3:15 pm

### **Elevating the Emerging Research of Sports & Communication**

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Interest Group  
Chair: **Roberta Davilla Robbins**, Illinois Central College  
Respondent: **Adriane Stoner**, DePaul University

“Conflict Management Styles across Collegiate Sports”

**Megan Lambertz**, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

“You Go Girl!: Analyzing Coverage of Female Triathletes in the Ironman Triathlon World Championships”

**Brittany Nordland**, University of Wisconsin-River Falls

**Jennifer Willis-Rivera**, University of Wisconsin-River Falls

“Towards the Development of a Protocol for Communication Planning: Applications of Systems and Image Restoration Theory to Communication in University Athletic Departments”

**Alan Zaremba**, Northeastern University

“Families and Sports: Investigating the Communicative Social Support of Marital/Relational Partners Provided for/to Their Coaching Partners”

**Roberta Davilla Robbins**, Illinois Central College

Sports and sporting events are sites for frequent and varying interpersonal and small group dynamics. The proposed panel features research studies in the area of sports communication related to the construction of gender and cultural identities, the social support families provide to coaches, and how institutions communicatively respond to crises. The panelists will present and discuss the ways that sports and communication affect and are affected by these themes. A discussion with audience members will be encouraged after the paper presentations.

1703 Minnehaha  
5:00 – 6:15 pm

### **Elevating Research into Practice: Examples of Interpersonal and Small Group Health Communication Research**

Sponsors: Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Interest Group and Health Communication Interest Group  
Chair: **Maria Brann**, West Virginia University

“Elevating Their Spirits: Supporting International Students with Mental Health Issues”

**Kim Omachinski**, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

“Small Group Collaboration and Participatory Research: A Case Study on a College’s Approach to Researching the Effects of Alcohol on Campus Culture”

**Laura D. Russell**, Denison University

“Applied Existentialism: Translating Dialogic Theory at a Drop-In Center for Persons Living with Mental Illness”

**Steve Phalen**, University of Wisconsin-River Falls

“Which Voice Matters? Elevating and Examining College Students’ Conversations About HIV”

**Malynda A. Johnson**, Carroll University

“Family Resilience to an Alcoholic Family Member”

**DeAnne Priddis**, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

“Facilitation of Grief Work: The Potential of Using Movies That Make Us Cry”

**Charles F. Aust**, Kennesaw State University

Communication scholars investigate various interpersonal topics pertaining to groups of people, but rarely put their research into practice to see the impact it has on our community. This panel looks at several health-related interpersonal and small group research projects and addresses how putting this research into practice has helped the public eye and our society in a vast number of ways.

### **Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup>**

2103 Minnehaha

8:00 – 9:15 am

#### **Strategies that Help (or Hinder) Sibling Relationships**

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Interest Group

Chair: **Kristina Wenzel**, University of Missouri-Columbia

Respondent: **Allison Thorson**, University of San Francisco

“The Use of Relational Maintenance Behaviors and Relational Characteristics Among Sibling Types”

**Scott A. Myers**, West Virginia University

**Kelly G. Odenweller**, West Virginia University

“Sibling Confirmation as a Moderator of Rivalries and Relational Outcomes in Sibling Relationships”

**Kaitlin E. Phillips**, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

**Paul Schrodt**, Texas Christian University

“That’s Not Fair: Relationship Maintenance Strategies and Perceptions of Equity in Adult Sibling Relationships”

**Jenna McNallie**, Purdue University

“Attachment Style, Communication Apprehension, and the Risks of Seeking Social Support: Variations between Friends and Siblings”

**Kristen Carr**, Texas Christian University

**Sarah E. Wilder**, Luther College

2202 Minnehaha  
9:30 – 10:45 am

### **Promoting Positive Adoption Practice and Talk: Hope, Healing, and Health for Adoptees**

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Interest Group  
Chair: **Kathleen Galvin**, Northwestern University

Presenters: **Keith Bistodeau**, North Dakota State University  
**Kathleen Galvin**, Northwestern University  
**Haley Kranstuber Horstman**, University of Missouri-Columbia  
**Laura Pelletier**, Minnesota State University  
**Haley Vellinga**, South Dakota State University

Recent harrowing adoption stories of post-placement relocation and ongoing custody disagreements have made headlines. These stories illuminate a need for ethical adoption practices, elevating a need for Communication scholars to further the adoption conversation. Communication is vital for promoting health for adoptees, and also helping adoptees understand and process their adoption and its difficulties. In this panel, we draw upon past and present research, exploring how positive adoption talk can elevate our understanding of adoption.

2214 Greenway C  
9:30 – 10:45 am

### **Relational Effects of Internet Use**

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Interest Group  
Chair: **Joshua Morgan**, University of Kansas  
Respondent: **Erich Hayes**, University of Oklahoma

“My Family is Not Really the Social Network Type’: How College Students Navigate Mediated Connections with Family”

**Carrie Anne Platt**, North Dakota State University

**Renee J. Bourdeaux**, North Dakota State University

**Nancy DiTunnariello**, North Dakota State University

“How are Response Comments on Self-Disclosing Facebook Status Update Threads Elevated to Higher Ratings of Interpersonal Impact? A Quantitative Analysis of Facebook Message Metrics”

**Linda Kramer Freeman**, East Carolina University

“The Impact of Internet Use and Internet Addiction on Adult Friendship Quality”

**Emily M. Buehler**, Wake Forest University

2302 Minnehaha  
11:00 am – 12:15 pm

### **Responding to Potential Conflict and Pressure in Romantic Relationships**

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Interest Group  
Chair: **Renee J. Bourdeaux**, North Dakota State University  
Respondent: **Jessica J. Eckstein**, Western Connecticut State University

“Investigating Adult Children’s Experiences with Privacy Turbulence Following the Discovery of Parental Infidelity”

**Allison R. Thorson**, University of San Francisco

“Voices of Women in Commuter Marriages: A Site of Discursive Struggle”

**M. Chad McBride**, Creighton University

**Karla Mason Bergen**, College of Saint Mary

“Messages of Pressure to Partner between Individuals and their Families”

**Jennifer A. Jackl**, University of Iowa

“All in the Family? Understanding the Association of Conflict Management Styles, Relational Satisfaction, and Gender Effects Between Family and Romantic Dyads”

**Sara L. Trask**, University of Missouri

“Can You Keep a Secret? Examining Military Couples’ Disclosure through the Lens of Communication Privacy Management Theory”

**Joy Cox**, University of Missouri-Columbia

2403 Minnehaha  
2:30 – 3:45 pm

### **Top Panel: Obstacles and Opportunities: Family Communication, Life-Cycle Transitions, and Turbulence**

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Interest Group  
Chair: **David Hopp**, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

“Feeling Caught: Adult Children’s Experiences with Parental Infidelity”

**Allison R. Thorson**, University of San Francisco

“I Hated My Stepdad at First, but Now Love Him’: An Investigation of Affective Transformation in Stepfamilies”

**Sandra Metts**, Illinois State University

**Dawn O. Braithwaite**, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

**Paul Schrodt**, Texas Christian University

**Kyle Waznis**, Illinois State University

“Storying our Family Experiences: Communicated Narrative Sense-Making in Times of Transition and Turbulence”

**Haley Kranstuber Horstman**, University of Missouri-Columbia

“Adult Children’s Uncertainty and Uncertainty Management in Response to Late-Life Parental Divorce”

**Sylvia L. Mikucki-Enyart**, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

Family life is an evolving environment replete with myriad transitions, which can lead to both challenges, such as turbulence or dissatisfaction, and opportunities, including increased cohesion and closeness, for family systems. It is important to understand how families negotiate transition points and potential turbulence in an effort to illuminate more or less effective coping strategies. This panel examines diverse family transitions, paying particular attention to the communicative strategies families employ to negotiate their changing landscape.

2509 Greenway I  
4:00 – 5:15 pm

**Teaching Naked: Stripping the Traditional Classroom by Elevating Engaging Activities**  
*(Top Panel Winner for Instructional Resources Division)*

Sponsors:           Instructional Resources Interest Group and Interpersonal & Small Group  
                            Communication Interest Group

Chair:                 **Shannon VanHorn**, Valley City State University

“Stripping 101: Using Technology to Flip the Classroom”

**Shannon VanHorn**, Valley City State University

“Undressing Moocs: The Basics”

**Jonna Ziniel**, Valley City State University

“Moving Out from Behind the Podium to Teaching Naked”

**Audra Myerchin**, Minot State University

“‘What Do You Mean My Interpersonal Class is Naked?’ Strategies for the Naked Classroom”

**Kim Weismann**, Williston State College

“Naked Activities: A Spin on the Traditional”

**Nancy Pearson**, Minot State University

Emerging technologies are changing and challenging traditional pedagogy. Students in K-12 are immersed in activity-based learning, then enter university classrooms with instructors implementing traditional methods. Students are not used to passive learning. Using Bowen (2012)'s *Teaching Naked: How Moving Technology Out of Your College Classroom Will Improve Student Learning*, this panel will strip down traditional classroom teaching. With an Action Research approach, presenters will introduce strategies to foster student engagement for the 21st Century learner.



## Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>

3102 Minnehaha  
8:00 – 9:15 am

### **Assessing the Relational Needs and Transforming Identities in Changing Relationships**

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Interest Group  
Chair: **Amanda Holman**, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Respondent: **Haley Kranstuber Horstman**, University of Missouri-Columbia

“Recipe for Disaster: Higher Levels of Listening Anxiety and Lower Levels of Trust Push Verbal Aggression to the Boiling Point”

**Natalie S. Hoskins**, University of Kansas

**Alesia Woszidlo**, University of Kansas

**Adrienne Kunkel**, University of Kansas

“‘Apology Accepted’: An Analysis of Apology-Response Interactions and Outcomes”

**Benjamin W. Chiles**, University of Minnesota-Morris

**Michael E. Roloff**, Northwestern University

“Discrepancies in the Perceived Competence of Emotional Support between the Sexes”

**Elizabeth Flood Grady**, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

**Sandra M. Metts**, Illinois State University

“The Long-Term Implications of Short-Term Sexuality”

**Jonathan V. Rarick**, Middle Tennessee State University

**Jessica M. W. Kratzer**, Middle Tennessee State University

“The Negotiated Identities of Long-Term Inmates: Breaking the Chains of Problematic Integration”

**Jacquelyn B. Frank**, Eastern Illinois University

**Elizabeth A. Gill**, Eastern Illinois University

3202 Minnehaha  
9:30 – 10:45 am

### **Top Competitive Papers in Interpersonal and Small Group Communication**

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Interest Group  
Chair: **Maria Brann**, West Virginia University  
Respondent: **Jimmie Manning**, Northern Illinois University

“Relational Uncertainty, Self-Other Inclusion, and Communication Satisfaction as Predictors of Friendship Relational Maintenance, and How Equity Changes the Story”

**Katherine E. Forsythe**, Texas Christian University

**Andrew M. Ledbetter**, Texas Christian University

“Divided Families: How Distance Impacts Communication Frequency and Relational Quality”

**Erin Sahlstein**, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

**Mike Allen**, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

**Anne Zmyslinski**, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

**Tara Emmers-Sommer**, University of Nevada-Las Vegas

**Sarah Nebel**, University of Iowa

“Expressions of Uncertainty: An Examination of a Pro-anorexia Website”

**Anna R. Herrman**, St. Norbert College

**Kelly E. Tenzek**, Bloomsberg University

“Dad Doesn’t Text’: Examining How Parents’ Access To Information Communication Technologies Influences Satisfaction Among Adult Children” (Top Student Paper)

**Jennifer Schon**, University of Kansas

3302 Minnehaha

11:00 am – 12:15 pm

### **Interpersonal and Small Group Interest Group Business Meeting**

Chair: **Maria Brann**, West Virginia University

Vice-Chair: **Katherine J. Denker**, Ball State University

Secretary: **Haley Kranstuber Horstman**, University of Missouri-Columbia

3404 Minnehaha

12:30 – 1:45 pm

### **Communicating in Changing Family Relationships**

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Interest Group

Chair: **Jennifer Kienzle**, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Respondent: **Sarah E. Riforgiate**, Kansas State University

“The Development of Parental Caregiving Relationships: Communicatively Marking Relational Change Using Uncertainty Management”

**Kristina Wenzel**, University of Missouri-Columbia

“Shaping’ Foster Family Communication: An Application of the Family Adoption Communication Model”

**Leslie Nelson**, University of Missouri

“I Can’t Complain: Returning Young Adults Trade Away Privacy for Parental Support”

**Monica L. Kroft**, University of Illinois-Springfield

3503 Minnehaha

2:00 – 3:15 pm

### **“Service Courses”, “Easy A’s” and Parodies in *The Onion*: “Elevating” the Communication Discipline**

Sponsors: Interpersonal and Small Group Communication, Organizational and Professional Communication, and Communication Education

Chair: **Sarah E. Riforgiate**, Kansas State University

Presenters: **Maria Brann**, West Virginia University  
**Joy L. Daggs**, Northwest Missouri State University  
**Irwin Mallin**, Indiana University Purdue University Fort Wayne  
**Nichole Egbert**, Kent State University  
**Jennifer Moreland**, OhioHealth  
**Sarah E. Riforgiate**, Kansas State University

Have you ever explained that communication research extends beyond public speaking? Do you find yourself defending communication research and teaching as rigorous? Do you take pause when *The Onion* parodies the usefulness of a communication degree? This discussion panel explores the discipline's historical search for identity and presents current discipline perceptions, followed by round table discussions to open dialogue about articulating our discipline and practical ways to "elevate" communication research and teaching.

3604 Minnehaha  
3:30 – 4:45 pm

### **Emotion and Interpersonal Relationships in Online Communication**

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Interest Group  
Chair: **Andrew M. Ledbetter**, Texas Christian University

"Stereotyping and Bullying via Vine"

**Carley Reynolds**, University of Illinois at Springfield

"Coping in Online Settings: The Role of Emotion across Bereavement Experiences"

**Erin Basinger**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

"Creating a Pain Vocabulary: The Benefits of Describing and Disclosing Pain Through Writing"

**Karin L. Becker**, University of North Dakota

"Grieving in Social Media: Twitter Use following the Sandy Hook Massacre"

**Shafiq Rahman**, Chadron State College

Emotions have received little attention in online communication research, despite their central importance in other lines of interpersonal inquiry. Scholarship presented on this panel represents initial attempts to understand emotions when communicating online. Each panelist will share the results of his or her research. The chair will prepare focused questions, designed to initiate a participatory conversation between panelists and audience regarding how online communication theory and practice might be extended to incorporate emotions.