



# CSCA 2026 TRANSLATE!

Minneapolis, MN - April 14-19

## Draft Program (12/06/25)

This draft program is available to assist you in preparing to join us in Minneapolis for CSCA in April. A final version of the program will be posted in April 2026.

We will make every effort to accommodate every special request. However, a convention program brings together thousands of details.

If you have any questions about the program, please contact Kristina M. Scharp at [kristina.scharp@gmail.com](mailto:kristina.scharp@gmail.com).

# Draft Program (12/06/25)

Wednesday  
April 15, 2026

12:00 PM

0000      12:00 PM to 6:00 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Nicollet Registration

## CSCA Registration - Wednesday

Check in and pick up your convention materials.

Sponsor: CSCA Executive Director

Chair: Kathleen Cesa, KOC Member Services

1:00 PM

0100      1:00 PM to 3:30 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Lakeshore A

## Pre-Conference - Communicating in the Unknown: Navigating Uncertainty in a Changing Field

This pre-conference explores how communication scholars and practitioners can effectively operate amid rapid change, ambiguity, and emerging challenges within the field. Speakers will share how uncertainty shapes courses, perceptions of our field, resources, and so much more.

Sponsor: CSCA Second Vice President

Chair: Stevie Munz, Utah Valley University

Presenters:

Anna Wright, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Tim McKenna-Buchanan, Manchester University

Justin Rudnick, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Sidi Becar Meyara, Utah State University

Jeff Kuznekoff, Miami University

Stephen Hunt, Illinois State University

Kevin R. Meyer, Illinois State University

4:00 PM

0200      4:00 PM to 7:00 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      St. Croix

## CSCA Executive Committee Meeting #1

This is a closed meeting for members of the CSCA Executive Committee listed here.

Sponsor: CSCA Executive Director

Chair: Jeffrey T Child, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Presenters:

Kristina Scharp, Rutgers University

Stevie Munz, Utah Valley University

Kathy Denker, Ball State University

Tiffany R. Wang, University of Montevallo

Sandra L Faulkner, Bowling Green State University  
Meggie Mapes, University of Kansas  
Patric Spence, University of Central Florida  
Sarah Symonds LeBlanc, Purdue University Fort Wayne  
Matthew Meier, DePauw University  
Gayle M Pohl, University of Northern Iowa

7:30 PM

0300 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Offsite

**CSCA Staff Dinner**

This dinner is limited to the volunteer members of the Central States Communication Association staff listed here.

Sponsor: CSCA Executive Director

Chair: Tiffany R. Wang, University of Montevallo

Presenters:

Sara Baker Bailey, Southern Connecticut State University  
Joy L. Daggs, Northwest Missouri State  
Patric Spence, University of Central Florida  
Lindsey Thomas, Illinois State University  
Kathleen Cesa, KOC Member Services

**Thursday  
April 16, 2026**

7:30 AM

1000 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Nicollet Registration

**CSCA Registration - Thursday**

Check in and pick up your convention materials.

Sponsor: CSCA Executive Director

Chair: Kathleen Cesa, KOC Member Services

8:00 AM

1100 8:00 AM to 9:15 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis St. Croix

**Audio Podcasting in the Classroom and Beyond:**

This discussion panel explores how audio podcasts function as versatile teaching instruments-serving as assignment formats, assessment tools, and vehicles for content delivery. Panelists will share practical classroom applications, including student-created audio reflection journals and assignment examples, while demonstrating strategies for leveraging podcasts to strengthen engagement and deepen student learning. Audio podcasts facilitate learning by bridging multiple cognitive and contextual dimensions. By engaging auditory processing rather than visual reading, podcasts activate alternative neural pathways that foster new connections and insights. They transform abstract theories into concrete narratives enriched with memorable details. Podcasts collapse temporal distance, bringing historical

events-like McCarthyism-into dialogue with contemporary issues. The conversational nature of podcasting makes complex material more approachable, allowing students to grasp challenging concepts through everyday language. Podcasts also extend learning beyond physical classroom boundaries, enabling students to engage with course content in any setting. Through repeated listening, students can progressively deepen their comprehension-moving from broad understanding to personalized meaning-making and practical application. As student-created assignments, podcasts can distill intercultural or professional experiences into transferable insights while promoting reflective practice that consolidates learning outcomes. Panel Topics: • Designing instructor-created podcasts for effective content delivery • Developing innovative student-generated podcast assignments • Encouraging students to adopt podcasts as active study tools • Applying podcasts in specialized contexts: conveying historical narratives, teaching investigative journalism principles through true-crime formats, and enhancing reflection and content integration in intercultural courses and study-abroad programs

Sponsor: Instructional Resources Interest Group

Chair: Breena Johanna Brockmann, Gustavus Adolphus College

Presenters:

Hagar Attia, Gustavus Adolphus College

Patricia Jeanne English-Schneider, Gustavus Adolphus College

Adrian E. Meza, University of Texas El-Paso

Susan J. Stanfield, University of Texas El-Paso

Phillip A. Voight, Gustavus Adolphus College

Isaac West, Vanderbilt University

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1101            8:00 AM to 9:15 AM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Minnehaha

**Best in Translation: How Students Benefit from International Intercultural Sojourns**

The field of intercultural communication benefits when audiences within and outside the academy see value in students' international intercultural interactions. This panel interrogates translating the benefits of university student education abroad experiences for different audiences. From considering "controlled-culture shock" to forming deep friendships in Brazil, from examining complex intercultural identities to learning from language immersion, from partnering across campuses to learning from Zimbabwean vendors. Panelists highlight specific areas of learning, skill development and personal growth.

Sponsor: Intercultural Communication Interest Group

Chair: Rick Malleus, Seattle University

Presenters:

Alice Fanari, University of Oklahoma

Phil Chidester, Illinois State University

John R. Baldwin, Illinois State University

Kakali Bhattacharya Chakrabarti, Austin Peay State University

Ahmet Aksoy, Winona State University

Rick Malleus, Seattle University

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1102            8:00 AM to 9:15 AM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway G

**Competitive Papers in the Graduate Student Caucus**

These are selected competitive papers sponsored by the graduate caucus

Sponsor: Graduate Student Caucus

Chair: Aklima Begum, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

"A Perfect Replika: AI Soulmates and Power Dynamics" Caroline King, Bowling Green State University

"Aesop's Menagerie: Manufacturing Innocence Through Fables" Jawad Chowdhury, Minnesota State University, Mankato; Mahbub Bin Sarwar Pulok Pulok, Feni University; Ataharul Islam, Brac University

"From Promises to Practice: Manifesto Commitments and Environmental Action in Bangladesh's Party Politics (2001–2024)" Mehedy Hassan Razib, University of Kansas; Farzana Tasnim, University of Alberta

"The Rhetoric of Air: War Metaphors in Silent Spring" Athena Maria Lee, The Pennsylvania State University

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1103                      8:00 AM to 9:15 AM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Greenway F

**Negotiating Power, Gender, Media, and Voice in Postcolonial Bangladesh**

This panel examines how gendered voices in postcolonial Bangladesh navigate, resist, and reproduce power through everyday communication. While Bangladesh projects an image of female leadership, patriarchal and heteronormative discourses persist across political, religious, and media spheres. Drawing on feminist and intersectional communication theories (Allen, 2011; Bohrer, 2019; Pauly & Buzzanell, 2020), panelists analyze how control and resistance are played out in sermons, workplaces, television, and digital culture. Topics include religious moralization of women's roles, political promises of inclusion, labor and class-based inequities, and the erasure of queer identities in popular media. Together, these studies reveal how communicative spaces, both formal and mediated, shape who is heard, silenced, or erased. By centering Bangladeshi perspectives within global feminist and postcolonial frameworks, the panel expands discussions on gendered power, intersectionality, and voice in the Global South.

Sponsor: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Caucus

Chair: Justin Rudnick, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Presenters:

Adeeb Kasem, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Md Ragib Rahman, Missouri State University

Sadia Ashrafi Thizbee, International Islamic University Malaysia

Janifar Kamal Nova, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Tahura Tabassum Tari, Minnesota State University, Mankato

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1104                      8:00 AM to 9:15 AM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Greenway H

**Regimes of AI: Critiquing Generative Artificial Intelligence (Paper Panel)**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has crept into almost every facet of our day-to-day lives, and its advances have fostered numerous concerns. This panel seeks to elevate critiques that go beyond the oft-discussed concerns of AI, highlighting instead the complex, uneven hierarchies that implicitly, if not openly regiment, AI production, application, and use. Forefronting these overlooked perspectives, this panel

centers critical discussions of how experience and identity are translated within and beyond generative outputs.

Sponsor: Communication & Technology Interest Group

Chair: Radhika Gajjala, Bowling Green State University

"Artificial Appropriation: Ownership and Co-optation of Marginalized Identities" Rianna Walcott, University of Maryland College Park

"Navigating Virtual Infidelity: Narratives of AI Romantic Relationships on Reddit" Zehui Dai, School of Communication, Radford University

"Producing Selves Across Platforms" Kelsey Stanfield, Bowling Green State University; Saaka Falilatu, Bowling Green State University ; Shahla Shahnaz Dyuti, Bowling Green State University; Allyson Ritchey, Bowling Green State University; Radhika Gajjala, Bowling Green State University

"The Gendered Regimes of AI" Kelsey Stanfield, Bowling Green State University; Shana MacDonald, University of Waterloo

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1105                      8:00 AM to 9:15 AM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Lakeshore B

**Research in Progress: Exploring Communication Barriers and Innovations in Health Contexts**

This session showcases emerging research examining communication challenges and innovations in health across diverse populations and contexts. Studies investigate immigrant patient-provider communication and cultural competence in the U.S., food insecurity risks among international students, public health policy gaps in Bangladesh, AI-generated fact-checking to combat misinformation, surveillance motivation and social risk perception, and social media's impact on young women's mental health. Panelists will share preliminary findings and invite feedback to refine their work.

Sponsor: Health Communication Interest Group

Chair: Jenn Anderson, South Dakota State University

Respondents: Nichole Egbert, Kent State University; Jenn Anderson, South Dakota State University

"Communication Gaps in Public Health: Evaluating NGO and Government Policies in Rural and Ethnic Minority Regions of Bangladesh" Rezaul Karim, Arizona State University; Mamunor Rashid, University of Colorado Boulder; Sultana Jahan, Kansas State University

"Danger for Us, Not Me: Exploring the Role of Surveillance Motivation in Shaping Social Risk Perceptions" Albert Junior Nyarko, University of Kentucky

"Patient-Provider Communication Among Immigrants in the United States: Barriers, Power, and Pathways Toward Culturally Competent Care" Parwana Hamdam, Ohio University

"Social Media Cosmetic Beauty Standards: Effect on Young Women's Mental Health" Sekina Saah, Texas Tech University; Ellen Ampem, Texas Tech University

"The Role of AI Generated Fact Checking in Combating Health Misinformation: Trust, Perception, and Effectiveness" Evans Frimpong, University of Kentucky

"Towards a better understanding of the risk of food insecurity among international students: A qualitative exploration of communication, cultural, and institutional factors" Mathias Aboba, The University of Oklahoma

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1106                      8:00 AM to 9:15 AM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Greenway J

**Talk the Walk: Translating Organizational Values into Employee Experiences**

This panel explores how organizations attempt to "translate" mission statements, DEI values, and ethical commitments into meaningful internal communication practices. Drawing on insights from diverse professional and academic contexts, panelists will examine the tensions between stated values and lived employee experiences, and offer strategies for narrowing the credibility gap in organizational culture (Christensen, Morsing, & Thyssen, 2013).

Sponsor: Organizational and Professional Communication Interest Group

Chair: Bukola Oloba, North Dakota State University

Presenters:

Ngozi Oguejiofor, University of Nevada, Reno NV  
Irene Martha Lutterodt, Southern Illinois University Carbondale  
Clementina Edema, University of Missouri Columbia  
Lois Domena - Attafuah, North Dakota State University  
Uchenna Eze, University of Iowa  
Rosemary Charway, Ohio University

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1107            8:00 AM to 9:15 AM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway D

**The Power of Bitching with Your Girlfriends**

This panel explores the power of sharing and commiserating with other women. While complaining can have negative results, venting has numerous benefits including reducing stress, empowerment (knowing that you're not alone in your experiences), solidarity/united front used to set boundaries, creating personal connections, etc. These bitch sessions often lead to brainstorming and problem solving, allowing both emotional release and intuitive response.

Sponsor: Women's Caucus

Chair: Amanda L. Brown, University of Wisconsin-Stout

Presenters:

MF Casper, Boise State University  
Becky L DeGreeff, University of Wisconsin - Stout  
Heather Neseimeier, Minnesota State University Moorhead  
Joy L. Daggs, Northwest Missouri State  
Amanda L. Brown, University of Wisconsin-Stout

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1108            8:00 AM to 9:15 AM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway E

**The Power of Protest Music, From Then to Now**

From the time of Woodie Guthrie and Pete Seeger (and before) calling for Labor Rights to Bruce Springsteen barely cloaking his call for the Working Class in popular rock hooks to now with Dropkick Murphys and Gogol Bordello overtly calling against authoritarian rule and ethnic obliteration, protest music has been a centerpiece of cultural and countercultural moments in the US. In our current hyper-polarized political climate, protest music is finding new/renewed power and audiences. This panel works to understand how protest music (particularly within the Punk and Alternative spaces) works to translate ideological and political concepts into easily consumable and actionable songs and anthems.

Sponsor: Popular Culture Interest Group

Chair: Adam W. Tyma, University of Nebraska Omaha

"Learning from the Defeat of the Nazi Punks" Andrew Herrmann, Independent Scholar

"Which Flag To Embrace? The Intersection of Heritage-Based (aka "Trad") Music and Social Protest: Dropkick Murphys and Gogol Bordello" Adam W. Tyma, University of Nebraska Omaha

"I just started singing the news": Platform politics and the Protest Music of Jesse Welles in Context" Megan M Wood, Ohio Northern University

"See It. Say It. Censored": Kneecap, Punk Ethos, and the Politics of Protest" Austin Ulmer, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

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1109 8:00 AM to 9:15 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway I

**Translating African American Music as Epistemology and Cultural Interlocutor**

This panel discussion is a follow-up to a workshop presented at the 2025 CSCA Convention by Dorothy Pennington on the rhetorical dimensions of Black music, used interchangeably here with the term African American music. This panel discussion is also a carryover of a Spring, 2025 graduate class in Black rhetoric at the University of Kansas, focusing on the theory and performance of Black music as rhetorical and ways of translating cultural and epistemological underpinnings that are informational and transformative in function. Contexts presented in this panel discussion and performance include the civil rights/protest genre, the religious/civil rights/eulogy genre, and the religious/Spiritual/folk song genre. The rationale for this panel discussion is that it goes beyond the performance/entertainment dimensions of Black music and explores ways of translating and transferring meaning, including embedded meaning, begging the question of how meaning is derived, especially subliminal meaning, which is a rhetorical psychology issue. The panel is based on the rhetorical, cultural, performance, and psychology theory that undergirds Black rhetoric and music, presented by Dorothy Pennington; President Barack Obama's eulogy for murder victim, the Reverend Clementa C. Pinckney, African Methodist Episcopal pastor of Charleston's Mother Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church and South Carolina State senator who was murdered by white supremacist, Dylan Roof in 2015, presented by Saiemeh Wahidi; and singer Nina Simone's mythically-constructed and projected vision of freedom and its poetic significance as imagined epistemology, presented by Omolola Lasisi. This panel is an interlocutor across cultures through its goal to foster a greater appreciation of Black music as serving a central rhetorical and rhetorical psychology function whose translation bears witness to its value for rhetorical studies.

Sponsor: Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Interest Group

Chair: Dorothy Lee Pennington, University of Kansas

Presenters:

Saiemeh Wahidi, University of Kansas

Omolola Lasisi, University of Kansas

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1110 8:00 AM to 9:15 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway C

**Translating Power and Identity**

These papers investigate how various identities are shaped by political and cultural power.

Sponsor: Political Communication Interest Group

Chair: Edward A. Hinck, Central Michigan University

Respondent: Hsin-I Sydney Yueh, University of Missouri

"Masculine Reproduction of the Fascist Future in Trail Life USA" Aubrey Studebaker, University of Wisconsin-Madison

"Queer Gaymer Actualized Citizenship and Political Participation in a Core Gamer and Debate Bro World" Ash Diane Denchfield, University of Kansas

"Texas v. Care Economies: An exploration of the use of transantagonism for fascist energizing" Isabelle Stahr, University of South Florida

"The public construction of leadership and Identity by a non-elite woman in Ghanaian politics" Pamela Ofori Boateng, Purdue University

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1111            8:00 AM to 9:15 AM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway B

**Translating Profit and Entertainment into Harm: Dark Sides of Reality Television (Top Panel)**

This panel will examine problematic issues in ways the reality television genre translates profit and entertainment into harm of participants and audiences. These include how reality television frameworks influence participants' behaviors and mental health post-production; how "inappropriate" touching and relationships have been handled (or not handled) by production; how representations and online discussions of relationships are negotiated between participants, production, and audiences; and how contradictory portrayals of motherhood influence reality television participants and online engagements.

Sponsor: Media Studies Interest Group

Chair: Joe Watson, Baker University

Presenters:

Jennifer C. Dunn, Dominican University

Tasha R. Dunn, The University of Toledo

Sierra Kane, Roosevelt University

Jimmie Manning, University of Nevada, Reno

Dana Schowalter, Western Oregon University

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1112            8:00 AM to 9:15 AM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Lakeshore C

**Translating Student Needs Into Pedagogy: Communication as a Bridge to Wellbeing and Lifelong Skills**

In the wake of political instability, global stressors, and rising student mental health concerns, communication instructors are uniquely positioned to translate student needs into responsive, supportive pedagogical strategies. This session explores how faculty can design inclusive assignments and classroom experiences that promote well-being and build transferable mental-health & wellness skills. Drawing from research linking communication to improved relationships and health outcomes, panelists will share practical tools for reimagining coursework. The session will actively engage the audience through reflective questions and discussion prompts, encouraging participants to share insights and collaboratively explore strategies for fostering compassionate, skill-building communication classrooms.

Sponsor: Communication Education Interest Group

Chair: Megan Pope, San Jacinto College

Presenters:

Caroline Waldbuesser, University of Missouri

Kyle Vareberg, Northeastern State University

Evan Kirksey, University of Missouri

1113      8:00 AM to 9:15 AM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Skyway A  
**Translating the Public Speaking Curriculum: Culturally Responsive Pedagogy for Middle School Mentorship**

Grounded in critical communication pedagogy, this short course will equip educators, mentors, and communication scholars with a culturally responsive framework for teaching public speaking skills to underserved middle school students whose first language is not English. Drawing from my ongoing community engagement initiative with a local mentorship program in Tampa, participants will explore how public speaking instruction can foster youth empowerment and translate knowledge and skillsets beyond a higher education context. By attending this short course, attendees will learn about practical tools and frameworks that can make public speaking accessible for other educational and/or community contexts.

Sponsor: Short Courses

Chair: Madison A. Pollino, University of South Florida

Presenter:

Melissa McCormick, University of South Florida

9:00 AM

1114      9:00 AM to 5:00 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Nicollet Promenade  
**Exhibit Hall Featuring Publishers and Technology - Thursday**

Sponsor: CSCA Executive Director

Chair: Joy L. Daggs, Northwest Missouri State

9:30 AM

1200      9:30 AM to 10:45 AM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Greenway E  
**An Intended or Unintended Consequence?: The Rhetorics of Health and Gender in the Maintenance of Competitive Sporting Modalities**

Issues of physical health and bodily outcomes within contact sports is a well-developed area of research in which we understand health within competitive sports (Anderson & Kian, 2012; Sanderson et al., 2016). When it comes to mental health discourse within a sporting context, research has focused on athletes within contact sports publicly disclosing their mental health (Elsey et al., 2020) and operating within hegemonic masculinity scripts (Lavelle, 2021). However, within the competitive sporting context, how do ideas of healthy behavior, the "perfect athlete," and sexuality mess with the ways we understand health and gender within various competitive sporting modalities?

Sponsor: Sports Communication Interest Group

Chair: Karly Poyner-Smith, Columbia College

Respondent: Pat Loeb, Grace College

"(De)constructing Bad Bunny: An ideological discourse analysis of mediated Super Bowl LX commentary" Connor Wilcox, Concordia College

"Consubstantiality on Ice: The Rhetorics of National Health in the NHL's Four Nations Face-Off" Nick Hunkins, Columbia College

"Serena Williams' GLP-1 Endorsement—Internalized Patriarchy or Healthcare?" Diana Rose Humble, The University of Memphis

"Taking Mental Health out of Second Base: A Qualitative Approach to Understanding Rhetorics of Urgency Regarding Physical Health and the Stigmatization of Mental Health" Luca Stevens, Columbia College

"The Crisis of Sexual Deviancy: Counterpublics in Digital Gaming Spaces and the Structural Limitations of Community Moderation" Trent Luebbert, Columbia College

"The Olympic Golden Girls Fight Back: A Reclaiming of Agency and Identity in USA Women's Gymnastics" Lexi Traylor, Ball State University

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1201 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Lakeshore B

**Breaking the Silence: Visible and Invisible Disability in Academia**

In U.S. academia, disability often remains hidden or rendered invisible by institutional ableism, productivity mandates, and dominant narratives of meritocracy. While diversity discourses have gained visibility, disability—particularly when non-apparent or multiply marginalized—continues to be under-theorized, under-represented, and under-supported. This panel creates a space for critical engagement with visible and invisible disability in higher education, from multiple experiences and backgrounds. Panelists share personal experiences that illustrate the complexities of navigating academia with hidden and visible disabilities such as neurodivergence, blindness, autistic burnout, and ADHD. Together, the panelists interrogate how disability shapes affect and engagement; scholarly labor; pedagogical practice; institutional belonging; and intellectual identity.

Sponsors: CSCA Equity & Inclusion Committee, Health Communication Interest Group; Performance Studies and Autoethnography Interest Group; Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Caucus

Chair: Elizabeth M Lozano, Loyola University Chicago

"Autistic Burnout in Mid-Life: An Autoethnographic Portrait of "Becoming" Disabled" Michaela D.E. Meyer, Christopher Newport University

"Balancing Health and Academic Life on the Tenure Track" Jessica Rick, Illinois State University

"From Challenges to Triumphs: A Co-Cultural Perspective on Navigating a Doctoral Program as a Blind Student" Kendal Catherine Lyssy, University of Missouri

"Paradoxes of Hidden Disabilities in the Academy" Jimmie Manning, University of Nevada, Reno

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1202 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway D

**Central Communication: Emotional Labor, Mental Load, and Burnout in the Academy**

Building on the work of Womentoring panels at NCA, this panel brings a feminist mentoring approach to CSCA to share knowledge and create communities of success for our regional scholars. This panel explores the issue of mental load and emotional labor, discussing the realities of taking on these responsibilities, setting boundaries in an era of precarity, strategies for sharing the load with colleagues, and how to work through burnout to create meaningful and sustainable change.

Sponsor: Women's Caucus

Chair: Dana Schowalter, Western Oregon University

Presenters:

Dana Schowalter, Western Oregon University

Kate LaPierre, Univ of Nevada/Reno Ivy Tech Community College

Brigit Talkington, Metro Community College

Jennifer Morey Hawkins, St. Cloud State University

Jerralyn Moudry, Wisconsin Lutheran College  
Tasha R. Dunn, The University of Toledo  
Stephanie Young, University of Southern Indiana  
Art Herbig, Purdue University, Fort Wayne

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1203            9:30 AM to 10:45 AM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway H

**CSCA Finance Committee Meeting**

This is a closed meeting for members of the CSCA Finance Committee listed here.

Sponsor: CSCA Executive Director

Chair: Patric Spence, University of Central Florida

Presenters:

Ahmet Atay, University of Alabama at Birmingham  
Justin Rudnick, Minnesota State University, Mankato  
Kathy Denker, Ball State University  
W. Benjamin Myers, University of Toledo  
Jeffrey T Child, University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
Kyle Vareberg, Northeastern State University  
Tiffany R. Wang, University of Montevallo

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1204            9:30 AM to 10:45 AM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway F

**Evolving Landscape of Strategic Crisis and Risk Communication**

This paper session examines the evolving landscape of strategic crisis and risk communication, focusing on how organizations and individuals navigate emerging risks and respond to crises.

Sponsor: Strategic and Applied Communication Interest Group

Chair: Rodrigo Soares, University of Vermont

Respondent: Xianlin Jin, The University of Toledo

"Navigating Crisis Communication: How Undergraduate Students Perceive University Responses During Campus Emergencies" Alfred Kwabena Obiri, Illinois State University

"Translating Brands into Senses: A Ghanaian Case Study of Multi-Sensory Branding in Integrated Marketing Communication." Adraina Kukuwaa Adu, University of Minnesota

"Translating Evidence into Action or Inaction: The Communicative Constitution of an Emerging Industry Risk" Rodrigo Soares, University of Vermont; Amy Maciel, Clemson University; Timothy L Sellnow, Clemson University; Deanna Sellnow, Clemson University

"Does the University know I exist?": Evaluating the Impact of Crisis Communication Strategies on University Stakeholders" Mercy Temitope Adekola, Missouri State University; Abigail Addae, Missouri State University

"I'll Leave This For My Neighbor With Cows": Using The IDEA Model To Translate Risk During A Rural Water Crisis." Crystal D. Daugherty, Western Kentucky University; Angela M. Jerome, Western Kentucky University

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1205            9:30 AM to 10:45 AM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway B

**Framing the Globe: Media Power, Identity, and Resistance**

This panel examines how media institutions around the world shape public consciousness through framing, sentiment, and narrative resistance. These papers reveal how global media simultaneously reflect local realities and resist dominant ideologies, offering insights into inclusive communication and representation across borders.

Sponsor: Media Studies Interest Group

Chair: Tasha Riggins, Baker University

Respondent: Kai Xu, University of Minnesota-Duluth

"A Sentiment Analysis of "Immigration" in U.S., Australian, and New Zealand News Channels" Stephen Croucher, Clemson University; Asif Munir, Massey University

"A Thematic Analysis of Zimbabwean Online News Articles: Translating Covid-19 Reporting into Lessons Learned and Advice for Future Journalistic Practice" Rick Malleus, Seattle University

"Domestic vs. International News Media: A Comparative Quantitative Content Analysis Nigerian Gay Marriage Framing" Dennis Ekwemnachukwu Okeke, University of Colorado-Boulder; Mike Allen, UW - Milwaukee; Ousman Mbaye, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, U.S.A.; Anthony Okeke, Nnamdi Azikiwe University; Christiana Oluwakemi Ibiwoye, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

"Narrative Resistance in Nollywood: A Textual Analysis of War: Wrath and Revenge" Esther Ehino Akheituame, University of Missouri

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1206      9:30 AM to 10:45 AM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Skyway A

**Intersectionality and Health Communication: Transformation through Translational Teaching**

This short course will overview contemporary health communication theories and research that are based on nuanced approaches to intersectionality. Then, we will use those theoretical approaches as lenses through which to reflect on our teaching, with particular attention to the implications of our own intersectional positionalities and how they can enable and constrain opportunities for translational teaching. Finally, we will develop specific learning outcomes for teaching a deliberately intersectional health communication course that focuses on translating that complex approach into concrete terms and then developing students' skills for translating that learning into their professional lives-often within (allied) health fields.

Sponsor: Short Courses

Chair: Jenn Anderson, South Dakota State University

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1207      9:30 AM to 10:45 AM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      St. Croix

**"It's Complicated..." Non-Monogamy, Identity, & Intersectionality**

This panel highlights non-monogamy as a site of critical inquiry, attending to the ways intersecting identity categories-such as gender, sexuality, race, class, and culture-complicate and reshape its meanings. Bringing together theoretical explorations with various modes of presentation, panelists examine how non-monogamy functions as both a discursive and lived space, focusing on "translating" non-monogamy.

Sponsor: Activism, Communication Ethics, and Social Justice Interest Group

Chair: Vianna Isbister, East Tennessee State University

"Opening the (Kitchen) Curtains: A Scope of the Field on Polyamorous Relationships and Disclosure" Taylor Newswander, Independent

"Polyamory Representation in Popular Cinema" John Heimbuch, Independent Scholar

"We Didn't Start the Fire: Tales of Polyamory Disclosure" Travis James Wolven, East Tennessee State University

"What's love got to do with it? Self-love and partner-love in polyamory during a time of misadventure" Elliot Powell, University of South Florida

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1208      9:30 AM to 10:45 AM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Greenway C

**Past Officers Debut Paper Award Panel**

This paper panel features the top debut papers. (Note: All authors for nominated papers are listed on this paper panel. After reviews are completed, this panel will be updated to include the top four debut papers selected by reviewers.)

Sponsor: CSCA Executive Director

Chair: Donna R. Pawlowski, Bemidji State University

Presenters:

Karen Shalev, University of Connecticut  
Lilin Deng, Hohai University  
Sean Maulding, Southern Illinois University Carbondale  
Nicholas Morrissey, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee  
Evan Wilson, Indiana State University  
Stephanie Kaczynski, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Vance Medeiros, Colorado State University  
Cole Thomas Vetter, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee  
Sophia Belle Peterson, Ball State  
Bailey Hughlett, University of Connecticut  
Zakia Sabnam, North Dakota State University  
Xiaodong Yan, University of Colorado Boulder  
Felicity Donkor, University of Georgia

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1209      9:30 AM to 10:45 AM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Skyway B

**States Advisory Council Business Meeting**

Sponsor: States Advisory Council

Chair: Gayle M Pohl, University of Northern Iowa

Presenters:

Kimberly M Weismann, Bismarck State College  
Jeffrey Dean Brand, University of Northern Iowa

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1210      9:30 AM to 10:45 AM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Lakeshore A

**The Language of Family: Translating the Complexities of Familial Communication**

The papers in this session explore communication within and between family members, including parent-children and sibling interactions, and how it influences those relationships and in some cases, identity.

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Family Communication Interest Group

Chair: Kaitlin Elizabeth Phillips, Baylor University

"I just want my parents to be my parents and let me be the child": Using Communicated Narrative Sense-Making to Describe the Process of Parentification (Top Inclusive Scholarship Paper)" Cimmieron Alvarez, Kean University; Leah Elizabeth Bryant, DePaul University; Heather L Davenport, Rutgers University; Haley Nolan-Cody, Rutgers University

"No Thanks, I Have My Own Snack": A Mother-Daughter Duoethnography of Food Allergy Communication and Identity Over Time" Candice Ruh, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee; Sydney Ertl, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

"Motherhood as a Relational Identity: Communication, Language, and Cultural Expectations in Family and Interpersonal Contexts" Ifeoluwatobi Abiodun Odunsi, University of Tampa

"The Mediating Effect of Everyday Talk on Adult Sibling Type and Communication Satisfaction" Scott A. Myers, West Virginia University

1211 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway G

**Translating Neurodivergence in the Graduate School Experience**

This panel aims to translate the experiences of neurodivergent graduate students adapting to and overcoming the challenges of graduate school, as well as the unique affordances that come from a non-normative, neurodiverse perspective.

Sponsor: Graduate Student Caucus

Chair: Harvey Chinchilla, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Presenters:

- Samantha Schubert, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
- Katy Gabryelczyk, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
- Emily Sanders-Whiteley, Ball State University
- Parker Finn Davidson, Ball State University

11:00 AM

1300 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Lakeshore C

**Communication Education Interest Group Business Meeting**

Sponsor: Communication Education Interest Group

Chair: Kyle Vareberg, Northeastern State University

Presenters:

- Caroline Waldbuesser, University of Missouri
- Robert Sidelinger, Oakland University

1301 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Offsite

**CSCA Annual Past Officers Lunch**

This is a lunch honoring the service of CSCA Past Officers who have served on the Executive Committee. A previous RSVP for this event is required. The lunch will take place at Dakota which is a 5 minute (.2 mile) walk from the convention hotel. Please e-mail [csc.ed@gmail.com](mailto:csc.ed@gmail.com) if you would like to request transportation accommodations to the event.

Sponsor: CSCA Executive Director

Chair: Tiffany R. Wang, University of Montevallo

Presenter:

Kristina Scharp, Rutgers University

1302 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway G

**Cultural Translation and Ethical Framing in Global Health Communication**

These papers examine how health messages, institutional, personal, or technological, are shaped by cultural contexts and ethical considerations.

Sponsor: Graduate Student Caucus

Chair: Abigail Adediran, University of Missouri

Respondent: Abigail Adediran, University of Missouri

"Flying Through Alcoholism, Depression and Loneliness: An Autoethnography of A Young Flight Attendant's Experience of Struggling With Mental Illness and Addiction" Carly Tynes Irwin, University of North Dakota

"Framing of Health Messages and an Interplay of Cultural Perspectives among International Graduate Students at a Midwestern University in the United States" Beatrice Amissah, Illinois State University

"The Trade-off between the Fear of Judgment (Stigma) and the Intention to Engage with AI-driven HIV/AIDS Information: Evidence from Bangladesh and Nigeria" Abdullah Mohaimen, Western Michigan University

"Translating Ethics into Practice: Analyzing India's Maternal Health Campaigns (JSY and JSSK)" Shatakshi Semwal, Ohio University

1303 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway I

**Ethnicity, Race, International, and Class Concerns (ERICC) Caucus Business Meeting**

Sponsor: Ethnicity, Race, International, and Class Concerns Caucus

Chair: Anjana Mudambi, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Presenters:

Sofia Elena Salazar Carballo, University of Central Florida

Amy Aldridge, Middle Tennessee State University

Jennifer Willis-Rivera, University of Wisconsin - River Falls

Jennifer Morey Hawkins, St. Cloud State University

Alima Abdul-Karimu, Texas A&M University

Hsin-I Sydney Yueh, University of Missouri

1304 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway A

**GIFT Session - AI Focus**

This G.I.F.T. Session focuses on activities using AI

Sponsor: G.I.F.T. Interest Group

Chair: Tracie Devault, Missouri S&T

"An Approach to Ethical Brainstorming with Generative Artificial Intelligence Programs" Nick Romerhausen, Eastern Michigan University

"Bad to Better: Translating Delivery Errors into Speaking Insight" Jake Manning, Marshall University

"Content Remix: Translating Text to Talk with NoteGPT" Lori M Costello, University of South Dakota

"Davebot: An AI Simulation Exploring Public Speaking Ethics" Lisa Marie Pavia-Higel, Missouri S&T

"Hook, Line, and Feedback: Practicing and Critiquing Attention Getters with Artificial Intelligence" Justin S. Motto, University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire

"Infographics as Practical Application of AI in Practice" Lara Stache, Governors State University; Jillian Marie Klean Zwilling, Governor's State University

"The great advertising stock photo challenge" Connor Wilcox, Concordia College

"Translating Theory to AI Video Practice" Colleen Palmer, Carthage College; Kalah Kemp, College of the Ozarks

"Using Generative AI to Help Students Strategically Plan the Writing Process" Karen Shalev, University of Connecticut; Shannon Pappas, University of Connecticut

1305      11:00 AM to 12:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Skyway B

**Identity and Adapting Relational Communication Activities in the Classroom**

Courses that explore relational communication necessitate unpacking issues related to identity. For many students, this is the first time they are asked to name and think critically about aspects of their own identities and those they encounter. In this roundtable breakout, we will explore the ways we do so via activities in our classes. Participants will leave with access to materials they can use and will be encouraged to share how they transcend current barriers on identity exploration in higher education.

Sponsor: States Advisory Council  
 Chair: Jenn Supple, University of Dubuque  
 Presenters:  
 Jenn Supple, University of Dubuque  
 Michelle Grace, University of Dubuque

1306      11:00 AM to 12:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Greenway C

**It's How You Frame It!**

These papers explore how various institutions shape public understanding of international power relations. This panel highlights how media and institutions frame global events in ways that reflect and reinforce national and cultural priorities.

Sponsor: Political Communication Interest Group  
 Chair: Joel Lansing Reed, University of Arkansas  
 Respondent: Joshua P Bolton, Salisbury University  
 "Clash of the Global Economic Titans: The Patriotic Media and News Framing of the US-China Trade War" Michael Ofori, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities; Fredrick Daoyenikye, University of Alabama; Sandra Freda Wood, Arizona State University  
 "US NEWS FRAMING OF HAITI UNDER THE TRUMP & BIDEN ADMINISTRATIONS" Brett R Labbe, University of Indiana South Bend

1307      11:00 AM to 12:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Skyway A

### **Leading, Not Just Lasting, in Academic Middle Management**

This short course explores the paradox of department chair leadership: chairs are increasingly expected to deliver managerial results without the formal authority of traditional managers. They must navigate faculty expectations, institutional demands, and their own academic identities while advocating for their departments from a vulnerable and often ambiguous position-straddling the boundary between faculty and administration. This workshop, based on the book *The New Department Chair: 100 Daily Reflections to Mindfully Design Your Term*, explores the unique communication demands of academic middle-management. Participants will engage in interactive discussion and real-life case studies focused on the challenges of leading from the middle in higher education.

Sponsor: Short Courses

Chair: W. Benjamin Myers, University of Toledo

Presenter:

W. Benjamin Myers, University of Toledo

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1308      11:00 AM to 12:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Greenway D

### **Sister Outsider Intercaucus Book Club: Engaging Audre Lorde and Intersectionality in the Communication Discipline**

The CSCA Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Caucus, Ethnicity, Race, International, and Class Concerns Caucus, and the Women's Caucus invite participants to a thought provoking discussion of Audre Lorde's *Sister Outsider*. Although Lorde's collection of essays and speeches was published more than 40 years ago, it foregrounds the continued need for solidarity and embracing social differences to achieve equity. This session will explore Lorde's classic text that focuses on amplifying marginalized voices in institutional systems of sexism, racism, homophobia, and classism. Attendees will engage with Lorde's arguments, reflect on their implications for communication studies, and consider how intersectionality continues to shape our scholarship, pedagogy, and activism. Join us for an astute conversation, even if you have not read the entire book!

Sponsors: Ethnicity, Race, International, and Class Concerns Caucus; Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Caucus; Women's Caucus

Chair: Danielle M Stern, Christopher Newport University

Presenters:

Kathy Denker, Ball State University

NiCole Lea Dennler, Upper Iowa University

Jimmie Manning, University of Nevada, Reno

Justin Rudnick, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Morgan Smalls, James Madison University

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1309      11:00 AM to 12:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Greenway E

### **The Politics of the Pitch: Nationalism, Race, and the Rhetoric of the 2026 FIFA World Cup**

In June of 2018 the United States, along with Canada and Mexico, was chosen to co-host the 2026 FIFA World Cup. These games will feature 48 teams and will involve 104 matches across 16 host cities, eleven of which will be in the US, with the final match to be played in New York/New Jersey. In-person attendance for this event is expected to have 6.5 million fans across all the tournament matches, making it the largest World Cup in History. Yet in the United States anti-immigration rhetoric has reached a

fevered pitch, and as of early October 2025, the Washington Post reported that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has deported over 300,000 people. Additionally, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officials claim that millions more have voluntarily departed the country. Though usually exempt from narratives of immigration, international athletes have already been denied visas to the United States, such as the Venezuelan Little League team, the Senegalese women's basketball team, and the Cuban women's volleyball team, raising concerns about future athlete's ability to participate in international sporting events hosted in the US. Likewise, the State Department has begun limiting visas to foreign travelers, particularly those from countries in Asia, Africa and South America. In this discussion, panelists from across Universities will provide insight into the political, cultural, and rhetorical aspects of the lead up to the 2026 FIFA World Cup, utilizing their backgrounds in rhetorical criticism, critical cultural studies, media theory, and sports communication. This panel will interrogate intersecting themes of nationalism, race, gender, resistance, politics, and immigration, situating the 2026 World Cup within broader scholarly discussions on the sociocultural, political, and rhetorical implications of global mega-sporting events.

Sponsor: Sports Communication Interest Group

Chair: Scott Jensen, Webster University

Presenters:

Anne Kerber, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Kevin Sauter, University of St. Thomas

Austin Ulmer, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Adam W. Tyma, University of Nebraska Omaha

Emily Sauter, University of Nebraska Omaha

1310      11:00 AM to 12:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Greenway F

**""Til Death Do Us Part" - Performance Panel (Top Debut Paper)**

'Til Death Do us Part ('Til Death) is a sixty-minute solo performance of healing and humor about Phillip, a widower with a failing wedding business who is finally forced to confront his feelings about death after reluctantly accepting a job officiating a funeral. Although, there are no final resolutions for Phillip, we do see an hour of his reality as he struggles to separate crafting a eulogy for the deceased and having to face the passing of his wife whom he has never been able to mourn. Although, solo performers in performance studies have used their platform to explore issues of grief or trauma, deliberately modifying drama therapy for solo performers appears to be an understudied methodology in our discipline. 'Til Death Do Us Part was created through exploring that process of modification and adapting.

Sponsors: Debut Student Paper; Graduate Student; Performance Studies and Autoethnography Interest Group

Author:

Sean Maulding, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

1311      11:00 AM to 12:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Lakeshore B

**Translating in Our Communities: The Latest in Menstrual Health Engagement, Teaching, and Research**

Comprised of menstrual-health researchers and activists, this panel brings to light the importance of translating our research and teaching to the greater community. The panelists will share the latest from their research taking place at home and abroad, and will discuss how they communicate what they know to those outside of our academy walls.

Sponsor: Health Communication Interest Group

Chair: Stephanie Batson, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Presenters:

Alicia Lynn Alexander, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Sarah Symonds LeBlanc, Purdue University Fort Wayne

Lyzbeth Safoah King, Ohio University

Veda Kommineni, Johns Hopkins University

Rikki A. Roscoe, University of Kansas

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1312      11:00 AM to 12:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      St. Croix

**Translating Mentorship Across Teaching and Advising**

Haggard et al. (2011) describe mentoring as "a type of developmental relationship that shares some characteristics with other interpersonal relationships" and argue that core attributes of mentorship include reciprocity, developmental benefits, and regular or consistent interaction between the mentor and mentee over some period of time (p. 292). Mentoring as a practice has much variability, therefore it is important to understand it in its multiple forms. Thus, this discussion panel prompts further insight into how different professionals--whether educators, advisors, or industry workers within academia--define their roles as mentors and engage in mentorship practices.

Sponsor: Instructional Resources Interest Group

Chair: Cassandra D. Hightower, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Presenters:

Taylor Brehm, Keypath Education

Ann Hodal, Aurora University

Starr Lee, Lakeshore College

Gertrude Misornu Nartey, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Candice Ruh, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

Cassandra Wingert, College of DuPage

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1313      11:00 AM to 12:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Lakeshore A

**Translating Research: Navigating the Publication Process Across the Discipline**

Scholars in interpersonal and family communication often see their work intersect with areas like technology, health, organizational, or political communication-or across disciplinary boundaries entirely. Publishing such research brings both opportunities and challenges, as journals vary in theoretical, methodological, and disciplinary priorities. This panel explores strategies for positioning interdisciplinary research, translating arguments for diverse audiences, and navigating reviewer and editor expectations. Panelists will share experiences with publishing across areas-their successes, challenges, and lessons learned-and discuss broader implications for how cross-area scholarship shapes the framing, dissemination, and value of communication research within and beyond the discipline.

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Family Communication Interest Group

Chair: Natalie Pennington, Colorado State University

Presenters:

R. Amanda Cooper, University of Connecticut

Jess Dominguez, University of Kentucky

Yoo Jung (Erika) Oh, Michigan State University

Kelly L Winfrey, Iowa State University

Jeffrey T Child, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Kory Floyd, Washington State University

Allison R. Thorson, University of San Francisco

12:30 PM

1400

12:30 PM to 1:45 PM

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Greenway H

### **AI Identity & Human Judgment: Detection, Patterns, and Communication Signals**

This session examines how people judge and interpret AI-generated messages, focusing on authorship detection, stakeholder responses to AI-assisted communication, prompting effects on message quality, and the linguistic patterns that characterize generative models.

Sponsor: Communication & Technology Interest Group

Chair: Xialing Lin, University of Central Florida

"Does Guessing Work Translate to Less Loneliness on Dating Apps? A Digital Work

Perspective" Junwen Hu, Michigan State University

"ENTERPRISE SOCIAL MEDIA AND EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT: A QUALITATIVE STUDY ON CONTENT, PERCEPTION, AND SENSE OF BELONGING IN INTERNAL PUBLIC

RELATIONS" Daniel Sherrick Apambila, Illinois State University

"Investigating Knowledge-Prompt Dynamics in AI-assisted Persuasive Writing" Mahmuda Rahman, North Dakota State University

"Predictable Panics, but with Purpose: Understanding our Perceptions of Generative AI" David Westerman, North Dakota State University; Nick Bowman, Syracuse University

1401

12:30 PM to 1:45 PM

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Greenway F

### **Autoethnography and Academic Freedom in Authoritarian Times (Top Panel)**

Academic freedom in colleges and universities around the United States are under threat from the authoritarianism of the Trump administration and its allies. This pressure is of particular import for autoethnographers who as part of their research write from the first person and put themselves and their beliefs on the page. This discussion panel, consisting of autoethnographers and narrative authors, will discuss these and related dilemmas they face in their writing.

Sponsor: Performance Studies and Autoethnography Interest Group

Chair: Andrew Herrmann, Independent Scholar

Presenters:

Danielle M Stern, Christopher Newport University

Dana Schowalter, Western Oregon University

Tony Adams, Bradley University

Stephanie Young, University of Southern Indiana

1402 12:30 PM to 1:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway E

**Black Representation on the Silver Screen: Translating Race and Identity in Popular Film (Top Paper Panel)**

This paper panel consists of academic researchers and professors from various specializations and backgrounds, bringing our ideas and research together as told via film and sharing them to show how culture, particularly race and identity in relation to pop culture, can be translated across the board. Each paper will highlight cultural experiences through the lens of the silver screen, describing the connections made between the selected films being analyzed and how culture(s) are represented, with meanings interpreted and translated for the reader/audience.

Sponsor: Popular Culture Interest Group

Chair: Shanika Patrice Carter, Grand Valley State University

Respondent: Atilla Hallsby, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

"From Screen to Classroom: Translating Lean On Me (1989) for Today's Teaching" Lee Tate, National Louis University

"Same, Similar, Different: Rhetorical Recurrence and Depictions of Excessive Force in Two Distant Strangers" Richard Besel, Grand Valley State University

"Sinners: Exploring the Horror Movie Genre & Black Representation in Ryan Coogler's 2025 Film" Shanika Patrice Carter, Grand Valley State University

"The Warrior's Voice: Identity and Resilience through Nanisca's Communication in The Woman King" Donnie Glover, Bowling Green State University

1403 12:30 PM to 1:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Lakeshore C

**Communication Education Interest Group: Top Papers**

This panel presents the top-scoring papers in Communication Education. Presenters showcase innovative research that brings new insights to teaching, learning, and the evolving practice of communication education.

Sponsor: Communication Education Interest Group

Chair: Robert Sidelinger, Oakland University

Respondent: Kathy Denker, Ball State University

"Future of Communication Education in Africa: Theoretical Orientations and Institutional Logics in African and Global North Contexts (Gustav Friedrich Award for Top Student Paper)" Emmanuel Mylo Dadzie, North Dakota State University; Carrie Anne Platt, North Dakota State University

"Climate Change Denial Messages as Post-Truth" David H. Kahl, Jr., Penn State Behrend; Ahmet Atay, University of Alabama at Birmingham

"Human-AI Collaboration in Education: Examining Sex Differences in Student Perceptions of AI-Based Education (Top Paper)" Jihyun Kim, University of Central Florida; Patric Spence, University of Central Florida; Stephanie Kelly, North Carolina A&T State University

1404 12:30 PM to 1:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Skyway B

**Creating a professional development opportunity with the inaugural ICA Book Club**

Membership in state associations has dwindled for many reasons over the past several years. ICA has been no exception. We have brainstormed ways to support our members' professional development. We formed the ICA Book Club in February 2025 to do just that. Panelists will discuss the book club and how it helped them to connect with ICA members, aided their professional development, and pursue conversations and opportunity that were not available on their respective campuses. We encourage panel attendees to join us for upcoming book clubs!

Sponsor: States Advisory Council

Chair: Joy L. Daggs, Northwest Missouri State

Presenters:

Chase Aunspach, University of Nebraska  
Bryan Kampbell, Buena Vista University  
Aimee Langager, Des Moines Area Community College  
Allyn Lueders, Wayne State College  
NiCole Lea Denmler, Upper Iowa University

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1405

12:30 PM to 1:45 PM

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Lakeshore A

**CSCA 2027 Program Planners Meeting**

Sponsor: CSCA Executive Director

Chair: Stevie Munz, Utah Valley University

Presenters:

Samentha Sepúlveda, Northeastern Illinois University  
Stacey Mirviss-Jossart, UW-Milwaukee  
Ryan Scott Rigda, Saginaw Valley State University  
Evan Kirksey, University of Missouri  
America Edwards, University of Kentucky  
Caroline Waldbuesser, University of Missouri  
Austin T. Frederick, Wayne State University  
Myron Covington, Washtenaw Community College  
Sofia Elena Salazar Carballo, University of Central Florida  
Md Sazzad Mahmud Shuvo, Florida State University  
Angela Glunz, The University of Tennessee at Martin  
Michelle M. Matter, Crown College  
Kristin Fitzsimmons, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities  
Diana Trebing, Saginaw Valley State University  
Brooke Wolfe, Michigan State University  
Holly Holladay, Missouri State University  
Hayden Barber, South Dakota State University  
Shelby Swafford, Southern Illinois University Carbondale  
Ant Woodall, Northeastern University  
Adam W. Tyma, University of Nebraska Omaha  
Dustin A. Greenwalt, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale  
Vianna Isbister, East Tennessee State University  
Scott Jensen, Webster University  
Gayle M Pohl, University of Northern Iowa  
Rodrigo Soares, University of Vermont

Aimee Lau, Wisconsin Lutheran College  
Anna Jean DeGalan, University of South Carolina  
Tiffany R. Wang, University of Montevallo

1406 12:30 PM to 1:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway I

**Ethnicity, Race, International, and Class Concerns Caucus: Top Papers**

This panel celebrates the top competitive paper submissions for the ERICC Caucus.

Sponsor: Ethnicity, Race, International, and Class Concerns Caucus

Chair: Alberto Gonzalez, Bowling Green State University

Respondent: Hsin-I Sydney Yueh, University of Missouri

"Redefining the Collegiate Insider (Top Paper, Top Student Paper)" Diana Amoako Boakyewaa, Bowling Green State University; Madison Marshall, Southern Illinois University

"Race, Violence in the United States, and Digital (News) Discourse: A Corpus-Based Critical Discourse Analysis of Jordan Neely's Racialization (Top Inclusive Scholarship Paper)" Dennis Ekwemnachukwu Okeke, University of Colorado-Boulder

"Investigating Gendered and Racial Exclusion in Interactive Threads of U.S. Election Discourse: Reconsidering the Discourse Quality Index (Top Debut Paper)" Xiaodong Yan, University of Colorado Boulder

1407 12:30 PM to 1:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway G

**Framing the Field: Translating Power, Image, and Responsibility in Sport Communication**

This panel examines how power and identity are translated across sporting contexts, from digital arenas to institutional and media frameworks. Papers explore how gendered identity and aggression circulate in esports, how universities navigate image and influence through NIL policies, how media frame professionalism in athlete injury coverage, and how nonprofits interpret corporate responsibility in sport partnerships. Together, these studies reveal how sport communication serves as a site of translation-where identity, image, and ethics are negotiated, reframed, and contested through discourse, performance, and institutional practice.

Sponsor: Sports Communication Interest Group

Chair: Mac Williams, The University of Mississippi

Respondent: Emily Sauter, University of Nebraska Omaha

"Power Play in MOBA: Social Power Motives, Aggression, and Gendered Identity Traits in Honor of Kings" Wenrong Cui, University of Kansas

"The Name, Image, and Likeness Phenomenon and Its Challenges and Impacts on Seven Large Midwestern Universities" Adam Beck, Missouri State University

"'He's Been Real Professional About It...And That's What We Expect': Media Framing of the Tyrod Taylor Punctured Lung Adverse Event" Heather J Carmack, Mayo Clinic; Braidyn Lazenby, Florida State University

"'Not there to parade around our sick kids': Nonprofits' perspectives on corporate social responsibility in professional sport" Dunja Antunovic, University of Minnesota; Kimberly Soltis, University of Minnesota; Mitch McSweeney, University of Minnesota

1408      12:30 PM to 1:45 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Minnehaha

**Leading Culture in the Click of a Button: Translating Digital Leadership into Organizational Life**

Description: Research shows that organizational culture and leadership are shaped not only by local norms but also by intercultural differences amplified through digital platforms. As workplaces become increasingly global, leaders must navigate expectations about hierarchy, collaboration, and communication across diverse cultural settings. This panel will explore how intercultural communication research can be translated into organizational practice, offering strategies for digital leadership, boundary negotiation, and employee engagement in culturally diverse, technology-mediated workplaces (House et al., 2004; Szkudlarek, McDaniel, & Kim, 2021).

Sponsor: Intercultural Communication Interest Group

Chair: Cheng Zeng, North Dakota State University

Presenters:

Bukola Oloba, North Dakota State University  
Omolola Lasisi, University of Kansas  
Lois Domena - Attafuah, North Dakota State University  
Shalewa Babatayo, University of Central Florida  
Stanley Uzoma, Kansas State University  
Opeyemi Alawode, Western Illinois University  
Egbe Okpaireh, University of Oklahoma

1409      12:30 PM to 1:45 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Greenway J

**Mentoring Through Methods: Translating Questions and Processes into Knowledge and Practices**

Methods are at the core of research, translating questions into knowledge. Further, methods foster critical thinking, understanding data and research, and seeking answers. However, methods can also seem like a mysterious black box for students, where information goes in and is magically converted to results. Panelists will share practices that de-mystify methods and guide students' translation of data into meaning. Further, they will discuss how mentoring through methods transforms students' understanding of lived communication experiences.

Sponsor: Organizational and Professional Communication Interest Group

Chair: Rosemond Asmah, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Presenters:

Patrice Marie Buzzanell, University of South Florida  
Jess Dominguez, University of Kentucky  
Christiana Oluwakemi Ibiwoye, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
Anne Kerber, Minnesota State University, Mankato  
Gertrude Misornu Nartey, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
Natalie Pennington, Colorado State University  
Sarah E. Riforgiate, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
Candice Ruh, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee  
Lucas Youngvorst, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

1410 12:30 PM to 1:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway C

**Planning, Supporting, and Promoting Translational Scholars and Scholarship**

The conference theme of "Translate" encourages reflection on the knowledge, skills, and support scholars need to successfully plan and carry out engaged scholarship. In addition to skills and resources needed to carry out this work, scholars need to consider career stage, goals, and expectations, along with institutional culture and support. Many campuses are encouraging community engagement and may include this as part of annual and career advancement yet may not have the infrastructure to support and evaluate this work. Panelists will address these issues from their experience in departmental, college, and campus leadership. Those considering or undertaking translational work and those who desire to better address roadblocks and positive actions are encouraged to attend and participate.

Sponsor: CSCA First Vice President

Chair: Amy Aldridge, Middle Tennessee State University

Presenters:

Kory Floyd, Washington State University  
Charles Bantz, Indiana University Indianapolis  
Elaine Hsieh, University of Minnesota  
Dawn O. Braithwaite, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Allison R. Thorson, University of San Francisco  
Timothy L Sellnow, Clemson University

1411 12:30 PM to 1:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway B

**Posting, Protecting, Persuading: Strategies for the Digital Age**

This panel explores how individuals and institutions strategically navigate and frame communication in digital spaces. Together, these studies illuminate how strategy, space, and literacy shape the ethics, risks, and possibilities of human connection in digital environments.

Sponsor: Media Studies Interest Group

Chair: Corey B. Davis, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

Respondent: Jerralyn Moudry, Wisconsin Lutheran College

"Advancing Strategic Social Media Science Communication: A Reflexive Thematic Analysis of Instagram Posts by the 2026 Virgin Galactic Astronaut Team" Karen Shalev, University of Connecticut; Shannon Pappas, University of Connecticut; Jocelyn Steinke, University of Connecticut

"Translating Spaces in New Media Channels: Technological Affordance, Territoriality, Privacy, and Consent in Nude Sharing" Seokhoon Ahn, Central Washington University; Yoonmo Sang, Yonsei University; Jee Young Lee, University of Canberra

"Types of Negative Media Literacy" Christopher J. Carpenter, Western Illinois University; HyunYi Cho, The Ohio State University; Wenbo Li, Stony Brook University; Olivia Brashear, Western Illinois University

1412 12:30 PM to 1:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway D

**Shifting Feminisms: Framing Women in Political Leadership, Academia, and Beyond**

The papers in this session broadly examine how navigate traditionally male-dominated spaces in political leadership, academia, and more generally investigate the role of feminism(s) in the contemporary cultural moment.

Sponsor: Women's Caucus

Chair: Lauren J. Johnsen, University of Wisconsin-Stout

"Speaking Without Permission: Metaphor, Media, and the Framing of Black Women's Vice-Presidential Leadership in Ghana and the United States (Top Debut Paper)" Felicity Donkor, University of Georgia

"Strategic Selves: Identity Work in Academic Women's Accounts of Gender Microaggressions" Laura O'Hara, Ball State University; Beth A. Messner, Ball State University; Carolyn Shue, Ball State University; Glen Stamp, Ball State University

"Transgender Issues in Contemporary Feminism: An Examination of TERFism, Transphobia, and Harmful Representations of Trans Women in Film and Television" Evan Wilson, Indiana State University

"Translating into a 5th-Wave Feminism?" Margaret H. Kunde, Augustana College

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1413            12:30 PM to 1:45 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Lakeshore B

**Translating Care: Emotion, Family, and Well-Being Across Illness and Distance**

This panel explores how individuals and families translate care and emotion across cultural, physical, and psychological boundaries. Papers address end-of-life communication between Eastern Asian migrant elders and their adult children, the tension between optimism and realism in families coping with long-term illness, the mental health challenges of geographically separated international couples, and online narratives of ADHD and cyberchondria. Together, these studies illuminate how communication translates care amid uncertainty and change.

Sponsor: Health Communication Interest Group

Chair: Leah Elizabeth Bryant, DePaul University

"Contradictions of Optimism and Realism in Family Communication During Long-Term Illness" Aklima Begum, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

"End-of-life Communication between Eastern Asian Migrant Elderly Patients and Adult Child" Xiaolu Ma, University of Minnesota

"Navigating Emotional Uncertainty: A Study on Anxiety and Mental Health Challenges of International Married Students Living Apart from Their Spouses" Vera Bonku Turkson, Illinois State University

"This is How I Met My ADHD: Exploring Cyberchondria and eHealth Literacy in Online ADHD Discourse" Fangqi Zhao, Marquette University

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1414            12:30 PM to 1:45 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            St. Croix

**Translating Learning into Action: Student Reflections on Community-Engaged Projects**

Undergraduate and graduate students will reflect on their service learning and community engagement experiences across communication courses. Panelists will share how they translated classroom knowledge into meaningful public impact through projects addressing issues such as park revitalization, nonprofit storytelling, civic advocacy, and inclusive design. The discussion will highlight how instructional resources-including High Impact Practices, such as project-based learning, digital media tools, and community partnerships-enabled students to connect theory to practice.

Sponsor: Instructional Resources Interest Group

Chair: Natasha Rascon, Indiana State University

Presenters:

Brookelyn Corona, Indiana State University - Terre Haute, IN  
Shelby McKinney, Hanover College  
Joshua Roberts, Indiana State University - Terre Haute, IN  
Sarah Smith, Indiana State University - Terre Haute, IN  
Lexi Traylor, Ball State University  
Piper Watkins, Indiana State University - Terre Haute, IN  
Abby Wheaton, Indiana State University - Terre Haute, IN  
Rachel D Davidson, Hanover College

1415      12:30 PM to 1:45 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Skyway A

**Translating Rigor: Maintaining Academic Standards in 8-Week Accelerated Courses**

Increasingly, community colleges are adopting a compressed 8/7-week course model to increase completion. This shift, however, presents challenges for faculty who must condense a semester's worth of content without sacrificing academic rigor. While accelerated courses can boost completion rates for some, they can create an all-or-nothing scenario for others. Panelists will focus on presenting flipped strategies, streamlining assessments, and high-impact practices to maintain rigor, while garnering participation from the audience about their strategies, experiences, and challenges.

Sponsor: Community College Interest Group

Chair: Kelly Soczka Steidinger, Mid-State Technical College

Presenters:

Abby Ferrell, Mid-State Technical College  
Cassandra Wingert, College of DuPage  
Brian Kline, The University of North Georgia  
Brooke Morenz, Ball State University

2:00 PM

1500      2:00 PM to 3:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Greenway F

**Argumentation and Forensics Interest Group Business Meeting**

Sponsor: Argumentation and Forensics Interest Group

Chair: Ryan Scott Rigda, Saginaw Valley State University

Presenters:

Jonathen Hart, Ferris State University  
Aimee Miller, Ferris State University

1501      2:00 PM to 3:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Skyway B

**Building Confidence-Overcoming Your Fear - Neurodivergent Teaching Skills and Strategies**

Unlock your potential to speak and teach with conviction!!!! This session provides actionable tools and mindsets to overcome speaking anxieties, helping you project confidence, engage your audience and ensure your message is heard.

Sponsor: States Advisory Council

Chair: Dana S Trunnell, Prairie State College

Presenters:

Susan Bookless, Galena High School  
Mia Poston,  
Cassandra Wingert, College of DuPage  
Dana S Trunnell, Prairie State College

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1502            2:00 PM to 3:15 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway A

**Career Mentorship for Teaching, Promotion, and Job Application Materials**

Please join us for a round table session featuring mentors ready to share ideas and feedback on teaching, hiring, and promotion materials. From questions about employing un-grading in your course design or refining your course schedule, to organizing your CV and how to write a cover letters, or formatting promotion materials, these mentors are ready to help you think through your career in progress. Please bring your documents, notes, ideas, or any questions with you to this session.

Sponsor: CSCA Next Leaders Network

Chairs: Sarah Symonds LeBlanc, Purdue University Fort Wayne; Matthew Meier, DePauw University

Presenters:

Alexandru Stana, Winona State University  
John R. Baldwin, Illinois State University  
Deanna Sellnow, Clemson University  
Ahmet Aksoy, Winona State University  
Dana Schowalter, Western Oregon University  
Stephen Spates, Michigan State University  
Kristina Scharp, Rutgers University  
Matthew Meier, DePauw University  
Kathy Denker, Ball State University

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1503            2:00 PM to 3:15 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway B

**Communication Theory Interest Group Business Meeting**

Sponsor: Communication Theory Interest Group

Chair: Austin Beattie, Hope College

Presenters:

Austin T. Frederick, Wayne State University  
Abbie VanMeter, CMM Institute for Personal and Social Evolution

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1504            2:00 PM to 3:15 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway E

**Critical Autoethnographies of Popular Culture: Part 1-Remembering and Recognizing**

This 2-part panel, based on a forthcoming edited collection, features a diverse group of scholars who draw on personal experience to offer critical, vivid accounts of how the popular culture we consume shapes who we are, what we believe, and how we engage the world and those around us. Collectively, this work speaks about and speaks back to the everyday objects that inform and influence our subjectivity.

Sponsor: Popular Culture Interest Group

Chair: Tasha R. Dunn, The University of Toledo

Respondent: Holly Holladay, Missouri State University

"How Television Raised Me to Be a Childless Cat Lady" Jennifer C. Dunn, Dominican University

"I am not, or am I?: Working With, In, and Around Popular Culture" Art Herbig, Purdue University, Fort Wayne

"Queer Media as "Equipment for Living": Proclivities, Pleasures, and the Passing of Time" Tony Adams, Bradley University

"Toward a Theory of Symbolic Placement: Building a Family Soundtrack through Popular Music" Jimmie Manning, University of Nevada, Reno

"Will You Spell My Name With Me? B·L·I·P·P·I: Dispatches from the Algorithmic Taste Wars of Parenthood" W. Benjamin Myers, University of Toledo

1505

2:00 PM to 3:15 PM

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Greenway J

**Holding Space, Affirming Voice: Faculty Learning Community Research Presentations**

The purpose of this panel is to amplify, celebrate, and support Black, Indigenous, and POC (BIPOC) scholars' research. Each FLC participant will present their current research to help create a community of belonging and support for communication scholars of color at Central States.

Sponsor: Faculty Learning Community

Chairs: Grace Oforiwa Sikapokoo, Northern Illinois University; Morgan Smalls, James Madison University

Presenters:

Abigail Adediran, University of Missouri

Kelly Merrill Jr., University of Cincinnati

Abdulnasir James, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Sabiha Mahbuba, Ohio University

1506

2:00 PM to 3:15 PM

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Lakeshore C

**Hooked on a Feeling: Translating a Sense of Belonging(ness) to Student Success (Top Panel)**

This interactive panel translates belonging research into effective classroom activities that foster supportive and inclusive learning environments. Panelists will first highlight key findings from extant research on belonging. Second, each presenter will share specific successful classroom activities that have been used to promote dialogue and learning, as well as a sense of belonging. There will also be an opportunity for the audience to ask questions and share their successful experiences in developing a sense of belonging with their students. We will conclude by inviting everyone to reflect on how their work can be translated from inside and outside the classroom.

Sponsor: Communication Education Interest Group

Chair: Liz Sills, Indiana University Kokomo

Presenters:

Leah Elizabeth Bryant, DePaul University

DeAnne Priddis, Middle Tennessee State University

Sarah E. Riforgiate, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Tiffany R. Wang, University of Montevallo

1507	2:00 PM to 3:15 PM	Hyatt Regency Minneapolis	Lakeshore A
<b>Interpersonal and Family Communication Interest Group Business Meeting</b>			
Sponsor: Interpersonal and Family Communication Interest Group			
Chair: Natalie Pennington, Colorado State University			
Presenters:			
Brooke Wolfe, Michigan State University			
Haley Nolan-Cody, Rutgers University			
1508	2:00 PM to 3:15 PM	Hyatt Regency Minneapolis	Greenway H
<b>Listening for Wellbeing: Ethical Organizational Engagement with Healthcare Staff</b>			
This panel addresses the need for healthcare organizations to listen to and engage with their own workforce. Doctors, nurses, and emergency responders face persistent burnout, stress, and mental health challenges which demand more than surface-level feedback systems. Panelists will discuss practical strategies for soliciting, analyzing, and integrating staff perspectives into organizational policy, highlighting innovative approaches such as structured listening policies and strategies, interprofessional feedback loops, and transparent decision-making processes.			
Sponsor: Organizational and Professional Communication Interest Group			
Chair: Getrude Kafui Senu, Illinois State University			
Presenters:			
Mark Ofosu Asirifi, The University of Georgia			
Janet Laadi Anani, University of Minnesota - Twin Cities			
Nana Yaa Asare, University of Kentucky			
Dora Nentoola, University of New Mexico			
Florence Addai, Missouri State University			
Beatrice Amissah, Illinois State University			
1509	2:00 PM to 3:15 PM	Hyatt Regency Minneapolis	Greenway D
<b>Strategic and Applied Communication Interest Group Business Meeting</b>			
Sponsor: Strategic and Applied Communication Interest Group			
Chair: Khairul Islam, Florida Atlantic University			
Presenters:			
Rodrigo Soares, University of Vermont			
Alicia Mason, Pittsburg State University			
1510	2:00 PM to 3:15 PM	Hyatt Regency Minneapolis	Greenway C
<b>Translate Beyond the Classroom: Helping Communication Cross Boundaries</b>			
Communication requires ongoing translation. This panel explores how we translate the value proposition-what communication uniquely contributes to personal, professional, and civic life to various stakeholders (i.e., students, administrators, campus communities, workplace partners, and local organizations). Through real-world examples, strategies, and interactive discussions, panelists will share how effective translation fosters stronger connections, supports student learning, and equips graduates to			

apply communication skills beyond the classroom-while inviting attendees to share their own insights and approaches.

Sponsors: Communication Education Interest Group; Instructional Resources Interest Group

Chair: Kyle Vareberg, Northeastern State University

Presenters:

Caroline Waldbuesser, University of Missouri  
Robert Sidelinger, Oakland University  
Elaina Ross, Northeastern State University  
Ian Berry, North Dakota State University  
Kathryn B. Golsan, University of Northern Iowa  
Kyle Vareberg, Northeastern State University

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1511            2:00 PM to 3:15 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway G

**Translating Accessible Design into Conference Practices**

While we were Widening the Scope of Communication Studies last year, many attendees found that scope still too narrow to meet their accessibility needs. The first step to ensuring all participants benefit from conference attendance is to listen to the voices of those who are currently underserved. As such, this panel Translates the experiences of disabled graduate students and the impacts that (in)accessible conference practices have on their ability to engage in the academic community.

Sponsor: Graduate Student Caucus

Chair: Julie Hartung, Colorado State University

Presenters:

Reese Klotz, Colorado State University  
Lindsay Gagnon, Colorado State University  
Evan Kirksey, University of Missouri  
Elliot Powell, University of South Florida  
Isabelle Stahr, University of South Florida  
Alicia Utecht, DePauw University

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1512            2:00 PM to 3:15 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway I

**Translating and Transforming Rhetorical Theory**

This panel reexamines and expands rhetorical theory. Drawing on diverse perspectives from Asante to Confucius, the papers explore how foundational concepts such as style and ethos can be revised, translated, and adapted.

Sponsor: Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Interest Group

Chair: Matthew Edor, University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign

Respondent: Chad Nelson, Florida Gulf Coast University

"Revisiting Asante: An Expansion of the African Rhetorical Concept" Gift Akintoye, Missouri State University

"Reframing the Rhetorical Theory of Style: From Ornament to Ideological Force in a Digital Age" Rawan Hesham Hamouda Hegazy, Missouri State University

"Obama Era Food Blogs' Stylizations of White Consumerist Femininity" Dustin A. Greenwalt, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale

"Confucianism and Rhetorical Theory: Revisiting Ethos, Language, and Persuasion" Kexi Chen, Missouri State University

1513 2:00 PM to 3:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis St. Croix

**Translating Resistance: Mobilizing Expertise for Policy and Community Change (Top Panel)**

This panel features scholars and community organizers engaged in resistance across academic, labor, and political spheres to explore how knowledge is translated into public action. Contributions include: Minneapolis-based organizers' post-George Floyd anti-police brutality work and pursuit of education justice and labor equity; a Utah scholar-union leader's coalition-building and student-centered activism resisting legislative overreach; and a department chair's navigation of sexist institutional structures. Panelists will discuss mobilizing colleagues and communities to sustain advocacy amid institutional and political challenges.

Sponsor: Activism, Communication Ethics, and Social Justice Interest Group

Chair: Bailey Hughlett, University of Connecticut

Presenters:

Marcia Howard, Minneapolis Federation of Educators, Local 59

Catina Taylor, Minneapolis Federation of Educators, Local 59

Sydney O'Shay, Utah State University

Rebecca Imes, Carroll University

1514 2:00 PM to 3:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Minnehaha

**Translating the Self to Lead: Non-Western Leadership in Western Academic Spaces (Top Panel)**

This panel explores how non-U.S. academics navigate leadership roles within U.S. academia, where racial and gender disparities remain entrenched. Centering lived experiences often excluded from Communication scholarship, panelists examine the structural and cultural tensions of leading from the margins. Through the lens of concepts like the "glass ceiling" and "bamboo ceiling," this session reimagines leadership beyond hegemonic norms, offering critical reflection and practical insight into sustaining authentic leadership across difference.

Sponsor: Intercultural Communication Interest Group

Chair: Alberto Gonzalez, Bowling Green State University

Presenters:

EunYoung Lee, Central Washington University

Emi Kanemoto, Bryant University

Hsin-I Sydney Yueh, University of Missouri

Ahmet Atay, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Sasha Allgayer, Southern Illinois University

1515 2:00 PM to 3:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Lakeshore B

**Whose Womb, Whose Voice? Navigating Autonomy, Shame, and Bioethics in the Digital Discourse on Surrogacy in Africa.**

This panel explores how digital platforms shape the discourse on surrogacy across Africa, using the Nigerian debate sparked by Ife of Dang's viral video as a case study. Through qualitative content

analysis, we investigate how influencers, cultural taboos, and religious morality influence public narratives on reproductive autonomy and bioethics. Panelists from across Africa will offer perspectives on women's agency, health communication, and stigma, revealing shared and divergent socio-cultural values surrounding reproductive technologies.

Sponsor: Health Communication Interest Group

Chair: Salome N Mbah, North Dakota State University

Presenters:

Ngozi Oguejiofor, University of Nevada, Reno NV

Lois Domena - Attafuah, North Dakota State University

Bukola Oloba, North Dakota State University

Irene Martha Lutterodt, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Clementina Edema, University of Missouri Columbia

Uchenna Eze, University of Iowa

Rosemary Charway, Ohio University

3:30 PM

1600 3:30 PM to 4:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Skyway A

**A Simplified Approach to Teaching the Basic Course – Introduction to Public Speaking using the 5 Notecard Method**

For this course, I would like to share part of my new book, *Public Speaking Simplified: Removing Speech Anxiety* publishing as a national title with Kendall Hunt – ready for course adoptions for Fall 2026. In my book, five chapters are dedicated to teaching the five notecard method where each notecard represents a major section of their speech: introduction, main point #1, main point #2, main point #3, and their conclusion. I teach students how to write an outline one step at a time and transpose that information to their notecards.

Sponsor: Short Courses

Chair: Jaclyn Marsh, Bowling Green State University

1601 3:30 PM to 4:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis St. Croix

**Activism, Communication Ethics, and Social Justice Interest Group Business Meeting**

Sponsor: Activism, Communication Ethics, and Social Justice Interest Group

Chair: Heather Walters, Missouri State University

Presenters:

Samentha Sepúlveda, Northeastern Illinois University

Kristi Scholten, Ferris State University

1602 3:30 PM to 4:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway H

**Are You Ready to Be Deported?": Examining the Emotional and Communicative Dimensions of Visa Revocation Anxiety Among International Students in the United States**

This round table is made up of Six international students from different universities across the country. The discussion will be facilitated by the chair who will ask relevant questions pertinent to the topic. Audience members will also have the opportunity to ask questions and make insightful contributions.

Sponsor: Ethnicity, Race, International, and Class Concerns Caucus

Chair: Alfred Kwabena Obiri, Illinois State University

Presenters:

Beatrice Amissah, Illinois State University

Mark Ofosu Asirifi, The University of Georgia

Saumya Malhotra, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Subulola Jiboye, Purdue University

Jibran Zeb, University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign

1603

3:30 PM to 4:45 PM

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Greenway E

**Critical Autoethnographies of Popular Culture: Part 2-Resisting and Reclaiming**

This 2-part panel, based on a forthcoming edited collection, features a diverse group of scholars who draw on personal experience to offer critical, vivid accounts of how the popular culture we consume shapes who we are, what we believe, and how we engage the world and those around us. Collectively, this work speaks about and speaks back to the everyday objects that inform and influence our subjectivity.

Sponsor: Popular Culture Interest Group

Chair: Holly Holladay, Missouri State University

Respondent: Tasha R. Dunn, The University of Toledo

"(Re)imagining "Queer Joy" through Heartstopper" Keith Berry, University of South Florida

"Finding Freedom at the End of the Rainbow: The Corporatization of Pride and a Plea for Queer

Organizational Worldmaking" David Dooling, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

"Healing on the Hellmouth: Pop Culture Tourism and Transformation" Andrew Herrmann,

Independent Scholar

"No More "Good Vibes Only": Bursting the White Bubble of Pop Culture Yoga" Danielle M Stern,

Christopher Newport University

"Rewinding "American Idiot," Fast-Forward to Idiot America: Green Day's Album that Historically Captured and Predicted Modern Gen-X Life" Michaela D.E. Meyer, Christopher Newport University

1604

3:30 PM to 4:45 PM

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Skyway B

**Everything But Teaching: Increasing Student Success Beyond the Classroom**

Student success is multi-faceted. From retention, to persistence, to classroom strategies, colleges and universities have focused on how to improve student success. In this panel discussion, faculty discuss strategies utilized at their institutions to impact student success and the role the communication discipline can play in those initiatives.

Sponsor: States Advisory Council

Chair: Kyle Vareberg, Northeastern State University

Presenters:

Kyle Vareberg, Northeastern State University

Elaina Ross, Northeastern State University

Garret L. Castleberry, Mid-America Christian University

Sarah Hollingsworth,

Tip Crowley, Rogers State University

1605 3:30 PM to 4:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway A

**GIFT Session Online Activities**

This G.I.F.T. session features activities that can be done in an online environment.

Sponsor: G.I.F.T. Interest Group

Chair: Amanda L. Medlock-Klyukovski, Truman State University

"Adapt and Engage: Master an Audience-Centered Communication" Rawan Hesham Hamouda Hegazy, Missouri State University

"Building Community and Connection in Public Speaking: The Meme Awards" Ryan McGeough, University of Northern Iowa; Danielle McGeough, University of Northern Iowa; Emma Newton, University of Maryland

"Decoding the Missing Emoji: Teaching Nonverbal Ambiguity in Interpersonal Communication." Habeeb Abdulrauf, Western Michigan University

"Great Ideas for Teaching: Date me Doc" Kaitlin Elizabeth Phillips, Baylor University; Jennifer Kienzle, City College of San Francisco

"Just Press "Play": Collective Meaning-Making in the Virtual Classroom" Kim Smith, Bellin College

"Media Representation of Social Groups" Nagwan R. Zahry, The University of Tennessee-Chattanooga

"The Gender Archetype Tracker: A Media Literacy Toolkit" Allyson Ritchey, Bowling Green State University

"Translating Policy into Practice: Developing accessible web-based surveys" Alicia Mason, Pittsburg State University; Elizabeth A. Spencer, University of Kentucky; Pan Liu, Marian University; Sakshi Bhati, Southern Illinois University; Kristen Livingston, Pittsburg State University

1606 3:30 PM to 4:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway J

**Holding Space, Affirming Voice: Faculty Learning Community Teaching Presentations**

The purpose of this panel is to amplify, celebrate, and support Black, Indigenous, and POC (BIPOC) scholars' teaching. Each FLC participant will present their current teaching to help create a community of belonging and support for communication scholars of color at Central States.

Sponsor: Faculty Learning Community

Chairs: Grace Oforiwa Sikapokoo, Northern Illinois University; Morgan Smalls, James Madison University

Presenters:

Abigail Adediran, University of Missouri

Kelly Merrill Jr., University of Cincinnati

Abdulnasir James, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Sabiha Mahbuba, Ohio University

1607 3:30 PM to 4:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway I

**Humans and Their Environs: Navigating Our Relationship with the Natural World**

This panel explores how humans engage with and make sense of the natural world. From regional environmental practices and anthropomorphized animal behavior to public parks and global climate

change, these papers examine the ongoing tensions that shape how we understand and navigate our relationship with the environment.

Sponsor: Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Interest Group

Chair: Nicholas Morrissey, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee

Respondent: Dustin A. Greenwalt, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale

"The Anthropocene: Beginning in The End" Athena Maria Lee, The Pennsylvania State University

"Translating the "Orca Uprising"" Katherine Lind, Winona State University

"Iowa in Apposition: The Pedagogy of Definition and Redefinition in The Swine Republic" Tom Duncanson, Green Citizen Diplomacy Project; Jeffrey Dean Brand, University of Northern Iowa

"Public Parks: A Media Ecology Perspective" Jessica C. Jansen, Missouri State University

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1608

3:30 PM to 4:45 PM

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Lakeshore A

**Interpersonal and Family Communication Interest Group: Top Papers**

This session hosts the top papers in Interpersonal and Family Communication. This includes the overall top paper, top qualitative paper and winner of the Dawn O. Braithwaite Award for Qualitative Research, and the top student paper and winner of the Nancy Burrell Award.

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Family Communication Interest Group

Chair: Natalie Pennington, Colorado State University

"A Meta-analysis of Children Feeling Caught between Parents and Parent-Child Relationship Quality (Top Paper)" Paul Schrodt, Texas Christian University

"A Scoping Review of Sibling Caregiving in Communication Research and Future Directions (Nancy Burrell Award for Top Student Paper, Top Debut Paper)" Karen Shalev, University of Connecticut

"Bodies, Bottles, and Emotions: Exploring the Lived Experiences of Exclusive Pumping Mothers Through Photos (Dawn O. Braithwaite Award for Qualitative Research)" Jessica Rick, Illinois State University

"How Desired and Received Parental Support Relate to Hurt Feelings: Support Gaps in Emerging Adults- Parent Relationships" Yue Zhang, Michigan State University; Elizabeth Dorrance Hall, Michigan State University

"Parental Support Content and Quality: Supporting Girls' and Women's Interest and Persistence in STEM" Elizabeth Dorrance Hall, Michigan State University; Olivia Watson, Michigan State University; Yue Zhang, Michigan State University; Brooke Wolfe, Michigan State University; Xiaoran Cui, Michigan State University; America Edwards, University of Kentucky; Ran Liu, Michigan State University; Debra Lawlor, Michigan State University

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1609

3:30 PM to 4:45 PM

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Greenway G

**Navigating the Twist and Turns of Graduate Education in the Era of Restrictive Legalities and Global Uncertainties: Exploring Coping Experiences of International Students in the Mid-West (Top Panel)**

The goal of this panel is to foster an open dialogue about the academic, emotional, and social realities of graduate student life in an era of rising protectionism and global uncertainty about immigration and its impact on graduate studies. This panel brings together international graduate students from various disciplines, including sociology, mass communication, public health, and philosophy, at several

universities in the Midwest to reflect on their shared experiences. This panel is significant for students as much as graduate directors/coordinators who manage international students in their workplaces.

Sponsor: Graduate Student Caucus

Chair: Michael Ofori, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Presenters:

Ruth Yeboah, Bowling Green State University  
Gladys Mawuena Momade, Purdue University  
Adraina Kukuwaa Adu, University of Minnesota  
Rhodalene Naa Ayekai Odai, Bowling Green State University  
Isaac Asare Kwakye, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign  
Andrew Donkor, University of Maryland, College-Park  
Matthew Edor, University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign  
Jessica Afful Tuleassi, University of Minnesota  
Emmanuel Mylo Dadzie, North Dakota State University  
Francis Nyameke, University of Minnesota  
Melissa Aprekuwaa Coleman, University of Toledo  
Halima Lul Ali, Bowling Green State University

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1610                      3:30 PM to 4:45 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Greenway C

**Political Communication Interest Group Business Meeting**

Sponsor: Political Communication Interest Group

Chair: Xavier Lee Scruggs, Wake Forest University

Presenters:

Ant Woodall, Northeastern University  
Joshua P Bolton, Salisbury University

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1611                      3:30 PM to 4:45 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Greenway D

**The Rising Tide Lifts All Boats: Translating Mentorship Across Roles, Ranks, and Relationships**

Mentorship is a powerful yet complex dynamic in academic life, especially for women navigating teaching, research, service, and leadership. This panel examines how academic women mentor in all directions – upward, downward, and laterally. Mentoring can occur in various forms, such as situational, lifelong, or even accidental, leading to reciprocal mentoring relationships throughout various career stages. Join our discussion with participants from multiple roles, including administrators, professors of various levels, recent graduates, and graduate students.

Sponsor: Women's Caucus

Chair: Candice Ruh, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

Presenters:

DeAnne Priddis, Middle Tennessee State University  
Tiffany R. Wang, University of Montevallo  
Sarah E. Riforgiate, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
Amy Aldridge, Middle Tennessee State University  
Cimmiaron Alvarez, Kean University  
Stacey Mirviss-Jossart, UW-Milwaukee

Leah Elizabeth Bryant, DePaul University

1612      3:30 PM to 4:45 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Greenway F

**Translating argumentation and debate in a post "prove me wrong" era: Perception, practice, and pedagogy of argumentation and debate scholarship (Top Panel)**

The average American finds political debates to be unpleasant, challenging, and anxiety-inducing experiences. Consequently, many tend to avoid debate entirely, or turn to social media to voice their grievances in an algorithm-controlled echo chamber. Thus, it should be no surprise that environment has given rise to influencers such as Charlie Kirk who prey on the political divide by rhetorically framing "debate" as "gotcha" moments. In fact, a report from the New York Times (Bensinger & Smart, 2025) details the rhetorical strategies utilized by Kirk, revealing how his debate strategy was "used to deliver a consistent hard-line message while orchestrating highly sharable moments" (para. 6). Following the death of Charlie Kirk, many fans and followers expressed their support of his "calm demeanor" and "willingness to engage" with a variety of issues. In essence, Kirk's legacy became synonymous with free speech while also silencing those who disagree with him politically. This raises questions about "acceptable" forms of public debate and the role of civility in political discourse. Therefore, this panel discussion seeks to engage with perception, practice, and pedagogy of argumentation and debate in a post "prove me wrong" era.

Sponsor: Argumentation and Forensics Interest Group

Chair: Aimee Miller, Ferris State University

Presenters:

Jonathen Hart, Ferris State University

Cassandra D. Hightower, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Richard Besel, Grand Valley State University

Jennifer Keohane, University of Baltimore

Aimee Miller, Ferris State University

1613      3:30 PM to 4:45 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Greenway B

**Translating Information Literacy to Students in Basic Communication Courses**

The increased usage of generative AI technologies and prevalence of (mis)information online have created an urgent need for integrating critical information literacy into basic communication courses. Panelists will draw from their classroom and professional experiences to consider how information literacy intersects with the communication discipline, how to effectively teach these skills in the basic course and help students apply them across contexts, and what opportunities and challenges arise when implementing information literacy in interdisciplinary collaborations.

Sponsor: Basic Course Interest Group

Chair: Donna R. Pawlowski, Bemidji State University

Presenters:

Jenny Turner, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Anne Kerber, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Tim McKenna-Buchanan, Manchester University

Stevie Munz, Utah Valley University

Adam W. Tyma, University of Nebraska Omaha

1614      3:30 PM to 4:45 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Minnehaha

**Translating the Midwest: Transmitting Our Culture Within and Without the Region**

Although the often-cartoonish or bland portrayals of the American Midwest in popular culture have some roots in fact, the Midwest is an enormously diverse region. In the spirit of responsibly transmitting the true variety of the Midwest from an insider's perspective, this panel will feature five participants who will discuss their experiences relating Midwest culture to the world beyond its borders. The audience will also be invited to discuss fruitful paths toward responsible cultural transmission.

Sponsor: Intercultural Communication Interest Group

Chair: Liz Sills, Indiana University Kokomo

Presenters:

Nkem Chibuko, The Ohio State University

Benjamin Harley, St. Catherine University

Joel Iverson, University of Montana

Lynn Klundt, Northern State University

5:00 PM

1700      5:00 PM to 6:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      St. Croix

**Activism, Communication Ethics, and Social Justice Interest Group: Top Papers**

These papers are the top papers in the Activism, Ethics, and Social Justice Division.

Sponsor: Activism, Communication Ethics, and Social Justice Interest Group

Chair: Heather Walters, Missouri State University

"Curb-cutting Digital Data Collection: Assistive Pretext and Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG)" Kelsey Stanfield, Bowling Green State University

"Moving beyond linguistic colonization in research: Experimentations in method-making as relation" Lauren Mark, SUNY New Paltz; Marina Basu, Arizona State University

"Unraveling the Minnesota Paradox: Mapping Racial Harm and Repair Through Tax-Base Sharing in South Minneapolis (Top Student Paper, Top Debut Paper)" Stephanie Kaczynski, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

"The Hegemony of White Christian Nationalism: Critical Communication Pedagogy's Role in Resistance (Top Paper, Top Inclusive Scholarship Paper)" David H. Kahl, Jr., Penn State Behrend

1701      5:00 PM to 6:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Lakeshore A

**Collaborating Across Family Science and Communication: Translating Scholarship for Policy, Practice, and People (Top Panel)**

This panel highlights the value of cross-disciplinary collaboration in advancing translational scholarship. Panelists (members of CSCA and the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR)) will join this moderated discussion to explore intersections between Communication and Family Studies, emphasizing how cross-association engagement can enhance public impact and improve translational scholarship. The session will invite audience engagement to consider how CSCA and NCFR members might collaborate to further translate our research into practice, policy, and community engagement,

expanding our reach outside of traditional academic audiences. We will end the session with dedicated time for professional networking.

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Family Communication Interest Group

Chair: Tara G McManus, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Presenters:

Dawn O. Braithwaite, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Lekie Dwanyen, Michigan State University  
Kory Floyd, Washington State University  
Sydney O'Shay, Utah State University  
Brooke Wolfe, Michigan State University

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1702                      5:00 PM to 6:15 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Greenway F

**Dictating Creativity: Case Studies in Algorithmic Effects on Creative Performance**

This panel looks to discuss the impact of social media algorithms on entertainment content. Focusing on creative performance, the panel will explore case studies in music and comedy in which creators translate their content to be successful through the lens of social media.

Sponsor: Performance Studies and Autoethnography Interest Group

Chair: Elaina Ross, Northeastern State University

Presenters:

Tip Crowley, Rogers State University  
Shawna Blake, Tulsa Community College  
Kendrea James, Northwest Arkansas Community College

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1703                      5:00 PM to 6:15 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Greenway G

**Digital Belonging, Media Agency, and Media Framing Across Diverse Communities**

These studies examine diverse populations' motivation for media use, highlighting the interplay between media use, media framing, social support, and cultural agency in shaping student experiences across borders.

Sponsor: Graduate Student Caucus

Chair: Abigail Adediran, University of Missouri

Respondent: Md Sazzad Mahmud Shuvo, Florida State University

"Analyzing the Role of Social, Non-Social, and Activity-Based Motivations in Shaping Social Media Use and Gratifications Amongst International Students" Andrew Donkor, University of Maryland, College-Park

"Beyond the Headline: A Comparative Deconstruction of Framing and Editorial Autonomy in Gen Z Revolution of Bangladesh" Md Abdur Razzak Sarker, Minnesota State University, Mankato; Jawad Chowdhury, Minnesota State University, Mankato; Mahbub Bin Sarwar Pulok Pulok, Feni University

"Cross-Disciplinary Solidarity: An Exploratory Study among Graduate Students in Digital Academic Communities" Lois Domena - Attafuah, North Dakota State University

"Remediating Social Movement Narratives: Traditional Media's Framing of Social Media Content During the July 2024 Uprising" Motasim Billah, North Dakota State University; Nadia (Nahrin) Rahman, Assistant Professor, Mass Communication and Journalism, Bangladesh University of

Professionals; Monira Begum, University of Southern Mississippi-Hattiesburg; Israt Jahan Oishe, Lecturer, Mass Communication and Journalism department, Bangladesh University of Professionals

1704 5:00 PM to 6:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Minnehaha

**Food as a Cultural Practice: Discovering New Restaurants**

Although food is an integral aspect of culture and everyday life, intercultural communication scholars have not widely studied food and food cultures around us. In this panel, instead of food as a culture, we examine restaurants as a culture, cultural space, and cultural practices. Through personal narratives and autoethnographic accounts, each panelist discusses the role that food and restaurants play in their everyday lives. By doing so, they will examine restaurants as a cultural space to create communities, share memories, and also feel connected to home cultures.

Sponsor: Intercultural Communication Interest Group

Chair: Ahmet Atay, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Presenters:

Ahmet Atay, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Alberto Gonzalez, Bowling Green State University

Emi Kanemoto, Bryant University

Sasha Allgayer, Southern Illinois University

1705 5:00 PM to 6:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway C

**Political Communication Interest Group: Top Papers**

Top Paper Panel

Sponsor: Political Communication Interest Group

Chair: Benjamin R. Warner, University of Missouri

Respondent: Mitchell S McKinney, University of Toledo

"Expression Effects in the 2020 & 2024 Election: How Social Media Usage Impacts Polarization and Belief in Misinformation" Brandon Tyler Boyce, University of Kansas; Eduardo Munoz Suarez, University of Kansas

"Reframing Climate Politics: Political Contestations in IPCC and African Union Climate Framings" Emmanuel Mylo Dadzie, North Dakota State University; Zoltan P. Majdik, North Dakota State University

"Rhetorical Activation of Authoritarian Personality Structure: The Case of Joe Rogan" Michael Swidecki, The University of Kansas

"Submerged Ideology: The Doctrine of the Lesser Magistrate and Christian Nationalism." Calvin Coker, University of Louisville

"The Rhetoric of Congressional Legitimacy and Institutional Restoration: The Urgent Legacy of the January 6th Hearings (Top Paper)" Mark Schmutzler, University of Minnesota

1706 5:00 PM to 6:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Lakeshore B

**Spotlight Panel: Translating Across Boundaries: Intersectional Approaches in Health Communication**

This conversational panel features individuals who work in both health communication and other fields. Panelists will discuss intersectional areas (organizational, strategic, interpersonal, family, social media, narratives, and others) and the ways they translate information and findings within/across disciplines. Panelists will share struggles, unique opportunities, and intentional decisions they make when working, presenting, and publishing intersectionally. This panel includes reflections about the communication discipline broadly in addition to specific experiences, tips, and recommendations for interdisciplinary scholars.

Sponsor: Health Communication Interest Group

Chair: Michelle M. Matter, Crown College

Presenters:

Najma Akhther, Nazareth University

Elaine Hsieh, University of Minnesota

Jessica Rick, Illinois State University

Leah Seurer, University of South Dakota

Karen Shalev, University of Connecticut

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1707            5:00 PM to 6:15 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway B

**To inform, or disinform: The hidden agenda of your local media’s “watchdog” and how to not fall into the depths of disinformation.**

Using thematic analysis, following the society of professional journalist code of ethics, several themes arise in the Local Government Information Services publications about the 2024 local elections in the state of Illinois. Such as lack of authorship, ethical justification, and much more. These findings show stories published by the LGIS are not watchdog journalism, and a new skill set is developed to identify disinformation in the media and how to not be easily swayed.

Sponsor: Media Studies Interest Group

Chair: K. Megan Hopper, Illinois State University

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1708            5:00 PM to 6:15 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Skyway A

**Translating AI’s Potential in Higher Ed**

Artificial Intelligence in education is not going away. Yet many in education focus on how to keep students from using it in their work rather than HOW faculty can use it effectively. These panelists will discuss how AI has liberated them from menial classroom work and opened up time for instructors to focus on personalized learning, deeper conversations, and creative activities that engage both students and faculty alike. The audience will also participate in discussion.

Sponsor: Instructional Resources Interest Group

Chair: Becky L DeGreeff, University of Wisconsin - Stout

Presenters:

Shannon C VanHorn, Valley City State University

Jonna Reule, Valley City State University

Stephanie Batson, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Kimberly M Weismann, Bismarck State College

1709                      5:00 PM to 6:15 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Lakeshore C

**Translating Communication Education: From Theory to Practical Interpersonal Skills**

This panel examines how shifting degree requirements are transforming the communication classroom and how instructors can translate disciplinary knowledge into accessible, real-world skills. Historically, public speaking has dominated the general education communication requirement. Recent initiatives, however, have recognized interpersonal communication as an equivalent option by prompting a pedagogical shift from presentation-based instruction to the cultivation of soft skills such as empathy, reflection, conflict resolution, and relationship management. Panelists will explore strategies for "translating" communication theory into practice by designing assignments rooted in students' lived experiences, curriculum that engages both majors and non-majors, and teaching approaches that address evolving workforce and societal needs for relational competence. The session highlights practical, inclusive methods for making communication courses more relevant, impactful, and meaningful beyond the academy.

Sponsor: Communication Education Interest Group

Chair: Terri Fahnestock, Allen Community College

Presenters:

Christa Ziegler, Allen County Community College

Chancee Craig, Johnson County Community College

Lindsey Welsch, Johnson County Community College

Traci Dillavou, KCKCC

1710                      5:00 PM to 6:15 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Greenway A

**Translating Research into Publications: Advice from Journal Editors on Article Publication**

Please join us for a round table discussion featuring former and current journal editors in the field to get advice on moving your research projects from your desktop to a journal. Anything from questions about research design or finding the best fit for your manuscript to addressing reviewers' concerns and formatting responses to the editor, these mentors can share their collective wisdom about the publication process. Please bring your notes, research rationale, or any questions with you to this session.

Sponsor: CSCA Next Leaders Network

Chairs: Matthew Meier, DePauw University; Sarah Symonds LeBlanc, Purdue University Fort Wayne

Presenters:

Meggie Mapes, University of Kansas

Sandra L Faulkner, Bowling Green State University

Rahul Mitra,

Stephen Croucher, Clemson University

Deanna Sellnow, Clemson University

C. Kyle Rudick, University of Northern Iowa

1711                      5:00 PM to 6:15 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Greenway I

**Translating Strategies of Conservative Rhetoric**

This panel identifies the rhetorical strategies and tactics of conservative discourse from political speeches to judicial rulings and digital narratives, and explores how these strategies shape persuasion, identity, and public engagement.

Sponsor: Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Interest Group

Chair: Ned Gidley, University of Kansas

Respondent: Thomas A. Salek, Elmhurst University

"Florida is Where Woke Goes to Die": White Deflection and Co-optation in Ron DeSantis' 2022 Governor's Re-election Speech (Top Debut Paper)" Cole Thomas Vetter, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee

"Judicial Rulings and Justified Shock: A Deconstruction of Women's Agency in Dobbs v. Jackson (2022)" Lexi Traylor, Ball State University

"Shameless and Shameful: Trump's Rhetorical Rejection and Embrace of Shame" Kirsten Theye, Concordia College; Oliver Mark Fluegel-Murray, Student at Concordia College in Moorhead

"Affective Narration: The Digital Rhetoric of the LGB Alliance" Rocky Roque, University of Illinois Chicago

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1712            5:00 PM to 6:15 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway D

**Women's Caucus Business Meeting**

Sponsor: Women's Caucus

Chair: Kristin Fitzsimmons, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Presenters:

Lauren L. Buisker, Colorado State University

Joy L. Daggs, Northwest Missouri State

Anna Jean DeGalan, University of South Carolina

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1713            5:00 PM to 6:15 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway E

**Women's Empowerment in Corporate Social Media: Translating Brand Strategies to Implications**

This discussion explores big business corporations' use of women's rights issues and movement campaigns as material in their public relations and marketing strategies. Particularly, the discussion investigates how hashtags and other engagement strategies are used in social media platforms by corporate businesses to gain public attention as marketing strategy of their products. The discussion addresses one broad question: what are the implications of big business corporations using women's status and empowerment issues in the construction of their PR messages and their branding strategy?

Sponsor: Strategic and Applied Communication Interest Group

Chair: Justin Rudnick, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Presenters:

Nazifa Khatun, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Kakali Bhattacharya Chakrabarti, Austin Peay State University

Jennifer Murdaugh, Lewis University

Emily Sauter, University of Nebraska Omaha

Jessica Samens, Bethel University

Emmanuel Karikari, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Tasnimul Zannah, Minnesota State University, Mankato

6:30 PM

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1714	6:30 PM to 7:45 PM	Hyatt Regency Minneapolis	Offsite 2
<b>CSCA Faculty Learning Community Reunion Dinner</b>			
The purpose of this dinner is to celebrate current and alumni CSCA Faculty Learning Community members. A previous RSVP is required.			
Sponsor: Faculty Learning Community			
Chairs: Grace Oforiwa Sikapokoo, Northern Illinois University; Morgan Smalls, James Madison University			
Presenters:			
Abigail Adediran, University of Missouri			
Kelly Merrill Jr., University of Cincinnati			
Abdulnasir James, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee			
Sabiha Mahbuba, Ohio University			
7:00 PM			
1800	7:00 PM to 8:30 PM	Hyatt Regency Minneapolis	Offsite
<b>CSCA 2026 President's Party: Celebrating the Service of Jeffrey T. Child</b>			
Join us to celebrate the first day of the convention and the service of Jeffrey T. Child, our current President. During his time in the CSCA Presidential rotation that included planning the 2025 convention in Cincinnati, Jeff has worked diligently to advance a number of important initiatives for the association. In addition to catching up with all your CSCA friends and family, you can make new friends as the music plays, delicious food is served, and bartenders at cash bars serve beverages. The president's party will take place at Dakota which is a 5 minute (.2 mile) walk from the convention hotel. Please e-mail <a href="mailto:csc.ed@gmail.com">csc.ed@gmail.com</a> if you would like to request transportation accommodations to the event.			
Sponsor: CSCA Executive Director			
Chair: Kristina Scharp, Rutgers University			
Friday April 17, 2026			
7:30 AM			
2000	7:30 AM to 5:00 PM	Hyatt Regency Minneapolis	Nicollet Registration
<b>CSCA Registration - Friday</b>			
Check in and pick up your convention materials.			
Sponsor: CSCA Executive Director			
Chair: Kathleen Cesa, KOC Member Services			
8:00 AM			
2100	8:00 AM to 9:15 AM	Hyatt Regency Minneapolis	Greenway I
<b>Colonial Legacies, Contemporary Struggles: Indigenous Communication, Identity, and Resistance in Bangladesh</b>			

This panel examines how Indigenous communities in Bangladesh navigate systemic marginalization and assert agency through politics, media, leadership, language, and digital activism. From the legacies of colonial violence and Bengali ethno-nationalism to contemporary struggles for representation in film, cultural preservation, and online resistance, the panel translates indigenous communication as both a tool of oppression and a means of empowerment. Together, we foreground Indigenous voices and explore pathways toward justice, visibility, and decolonial futures.

Sponsor: Ethnicity, Race, International, and Class Concerns Caucus

Chair: Kristi Treinen, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Presenters:

Deepa Oommen, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Adeeb Kasem, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Janifar Kamal Nova, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Md Ragib Rahman, Missouri State University

Tahura Tabassum Tari, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Sadia Ashrafi Thizbee, International Islamic University Malaysia

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2101            8:00 AM to 9:15 AM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Minnehaha

**Conflict and Engagement in Intercultural Settings: Competitive Papers in the Intercultural Interest Group**

This panel explores how intercultural spaces become sites of both tension and transformation. These papers examine how identity, tradition, and modernity intersect. Each highlights strategies of engagement—whether through activism, relational dynamics, or media translation—that challenge dominant narratives and foster dialogue across cultural boundaries.

Sponsor: Intercultural Communication Interest Group

Chair: Carolyn Calloway-Thomas, Indiana University

Respondent: John R. Baldwin, Illinois State University

"La'ikū Kū'ē: Understanding Indigeneity, Sense of Place, and Peaceful Protest (Top Debut Paper)" Vance Medeiros, Colorado State University

"Sources of Conflict and Conflict Management Strategies in Intercultural Marriages" Aisha Tahir, Bowling Green State University

"Title: Translating Tradition: Cultural Hybridity and Intercultural Communication in Ghana's Most Beautiful" Jemima Nontaa Dery, Purdue University Northwest

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2102            8:00 AM to 9:15 AM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway H

**Extended Abstract Panel: Digital Boundaries, Algorithmic Systems, and Online Influence**

This panel explores how digital technologies shape work, learning, and social influence. Topics include algorithmic monitoring, technology boundary management, workplace and academic digital practices, and persuasive communication online. These extended abstracts collectively examine how individuals navigate digital systems while negotiating autonomy, identity, and everyday decision-making.

Sponsor: Communication & Technology Interest Group

Chair: Xialing Lin, University of Central Florida

"Social media addiction and sleep quality: The mediating role of bedtime procrastination among university students in Bangladesh" Chuton Deb Nath, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Erin Ruppel, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Md Mikhail Hossen, Graduated from Khulna University

"Students' Awareness, Satisfaction, and Trust in Campus Safety Communications: A Quantitative Analysis" Dennis Ekwemnachukwu Okeke, University of Colorado-Boulder

"The Reality of Influence: From Human to Artificial" Christopher J. Carpenter, Western Illinois University; David Westerman, North Dakota State University

"Understanding Doctoral Students' Technology Use to Manage Family and School" Md. Sumon Ali, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Aklima Begum, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Sarah E. Riforgiate, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

2103 8:00 AM to 9:15 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway E

**Power Plays: Rhetorical Constructions of Identity and Influence in Sport**

This panel explores how sport functions as a rhetorical arena where power, identity, and value are contested and performed. Papers analyze a senator's use of athletic ethos to maintain dominant positionalities, media framings that shape the perceived worth of female athletes, corporate campaigns that merge public health and profit motives, and athletes' negotiations of social identity across levels of play. Together, these projects reveal how sport operates as a persuasive field through which cultural meaning, political authority, and social influence are strategically enacted and communicated.

Sponsor: Sports Communication Interest Group

Chair: Kevin Sauter, University of St. Thomas

"A Football Senator: Tommy Tuberville's Rhetorical Maintenance of Dominant Positionalities Through Sport" Mac Williams, The University of Mississippi

"Framing the Female Athlete: Rhetorics of Value and Exclusion in NIL and Women's Sports" Emily Sauter, University of Nebraska Omaha

"Just Play for the World: The Rhetorical Intersections of Nike and Public Health Advertising" Kathleen Barry Murphy, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Margaret Murphy, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

"Social Identity and the Athlete: College and Professional Perspectives" Samantha Campbell, Hope College; Kendall Kaplan, Hope College

2104 8:00 AM to 9:15 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Lakeshore A

**Qualitative and Critical Investigations into Interpersonal and Family Communication**

The papers in this session draw on qualitative and critical approaches to the study of interpersonal and family communication to address a broad range of relationships.

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Family Communication Interest Group

Chair: Peace Chinenye Nwachukwu, Ohio University

"College Student Dialogues about Race in Close Relationships" Madison A. Pollino, University of South Florida; Sandra L Faulkner, Bowling Green State University

"Girl dads: Constructing a critical standpoint" Madison Marshall, Southern Illinois University

"Translating Marital Strain: A Feminist Critical Discourse Analysis of the Suffocation Model of Marriage" Seokhoon Ahn, Central Washington University

"“I Thought They Loved Me”": Exploring Emotional Betrayal and Trust-Building After Performative Allyship" Stephen Obiri Agyei, OHIO UNIVERSITY; Peace Chinenye Nwachukwu, Ohio University

2105 8:00 AM to 9:15 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway F

**“Tell Me Why!?”: Successes & Failures in Code-Switching & Code-Mixing in Moments of Professional Challenge**

This panel focuses on the negotiation of switching and/or mixing codes during moments of controversy, challenge, and/or difficulty. We will be sharing stories, analysis, and insights regarding outcomes & consequences from the discussed moments. Combining theoretical explanations & lived experiences, this panel seeks to understand strategies in shifting codes among the intersections of identity, intentionality, and how meaning is communicated.

Sponsor: Performance Studies and Autoethnography Interest Group

Chair: Travis James Wolven, East Tennessee State University

Presenters:

Vianna Isbister, East Tennessee State University  
Emily Katt, East Tenn State University  
Hummuh Abubakar, East Tennessee State University  
Stephanie Young, University of Southern Indiana  
Andrew Herrmann, Independant Scholar  
Jordan Bennett, East Tennessee State University

2106 8:00 AM to 9:15 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway J

**Toward Improved Understandings: Translating Our Work for One Another**

Despite myriad collaborations between subdisciplines in communication, scholars still misunderstand one another's work. This panel brings together scholars from various subdisciplines within communication to discuss our work and help translate important concepts of the field to and with one another to bridge gaps and create potential future collaborations. At a minimum, panelists and audience members should leave with a better understanding of subdisciplines not their own.

Sponsor: Organizational and Professional Communication Interest Group

Chair: Molly Wiant Cummins, University of Texas Arlington

Presenters:

Jessica Rick, Illinois State University  
Caleb R McKinley-Portee, Southern Illinois University Carbondale  
Allison D. Brenneise, Independent Scholar  
Molly Wiant Cummins, University of Texas Arlington  
Hsun-Yu Sharon Chuang, Central Ohio Technical College

2107 8:00 AM to 9:15 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Skyway A

**Translate AI! Building the Communication Course of the Future**

This short course is designed to prepare educators to teach an undergraduate course in AI and Communication. The course is designed to address the critical need for AI literacy within the communication major and will provide the theoretical foundation and practical resources necessary to

launch this essential course. The ability to utilize generative AI tools and understand the risks and limitations involved is increasingly necessary for graduates of our programs. Participants will receive example syllabi and a collection of ready-to-use assignments designed to foster both critical thinking and practical skills.

Sponsor: Short Courses

Chair: Heather Walters, Missouri State University

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2108                      8:00 AM to 9:15 AM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Greenway B

**Translating Artificial Intelligence Technologies to Media Studies in the Global South: Potentials, Transformation, and Destructions**

In recent years, academic and policy conversations on artificial intelligence (AI) have expanded significantly, reflecting both the promise and the perils of this rapidly evolving technology. Dominant narratives, mostly within Western contexts, often frame AI as a dual force: on one hand, a driver of efficiency and innovation; on the other, a source of disruption through job displacement, social disengagement, academic dishonesty, and laziness among students and others. While these debates are central to understanding AI's technological and social transformation in the Global North, parallel conversations in Africa and other parts of the Global South remain largely marginalized or absent from mainstream scholarship and debate about AI and media studies. Thus, this panel brings together seasoned scholars, researchers, and teaching instructors based in U.S. institutions who draw on lived experiences and research in Africa and Asia to address significant questions about AI's potentials, transformations, and destructions, specifically to media studies in the Global South.

Sponsor: Media Studies Interest Group

Chair: Michael Ofori, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Presenters:

Halima Lul Ali, Bowling Green State University  
Emmanuel Mylo Dadzie, North Dakota State University  
Isaac Asare Kwakye, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign  
Matthew Edor, University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign  
Rosemond Asmah, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
Janet Laadi Anani, University of Minnesota - Twin Cities  
Andrew Donkor, University of Maryland, College-Park

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2109                      8:00 AM to 9:15 AM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Greenway C

**Translating Resistance**

These papers investigate how creative communication translates resistance into political participation across Bangladesh, Taiwan, and India

Sponsor: Political Communication Interest Group

Chair: Calvin Coker, University of Louisville

Respondent: Alan D Heisel, University of Missouri - St. Louis

"Translating Resistance: Rap Music as Political Communication in Bangladesh's 2024 Quota Reform Uprising" Mamunor Rashid, University of Colorado Boulder

"Translating Sajiao: Theorizing Cuteness as a Tactic of Political Participation in Taiwan" Hsin-I Sydney Yueh, University of Missouri

"VOICES OF RESISTANCE: TYPOLOGY OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISTS IN POSTCOLONIAL AND NEOLIBERAL INDIA" Vamsi Chaitanya Pedasanaganti, Kean University

2110 8:00 AM to 9:15 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Lakeshore C

**Translation as Relational Process: Re-imagining Communication Education in the Current Moment**

This panel explores translation as a sustained relational process, not only learning from and with communities but also creating new spaces altogether for communicative practice that bridge the gap between academia and community. Panelists bring experiences creating re-imagined spaces for communication education, including podcasting, public research, service-learning, accreditation, and teaching in non-traditional classrooms. This panel engages the process of creating these spaces, inviting the audience into an honest discussion of how we can continue this work in the current moment. Audience members will come away with actionable ideas for improving access, inclusion, and equity in their own learning environments.

Sponsor: Communication Education Interest Group

Chair: Stephanie Kaczynski, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Presenters:

Joshua A Youakim, UNC Chapel Hill

Stephanie Kaczynski, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Emily Abellon, University of Portland

Sarah Havlicek, Arizona State University

Chad Nelson, Florida Gulf Coast University

2111 8:00 AM to 9:15 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway D

**Why Will She Lead the Team? The Power of Strategic Organizational Communication in Elevating Women into Leadership Roles**

Despite progress in workplace equity, women continue to face barriers in leadership advancement due to implicit biases and systemic obstacles (Eagly & Carli, 2007; Heilman, 2012). This panel explores how strategic organizational communication can dismantle these barriers by reshaping narratives around women in leadership. Panelists will discuss communication strategies that promote inclusive leadership, challenge biases, and cultivate environments where women can thrive. Attendees will gain insights into leveraging communication as a tool for equitable leadership development, irrespective of their gender.

Sponsor: Women's Caucus

Chair: Bukola Oloba, North Dakota State University

Presenters:

Omolola Lasisi, University of Kansas

Shalewa Babatayo, University of Central Florida

Clementina Edema, University of Missouri Columbia

Uchenna Eze, University of Iowa

Ngozi Oguejiofor, University of Nevada, Reno NV

Irene Martha Lutterodt, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Elizebeth Danso, North Dakota State University

9:00 AM

2112 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Nicollet Promenade

**Exhibit Hall Featuring Publishers and Technology - Friday**

Sponsor: CSCA Executive Director

Chair: Joy L. Daggs, Northwest Missouri State

9:30 AM

2200 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway E

**CSCA Committee Vice Chair Award Meeting**

Sponsor: CSCA Executive Director

Chair: Tiffany R. Wang, University of Montevallo

Presenters:

Brooke Wolfe, Michigan State University  
Madison A. Pollino, University of South Florida  
Mary Kiura, Purdue University Fort Wayne  
Jenn Anderson, South Dakota State University  
Kathryn B. Golsan, University of Northern Iowa  
Natalie Pennington, Colorado State University  
Christina S Beck, Ohio University  
Hsin-I Sydney Yueh, University of Missouri  
Stephen Spates, Michigan State University

2201 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway G

**Disability and Neurodiversity Caucus Interest Meeting**

Sponsor: CSCA First Vice President

Chair: Michaela D.E. Meyer, Christopher Newport University

Presenter:

Jimmie Manning, University of Nevada, Reno

2202 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Skyway B

**Don't get Burned – Limits and Boundaries for Yourself**

Burnout is more and more common in today's educational setting, especially at smaller institutions where individuals wear multiple hats. Panelists will present strategies from a professorial perspective and an administrative perspective about how to protect yourself from burnout.

Sponsor: States Advisory Council

Chair: Jonna Reule, Valley City State University

Presenters:

Kelsey Menge, Bismarck State College  
Kimberly M Weismann, Bismarck State College

2203 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway B

**Filling the Gap: Developing Cross-Theoretical Case Studies to Translate Communication Theory to Lived Experiences**

Teaching communication theory is often challenging for students, in part because they struggle to recognize practical application, and few resources help translate abstract theory into real-world practice. This panel explores how cross-theoretical case studies can generate deeper classroom engagement and help students connect theory to lived experience. Cross-theoretical case studies examine the same case through different theoretical lenses. Attendees will develop practical strategies for how to create cross-theoretical case studies that bridge theory and practice.

Sponsor: Communication Theory Interest Group

Chair: Tim McKenna-Buchanan, Manchester University

Presenters:

Tim McKenna-Buchanan, Manchester University

Anna Wright, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Stevie Munz, Utah Valley University

Justin Rudnick, Minnesota State University, Mankato

2204 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis St. Croix

**From Boomers to Zoomers: Translating Communication and Connection through Intergenerational Dialogue in Undergraduate Education**

This panel explores how translation functions as a communicative bridge between generations in undergraduate education. Faculty and students will engage in dialogue about teaching, learning, and advising strategies that translate effectively-and those that do not. Drawing from communication and pedagogical theory, our discussion will examine how translation fosters mutual understanding, empathy, and adaptability in classroom and advising contexts. Overall, the goal of this session is to offer practical insights for improving intergenerational communication in our undergraduate classrooms.

Sponsor: Undergraduate Education and Administration Section

Chair: David L Bodary, Sinclair Community College

Presenters:

Aimee Lau, Wisconsin Lutheran College

Donna R. Pawlowski, Bemidji State University

Linda Dickmeyer, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

Matthew W. Merklings, Illinois State University

Claire Conorman, Wisconsin Lutheran College

2205 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway A

**GIFT Session**

G.I.F.T. Sessions offer teaching ideas for the communication classroom.

Sponsor: G.I.F.T. Interest Group

Chair: Angela Glunz, The University of Tennessee at Martin

"Audience Analysis & Topic Research Activity" Shawn C Starcher, Muskingum University

"Building Bugs to Demonstrate CAT" Lauren J. Johnsen, University of Wisconsin-Stout

"Research and Finding Credible Sources Scavenger Hunt" Joshua Fitzgerald, Linn-Benton Community College

"Scrolling Through Resistance: TikTok as a Tool for Feminist Pedagogy" Janifar Kamal Nova, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

"SpeakSmart: Public Speaking with Real-Time Feedback" Christian Otchere, University of Connecticut

"Translating Connection: Unlocking the Power of Story Through The Boys in the Boat" Mary Olivia Roberts, Ohio University; Samantha Roberts, Ohio University

"Translating thoughts into Theory: An Exercise in Communicative Theorizing" Ant Woodall, Northeastern University; Amy Lu, Northeastern University

"Two Truths and a Lie: Presenting Yourself as a Speaker and Building Credibility Through Delivery." Blessing Nlemedim, Missouri State University

"Welcome to Deckville: An Experiential Simulation Exploring Globalization, Culture, and Communication" Kyle Vareberg, Northeastern State University; Brooklyn Larrison, Northeastern State University

2206      9:30 AM to 10:45 AM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Minnehaha

**Intercultural Communication Interest Group Business Meeting**

Sponsor: Intercultural Communication Interest Group  
 Chair: Jennifer Willis-Rivera, University of Wisconsin - River Falls  
 Presenters:  
 Diana Trebing, Saginaw Valley State University  
 Irene Martha Lutterodt, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

2207      9:30 AM to 10:45 AM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Greenway J

**Resilience in Translation: Communication Approaches to Social Justice and Institutional Change**

This panel explores how communicative resilience is enacted across diverse contexts-from students navigating pandemic disruptions to organizational reconciliation efforts. Presentations examine how resilience frameworks translate into practice within higher education and across identity differences, illuminating possibilities and tensions in adaptive transformation and social justice work.

Sponsor: Organizational and Professional Communication Interest Group  
 Chair: Allison Brown, Drury University  
 Respondent: Rebecca Greer, University of Kentucky

"Awakening Emerging Adulthood and Social Justice: U.S. Students' Communicative Resilience Enactment During the COVID-19 Pandemic" Patrice Marie Buzzanell, University of South Florida; Timothy Betts, University of South Florida

"Beyond the Unifying Anchor: A Research Agenda for Studying Communicative Resilience Across Difference" Jacob Daniel Sanders, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign

"Institutional Affective Resilience Logics for Adaptive-Transformative Higher Education" Patrice Marie Buzzanell, University of South Florida; Linda Hughes-Kirchubel, University of South Florida

"Neoliberal Corporations and Reconciliation: Responding to Inadequate Apologies" David H. Kahl, Jr., Penn State Behrend

2208	9:30 AM to 10:45 AM	Hyatt Regency Minneapolis	Lakeshore B
<b>Rewriting Stigma: Translating Health Narratives Across Families, Media, and Culture</b>			
Health narratives can both reinforce and resist stigma. This panel explores how communication translates stigmatized experiences into new understandings of health, identity, and belonging. Presentations analyze C-section storytelling on social media, audience emotions toward drug-use disorder messages, cultural rituals surrounding obesity, and memorable messages about mental health in immigrant families. Collectively, panelists illustrate how narrative translation transforms silence into dialogue and stigma into shared meaning.			
Sponsor: Health Communication Interest Group			
Chair: Linda Charlotte Kabaalu, Illinois State University			
"Emotional Reactions to Media Messages about Drug Use Disorder, Behavioral Intentions, Stigma, and Policy Opinions" Xiaoxia Cao, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee			
"My Scars! My Stars! : Mothers Translating Birth Narratives to Address C-section Stigma on Social Media." Jemima Nontaa Dery, Purdue University Northwest; Vera Bonku Turkson, Illinois State University			
"Translating Communication Rituals for Health: Rethinking Obesity" Nour Mheidly, University of Illinois Chicago; Rocky Roque, University of Illinois Chicago			
"“We don't recognize mental health as part of this journey”: Familial Memorable Messages about Mental Health amongst First Generation African Immigrants" Abigail Adediran, University of Missouri; Ayotunde Afolabi, University of Missouri; Wendy Adjei, University of Missouri; Cindy Afoakwa-Acheampong, Purdue University			
2209	9:30 AM to 10:45 AM	Hyatt Regency Minneapolis	Greenway F
<b>Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Caucus Business Meeting and Annual Awards Ceremony</b>			
Sponsor: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Caucus			
Chair: Danielle M Stern, Christopher Newport University			
Presenters:			
Vianna Isbister, East Tennessee State University			
Elliot Powell, University of South Florida			
2210	9:30 AM to 10:45 AM	Hyatt Regency Minneapolis	Skyway A
<b>Strategic Communication in the AI Era</b>			
The panel aims to explore how communication faculty can bridge the gap between traditional communication expertise and emerging AI technologies. By using AI as a focal example, the discussion will highlight ways to thoughtfully integrate AI tools into communication courses. Key discussion questions include: What are the main learning goals this course should focus on? Which foundational communication theories or frameworks can support students in critically examining AI as a communicative agent or tool? What concepts are most useful in helping students analyze and question AI-generated content across journalism, PR, and social media platforms?			
Sponsor: Short Courses			
Chair: Nagwan R. Zahry, The University of Tennessee-Chattanooga			

2211 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway C

**Translating Congressional Rhetoric**

This panel considers how the evolving norms and conditions of congressional discourse translate into political change and what such developments can tell us about the current status and trajectory of US democracy. The panel offers both case studies of recent congressional debates on significant issues such as reproductive rights and social welfare protection, and theoretical perspectives on the historical development of congressional deliberation as a distinct form and context of political speech.

Sponsor: Political Communication Interest Group

Chair: Adam Gaffey, Winona State University

"Congressional Rhetoric and its Discontents: Lost in Translation?" Zornitsa Keremidchieva, University of Minnesota

"Reproductive Justice and the 2024 Senate Hearings on Abortion" Calvin Coker, University of Louisville

"Translating Knowledge Into Governance: The Radical Intentions and Failures of the 1946 Legislative Reorganization Act" Mark Schmutzler, University of Minnesota

"Translating the People's Pain into the Public's Pain: Senator Booker's Filibuster Against Tyranny For the "Least of These"" Evan Layne Johnson, Florida SouthWestern State University

2212 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway H

**Translating Human-Technology Dynamics into Communication Practice - Communication & Technology Interest Group: Top Papers**

This session features the top papers selected by the Communication & Technology Interest Group. Each study advances our understanding of human-technology dynamics, translating algorithmic processes, AI-mediated communication, and workplace technologies into clearer insights for practice. Together, these papers demonstrate how communication scholarship can bridge theory and application across digitally mediated settings.

Sponsor: Communication & Technology Interest Group

Chair: Xialing Lin, University of Central Florida

"Algorithmic Monitoring and Job-Related Perceptions: A Job Demands-Resources Perspective on Job Autonomy, Competence and Satisfaction" Wenrong Cui, University of Kansas; Cameron Piercy, University of Kansas

"The Overriding Effect of AI Disclosure on Trust in Environmental Messages: Evidence Against Gain-Loss Framing Dominance (Top Student Paper)" Md Sazzad Mahmud Shuvo, Florida State University

"WHEN YOU WRITE LIKE THIS: The Effects of Capitalization and Typos on Perceptions in Online Learning (ComBotLabs Award for Top Paper)" Patric Spence, University of Central Florida; Jihyun Kim, University of Central Florida; David Westerman, North Dakota State University; Walter Washika, University of Central Florida

"“Chat, is this real?”: Comparing donation intentions to AI or Human live streamers mediated by parasocial interaction and social presence" Harvey Chinchilla, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Jihyun Kim, University of Central Florida

2213      9:30 AM to 10:45 AM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Lakeshore C  
**Translating the Tricky: Using Pop Culture to Navigate Difficult Conversations in the Communication Classroom**

Pop culture offers a mirror for our most complex social conversations about race, gender, power, ethics, and identity, but translating those moments into the classroom requires care, creativity, and courage. Panelists discuss strategies for translating challenging public moments such as celebrity scandals, viral controversies, protest movements, and digital call-outs into productive, reflective dialogue.

Sponsors: Communication Education Interest Group; Popular Culture Interest Group

Chair: Jennifer Hough, University of South Dakota

Presenters:

Aimee Langager, Des Moines Area Community College

Amy McCoy, Drake University

Lori M Costello, University of South Dakota

2214      9:30 AM to 10:45 AM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Greenway D  
**We Do Not Care Club - Central States Meeting**

The We Do Not Care Club is a virtual perimenopause and menopause-club-turned-movement sparked by Melani Sanders, who's sharing a simple but powerful message from peri- and postmenopausal women everywhere: When it comes to playing nice or following the "rules," we no longer give a damn. Join us for the first WDNC Club meeting at CSCA as we discuss what nerves this movement has struck and how that manifests in our lives in the academy.

Sponsor: Women's Caucus

Chair: Kate LaPierre, Univ of Nevada/Reno Ivy Tech Community College

Presenters:

Beth Ribarsky, University of Illinois Springfield

Dana Schowalter, Western Oregon University

Jennifer C. Dunn, Dominican University

Stephanie Young, University of Southern Indiana

Tasha R. Dunn, The University of Toledo

Kathy Denker, Ball State University

Brigit Talkington, Metro Community College

Kathleen Turner Ledgerwood, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

11:00 AM

2300      11:00 AM to 12:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Greenway C  
**Are We Still Knocking on Doors or No?: Examining Social Media and Politics**

This panel highlights how digital spaces are redefining how citizens connect with politics and with each other.

Sponsor: Political Communication Interest Group

Chair: Ant Woodall, Northeastern University

Respondent: Joshua Atkinson, Bowling Green State University

""You did it, so we could too – and more:" An experimental investigation of Whataboutism's effects on support for democratic norm violations" Kai Vance, University of Minnesota-Duluth; Alyssa Snidarich, University of Minnesota-Duluth; Hailey Nelson, University of MN Duluth

"Digital Influence: Political Exposure and Engagement Among Young Adults in Ohio" Dolapo Michael Oyedokun, Ohio University

"Is Kamala Brat? Counteracting Persuasion Resistance with Authenticity on TikTok" Shannon Pappas, University of Connecticut; Anne Oeldorf-Hirsch, University of Connecticut; Bailey Quigley, University of Connecticut

"Social Media Influencers and Cascading Network Activation" Mackenzie Marquess, University of Kansas

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2301      11:00 AM to 12:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Lakeshore C

**Connecting Classroom to Careers: Skills, Thrills, and Real World Networking**

Panelists will discuss strategies and resources on their campus for connecting the classroom to careers. The audience will have the opportunity to ask questions and share their own strategies, resources, and experiences. Discussion questions include: What kinds of career-related activities are beneficial for students? How can faculty integrate career discernment into their courses? How can faculty balance competing needs, ensuring that career and content knowledge are intentionally present, without sacrificing course learning outcomes?

Sponsors: Communication Education Interest Group; Instructional Resources Interest Group

Chair: Kristen Chamberlain, Augsburg University

Presenters:

Robert Groven, Augsburg University

Jenna McNallie, Augsburg University

Jessica Robinson, Utah Valley University

Anna Kudak, St. Thomas University

Marceleen M Mosher, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Yuming Fang, Augsburg University

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2302      11:00 AM to 12:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Nicollet Ballroom

**CSCA Award Rehearsal**

Sponsor: CSCA Executive Director

Chair: Jeffrey T Child, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Presenters:

Kristina Scharp, Rutgers University

Stevie Munz, Utah Valley University

Kathy Denker, Ball State University

Tiffany R. Wang, University of Montevallo

Sandra L Faulkner, Bowling Green State University

Meggie Mapes, University of Kansas

Patric Spence, University of Central Florida

Gayle M Pohl, University of Northern Iowa

Elizabeth Ann Hintz, University of Connecticut

Leah Elizabeth Bryant, DePaul University

Elizabeth M Lozano, Loyola University Chicago  
Kaitlin Elizabeth Phillips, Baylor University  
Kyle Vareberg, Northeastern State University  
Amy Aldridge, Middle Tennessee State University  
Scott A. Myers, West Virginia University  
Nichole Egbert, Kent State University  
Sarah E. Riforgiate, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

2303 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway D

**Freedom at stake: Living Under the “900-page blueprint for a second Trump presidency”**

This paper panel provides discourse on how teaching foundational concepts (e.g., myth of neutrality in curriculum, academic freedom, etc.) becomes transgressive when objectivity itself is criminalized and how the burden of navigating these restrictions falls disproportionately on marginalized educators. These policies are targeted cyclical efforts to maintain educational institutions as sites of domination rather than liberation, demonstrating how Project 2025 coordinates what previous backlashes could not: legislative force behind a push for ideological control.

Sponsor: Women's Caucus

Chair: Anna Jean DeGalan, University of South Carolina

Respondent: Anna Jean DeGalan, University of South Carolina

"Compelled Complicity: Educators and the Biopolitics of Title IX" Kelsey Stanfield, Bowling Green State University

"Mary in America: Republican Public Figures and Public Identity Evoking Archetypes of Motherhood" Caroline King, Bowling Green State University

"Navigating Policy Uncertainty: How College Students Learn About Proposed Higher Education Reforms" Kelsey Lynn Zook, Bowling Green State University

"Self-reflexivity and Negotiation: Addressing the Assault on Academic Freedom" Anna Jean DeGalan, University of South Carolina; Marianne Vanderbeke, Bowling Green State University

"Understanding Minoritized Students' Experiences in Online Public Speaking Courses at a Community College" Larry Willis II, Bowling Green State University

2304 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Minnehaha

**Intercultural Communication Interest Group: Top Papers**

Intercultural Communication Interest Group - Top Papers

Sponsor: Intercultural Communication Interest Group

Chair: Jennifer Willis-Rivera, University of Wisconsin - River Falls

Respondent: Alberto Gonzalez, Bowling Green State University

""Cross-cultural learning is a two-way street"": The facilitative and hindering role of parent-child communication during study abroad reentry (Top Paper)" Alice Fanari, University of Oklahoma; Margaret Pitts, University of Arizona

"Africanism and the Hybrid Tongue: Language and Identity Practices of African Students in the US. (Top Inclusive Scholarship Paper)" Ruth Yeboah, Bowling Green State University

"Navigating Classroom Cultures: A Collaborative Autoethnographic Analysis of Educational Experiences in Ghana, Bangladesh, and the United States" Md. Sumon Ali, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Blessing Awuyeh, Ball State University; Kwame Nkrumah, Ball State University

"Translating Empowerment through Communication: Konadu Agyemang Rawlings and the 31st December Women's Movement in Ghana" Felicity Sena Dogbatsey, University of Maryland; Matthew Edor, University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign

"Translating Identity and Knowledge: Acculturation, Cultural Identity, and Coping Strategies Among African International Students in U.S. Higher Education." Mark Ofosu Asirifi, The University of Georgia

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2305      11:00 AM to 12:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      St. Croix

**Neurodivergence in the Higher Education Classroom**

In this panel, we'll talk about what that looks like in practice and in our classrooms. How do neurodivergent learners navigate rigid academic norms? How do instructors transmit and translate course content in ways that actually reach everyone in the room? Drawing on theory, stories, and strategies, our panelists will share ways to make higher education more accessible and inclusive rather than seeing neurodivergence as a barrier.

Sponsor: Community College Interest Group

Chair: Myron Covington, Washtenaw Community College

Presenters:

Jeremy Basso, City Colleges of Chicago (Richard J. Daley College)

Kendall Johnstone, Washtenaw Community College

Becky Roberts, Jackson College

David L Bodary, Sinclair Community College

Kate LaPierre, Univ of Nevada/Reno Ivy Tech Community College

Shweta Arpit Srivastava, Monmouth College

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2306      11:00 AM to 12:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Greenway E

**Nostalgia, Politics, and Race: Translating Discursive Power in TV, Tabletop Gaming, Music, Sitcoms, and Horror**

Presenters in this panel analyze the political capacity of music and nostalgia, as well as tabletop gaming narratives, and television. Authors explore and negotiate the potential transgressive nature of popular texts, and discuss the recursive utilizations of history and nostalgia.

Sponsor: Popular Culture Interest Group

Chair: Tyler Donavon Curran, Missouri State University

Respondent: Christopher (Kit) Medjesky, University of Findlay

"The Bad Guy is Capitalism": Tabletop Roleplaying Actual Play and Discourses of Resistance" Sean Bloemetjie, University of Arkansas

"Faith, Freedom, and Fists in the Air: Popular Music as Discursive Power at the 2024 Republican National Convention" Austin Ulmer, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

"Maintaining and Challenging Colorblind Ideology through Memories of King in Sitcoms" Jessica L. Gehrke, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

"Voodoo and Vengeance: Marie Laveau's Popular Adaptation in American Horror Story: Coven" Kathleen Turner Ledgerwood, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
"A 90's Country Fan Like I Am": Rhetorics of Nostalgia in Contemporary Country Music" Cory Geraths, Eureka College

2307 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway B

**Preserving Culture Through Digital Media: Narrative Podcasting Translate to Historical Voices For Modern Audiences**

This original media panel will discuss the use of narrative podcasting to preserve cultures and their artifacts at risk of culture loss. Two original podcasts explore case studies in recording cultural history in a way that is appealing and accessible to a variety of modern audiences.

Sponsor: Media Studies Interest Group

Chair: Shawna Blake, Tulsa Community College

Presenters:

Tip Crowley, Rogers State University

Skylar Scott, Rogers State University

2308 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Skyway A

**Putting Communication to Work: Translating Theory, Methods, and Skills for Industry**

This short course focuses on how to translate communication theory, methods, and skills from academic settings to industry practice. The short course will talk about what translation looks like in industry and non-higher education work spaces, including: • how to transform research questions and project framing, • how to use theory as an applied vocabulary, • how to leverage research methods to address problems, and • how to use communication skills to improve communication competence. This short course is perfect for graduate students, professors, and professionals looking to amplify their transferable skills and show the power of communication to industry partners.

Sponsor: Short Courses

Chair: Heather J Carmack, Mayo Clinic

2309 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway J

**Research in Progress in Organizational and Professional Communication**

In this session, seasoned researchers will share valuable insights and practical strategies to help fellow academics advance their projects. Panelists will learn from other researchers, discuss challenges, and gain practical advice to propel their research forward.

Sponsor: Organizational and Professional Communication Interest Group

Chair: Abigail N Kingsford, Drury University

Respondents: Erika Kirby, Creighton University; Jessica Rick, Illinois State University; Anne Kerber, Minnesota State University, Mankato

"After-Hours Communication Technology Use Among Hybrid Workers with Care Responsibilities: The Moderating Role of Organizational Communication Norms and Perceived Organizational Support - "Research in Progress" Extended Abstract" Funmilayo Adebimpe Odufuwa, North Dakota State University; Salome N Mbah, North Dakota State University

"Exploring Professional Identity: Is LinkedIn a Space for Rational Discourse or an Echo Chamber?" Bolatito Ifeoluwa Abolade, Iowa State University

"From Theory to Practice: Supportive Communication, Effective Leadership, and Its Benefits to the Organizational World" Daniela Carvalho Baldissera Corrent, Western Illinois University

"Research in Progress: Assessing the Efficacy of LinkedIn Learning Modules for University Civil Service Employees and Graduate Assistants" Rebecca Lee, Southern Illinois University; Craig L. Engstrom, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

"Translating Boundaries: Lived Experiences of Remote and Hybrid Professionals in a Digitally Connected World" Bukola Oloba, North Dakota State University

"Translating Expert Knowledge for Public Understanding: An Analysis of Korea's Ministry of the Interior and Safety Emergency Alert Messages" Jieun None Woo, Korea Advanced Institute of Science Technology

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2310      11:00 AM to 12:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Greenway F

**Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Caucus: Top Papers**

This panel features the top rated papers submitted to the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Caucus for the 2026 convention.

Sponsor: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Caucus

Chair: Danielle M Stern, Christopher Newport University

"Curating a Dallas Queer History: Belonging, the "Outrageous Oral" Digital Archive, and the (Imagined) Queer Dallasite" Cameron Avery Burnap, Colorado State University

"For All My Dead Friends / How (Un)Becoming of Us (Top Paper)" Damon Mitchell Gage Darling, University of Utah

"Memorable Messages About Christianity in Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Coming Out Narratives" Jimmie Manning, University of Nevada, Reno

"Towards a Rhetoric of Impurities: A Critical Qualitative Approach to Understanding the Excavating and Encountering of ExVangelical Sexuality" Karly Poyner-Smith, Columbia College

"The Rainbow Culture War: The Contestation of the Rainbow Flag and Public/Private Space" Cameron Avery Burnap, Colorado State University

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2311      11:00 AM to 12:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Skyway B

**Speaking Your Mind: Navigating the Political Landscape in Class**

This session explores the lessons learned from educators teaching neurodiverse specific courses. We will discuss ways neurodiverse students think, act, and learn-and how those insights have reshaped our teaching, grading, and classroom design. Presenters will highlight practical strategies that build structure without rigidity, foster confidence through flexibility, and make learning more accessible for every student. Attendees will leave with concrete, classroom-tested approaches they can implement immediately to better support all learners.

Sponsor: States Advisory Council

Chair: Sarah Benevento, University of Illinois

Presenters:

Sarah Benevento, University of Illinois

Jody Littleton, Parkland Community College

Julie Weishar, Parkland College

2312 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Lakeshore B

**Translating Health Encounters: Relational, Cultural, and Narrative Dimensions of Care**

Health communication occurs through layers of translation - between professional roles, cultural meanings, and individual experiences of care. This panel highlights how relational and identity differences shape those translations, from physician–nurse coordination and patient-physician storytelling to African immigrant women's prenatal-care experiences and racial differences in COVID-19 beliefs. Together, these studies illuminate how communication scholars can better understand and bridge the discursive, cultural, and ethical divides that define modern healthcare.

Sponsor: Health Communication Interest Group

Chair: Abigail Adediran, University of Missouri

"African immigrant women's lived experiences of prenatal care and childbirth in the U.S.: A qualitative study of treatment, access, and expectations" Chuton Deb Nath, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Erin Sahlstein Parcell, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Comfort Tosin Adebayo, Tawson University

"Insights into COVID-19 Health Beliefs: A Study of College Students' Preventative Behaviors Across Racial Identities" Ifeoluwatobi Abiodun Odunsi, University of Tampa; Kristen Farris, Texas State University

"Narrative Communication in Patient-Physician Relationships: Analyzing Patient Responses based on Relational Dynamics" Beatrice Amissah, Illinois State University; Alfred Kwabena Obiri, Illinois State University

"White Coats and Scrubs: Communication Accommodation Between Physicians and Nurses" Tristan Stauffacher, Independent Scholar; Jenn Anderson, South Dakota State University

12:30 PM

2400 12:30 PM to 2:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Nicollet Ballroom

**CSCA Hall of Fame Awards Luncheon and Business Meeting**

Celebrate outstanding member achievements and learn about the current state of the association.

Sponsor: CSCA Executive Director

Chair: Jeffrey T Child, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

3:00 PM

2500 3:00 PM to 4:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway H

**2025 Federation Prize Recipient Presentation: Empowering Individuals through AI Literacy: Combating AI-Generated Deepfakes with a Chatbot-Based Intervention**

In this Federation Prize project, Rasul et al. aimed to provide a methodological framework to address the challenges of our increasingly AI-generated online environment, empowering individuals with the tools and skills to discern AI misinformation and detect digital threats. This presentation will preview the early outcomes of Rasul et al.'s Federation Prize project and highlight the significance for communication researchers.

Sponsor: Federation Prize Presentation

Chair: Kaitlin Elizabeth Phillips, Baylor University

Presenters:

Muhammad Rasul, University of California, Davis

Hee Jung Cho, Michigan State University

Moonsun Jeon, Michigan State University

Christopher (CJ) Calabrese, Clemson University

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2501            3:00 PM to 4:15 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway C

**Basic Course Interest Group Business Meeting**

Sponsor: Basic Course Interest Group

Chair: Kathryn B. Golsan, University of Northern Iowa

Presenters:

Evan Kirksey, University of Missouri

Jennifer Hough, University of South Dakota

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2502            3:00 PM to 4:15 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway I

**Change in Translation: Advocacy and Entertainment Media**

Through examinations of film, song, billboards, and multimedia political commentary, this panel explores the relationships between entertainment media, advocacy, and changing contexts.

Sponsor: Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Interest Group

Chair: Samantha Schubert, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Respondent: A.G. Hughes, Emporia State University

"A Matter of Timing: Rudy and the Resonance of the Individual American Dream" Ned Gidley, University of Kansas

"What Does Freedom Actually Look Like?: A Rhetorical Analysis of the Message of Freedom in Nina Simone's Songs" Omolola Lasisi, University of Kansas

"I get the job done!": Queer Rhetorics of Orientation, Critical Ambivalence, and Billboard Camp in Chappell Roan's "The Giver" Promotional Campaign" Kyra Bowar, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

"Who do I think I am and where do I get off becoming a radio commentator?": Exploring the Rhetoric of Orson Welles as a Multimedia Political Commentator" Thomas A. Salek, Elmhurst University; Andrew William Cole, Lakeland University

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2503            3:00 PM to 4:15 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Skyway A

**CSCA Equity & Inclusion Committee Meeting**

This is a closed meeting for members of the CSCA Equity & Inclusion Committee listed here.

Sponsor: CSCA Equity & Inclusion Committee, CSCA Executive Director

Chair: Elizabeth M Lozano, Loyola University Chicago

Presenters:

Stephanie Rollie Rodriguez, Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi

Blessing Ekene Okafor, University of Missouri

Danielle M Stern, Christopher Newport University

Mary Kiura, Purdue University Fort Wayne  
Kendal Catherine Lyssy, University of Missouri

2504 3:00 PM to 4:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway E

**Feminist and Queer Subtexts in Popular Culture: Translating Mixed Messages**

Authors on this panel investigate how femininity and queerness are constructed in popular texts, as well as how they are navigated and understood by audiences. Overall, this panel seeks to further the discussion on how cultural movements surrounding sex and gender become manifest in popular media.

Sponsor: Popular Culture Interest Group

Chair: Katherine Johnson Tartaglia, Purdue University

Respondent: Holly Holladay, Missouri State University

"Can You Guess What Every Girl's Nightmare Is?": Killing Women in Emerald Fennell's Promising Young Woman" Katherine Johnson Tartaglia, Purdue University

"This is the Second Wave All Over Again!": Postmodernism, Feminism, and Queer Theory in Bottoms (2023)" Mackenzie Reimers, Illinois State University; Ellanore Foltz, Illinois State University

"Damned if She Does(n't): Taylor Swift and the Postfeminist Double Bind" Holly Holladay, Missouri State University

"Free Range Parenting and Waiting for the Stink: Kristin Bell's Imperfect Motherhood on Armchair Expert" Sarah Neff, University of Louisville; Calvin Coker, University of Louisville

"Well Done, Sister Suffragette? Female Agency, Class, and Mrs. Banks" Morgan Keller, Ball State University

2505 3:00 PM to 4:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway A

**GIFT Session**

G.I.F.T. Sessions feature teaching ideas for the communication classroom.

Sponsor: G.I.F.T. Interest Group

Chair: Angela Glunz, The University of Tennessee at Martin

"Beyond the Bibliography: Learning Annotation Skills with Ted Talks" Shannon Pappas, University of Connecticut; Karen Shalev, University of Connecticut

"Calling 'BS!' Using a Card Game to Teach Interpersonal Deception Theory" Katelyn Beth Case, Ball State University

"Guess Who?" Kendall Johnstone, Washtenaw Community College

"Leadership Communication: Using Standpoint Theory to Problem Solve Communication Issues in the Workplace" Ethan Massey, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville; Scott Sellnow-Richmond, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

"Playing Games in Class!" Lauren J. Johnsen, University of Wisconsin-Stout

"Ready, Set, Reflect!" Melinda Bellatti, Tulsa Community College

"Rhythm, Stylin' and Signifyin': Understanding African American Rhetorical Techniques" Deborah Wertanen, Minneapolis College

"Partner Therapy": Applying the Theory of Resilience and Relational Load (TRRL) To Strengthen Interpersonal Collaboration" Natalie Rogers, Bowling Green State University

2506	3:00 PM to 4:15 PM	Hyatt Regency Minneapolis	Greenway G
<b>Graduate Student Caucus Business Meeting</b>			
Sponsor: Graduate Student Caucus			
Chair: Abigail Adediran, University of Missouri			
Presenters:			
Md Sazzad Mahmud Shuvo, Florida State University			
Aklima Begum, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee			
2507	3:00 PM to 4:15 PM	Hyatt Regency Minneapolis	Greenway F
<b>Multiple Identities in a Multitude of Ways: A collection of autoethnographies</b>			
This panel intentionally seeks to connect a wide range of autoethnographies to investigate the universals within the crafting performances, papers, and experiences.			
Sponsor: Performance Studies and Autoethnography Interest Group			
Chair: Andrew Herrmann, Independent Scholar			
Respondent: Jordan Bennett, East Tennessee State University			
"A Body in Fukushima's Vegetal Intimacies, or Becoming Toxic as Praxis" Em Hathaway, University of Minnesota			
"Closer to Friends than Lovers: An Autoethnography of a Polyamorous Divorce" Jay Girardot, Purdue University Fort Wayne			
"Converging Narratives: Exploring the African Diaspora Experience through International Program Management" Ashley Watson, SUNY Geneseo; Washington Galvao, University of Minnesota; Monyque Assis Suzano, University of Minnesota; Sunga Kufeyani, University of Minnesota			
"Haunted: Lucidly translating my lived experience of insanity" Elliot Powell, University of South Florida			
"How I Met My Ancestors in New Orleans: An Autoethnographic Performance." Caleb R McKinley-Portee, Southern Illinois University Carbondale			
2508	3:00 PM to 4:15 PM	Hyatt Regency Minneapolis	St. Croix
<b>Public Service Action – Translating our knowledge for broader audiences</b>			
With the rise of anti-intellectualism reaching a fever pitch within seats of power at the national, state, and university level, there is a professional and ethical obligation for those that have studied communication to bring our knowledge to the various publics that exist outside the classroom and research space. Sharing our expert knowledge in all areas of communication can empower the public – the trick is "how" and at what risk/cost? This panel offers the experiences and expertise from members that have made that move: Podcasts, TikTok Channels, Community Outreach and Programming, online magazines and news sources, and other experiences will be discussed along with strategies to develop your own outlet.			
Sponsor: Activism, Communication Ethics, and Social Justice Interest Group			
Chair: Adam W. Tyma, University of Nebraska Omaha			
Presenters:			
Beth Ribarsky, University of Illinois Springfield			
Gabriel Arnoldo Cruz, North Carolina Central University			
Meggie Mapes, University of Kansas			

Molly Wiant Cummins, University of Texas Arlington  
Andrea Jenkins, University of Texas Arlington  
Art Herbig, Purdue University, Fort Wayne  
Alix Watson,

2509 3:00 PM to 4:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway D

**Scholarship on Advocacy, Visibility, and Identity**

This paper session features research on advocacy, visibility, and identity perspectives.

Sponsor: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Caucus

Chair: Stephanie Young, University of Southern Indiana

Respondent: Jimmie Manning, University of Nevada, Reno

"Bisexual Liminal Identity Experiences and Well-Being: Exploring the Roles of Micro-Aggressions and -Affirmations" Katie Kassler, Weber State University

"“We’re Being Seen”: Jaylene Tyme and the Complexities of Intersectional Visibility on Canada’s Drag Race" Franklin Kimmell, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

"LGBTQ+ Folks, Mental Health, and Communication: Pathways for Translation" Robert Sidelinger, Oakland University

"The Lesbian Avengers and the Call for a Visible Lesbian Identity" Shelby Limbach, University of Minnesota

"Co-Designing Critical AI Literacy: Empowering LGBTQ+ Youth in Utah to Identify AI-Generated Contraceptive Misinformation" Sydney O'Shay, Utah State University

2510 3:00 PM to 4:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway B

**Strategic Public Relations at the Crossroad**

This session examines the dynamic intersection of public relations and strategic communication as they relate to both internal and external organizational relationships.

Sponsor: Strategic and Applied Communication Interest Group

Chair: Xiaodong Kuang, Edgewood University

Respondent: Deborah Sellnow-Richmond, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

"Assessing the Readiness of Public Relations and Communication Students to Navigate AI-Driven Real-Time Crisis Communication" Ransford Asante, Missouri State University

"Bridging the Gap: A Design for Translating Internal Communication Practices to Enhance Employee Communication in Higher Education" Getrude Kafui Senu, Illinois State University

"Minding the gap: Regulatory imperatives, government public information, and the U.S. aging population" Alicia Mason, Pittsburg State University; Sakshi Bhati, Southern Illinois University; Isaac Lewis, Pittsburg State University

"Navigating Leadership Transitions: The Role of Internal Public Relations in Microsoft’s 2014 CEO Change." Nana Yaa Asare, University of Kentucky

"Why Viewers Turn Away from Sponsored Influencers: An Expectation Disconfirmation Perspective" Xiyue Wang, University of Kansas

2511 3:00 PM to 4:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Lakeshore A

**Translating Parenting: A Trifocal Look at How Primary Caregiver Communication Shapes Children's Mental Health**

This panel offers a trifocal translation of parenting through the lenses of Family Communication Patterns Theory (Koerner & Fitzpatrick, 2002), Family Systems Theory (Bowen, 1978), and Attachment Theory (Bowlby, 1969). Collectively, these frameworks illustrate how caregiver communication shapes children's emotional worlds and long-term mental health. We examine how everyday talk, tone, and disciplinary practices reflect deeper relational systems and attachment dynamics. We project parenting as a communicative process and show how family talk translates into children's emotional patterns, which aligns with the convention theme "Translate!" This offers fresh insights for scholars, educators, and practitioners committed to strengthening family well-being.

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Family Communication Interest Group

Chair: Wendy Adjei, University of Missouri

Presenters:

Esther Apreku, University of Missouri

Vera Bonku Turkson, Illinois State University

Lois Domena - Attafuah, North Dakota State University

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2512                      3:00 PM to 4:15 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Offsite

**Translating Women's Sports Fandom into Inclusive Spaces: The Organizational and Professional Interest Group and Sports Communication Interest Group Tour of A Bar of Their Own - PART ONE**

The Organizational and Professional Communication Interest Group's annual tour is a long-standing tradition. It allows members to get to know each other better while learning about a local business' communication practices. It has been a success each year and made our interest group stronger. Additionally, we have welcomed co-sponsorship and invited other interest groups to participate in recent years. This year, the Sports Communication Interest Group has agreed to co-sponsor.

Sponsors: Organizational and Professional Communication Interest Group; Sports Communication Interest Group

Chair: Anne Kerber, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Presenters:

Jessica Rick, Illinois State University

Sarah E. Riforgiate, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Abigail N Kingsford, Drury University

Emily Sauter, University of Nebraska Omaha

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2513                      3:00 PM to 4:15 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Skyway B

**Undergraduate Education and Administration Section Business Meeting**

Sponsor: Undergraduate Education and Administration Section

Chair: Xinyue Liu, North Dakota State University

Presenters:

Aimee Lau, Wisconsin Lutheran College

Joshua Young, Divine Word College

4:30 PM

2600 4:30 PM to 5:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Lakeshore A

**A Roast of Dr. Mike Allen: Honoring the Legacy and Legend of an Academic Juggernaut**

This panel will roast Dr. Mike Allen, humorously celebrating his career as a scholar and teacher. Colleagues, administrators, and former students will share affectionate and witty reflections on how he shaped their professional paths. In this lighthearted, celebrity-style roast, panelists will praise and playfully mock Dr. Allen before he responds in kind. The session will conclude with audience members sharing personal stories of Dr. Allen's influence on their academic and professional journeys.

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Family Communication Interest Group

Chair: Luke LeFebvre, University of Kentucky

Presenters:

Mike Allen, UW - Milwaukee

Patrice Marie Buzzanell, University of South Florida

Emily Cramer, Marquette University

Shana Kopaczewski, Indiana State University

Leah Elina LeFebvre, University of Alabama

Amy May, University of Alaska Fairbanks

Erin Sahlstein Parcell, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Michael Tollefson, University of Wisconsin - La Crosse

2601 4:30 PM to 5:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Lakeshore C

**Communication Education as Translation: Identifying Disciplinary Content That Makes a Difference**

Over the past two decades, communication education researchers have focused their efforts on identifying the importance, significance, and relevance of communication research, and how this body of research underscores the importance of communication education (Morreale et al., 2023; Morreale & Pearson, 2008). The purpose of this panel is to explore how communication-based research-when integrated into teaching and service duties-can make a meaningful difference when extended across the breadth and depth of communication courses, training, or instruction. Embracing the theme of this year's convention, each panelist will offer insight into how they purposefully and uniquely translate communication research content into their teaching and service duties in order to make a communication difference in the lives of their students, their institutions, and the communities in which they live.

Sponsor: Communication Education Interest Group

Chair: Aimee Lau, Wisconsin Lutheran College

"From Classroom to Public Sphere: Blogging as a Mode of Translation" Shannon C VanHorn, Valley City State University

"From First-Years to New Chairs: Using Communication Research and Practice to Lead and Mentor" Linda Dickmeyer, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

"Putting the Translating in Learning: Teaching the Advanced Organizational Communication Course as an Applied Workplace Communication Skills Course" Scott A. Myers, West Virginia University

"The Communication Classroom Called Church" Roberta Davilla Robbins, United Methodist Church

"Translating Communication Knowledge into Community Change: A Communication Capstone Model" Donna R. Pawlowski, Bemidji State University

2602 4:30 PM to 5:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway D

**Disrupting Narratives: Inquiries into Grief, Gendered Violence, and Queer Worldmaking**

The papers presented in this session disrupt dominant narratives and investigate experiences of grief, gendered violence and harassment, and queer worldmaking through a variety of methods including focus groups, surveys, personal narrative, and autoethnography.

Sponsor: Women's Caucus

Chair: Marceleen M Mosher, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

"I didn't want to untie the scar: Gendered Violence Survivors' Willingness to Self-Express and Self-Censor in the Context of #MeToo (Top Student Paper)" Shannon Pappas, University of Connecticut; Lili Romann, University of Connecticut

"Beyond 'Good' Grief: Collaging the Experience of Pregnancy Loss" Molly Wiant Cummins, University of Texas Arlington; Hsun-Yu Sharon Chuang, Central Ohio Technical College

"How Gendered Ego Boundaries Translate Experiences of Image-Based Sexual Abuse (IBSA): Shame, Support-Seeking, and the Nuance of Digital Consent" Seokhoon Ahn, Central Washington University; Yoonmo Sang, Yonsei University; Jee Young Lee, University of Canberra

"Intergenerational Queer Love and Asian Feminism in Everything Everywhere All At Once (Top Paper)" Kim Hong Nguyen, University of Waterloo; Danielle M Stern, Christopher Newport University

2603 4:30 PM to 5:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway H

**Emerging Tech Tools Showcase: STUDENT Teaching Smarter, Researching Faster**

This session will demonstrate four AI-powered tools that we have found valuable for teaching, research, and experimental design. NotebookLM (<https://notebooklm.google>) enables instructors and students to upload syllabi or readings, generating summaries, study prompts, and comprehension questions. This tool has been a valuable resource in our classrooms, fostering inclusive learning and preparation time. Additionally, ResearchRabbit (<https://www.researchrabbit.ai>) is a platform that visualizes scholarly networks and helps trace citation patterns across fields. For experimental studies, Peerbots (<https://app.peerbots.org>) provides a simple way to run Wizard-of-Oz style simulations by creating conversational agents without coding. Finally, Elicit (<https://elicit.com>) offers an efficient way to support literature and systematic reviews by extracting evidence and study details from research articles. Each tool will be demonstrated live, and the discussion will center on how these resources can be adapted for communication scholarship.

Sponsor: Communication & Technology Interest Group

Chair: Habeeb Abdulrauf, Western Michigan University

Presenters:

Shalewa Babatayo, University of Central Florida

Abdulmalik Adetola Adetola Lawal, University of Nevada - Reno

2604 4:30 PM to 5:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Lakeshore B

**From Data to Dialogue: Translating Research into Women's Health Policy and Practice**

Translating communication research into equitable health outcomes requires bridging data, dialogue, and lived experience. This panel brings together studies testing online qualitative recruitment strategies,

analyzing family and social media influences on gynecological care, translating cervical cancer facilitators into policy, and examining cultural factors shaping international students' health-seeking decisions. Panelists highlight how communication research transforms evidence into action to advance women's health access and advocacy across contexts.

Sponsor: Health Communication Interest Group

Chair: Beatrice Amissah, Illinois State University

"Normative Influence in Context: Discussion Network Heterogeneity's Impact on Family vs. Social Media Pathways to Gynecological Care" Xinyu Zhang, Michigan State University; Nichole Egbert, Kent State University

"Testing Multiple Online Qualitative Survey Data Recruitment Approaches for Sample Composition and Data Quality" Tara G McManus, University of Nevada, Las Vegas; Brooke Wolfe, Michigan State University; Natalie Pennington, Colorado State University; Elizabeth Ann Hintz, University of Connecticut

"The Role of Communication in Women's Health Issues: Translating Factors Influencing Female International Students' Health-Seeking Behavior and Decisions for Effective Health Outcomes" Getrude Kafui Senu, Illinois State University

"Transforming Cervical Cancer Screening Facilitators into Policy: Lessons from African and African American Communities" Olamide Ogundare, University of Oklahoma; Grace Adeyemo, Illinois State University

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2605 4:30 PM to 5:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway G

**Graduate Student Caucus: Top Papers**

This panel includes the highest-ranked competitive papers submitted to the Graduate Student Caucus. It recognizes the Paul D. Skalski Award for Top Paper & Top Debut Paper.

Sponsor: Graduate Student Caucus

Chair: Aklima Begum, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Respondent: Abigail Adediran, University of Missouri

""This isn't the Midnight Realm...It's the suburbs": exploring suburban queer geographies in I Saw the TV Glow (Top Debut Paper)" Nicholas Morrissey, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee

"Behind the Spotlight: Translating Ghanaian Celebrities' Mental Illness Disclosure Patterns into Public Understanding" Lyzbeth Safoah King, Ohio University

"Closing Gaps and Opening Doors: Exploring Neuroqueer Identity Processes through the Communication Theory of Identity (Paul D. Skalski Award for Top Paper, Top Inclusive Scholarship Paper)" Evan Kirksey, University of Missouri; Sofia Deatherage, University of Missouri, Columbia; Breck Holtz, Illinois State University

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2606 4:30 PM to 5:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway J

**Media, Technology, AI, and Digital Cultures**

Sponsor: Communication Theory Interest Group

Chair: Austin Beattie, Hope College

Respondent: America Edwards, University of Kentucky

"Combining Consumer Decision Making with Message Evaluation in the Information Processing Theory" Mohnish Kananathan, University of Connecticut; Kenneth Lachlan, University of Connecticut; Mark Hamilton, University of Connecticut - Department of Communication

"Explicating AI Literacy: A Communication Theory Lens" Mahmuda Rahman, North Dakota State University

"The Strength of Distant Eyes: Mediated Extraversion and African Digital Activism" Emmanuel Mylo Dadzie, North Dakota State University; Vivian Adjeikaa Doe, Shanghai Jiaotong University

"Translating Historical Materialism to Communication Theory: Social Media, Cybernetic Fascism, and the Superstructure of Capitalism" Adeeb Kasem, Minnesota State University, Mankato

"When Protection Becomes Persuasion: Replication, Theory Testing, and Methodological Refinement" Patric Spence, University of Central Florida; Kenneth Lachlan, University of Connecticut; Sungbin Youk, Ewha Womans University; Bumju Jung, University of Southern California

2607

4:30 PM to 5:45 PM

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Greenway E

### **Pop Culture Trivia Challenge!**

Gather your teams and get ready - you are invited to join us for the Third Annual Pop Culture Trivia Challenge! There is no cost to attend. Field Trip Details: This year's Pop Culture Trivia Challenge! will be held at Brit's Pub (110 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55403), approx. 5 minute walk from the hotel. Our group will meet in the lobby of the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis fifteen minutes prior to walk over together.

Sponsor: Popular Culture Interest Group

Chair: Tyler Donavon Curran, Missouri State University

Presenters:

Adam W. Tyma, University of Nebraska Omaha

John R. Baldwin, Illinois State University

2608

4:30 PM to 5:45 PM

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Greenway B

### **Through the Mediated Glass: A Sociocultural Inquiry into Digital Activism, Politics, and Democracy**

Contemporary mediated technologies have afforded people access to resources that have shaped the peculiar ways in which information is disseminated across digital spaces for political and collective discourse. From mobilizing geopolitical TikTok memes among Bangladeshi citizens, to AI-generated posts for political campaigns during the 2024 election, to hashtags such as #UmbrellaMovement for connective action, social media platforms have given individual users and communities agency to collectively construct, negotiate, and make sense of global events. This panel aims to reinterrogate the current state, literature, and sociocultural implications of digital activism, politics, and democracy. Panelists will translate a wide range of research encompassing political campaigns, hashtag movements, and the music industry to demonstrate how mediated technologies are used to initiate political and collective engagement, while offering strategies for future scholarship and resources for online civic participation.

Sponsor: Media Studies Interest Group

Chair: Rocky Roque, University of Illinois Chicago

Presenters:

Priyanka Kundu, University of Illinois Chicago  
Muhammed Rashedul Hasan, The University of Illinois at Chicago  
Divine Narkotey Aboagye, Villanova University  
Nick Stulga, Illinois State University  
Lauren Bratslavsky, Illinois State University

2609 4:30 PM to 5:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis St. Croix

**Translate our Voices: Journey of Errors in Transnational Scope**

This panel continues a multi-year collaboration among transnational scholars and their IDEA partners at CSCA. In line with this year's theme, "Translate," it invites both transnational and non-transnational scholars into a shared space to explore the question: "How do we translate our thoughts and academic knowledge into action to challenge hegemonic norms and U.S.-centric academic spaces?" Panelists will read *Journey of Errors: Finding Home in Academia* by Ahmet Atay (2018) and reflect on their own experiences. This shared text anchors a conversation about the emotional, intellectual, and institutional challenges of transnational scholarship, highlighting both barriers to and strategies for inclusion and connections. Dr. Ahmet Atay will serve as the respondent for this session.

Sponsor: Ethnicity, Race, International, and Class Concerns Caucus

Chairs: Sasha Allgayer, Southern Illinois University; Ahmet Atay, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Presenters:

Hsin-I Sydney Yueh, University of Missouri  
Diana Trebing, Saginaw Valley State University  
Eddah Mutua, St. Cloud State University  
Anjana Mudambi, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
Emi Kanemoto, Bryant University  
Radhika Gajjala, Bowling Green State University  
Amy Aldridge, Middle Tennessee State University

2610 4:30 PM to 5:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway C

**Translating Authenticity: Reimagining Graduate Admissions in the Age of AI (Melissa Beall Award for Top Panel)**

As generative AI reshapes how applicants compose graduate materials, communication educators and foundational course directors face new questions about translating authenticity, integrity, and merit through technology. This roundtable examines how AI-assisted writing challenges traditional admissions and assistantship evaluations. Panelists will explore how programs can translate core values of fairness, transparency, and academic integrity into equitable, ethical, and human-centered evaluative practices, reimagining statements of purpose and other application materials for an AI-mediated world.

Sponsor: Basic Course Interest Group

Chair: Caroline Waldbuesser, University of Missouri

Presenters:

Kristina M. Lee, University of South Dakota  
Jennifer Hough, University of South Dakota  
Justin Rudnick, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Kathy Denker, Ball State University  
April DuPree Taylor, University of South Alabama  
John Hooker, Illinois State University

2611 4:30 PM to 5:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Skyway B

**Translating Chaos to Calm: Leading with Purpose**

In an era marked by rapid change, uncertainty, and increasing budgetary constraints in higher education, academic leaders are challenged to translate chaos into clarity and calm. Panelists and attendees will engage in a dynamic discussion on cultivating resilience, fostering trust, and modeling steadiness for their teams—even when the path forward is unclear or even filled with despair.

Sponsor: Undergraduate Education and Administration Section

Chair: Becky L DeGreeff, University of Wisconsin - Stout

Presenters:

Beth Ribarsky, University of Illinois Springfield  
Allison R. Thorson, University of San Francisco  
Stacy Tye-Williams, Iowa State University  
Kimberly M Weismann, Bismarck State College  
Colleen Palmer, Carthage College  
W. Benjamin Myers, University of Toledo

2612 4:30 PM to 5:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway F

**Translating Historical Connections Through Performance**

Two performance experiences with intersections and pathways regarding connections with historical figures and identity representations. Each intentionally engages with contemporary perceptions of memorialization and transgression.

Sponsor: Performance Studies and Autoethnography Interest Group

Chair: Vianna Isbister, East Tennessee State University

Respondent: Travis James Wolven, East Tennessee State University

"Saints, Witches, and Madwomen" Christina Ivey, Southern Illinois University - Carbondale

"For Sweet Molly Malone: An Autoethnographic Poetry Performance" Jessica Nicole Paxton,  
Southern Illinois University

2613 4:30 PM to 5:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway I

**Translating the Past: Tensions in Memory and Identity**

Through speeches, statues, legislation, and traveling exhibits, this panel examines the rhetorical memory work that shapes public identity and civic engagement today and asks how we might engage with these discourses to shape the future.

Sponsor: Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Interest Group

Chair: Cassandra D. Hightower, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Respondent: Linsay M. Cramer, Coastal Carolina University

"(Re)collaging as a Commemorative Technique: Adopting, Obscuring, and Cropping Queer Memory and Futures in the Queer Justice Traveling Exhibit" Cameron Avery Burnap, Colorado State University

"“Unprecedented”: The Rhetoric of the 1898 Massacre and Coup and the January 6th Insurrection" Joshua A Youakim, UNC Chapel Hill

"Constituting the Confederacy: A constitutive rhetorical analysis of the Confederate identity" Madison Marshall, Southern Illinois University

"Embracing Another: Reckoning with White Guilt and Dismantling a Dominant Narrative" Morgan Keller, Ball State University

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2614                      4:30 PM to 5:45 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Offsite

**Translating Women’s Sports Fandom into Inclusive Spaces: The Organizational and Professional Interest Group and Sports Communication Interest Group Tour of A Bar of Their Own - PART TWO**

The Organizational and Professional Communication Interest Group's annual tour is a long-standing tradition. It allows members to get to know each other better while learning about a local business' communication practices. It has been a success each year and made our interest group stronger. Additionally, we have welcomed co-sponsorship and invited other interest groups to participate in recent years. This year, the Sports Communication Interest Group has agreed to co-sponsor.

Sponsors: Organizational and Professional Communication Interest Group; Sports Communication Interest Group

Chair: Anne Kerber, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Presenters:

Jessica Rick, Illinois State University

Sarah E. Riforgiate, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Abigail N Kingsford, Drury University

Emily Sauter, University of Nebraska Omaha

6:00 PM

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2700                      6:00 PM to 6:45 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Northstar Ballroom

**A Winding Road, A Worthy Journey (Carolyn Calloway-Thomas Inclusivity Speaker Series Keynote: Dr. Fernando Delgado)**

This presentation reflects on three decades of working within the field and communication and, more broadly, higher education institutions to create ever more space for diverse voices and diverse bodies. The path toward diversity and inclusion is fraught with challenges and frustrations but the goal remains as the field broadens its intellectual and cultural horizons. The lasting lessons include how to navigate institutional barriers and community obstacles established by those fearful of change and wary of losing institutional power and status. The response, therefore, must be concerted and the march forward must always be intentional even if incremental. Dr. Delgado's keynote address is sponsored by the Carolyn Calloway-Thomas Inclusivity Speaker Series Endowment Fund and the CSCA Ethnicity, Race, International, and Class Concerns Caucus.

Sponsors: CSCA First Vice President; Ethnicity, Race, International, and Class Concerns Caucus

Chair: Jennifer Willis-Rivera, University of Wisconsin - River Falls

Presenter:

Fernando Delgado,

7:00 PM

2800 7:00 PM to 8:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Offsite

**CSCA Annual Past Presidents Dinner**

This is a dinner honoring the service of CSCA Past Presidents. A previous RSVP for this event is required.

Sponsor: CSCA Executive Director

Chair: Kathy Denker, Ball State University

**Saturday  
April 18, 2026**

**7:30 AM**

3000 7:30 AM to 2:00 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Nicollet Registration

**CSCA Registration - Saturday**

Check in and pick up your convention materials.

Sponsor: CSCA Executive Director

Chair: Kathleen Cesa, KOC Member Services

**8:00 AM**

3100 8:00 AM to 9:15 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway J

**AI and the New Organizational Order: Rethinking Communication, Ethics, and Power in Kenya, Ghana, and the United States**

This panel explores how Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming communication, ethics, and organizational power across Kenya, Ghana, and the United States. Panelists examine how automation and algorithmic decision-making are redefining workplace communication, leadership, and trust in diverse cultural contexts. By comparing African and American experiences, the discussion reveals both the opportunities and inequalities embedded in global AI adoption. The session invites dialogue on ethical governance, digital labor, and the reconfiguration of communicative agency in the emerging AI-driven organizational order.

Sponsor: Organizational and Professional Communication Interest Group

Chair: Halima Lul Ali, Bowling Green State University

"AI and the New Organizational Order: Rethinking Communication, Ethics, and Power in Kenya, Ghana, and the United States" Michael Ofori, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities; Robert Maina, Indiana University; Adraina Kukuwaa Adu, University of Minnesota; Kelsey Lynn Zook, Bowling Green State University; Halima Lul Ali, Bowling Green State University

3101 8:00 AM to 9:15 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway C

**Do You Know What I Mean?: Translating Language & Culture**

These papers examine how political communication translates across linguistic, cultural, and digital contexts

Sponsor: Political Communication Interest Group

Chair: Sean Bloemetjie, University of Arkansas

Respondent: Joel Lansing Reed, University of Arkansas

"Beyond Surface Judgments: How Accent and Processing Fluency Shape Voters' Inferences About Political Candidates' Communicative Intentions" Eduardo Munoz Suarez, University of Kansas

"Incivility as political identity: Assessing the relationship between partisanship and uncivil political engagement during Nigeria's 2023 general elections" Solomon Sunday S Tommy, University of Oklahoma

"Language Proficiency and Political Perception: How Spanish-Language Appeals Shape White Monolingual Voters' Candidate Evaluations" Eduardo Munoz Suarez, University of Kansas

"Seeing Through the Lies: Semiotic and Rhetorical Analyses of Visual Disinformation in Nigeria's 2023 Presidential Election" Grace Adeyemo, Illinois State University

"'Immovable' Voters? News, Partisanship, and Evaluation of Government Performance among U.S. College Students'" Eduardo Munoz Suarez, University of Kansas; Lindsey Meeks, Texas Christian University

3102

8:00 AM to 9:15 AM

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Skyway B

### **Effective Communication Instruction for the Future**

This is a discussion and an interactive panel. We will start the discussion of learning goals; what needs to be taught? We are probably already utilizing new technologies or observing new norms in action, but what guidance does a student need to become a competent and/or strategic communicator? 1) Social relationships that define ethos are more inclusive and diverse. 2) Epistemological norms that define logos have shifted from literate Western Analytics toward feminine, cross-cultural, and post-literate "electracy." 3) Performative norms that define decorum in the public sphere now address technological competence, electronic mediation, and digital dissemination.

Sponsor: States Advisory Council

Chair: Dale Cyphert, University of Northern Iowa

Presenters:

Dale Cyphert, University of Northern Iowa

Eric Upmeyer, Vinton-Shellsburg High School

Danielle McGeough, University of Northern Iowa

Gayle M Pohl, University of Northern Iowa

Gabriela Olivares, University of Northern Iowa

3103

8:00 AM to 9:15 AM

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Lakeshore C

### **Experiential Learning with Generative AI in Strategic Communication**

As generative AI disrupts the marketing and communications industries, instructors are faced with the challenge of learning the technology while equipping students with the skills needed to be successful in their future careers. This panel aims to explore experiential learning-based assignments and projects that provide students with hands-on experience with generative AI tools.

Sponsors: Communication Education Interest Group; Strategic and Applied Communication Interest Group

Chair: Amber Mitchell, University of Wisconsin-River Falls

Presenters:

Jacob Nickell, University of Wisconsin-River Falls  
Geraldine Bengsch, The University of the West Indies, St Augustine Trinidad and Tobago  
Heather Walters, Missouri State University

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3104            8:00 AM to 9:15 AM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway H

**Extended Abstract Panel: Digital Message Design, Visual Expression, and Audience Engagement**

This panel features research on digital message design and audience experience. The studies address how interactive learning environments, visual and expressive cues, and content features shape user engagement and interpretation. Together, they illustrate how media form and presentation influence meaning-making in contemporary digital contexts.

Sponsor: Communication & Technology Interest Group

Chair: Xialing Lin, University of Central Florida

"A Content Analysis of Gen Z and Millennial Freelancers' Communication Practices on Reddit in the Gig Economy" Harriet Hyde, Texas Tech University

"EXTENDED ABSTRACT: Learning Through Play: How Technological Affordances and Psychological Experiences in Educational Games Enhance the Learning Process" Di Mu, Texas A&M International University; Jonathan Villarreal, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi; Xinyue Liu, North Dakota State University

"Tongue in Cheek or Baring Teeth: Metacommunication and Robophobic Slurs on TikTok" Collin St. John, Bowling Green State University; Caroline King, Bowling Green State University

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3105            8:00 AM to 9:15 AM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Minnehaha

**Facts or Fallacies: Translating the Trust in Creator Voices that Shape International Students' Enrollment in U.S. Higher Education**

This panel examines ethical practices as globalization and digital media shift international student recruitment from admissions offices to content creators (McNicholas et al., 2024; Amarasekara & Pinidiya, 2025). From our experiences as graduate researchers, GTAs, and creators, panelists explore how creator content shapes expectations about visas, funding, housing, and work. Identifying where creator messages help or harm potential students and offering practical ways institutions and creators can align partnerships with care, accuracy, and student protection.

Sponsor: Intercultural Communication Interest Group

Chair: Sandra L. Pensoneau-Conway, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Presenters:

Irene Martha Lutterodt, Southern Illinois University Carbondale  
Bukola Oloba, North Dakota State University  
Clementina Edema, University of Missouri Columbia  
Ngozi Oguejiofor, University of Nevada, Reno NV  
Uchenna Eze, University of Iowa  
Rosemary Charway, Ohio University  
Lois Domena - Attafuah, North Dakota State University

3106 8:00 AM to 9:15 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis St. Croix

**Game On: Translating Communication Skills from Abstract to Active**

This panel explores how games translate interpersonal communication concepts into active learning. Panelists will share specific games they use to teach skills like active listening, nonverbal communication, and small talk, along with implementation strategies and student outcomes. Games create low-stakes environments where students experiment with communication skills, reducing anxiety while increasing engagement. We'll discuss what works, what doesn't, and classroom logistics challenges. This is a practical conversation among practitioners using play as pedagogy. A Q&A follows.

Sponsor: Community College Interest Group

Chair: Melinda Jean Matter, North Central Missouri College

Presenters:

Tammie Wiebers, North Central Missouri College

Stephen Yungbluth, Northern Kentucky University

Aimee Langager, Des Moines Area Community College

Joshua Fitzgerald, Linn-Benton Community College

3107 8:00 AM to 9:15 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway F

**Lost in Translation: Autoethnographies of First-Generation Faculty**

This paper panel narrates the experiences of first-generation faculty (FGF)-former first-generation college students who have gone on to become faculty members. While much research has interrogated first-generation student experiences, we employ autoethnography to provide first-person, reflexive accounts of FGF navigating the academy, including the affective and embodied tensions that comprise this precarious position. By exposing the implications of being lost in translation, this panel deconstructs success in academia and forges an equitable path forward.

Sponsor: Performance Studies and Autoethnography Interest Group

Chair: David Dooling, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Respondent: Danielle M Stern, Christopher Newport University

"TBD" Tasha R. Dunn, The University of Toledo

"TBD" David Dooling, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

"TBD" Jimmie Manning, University of Nevada, Reno

"TBD" Keith Berry, University of South Florida

"TBD" Jonathan Baker, Ohio University

"TBD" Tony Adams, Bradley University

3108 8:00 AM to 9:15 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Lakeshore B

**Superstitions, Taboos, and Digital Risk: Women's Health in Bangladesh**

This panel examines how superstitions, taboos, and digital risk shape women's health in Bangladesh. We will analyze how folk healing and postpartum rules shape care seeking; how menstrual knowledge moves across Indigenous traditions, classrooms, and clinics; how films and commercials frame menstruation; and how digital platforms amplify harassment, pseudoscientific cures, and reputational harm for women entrepreneurs. We ground these insights in health communication to advance equity, access, trust, and safer care.

Sponsor: Health Communication Interest Group  
 Chair: Sakshi Bhati, Southern Illinois University  
 Respondent: Sakshi Bhati, Southern Illinois University  
 "Digital Harassment and Mental Health among Women Entrepreneurs in Bangladesh" Janifar Kamal Nova, Southern Illinois University Carbondale  
 "Learning Periods Twice: Intergenerational vs. Digital/Institutional Menstrual Knowledge among Indigenous Girls and Women in Bangladesh" Tahura Tabassum Tari, Minnesota State University, Mankato  
 "Religious and Social Taboos around Menstruation in Bangladeshi Film and Advertising" Md Ragib Rahman, Missouri State University  
 "Superstitions, Traditional Beliefs, and their Impact on Public Health in Bangladesh" Sadia Ashrafi Thizbee, International Islamic University Malaysia

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3109            8:00 AM to 9:15 AM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Lakeshore A

**Translating Death and Dying: Communication Supporting Students, Colleagues and Self**

The subject of death and dying is difficult for both students and faculty to navigate. What is appropriate to say? Do? to our students who are going through the loss of a loved one? What do we say to our colleagues? How do we teach this type of communication to our students--both those grieving and those who are not? This panel explores the questions above and more as we explore talking about death as faculty and students.

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Family Communication Interest Group  
 Chair: Becky L DeGreeff, University of Wisconsin - Stout  
 Presenters:

Shannon C VanHorn, Valley City State University  
 Kimberly M Weismann, Bismarck State College  
 Jenni Lou Russi, Valley City State University

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3110            8:00 AM to 9:15 AM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway D

**Translating Face Theory to New (and Old) Contexts**

Scholars from different areas discuss how face and politeness theories have relevance in the study of impression management, intergroup communication, mentoring relationships, family communication, and communication competence.

Sponsor: Communication Theory Interest Group  
 Chair: John R. Baldwin, Illinois State University  
 Presenters:

Cimmiaron Alvarez, Kean University  
 John R. Baldwin, Illinois State University  
 Abigail N Kingsford, Drury University  
 DeAnne Priddis, Middle Tennessee State University  
 Tsai-Shan Sam Shen, Eastern Michigan University

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3111            8:00 AM to 9:15 AM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway B

**Translating Media Literacy in the Age of AI: Building Trust, Navigating Noise, and Understanding Digital Power**

This panel examines how media literacy must evolve in an era where artificial intelligence, digital platforms, and endless information streams reshape how we understand credibility, advocacy, and communication. By combining perspectives from PR, advocacy, and media studies, this panel highlights translation as central to the practice of media literacy in the 21st century. Contributions address how audiences decode AI-shaped media environments, how media literacy can equip citizens to critically engage with messages, and how digital advocacy and storytelling must adapt.

Sponsor: Media Studies Interest Group

Chair: Barbara Ruth Burke, University of Minnesota, Morris

Presenters:

Nana Akua Amoa Owusu-Kumah, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Emma L Andries, Minnesota State University

A.G. Hughes, Emporia State University

Gladys Momade, Purdue University

Vamsi Chaitanya Pedasanaganti, Kean University

Karen Shalev, University of Connecticut

Chidalu Nnorukah, Western Michigan University

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3112      8:00 AM to 9:15 AM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Greenway I

**Translating Violence Back into Normalcy: Promotions of Mediated Violence in 2025**

2025 has been all about re-normalizing violence in the media, and with a White House-hosted Ultimate Fight Championship (UFC) event coming in 2026, blood is back in a big way. This session examines three intersections of rhetoric and media: government-driven media spectacles, broadcast sports, and high-profile podcasts. Collectively, the author's use these examples to illustrate the Trump administration's re-normalization of violence in culture, an act that emphasizes white hypermasculinity to spite and silence oppressed voices.

Sponsor: Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Interest Group

Chair: EunYoung Lee, Central Washington University

Respondent: Madison A. Pollino, University of South Florida

"Podcasting Liberal Rhetorics of Reaction" Chad Nelson, Florida Gulf Coast University

"Three Fights, Nine Seconds: Hockey, Politics, and a Culture of Violence" Matthew Meier, DePauw University

"Translating Spectacle into Support: The Trump Administration's Mediated Spectacles of Violence" Christopher (Kit) Medjesky, University of Findlay; Mac Williams, The University of Mississippi

9:00 AM

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3113      9:00 AM to 2:00 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Nicollet Promenade

**Exhibit Hall Featuring Publishers and Technology - Saturday**

Sponsor: CSCA Executive Director

Chair: Joy L. Daggs, Northwest Missouri State

9:30 AM

3200 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Skyway A

**Adjunct and Temporary Faculty Caucus Business Meeting**

Sponsor: Adjunct/Temporary Faculty Caucus

Chair: Kate LaPierre, Univ of Nevada/Reno Ivy Tech Community College

Presenters:

Stacey Mirviss-Jossart, UW-Milwaukee

Heather Neeseimer, Minnesota State University Moorhead

3201 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Minnehaha

**Argumentation and Forensics Interest Group and Instructional Resources Interest Group: Top Papers**

This panel features Top Papers in the Argumentation and Forensics Interest Group as well as Top Papers in the Instructional Resources Interest Group.

Sponsors: Argumentation and Forensics Interest Group; Instructional Resources Interest Group

Chair: Aimee Miller, Ferris State University

Respondent: Ryan Scott Rigda, Saginaw Valley State University

"Group work is a part of professional life: Assessing teamwork experience of a written assignment for STEM students (Top Paper for Instructional Resources Interest Group)" Damla Ricks, University of Texas at Arlington; Molly Wiant Cummins, University of Texas Arlington; Karishma Chatterjee, University of Texas at Arlington

"Students' Perceptions of Teacher-Student Relationships and the Impact of these Relationships on Student Motivation" Deborah Aku Shika Pappoe, Illinois State University

"Translating Topicality in Policy Debate" Ned Gidley, University of Kansas

"Digital Playgrounds, But Real Dangers: Analyzing Legal Argument in Garcia vs. Character Technologies, Inc. (Top Paper for Argumentation and Forensics Interest Group)" Heather Walters, Missouri State University

3202 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Lakeshore B

**Between Data and Dialogue: Translating Health Communication in the Age of AI**

What happens when health communication is co-created by humans and machines? This panel examines how artificial intelligence technologies—from voice assistants to generative models and personal health aides—reshape communication, trust, and understanding in healthcare. Drawing from studies across global and demographic contexts, panelists explore how meanings of care, ethics, and engagement are translated through AI, offering insights into how communication scholars can interpret and guide these emerging human–machine relationships.

Sponsor: Health Communication Interest Group

Chair: Zaynab B Yusuf, Wayne State University

"Aging with AI: Exploring Older Adults' Use of Voice Assistants Through the Lens of Self-Determination Theory" Hyesun Choung, Purdue University; Yoo Jung (Erika) Oh, Michigan State University; Brooke Wolfe, Michigan State University; Xiaoran Cui, Michigan State University; Joshua Weinzapfel, Michigan State University; R. Amanda Cooper, University of Connecticut

"Examining the Role and Effectiveness of AI-Driven Personal Health Assistants in Facilitating Communication for Chronic Disease Management and Improving Patient Engagement in Public Hospitals in Nigeria" Salome N Mbah, North Dakota State University; Bukola Oloba, North Dakota State University; Funmilayo Adebimpe Odufuwa, North Dakota State University  
 "Exploring the perceptions of Users on the use of AI in Healthcare: Focusing on Trust, Ethics, Perceived Risks, and Benefits" James Kwaku Kwarteng, University of Connecticut  
 "Twenty million patients can't all be the same: A generative-AI segmentation model of medical tourism patient archetypes" Alicia Mason, Pittsburg State University

3203 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis St. Croix

**Community College Interest Group Business Meeting**

Sponsor: Community College Interest Group  
 Chair: Tammie Wiebers, North Central Missouri College  
 Presenters:  
 Myron Covington, Washtenaw Community College  
 Jeremy Basso, City Colleges of Chicago (Richard J. Daley College)

3204 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway H

**Extended Abstract Panel: Human-AI Communication and Relational Processes**

This panel presents emerging work on human–AI communication, focusing on relational messages, linguistic cues, and user perceptions. The studies examine how people interpret AI-generated communication, negotiate closeness with AI agents, and develop AI literacy through prompting. Together, they highlight evolving interpersonal dynamics in technologically mediated interactions.

Sponsor: Communication & Technology Interest Group  
 Chair: Xialing Lin, University of Central Florida  
 "From Close Relationships to AI: Exploring How Undergraduate Students' Attachment Styles Shape Human and AI-Mediated Communication" Md Ibnun Sarwar Rafi, University of Tennessee; Md Abdur Razzak Sarker, Minnesota State University, Mankato  
 "Implications of using artificial intelligence (AI) for producing relational messages" Stephen Yungbluth, Northern Kentucky University  
 "Prompting Precision: A Communication-Centered Study on the use of AI and Media Literacy Among Graduate Students" Evans Frimpong, University of Kentucky; Vera Siripi, University of Kentucky; Amanda Efua Gyesi, University of Kentucky; Albert Junior Nyarko, University of Kentucky  
 "'(You) Should Have Known the Risks': Gen Z's Perceptions of Image-Based Sexual Abuse Threats and Coping Strategies" Shannon Pappas, University of Connecticut; Lexi McNamara, University of Connecticut; Anne Oeldorf-Hirsch, University of Connecticut; Kenneth Lachlan, University of Connecticut

3205 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway A

**GIFT Session**

G.I.F.T. Sessions feature teaching ideas for the communication classroom.  
 Sponsor: G.I.F.T. Interest Group

Chair: Amanda L. Medlock-Klyukovski, Truman State University  
 "Are You a Trivia Buff? Implementing a Game-Based Activity to Improve Digital Literacy Proficiency" Kelly Soczka Steidinger, Mid-State Technical College  
 "Fiddle with Your Quill: Enabling Team Building and Cohesion Through Poetry" Jeevani Sammeta, Dalton State College  
 "Finding Commonalities Among Freshmen College Students with the True Color Personality Test" Madilyn Ellingsworth, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville; Ethan Massey, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville; Scott Sellnow-Richmond, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville  
 "Persuasion Scruples" Beth A. Messner, Ball State University; Emily Sanders-Whiteley, Ball State University  
 "The Effects of Workplace Relationships" Katelyn Beth Case, Ball State University  
 "Translating Persuasion: From Shark Tank to the Classroom" Mary Olivia Roberts, Ohio University; Samantha Roberts, Ohio University  
 "Translating Presentation Aids: Learning Best Practices Through Purposeful Violations" Bethany R. Lutovsky, Dakota State University

3206 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Mirage

**Graduate School Fair Set Up**

This slot is set aside for Graduate Fair exhibitors to set up their exhibits.  
 Sponsors: CSCA President; Graduate Student Caucus; Undergraduate Honors Research Conference

3207 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Skyway B

**Higher Education in Transition: Implications for the Undergraduate Institutions**

Educational structures are rapidly changing as perception of the value of a post-secondary education is questioned. Undergraduate institutions are exploring alternative pathways for potential students as a way to increase enrollment and the viability of their departments. This panel explores some of these pathways taken to reach both the needs of the students and the needs of the institutions. The participants hope to engage the audience in discussing these transitions. On September 3, 2024, the Higher Learning Commission provided guidelines and an application process for reduced credit bachelor's degrees. Guidelines and an application process are meant to pave the way for colleges and universities accredited by HLC to offer reduced credit bachelor's degree programs. Institutions can offer these degrees with as low as 90 credits. One panelist will discuss the guidelines and explore the possibilities and implications of reduced-credit degrees in our discipline. Another panelist will discuss how her institute is implementing stackable certificates and credentialing. This use of micro-credentials offers especially the non-traditional student both initial training for the workforce, but also a pathway to earn degrees. A third panelist will discuss a new model of a degree plan in her program. This model provides opportunities for both the traditional and non-traditional student as they navigate the ever-changing needs in the workforce and in higher education.

Sponsor: Undergraduate Education and Administration Section

Chair: Kelsey Menge, Bismarck State College

Presenters:

Shannon C VanHorn, Valley City State University

Kimberly M Weismann, Bismarck State College

Beth Ribarsky, University of Illinois Springfield

3208 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway G

**Inclusive Scholarship Panel: Top Papers**

This paper panel features the top inclusive scholarship papers. Following the paper presentations and response, a discussion about the nature of equity and inclusion scholarship invites audience involvement. The opportunities and challenges of this scholarship area will be discussion topics. (Note: All authors for nominated papers are listed on this paper panel. After reviews are completed, this panel will be updated to include the top four inclusive scholarship papers selected by reviewers.)

Sponsor: CSCA Equity & Inclusion Committee, CSCA Executive Director

Chairs: Elizabeth M Lozano, Loyola University Chicago; Mary Kiura, Purdue University Fort Wayne

Presenters:

David H. Kahl, Jr., Penn State Behrend  
Dennis Ekwemnachukwu Okeke, University of Colorado-Boulder  
Lilin Deng, Hohai University  
Kathleen Turner Ledgerwood, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
Ariadne Gonzalez, Texas A&M International University  
Di Mu, Texas A&M International University  
Arthur Soto-Vasquez, University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
Angela Moran, Texas A&M International University  
Cindy Salazar-Collier, Texas A&M International University  
Evan Kirksey, University of Missouri  
Sofia Deatherage, University of Missouri, Columbia  
Breck Holtz, Illinois State University  
Atilla Hallsby, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities  
Ruth Yeboah, Bowling Green State University  
Cimmieron Alvarez, Kean University  
Leah Elizabeth Bryant, DePaul University  
Heather L Davenport, Rutgers University  
Haley Nolan-Cody, Rutgers University  
Jacob Daniel Sanders, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign  
Richard Mensah Adonu, University of Tennessee Knoxville

3209 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway B

**Media Studies Interest Group Business Meeting**

Sponsor: Media Studies Interest Group

Chair: Tasha Riggins, Baker University

3210 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Lakeshore C

**Navigating Viewpoint Diversity in the Classroom After The Death of Charlie Kirk**

Current events, like the death of Charlie Kirk, have made applying communication concepts to real-world situations feel tumultuous, leading to questions like: How do instructors decide what topics to

cover within the classroom? How do instructors manage holding space for diverse viewpoints in their classrooms? Panelists will briefly share their experiences navigating these situations across a variety of classroom contexts (e.g., public discourse, strategic communication) before the audience is invited to share questions and examples.

Sponsors: Activism, Communication Ethics, and Social Justice Interest Group; Communication Education Interest Group

Chair: Jenna McNallie, Augsburg University

Presenters:

Robert Groven, Augsburg University

Jessica Robinson, Utah Valley University

Yuming Fang, Augsburg University

Marceleen M Mosher, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Kristen Chamberlain, Augsburg University

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3211            9:30 AM to 10:45 AM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway J

**Organizational and Professional Communication Interest Group Business Meeting**

Sponsor: Organizational and Professional Communication Interest Group

Chair: Abigail N Kingsford, Drury University

Presenters:

Hayden Barber, South Dakota State University

Breanna Prater, University of Missouri

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3212            9:30 AM to 10:45 AM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway F

**Performance Studies and Autoethnography Interest Group Business Meeting**

Sponsor: Performance Studies and Autoethnography Interest Group

Chair: Vianna Isbister, East Tennessee State University

Presenters:

Shelby Swafford, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Christina Ivey, Southern Illinois University - Carbondale

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3213            9:30 AM to 10:45 AM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Regency

**President's Undergraduate Honors Research Conference Breakfast**

The UHRC Breakfast requires an RSVP and is for UHRC authors and their supporters. The agenda includes a keynote speaker, breakfast, top paper awards, and graduate school exhibits. Food will be available promptly at 9:30 AM; guests are encouraged to arrive between 9:20 and 9:25 AM. After the meal and award presentations, students will have the opportunity to interact with graduate school directors and learn more about opportunities associated with attaining an advanced degree.

Sponsor: Undergraduate Honors Research Conference

Chairs: Jeffrey T Child, University of Nevada, Las Vegas; Tiffany R. Wang, University of Montevallo

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3214            9:30 AM to 10:45 AM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway E

## Sports Communication Interest Group Business Meeting

Sponsor: Sports Communication Interest Group  
Chair: Emily Sauter, University of Nebraska Omaha  
Presenters:  
Scott Jensen, Webster University  
Mac Williams, The University of Mississippi  
Jake Manning, Marshall University

3215 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway C

### **Translating Gender in Politics: Examining Voters and Politicians Across Communication Channels**

This panel features four papers that examine how gender is translated by voters and politicians across different communication channels-including debates, social media, television advertising, and speeches. Presentations discuss how gender shapes voter evaluations of candidates and how they engage in discussions of reproductive rights as well as how politicians communicate their issue positions and perform masculinity. Panelists will engage the audience in a discussion of the evolving role of gender in political communication research.

Sponsor: Political Communication Interest Group  
Chair: Benjamin R. Warner, University of Missouri  
"Activating Group Identity: The Role of Reproductive Rights in Political Engagement After Dobbs" Kelly L Winfrey, Iowa State University  
"Gender and Political Advertising: An Analysis of Two 2025 Gubernatorial Campaigns" Dianne G. Bystrom, Iowa State University; Mary Banwart, University of Kansas  
"Gender and Political Debates: Influences on Attitudes and Evaluations" Breck Gillespie, University of Missouri  
"Translating Masculinity in Brazil and the United States" Julia Peixoto, Iowa State University

3216 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway D

### **Translating Research to Real-World Impact: Applied Communication in Action**

In this panel, applied communication scholars will discuss how they translate academic research into real-world advocacy across the following contexts: athlete-centered media literacy, resisting anti-DEI policies in higher education, innovative approaches to social and environmental advocacy, and strategic campaigns for community organizations. Their work leverages applied communication to foster translational capacity. Audience engagement is encouraged, and attendees will learn practical strategies for enhancing the public impact of their work.

Sponsor: Strategic and Applied Communication Interest Group  
Chair: Bailey Hughlett, University of Connecticut  
Presenters:  
Sydney O'Shay, Utah State University  
Matt Brigham, James Madison University  
Anitha Dushimiramana, James Madison University  
Emily Nicholson, James Madison University  
Megan Rodak, James Madison University

Valerie Gruest, Northwestern University  
Joshua P Bolton, Salisbury University

11:00 AM

3300 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway G

**Basic Course Interest Group: Top Papers**

This panel explores how Basic Course instructors and scholars actively translate foundational pedagogical commitments into practices that meet the demands of contemporary higher education. These top papers examine the translation of critical communication pedagogy into online "brave" learning spaces; instructors' understandings of student retention and belonging; the redesign of persuasive speaking assignments to emphasize campus-specific, locally relevant advocacy; the emerging role of generative artificial intelligence in introductory public speaking; and reflexive strategies for addressing the social, technological, and institutional challenges shaping today's Basic Course. Together, these papers highlight "translation" as a necessary and creative process-bridging modalities, student needs, civic engagement, and technological change. By showcasing innovative approaches that preserve the integrity and purpose of the Basic Course, this panel invites the audience to consider how translation functions as an ongoing act of adaptation, critical reflection, and pedagogical transformation.

Sponsor: Basic Course Interest Group

Chair: Kathryn B. Golsan, University of Northern Iowa

Respondent: Evan Kirksey, University of Missouri

"Brave Spaces, Digital Places: Translating Critical Communication Pedagogy for the Online Basic Course (Top Paper)" Margaret Baker, Notre Dame

"Basic Communication Course Instructor Perceptions of College Student Retention and Belongingness: A Qualitative Investigation" David Schneider, Saginaw Valley State University; Jennifer McCullough, Saginaw Valley State University

"Discovering the Capabilities of Generative Artificial Intelligence in the Context of Introductory Public Speaking Courses" Nick Romerhausen, Eastern Michigan University

"The Campus Specific Persuasive Speech Assignment: Arguing for Specific Changes More Locally (Top Student Paper)" Ned Gidley, University of Kansas

"Confronting Contemporary Challenges in the Basic Public Speaking Course with Reflexive Pedagogical Strategies" Amanda L. Medlock-Klyukovski, Truman State University; Andrei A. Klyukovski, Truman State University

3301 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway C

**Democracy on the Line: An Assessment Since the 2024 Presidential Election**

Join contributors to the book, Democracy on the Line: The Turbulent 2024 Presidential Election, who will provide assessments of the current state of the U.S. democracy. Topics to be discussed include threats to institutions of higher learning; voluntary compliance, political courage, and political risks; challenges for/with/to women; religion and politics including Christian nationalism; and how Trump's narrative worldview pushes toward extreme descriptions of the nation as justification for extreme actions. Audience participation will be invited.

Sponsor: Political Communication Interest Group

Chair: Dianne G. Bystrom, Iowa State University

Presenters:

Mary Banwart, University of Kansas  
Mitchell S McKinney, University of Toledo  
Joel Lansing Reed, University of Arkansas  
Robert C Rowland, University of Kansas  
Benjamin R. Warner, University of Missouri  
Kelly L Winfrey, Iowa State University

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3302      11:00 AM to 12:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Mirage

**Graduate School Fair**

The Graduate Fair graduate school exhibits are open to all undergraduate and graduate students. Students will have the opportunity to interact with graduate school directors and learn more about opportunities associated with attaining an advanced degree.

Sponsors: CSCA President; Graduate Student Caucus; Undergraduate Honors Research Conference  
Chairs: Jeffrey T Child, University of Nevada, Las Vegas; Tiffany R. Wang, University of Montevallo

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3303      11:00 AM to 12:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Lakeshore B

**Health Communication Interest Group: Top Papers**

Sponsor: Health Communication Interest Group

Chair: Jessica Rick, Illinois State University

"From Focus Groups to Short Film: A Culture-Centered Approach to Type 2 Diabetes Communication in a Latino Community (Top Paper, Top Inclusive Scholarship Paper)" Ariadne Gonzalez, Texas A&M International University; Di Mu, Texas A&M International University; Arthur Soto-Vasquez, University of Nevada, Las Vegas; Angela Moran, Texas A&M International University; Cindy Salazar-Collier, Texas A&M International University

"Understanding How Adult Survivors of Childhood Cancer Narrate Their Lived Experience: Memorable Messages of Childhood Cancer Survivors (Top Student Paper, Top Debut Paper)" Bailey Hughlett, University of Connecticut

"Translating Narratives and Centering Voices: Toward a Communication-Centered Storytelling Framework for Perinatal Mental Health" Najma Akhther, Nazareth University

"“I felt like they were doing things to me, not with me”: Communication Disenfranchisement and the Quiet Violence of Exclusion in U.S. Maternity Care." Wendy Adjei, University of Missouri; Esther Apreku, University of Missouri; Patrick Owusu Ansah, International Arctic Research Center, University of Alaska

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3304      11:00 AM to 12:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Minnehaha

**Instructional Resources Interest Group Business Meeting**

Sponsor: Instructional Resources Interest Group

Chair: Stephen A. Klien, University of Missouri

Presenters:

Kristin Fitzsimmons, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities  
Lauren J. Johnsen, University of Wisconsin-Stout

3305 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Skyway A

**Leader Perspectives on Supporting Incoming Adjunct Faculty**

This panel explores university leader perspectives in preparing adjunct faculty to be successful. Universities are increasingly reliant on adjunct faculty who require varying levels of support. Adjunct faculty include experienced educators, working professionals, and those with no teaching experience. Further, the increased emphasis on career readiness may result in more working professionals being offered adjunct teaching positions. Ensuring that adjunct faculty are prepared requires a variety of strategies from administrators, faculty, and other adjunct faculty.

Sponsor: Adjunct/Temporary Faculty Caucus

Chair: Amanda L. Brown, University of Wisconsin-Stout

Presenters:

Kimberly M Weismann, Bismarck State College  
Stephanie Young, University of Southern Indiana  
Kim Zagorski, University of Wisconsin-Stout  
Julie Watts, University of Wisconsin-Stout

3306 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway J

**Organizational and Professional Communication Interest Group: Top Papers**

This panel highlights the top-ranked competitive papers submitted to the Organizational and Professional Communication Interest Group this year. These scholars highlight issues including the intersection of technology and organizational culture, resilience for service organizing, and tensions in remote work experiences.

Sponsor: Organizational and Professional Communication Interest Group

Chair: Abigail N Kingsford, Drury University

Respondent: Hayden Barber, South Dakota State University

"Leadership Surveillance: A Catalyst for Tense and Dysfunctional Work Culture (Top Debut Paper)" Sophia Belle Peterson, Ball State

"Navigating Tensions, Building Resilience: A Communicative Framework for HIV/AIDS Service Organizing (Top Inclusive Scholarship Paper)" Jacob Daniel Sanders, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign

"Technology Use and Burnout Among Remote Workers: A Comparison Study of Crisis and Routine Remote Work" Michael Cody Coker, Boise State University; Inyoung Shin, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Sarah E. Riforgiate, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Emily A. Godager, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

3307 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway F

**Performance Studies and Autoethnography Interest Group: Top Papers**

This panel features the top papers for the interest group.

Sponsor: Performance Studies and Autoethnography Interest Group

Chair: Vianna Isbister, East Tennessee State University

Respondent: Shelby Swafford, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

"My Body, Whose Choice? Or How I Learned about Righteous Mom Rage" (Top Paper, Top Inclusive Scholarship Paper)" Kathleen Turner Ledgerwood, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

"Braiding with a Weave of AI: A Collaborative Autoethnographic Exploration of the Promises and Perils of Deepfake Technologies" Stevie Munz, Utah Valley University; Leandra Hernandez, University of Utah

"Speaking into the silence: An autoethnography on immigration and the presence or absence of family history for the next generation" Jennifer Wingate, Independent Scholar

"The Stories We Keep" Damon Mitchell Gage Darling, University of Utah

"Tracing My Homes: A Journey of Spirit, Memory, and Belonging" Dolapo Michael Oyedokun, Ohio University

3308

11:00 AM to 12:15 PM

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Greenway E

### **Popular Culture Interest Group: Top Papers**

This panel features the top competitive paper submissions to the Popular Culture Interest Group, including the top paper and top student paper. The collected papers explore the intersections of participatory fandom and politics.

Sponsor: Popular Culture Interest Group

Chair: Tyler Donavon Curran, Missouri State University

Respondent: Matthew Meier, DePauw University

"From Lover to Idol: Fan Labor, Cruel Optimism, and Identity in Chinese Otome Games (Top Debut Paper, Top Inclusive Scholarship Paper)" Lilin Deng, Hohai University

"Hiding in Plain Sight: "Gaylor" and the Agentic Fourth Persona in Parasocial Savior Conspiracy Theories (Top Student Paper)" Amy Whiteside, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

"The Collision of Politics and Pop Culture: Stan Culture and the Transformation of Public Discourse (Top Paper)" Emily Sauter, University of Nebraska Omaha

3309

11:00 AM to 12:15 PM

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Greenway B

### **Power Plays and Public Frames: Negotiation, Ideology, and Identity in Global Media - Media Studies Interest Group: Top Papers**

This panel explores how global media constructs and reinforces power through representation. From gendered negotiations in *Succession* to ideological framing in *Landman*, propagandistic storytelling in Pakistan's *Khel Khel Mein*, and the discourse of Nigerian Twitter users during crisis, each paper examines how communication shapes perception and authority. Together, these papers reveal how film, television, and digital platforms mediate the politics of identity and ideology in an increasingly interconnected media landscape.

Sponsor: Media Studies Interest Group

Chair: Holly Holladay, Missouri State University

Respondent: Byron B Craig, Illinois State University

"What a Country!": A Thematic Analysis of X (Twitter) Framing of the Owo Massacre in Nigeria (Top Paper)" Grace Adeyemo, Illinois State University; John R. Baldwin, Illinois State University

"A Hard Bargain: Gendered Portrayals of Negotiation in HBO's *Succession*" Robert Swetlic, Wayne State University

"Oil, Media, and Power: Landman, Season 1 (2024) as a Cultural Apparatus for Fossil Fuel Legitimization (Top Student Paper)" Naqibun Nabi, Colorado state university; Md Sazzad Mahmud Shuvo, Florida State University

"When Cinema Becomes Propaganda: Portrayal of the Bangladesh Liberation War in "Khel Khel Mein"" Md Ragib Rahman, Missouri State University; Amina Khatun, University of Sussex

3310 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Skyway B

**Teaching Social Justice in Basic Communication Course**

Integrating social justice into a public speaking class empowers students to use their voices to advocate for understanding and inclusivity. This panel examines course design and lessons learned to incorporate social justice topics into the course. By creating a classroom culture that values diverse experiences, we can turn public speaking into a powerful tool for social transformation.

Sponsor: States Advisory Council

Chair: Jessica Samens, Bethel University

Presenters:

Julie L.G. Walker, Southwest Minnesota State University

Jessica Samens, Bethel University

Yuanyi Chen, Southwest Minnesota State University

David Brennan, Minnesota State Mankato

Anne Kerber, Minnesota State University, Mankato

3311 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway D

**Translating Experiences of Race and Ethnicity: Negotiation and Marginalization of Embodied Identities**

The papers in this panel explore experiences of identity and identity negotiation across a variety of marginalized racial and ethnic identities within the United States.

Sponsor: Ethnicity, Race, International, and Class Concerns Caucus

Chair: Bukola Oloba, North Dakota State University

Respondent: Jimmie Manning, University of Nevada, Reno

"Discursive-Materiality of Otherness: Stigma Marks and Intersectional Communicology of Stigma among U.S. Latino/as" Umar Olansile Ajetunmobi, University of Kansas; Rikki A. Roscoe, University of Kansas; Alcides Velasquez, University of Kansas

"Racialized Accents and Equity in Academia: Reclaiming Cultural Wealth in the Shadow of Deficit Views" Emi Kanemoto, Bryant University

"Translating Ethnicity, or Everything I know about Mexicanidad, I Learned from Death" Alberto Gonzalez, Bowling Green State University

"‘I’m like yeah I’m White, but I’m also Turkish’: Exploring Second-Generation Turkish Americans’ Negotiations of Racial Identity and Whiteness" Ahmet Aksoy, Winona State University; Linsay M. Cramer, Coastal Carolina University

3312 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis St. Croix

### **Translating Student Experience into Learning: Why Stories Matter in the Communication Classroom**

This panel explores how we use personal narrative in basic communication courses, specifically when students tell stories about their own lives. Panelists will share their experiences with this approach while navigating practical challenges: student reluctance to share, boundary management, and the assessment dilemma of evaluating vulnerable content. This isn't about best practices but candid dialogue on ongoing questions: What scaffolding helps reluctant students? How do we protect ourselves from trauma dumping? How do we assess personal stories? A Q&A follows.

Sponsor: Community College Interest Group

Chair: Melinda Jean Matter, North Central Missouri College

Presenters:

Kim Marie Omachinski, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee

Emily Katt, East Tenn State University

Beth Ribarsky, University of Illinois Springfield

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3313      11:00 AM to 12:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Lakeshore C

### **Translating the Three A's: Assessment, Accessibility, and Atmosphere**

This panel examines how communication educators bridge theory and practice through the "Three A's" - Assessment, Accessibility, and Atmosphere. Presenters showcase innovative approaches that shape dynamic, student-centered learning experiences.

Sponsor: Communication Education Interest Group

Chair: Joshua Young, Divine Word College

Respondent: Kyle Vareberg, Northeastern State University

"Accessibility, Not Fragility: A Call to Instructors for a Modified Approach to Content Forecasts" Morgan Keller, Ball State University

"Student Perceptions of Quality Classroom Culture: Expectations of Their Peers and Instructors" Stacy Schilling, Communication Professor; McKenna Hennager, Winona State University; Tammy Swenson-Lepper, Winona State University

"Translating Media Literacy Assessment: The Olympic Model as an Inclusive Framework" Nour Mheidly, University of Illinois Chicago

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3314      11:00 AM to 12:15 PM      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis      Lakeshore A

### **Translation for the Non-Major in the Interpersonal and Family Communication Classroom**

Many universities offer interpersonal and family communication courses as general education options, attracting students from a range of majors. This panel explores strategies and challenges in teaching these courses to diverse audiences and translating theory into practical, engaging applications. Panelists will share examples of activities, assignments, and classroom practices that make communication concepts meaningful and accessible to students outside the major. Panelists will also provide practical advice for fostering student engagement and helping students transfer communication skills to real-world contexts. The panel will conclude with reflections on future directions for teaching interpersonal and family communication across the university.

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Family Communication Interest Group

Chair: Natalie Pennington, Colorado State University

Presenters:

R. Amanda Cooper, University of Connecticut  
Cassidy Taladay-Carter, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Brooke Wolfe, Michigan State University  
Kristina Scharp, Rutgers University  
Terri Easley-Giraldo, Johnson County Community College  
Paul Schrodtt, Texas Christian University  
Dawn O. Braithwaite, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

12:30 PM

3400 12:30 PM to 1:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis St. Croix

**Beyond the Classroom: Authentic Assessment as a Pathway Past AI toward Public Engagement**

Authentic assessment offers an AI-proof approach to document student learning through real-world application, reflection, and connection to audiences beyond the traditional classroom. In the spirit of Translate!, this session explores how authentic assessment can serve as powerful tool to push past traditional "paper-based" assessment toward more engaged meaningful communication. Presenters will share approaches that connect theory to practice-such as community-based projects, interview practice and analysis, digital storytelling, end of course interviews or civic engagement assignments-that encourage students to apply course concepts in ways that address future employment and community needs.

Sponsor: Community College Interest Group

Chair: Edward A Schwarz, Prairie State College

Presenters:

Natasha Casey, Lincoln Land Community College  
David L Bodary, Sinclair Community College  
Kelly Soczka Steidinger, Mid-State Technical College  
Allison Beltramini, Allianz Life  
Myron Covington, Washtenaw Community College

3401 12:30 PM to 1:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Minnehaha

**Bridging the Divide: High Impact Practices for Translating Communication Knowledge To/From Community Organizations**

This discussion panel explores innovative teaching strategies for building bridges between classrooms, organizations, and the community. Panelists will discuss a variety of approaches, from direct partnerships to public scholarship and virtual engagement, that help students translate the value of communication scholarship beyond academia. Together, we address how connecting disciplinary knowledge to applied contexts deepens students' understanding of theoretical material. Moreover, we underscore the importance of public relevance for fostering civic engagement and professional development.

Sponsor: Instructional Resources Interest Group

Chair: Heather L Davenport, Rutgers University

Presenters:

DeAnne Priddis, Middle Tennessee State University

Tiffany R. Wang, University of Montevallo  
Leah Elizabeth Bryant, DePaul University  
Kaitlin Elizabeth Phillips, Baylor University  
Rachel D Davidson, Hanover College  
Anne Kerber, Minnesota State University, Mankato

3402            12:30 PM to 1:45 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway C

**Communication Theory and Identity**

Sponsor: Communication Theory Interest Group

Chair: Austin Beattie, Hope College

Respondent: Austin T. Frederick, Wayne State University

"Group Communication: How Previous Research Can Build and Develop Based on Social Categories and Identity." Brion White, Kentucky State University

"Is IDEO's design thinking generalizable? Understanding their creativity as Goffmanian dramaturgical performance" Elyse Johnson, Hope College; Paul Hangsan Ahn, Hope College

"Pleasurable Confessions: The Relationship Between Foucauldian Confession and Black Feminist Pleasure Politics" Madison Rose McBride, Colorado State University

"Seeing Gender, Shaping Identity: Faculty Perceptions in the Classroom Using Communication Theory of Identity" Grace Gross, McKendree University

"Social Identity Theory and Spiritual Growth in Christian College Religious Groups" Bridget Anne Crombie, Hope College

"Translating Communication Apprehension as a Rational Response to Ableist Standardization" Allison D. Brenneise, Independent Scholar; Joshua Young, Divine Word College

3403            12:30 PM to 1:45 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway F

**CSCA Scholar Conversation:**

This CSCA Scholar Conversation features a panel-length interview with one outstanding scholar, \_\_\_\_\_, reflecting on their most important scholarship and contributions. They are a scholar who has made substantial contributions, whose work has stood the test of time, and who has made a difference in the discipline and beyond. There will be an extended interview, conducted by Kathy Denker, followed by questions and discussion with attendees.

Sponsor: CSCA Past President

Chair: Lexi Traylor, Ball State University

Presenter:

Kathy Denker, Ball State University

3404            12:30 PM to 1:45 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Skyway A

**Developing an OER Text for a College Course in Argumentation and Debate**

Today, more than ever, there is a growing urgency to adopt teaching practices that are both inclusive and equitable. This short course presentation will examine the outcomes of one professor's efforts to foster diverse pedagogical and curricular approaches to enhance student learning, encourage critical thinking, and ultimately promote equity and inclusion. More specifically, the presenter will address the

challenges and opportunities arising from developing an open text for a course in Argumentation and Debate at a community college, offer strategies to include English-language learners in the classroom, and share a newly developed OER aimed at making college debate accessible to diverse learners.

Sponsor: Short Courses

Chair: Elvinet Piard, Communication Education

Presenter:

Elvinet Piard, Communication Education

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3405            12:30 PM to 1:45 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway A

**GIFT Session**

G.I.F.T. Sessions feature teaching ideas for the communication classroom.

Sponsor: G.I.F.T. Interest Group

Chair: Tracie Devault, Missouri S&T

"Audience Analysis Through Advertising" Melinda Bellatti, Tulsa Community College

"Everything I Learned about Teacher Noticing I Learned from Yoga Teacher Training" Grace Giorgio, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign

"Group Discussion of Conspiracy: An Exploration of Ethics and Power in Groups" Andrei A. Klyukovski, Truman State University; Amanda L. Medlock-Klyukovski, Truman State University

"Outlining: Translating Chaos into Order" Angela Glunz, The University of Tennessee at Martin

"Student Information Retention from Practical Demonstrations" Colleen Ezzeddine, Wayne State University

"The Local Activist Panel: Translating Learning into Community Action" Kirsten Theye, Concordia College

"The Public Speaking Survival Kit: A Personalized and Holistic Approach to Managing Speech Anxiety" Sydney Noelle Kamm, Eastern Michigan University

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3406            12:30 PM to 1:45 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Lakeshore B

**Health Communication Interest Group Business Meeting - All Are Welcome!**

Sponsor: Health Communication Interest Group

Chair: Jessica Rick, Illinois State University

Presenters:

Michelle M. Matter, Crown College

R. Amanda Cooper, University of Connecticut

Najma Akhther, Nazareth University

Teresa Nabangala, Purdue University Fort Wayne

Ngozi Oguejiofor, University of Nevada, Reno NV

Ariadne Gonzalez, Texas A&M International University

Bailey Hughlett, University of Connecticut

Wendy Adjei, University of Missouri

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3407            12:30 PM to 1:45 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Lakeshore A

**Interpersonal Communication Pathways to Health and Understanding**

The papers in this session represent a broad array of topics within interpersonal and family communication that together address different facets of health, well-being, and understanding within and about relationships.

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Family Communication Interest Group

Chair: Jana Kent, University of Missouri

"Exploring Affection Exchange: Married Graduate Student Perspectives" Aklima Begum, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee; Erin Sahlstein Parcell, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

"Personality Traits of the Affection-Deprived Communicator" Kory Floyd, Washington State University; Colin Hesse, Oregon State University; Alan Mikkelsen, Whitworth University

"Quantifying Narrative Characteristics and their Association with Individual and Relational Health: A Test of Communicated Narrative Sensemaking Theory" Miranda Victoria Brunn, University of Missouri- Columbia

"Therapeutic Possibilities for Interpersonal Communication Studies: Integrating Theory and Practice" Jimmie Manning, University of Nevada, Reno; Kylie Baer, University of Nevada, Reno

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3408            12:30 PM to 1:45 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway G

**Navigating Difficult Conversations in the Basic Course: Translating Our Strategies, Ethics, and Pedagogical Approaches for the 2025 Classroom**

This panel explores the complexities and challenges of teaching public speaking in 2025. Educational spaces may be situated in politically polarized regions and/or communities as well as in online spaces prone to misinformation. The panel also considers issues of institutional support and policy changes that affect the basic course and how departments can support both faculty and students. Finally, we will offer best practices for how instructors can prepare students to not only speak effectively but also navigate environments where their voices may be unwelcome, opposed, or actively silenced.

Sponsor: Basic Course Interest Group

Chair: Madison A. Pollino, University of South Florida

Presenters:

Mac Williams, The University of Mississippi

Christopher (Kit) Medjesky, University of Findlay

Madison A. Pollino, University of South Florida

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3409            12:30 PM to 1:45 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway E

**Popular Culture Interest Group Business Meeting**

Sponsor: Popular Culture Interest Group

Chair: Tyler Donavon Curran, Missouri State University

Presenters:

Adam W. Tyma, University of Nebraska Omaha

John R. Baldwin, Illinois State University

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3410            12:30 PM to 1:45 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway D

**Practicing What You Preach: Collaborative Intersectionality across Identity-Based Caucuses**

This panel is intended for the leaders of the three social identity-based caucuses of CSCA (ERICC, SOGI, and Women's Caucus) to discuss possibilities for future collaborative work across the caucuses. Sponsors: Ethnicity, Race, International, and Class Concerns Caucus; Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Caucus; Women's Caucus

Chair: Anjana Mudambi, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Presenters:

Kristin Fitzsimmons, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Anna Jean DeGalan, University of South Carolina

Lauren L. Buisker, Colorado State University

Sofia Elena Salazar Carballo, University of Central Florida

Vianna Isbister, East Tennessee State University

Danielle M Stern, Christopher Newport University

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3411            12:30 PM to 1:45 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway I

**Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Interest Group: Top Papers**

This panel features the top papers in the Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Interest Group.

Sponsor: Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Interest Group

Chair: Alexandra Parr Balaram, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

Respondent: Edward A. Hinck, Central Michigan University

"We Live in Public: Privacy and Secrecy from Dobbs to Doc-a-Lago (Top Paper, Top Inclusive Scholarship Paper)" Atilla Hallsby, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

"Helping to Provide a Meaningful Funeral: The Commodification of the Christonormative

"Traditional" Funeral (Top Student Paper)" Lindsay Gagnon, Colorado State University

"Translating Baltic-American Holidays for the US Public: The Rhetorical Invention of Cold War Commemorations" Kristen Einertson, University of St. Thomas

"#MeToo, Carceral Feminism, and Retributive Rhetoric" Meggie Mapes, University of Kansas; Daniel M. Chick, Western Kentucky University

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3412            12:30 PM to 1:45 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway B

**Seeing Through the Frame: Gender, Power, and the Politics of Representation**

Focusing on Iranian feminist filmmakers, trans-centered documentaries, wildlife cinematography, and the gendered horror of motherhood, the panel explores how visual media negotiate and reproduce hierarchies of gender and power. Through content and textual analysis, each paper exposes the ways commercial, cultural, and patriarchal structures shape what-and who-is made visible on screen.

Sponsor: Media Studies Interest Group

Chair: Joe Watson, Baker University

Respondent: Stephen E. Rahko, Illinois State University

"Animals with/as Cameras: Translating the Nonhuman Animal Look" Em Hathaway, University of Minnesota

"Beyond the Friendship: Paratextual Framing and the Politics of Trans Visibility in Netflix's Will & Harper" Jonathan Andrew Vargas, University of South Florida

"My Psychic Southern Mother: Death, Motherhood, and Threatening Masculinity in The Gift (2000)" Emily Scroggins, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

"Women's representation in cinema in the patriarchal society of Iran" Nika Khosravi, PhD student; Mike Allen, UW - Milwaukee

3413 12:30 PM to 1:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Lakeshore C

**Teaching, Technology, and Transformation: Reimagining Learning in the Digital Age**

This panel presents diverse perspectives on integrating technology into the classroom. The presentations explore the evolving relationship between communication, pedagogy, and digital tools - from classical rhetoric to contemporary artificial intelligence.

Sponsor: Communication Education Interest Group

Chair: Caroline Waldbuesser, University of Missouri

Respondent: C. Kyle Rudick, University of Northern Iowa

"From Gorgias to Google: How Nontraditional Teaching of Rhetoric Achieves Classical Goals" Marianne Vanderbeke, Bowling Green State University

"Teaching Without Words: Translating Implicit Communication into Inclusive Practice" Grace Adeyemo, Illinois State University

"Uses of AI Tools Among College Students" Inna Van Emburg, Missouri State University; Prince Akoenyenu, Missouri State University, Department of Communication, Media, Journalism, and Film; Sharbani Datta, Baylor University, Department of Communication

3414 12:30 PM to 1:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway J

**Translating Organizational Change: Internal Communication in Evolving Workplaces**

This panel investigates how organizational messages translate across changing workplace environments and communication channels. Presentations examine remote work transitions, leadership strategies through internal social media, ethical decision-making during crises, and rhetorical clarity in corporate communication, exploring mechanisms that facilitate or complicate organizational transformation and employee engagement.

Sponsor: Organizational and Professional Communication Interest Group

Chair: Mohammed Bekkaoui, Drury University, Mohammed 1st University

Respondent: Michael Cody Coker, Boise State University

"Bloat and Clarity: Rhetorical Arrangement and Its Influence on Analyst Q&A" Craig L. Engstrom, Southern Illinois University Carbondale; Ahad Koushan, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

"Exploring the Role of Internal Communication in Facilitating Employee Ethical and Unethical Endorsements in an Organizational Crisis" Cheng Zeng, North Dakota State University; Funmilayo Adebimpe Odufuwa, North Dakota State University

"Leadership Communication on Internal Social Media: Strategies for Employee Engagement and Organizational Success in Hybrid Workplaces" Daniel Sherrick Apambila, Illinois State University; Lance R. Lippert, Illinois State University

"The Impact of Remote Work on Change Management Communication" Edikan Nkanta, Illinois State University

2:00 PM

3500 2:00 PM to 3:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway G

**Best Practices for Effective Communication to Enhance Classroom Engagement and Participation for Graduate Teaching Assistants**

Research shows that effective communication practices demonstrated through verbal and nonverbal communication, two-way feedback, and empathetic and adaptive communication can be translated into teaching practices that enhance classroom engagement and participation (Tiu et al., 2023). Our panel will discuss the ways that these practices can be translated into best practices for graduate teaching assistants to help foster student interaction, engagement, and class participation.

Sponsor: Graduate Student Caucus

Chair: Bukola Oloba, North Dakota State University

Presenters:

- Omolola Lasisi, University of Kansas
- Egbe Okpaireh, University of Oklahoma
- Shalewa Babatayo, University of Central Florida
- Stanley Uzoma, Kansas State University
- Opeyemi Alawode, Western Illinois University
- Lois Domena - Attafuah, North Dakota State University
- Samuel Okaah, North Dakota State University

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3501                      2:00 PM to 3:15 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Greenway H

**Communication & Technology Interest Group Business Meeting**

The Communication & Technology Interest Group will discuss updates on unit initiatives, review programming outcomes for the 2026 convention, and plan priorities for the coming year. All members and interested attendees are welcome.

Sponsor: Communication & Technology Interest Group

Chair: Xialing Lin, University of Central Florida

Presenters:

- America Edwards, University of Kentucky
- Kyle Vareberg, Northeastern State University

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3502                      2:00 PM to 3:15 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Greenway D

**Competitive Papers on Religious and Pop Cultural Translations of Queerness**

This paper session features scholarship about religious and pop cultural perspectives of queerness.

Sponsor: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Caucus

Chair: Karly Poyner-Smith, Columbia College

"Performing Catholic and Queer, Or Not; Discovering Stages of Deconstruction from Catholicism in Queer People Raised Catholic" Taylor Newswander, Independent

"The Complexities of Consent: Analyzing Discourses Surrounding Sexual Consent in BDSM Online Spaces" Sierra Kane, Roosevelt University

"Come out, come out, wherever you are: Analyzing the YouTube comment sections on sexuality and trans identity coming out videos as potential sites of social support." Sunny Kim, The University of Texas at Austin; Jacinta Tran, University of Texas at Austin

""What I know, and it is very obvious, homosexuality is coming here...": On Same-Sex Marriage Blessings, Religious (Catholic) Journalism, Postcolonial Queer Theory, and 'De-Queering' Africa (Top Inclusive Scholarship Paper)" Dennis Ekwemnachukwu Okeke, University of Colorado-Boulder  
"Biphobia and Bi-erasure in Orange is the New Black (Top Debut Paper)" Evan Wilson, Indiana State University

3503 2:00 PM to 3:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway A

**CSCA Next Leaders Network Mentoring and Networking Reception**

The Next Leaders Network's goal is to build the future of the field and our organization by supporting up and coming scholars. This event provides an opportunity for members to learn about CSCA, interact with CSCA members, and help shape the future direction of the association. Attendees will gain an overview of CSCA, the conference, and opportunities for participation. Additionally, we will have dedicated tables where senior scholars will be available to provide advice on topics ranging from CVs, balancing job demands, teaching tips, to submitting to journals. Bring the questions you have not be able to ask in your department; we are here to help! All members are strongly encouraged to attend, but especially early career scholars, students, and first-time CSCA attendees.

Sponsor: CSCA Next Leaders Network

Chairs: Matthew Meier, DePauw University; Sarah Symonds LeBlanc, Purdue University Fort Wayne

Presenters:

Jeffrey T Child, University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
Kathy Denker, Ball State University  
Tiffany R. Wang, University of Montevallo  
Sarah Symonds LeBlanc, Purdue University Fort Wayne  
Christopher (Kit) Medjesky, University of Findlay  
Linsay M. Cramer, Coastal Carolina University  
EunYoung Lee, Central Washington University  
Ahmet Atay, University of Alabama at Birmingham  
Amy Aldridge, Middle Tennessee State University  
Leah Elizabeth Bryant, DePaul University  
Alberto Gonzalez, Bowling Green State University  
Sandra L. Pensoneau-Conway, Southern Illinois University Carbondale  
Adam W. Tyma, University of Nebraska Omaha  
Carolyn Calloway-Thomas, Indiana University  
Hsin-I Sydney Yueh, University of Missouri

3504 2:00 PM to 3:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway C

**G.I.F.T. Interest Group Business Meeting**

Sponsor: G.I.F.T. Interest Group

Chair: Tracie Devault, Missouri S&T

Presenters:

Angela Glunz, The University of Tennessee at Martin  
Amanda L. Medlock-Klyukovski, Truman State University

3505                      2:00 PM to 3:15 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Lakeshore C

**Mentorship as Translation: Navigating Academic Language, Expectations, and Culture**

This panel will explore how mentorship functions as a form of translation that helps students decode academic norms, disciplinary language, and scholarly writing. Participants will explore how mentorship relationships help students "translate" their own work for academic and professional settings.

Sponsors: Communication Education Interest Group; Undergraduate Education and Administration Section

Chair: Rachel D Davidson, Hanover College

Presenters:

Vivian Jacobs, Hanover College

Michaela Grimes, Indiana State University - Terre Haute, IN

Lara Stache, Governors State University

Natasha Rascon, Indiana State University

Katie Marion, Indiana State University

Emily Sanders-Whiteley, Ball State University

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3506                      2:00 PM to 3:15 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Greenway F

**Photo-voice: students translating course concepts in their everyday life**

In this panel we demonstrate how photovoice provides a creative outlet for students to share personal narratives while integrating classroom concepts. We flip the idea of academics translating knowledge, to providing agency to the student providing and connecting knowledge learned within the course to the world around them. Assignment instructions and final projects will be presented.

Sponsor: Performance Studies and Autoethnography Interest Group

Chair: Stephanie Young, University of Southern Indiana

Presenters:

Jennifer Morey Hawkins, St. Cloud State University

Christina Ivey, Southern Illinois University - Carbondale

Ashlee Pfau, St. Cloud State University

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3507                      2:00 PM to 3:15 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Greenway J

**Professional Knowledge in Translation: Mentoring, Socialization, and Development**

This panel examines how professional knowledge and identity translate through mentoring relationships, socialization experiences, and learning processes. Presentations explore feminist mentoring in nonprofit leadership, agricultural education, vocational socialization through internships, graduate student precarity, and feedback mechanisms, revealing how expertise translates across generational, educational, and workplace boundaries.

Sponsor: Organizational and Professional Communication Interest Group

Chair: Jacob Daniel Sanders, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign

Respondent: Sarah E. Riforgiate, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

"Communication Practices for Building Women's Leadership Capacity in Nonprofit Organizations: A Feminist Mentoring Approach" Gertrude Misornu Nartey, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

"Internships as a Source of Vocational Anticipatory Socialization Information: Examining the Differences between Part-time Jobs and Professional Internships" Kenneth Levine, University at Albany, SUNY; Melinda Aley, University of Montana Billings

"INTERVIEWS ON STUDENT PERSPECTIVES OF MENTORING AND AGRICULTURAL FEMINISM" Ash Diane Denchfield, University of Kansas

"The Moderating Role of Creative Tasks on Feedback Source and Delivery Modalities in Task-Learning Processes" Funmilayo Adebimpe Odufuwa, North Dakota State University; Cheng Zeng, North Dakota State University; Catherine Kingsley Westerman, North Dakota State University

"“Keeping People in Uncertainty is a Power Move, and it’s Working”: A Communicative Case Study on Graduate Student Precarity in the Midwestern United States." Koyena Biswas, University of Missouri, Columbia; Breanna Prater, University of Missouri; Evan Kirksey, University of Missouri

3508 2:00 PM to 3:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway I

### **Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Interest Group Business Meeting**

The purpose of the Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Interest Group Business Meeting is to discuss the state of the interest group, present the top paper awards to recipients, discuss ideas for the 2025 convention, and elect new leadership.

Sponsor: Rhetorical Theory and Criticism Interest Group

Chair: Alexandra Parr Balaram, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

Presenters:

Dustin A. Greenwalt, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale

A.G. Hughes, Emporia State University

Alexandra Parr Balaram, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

3509 2:00 PM to 3:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis St. Croix

### **Translating and Contesting Power Through Discourse**

These papers examine how power structures are supported by dominant cultural, religious, and technological discourses. The topics highlight how the act of translation - events into headlines, belief into policy, and bias into code - fundamentally shapes our perception of global conflicts, social justice, and the future of human relationships.

Sponsor: Activism, Communication Ethics, and Social Justice Interest Group

Chair: Samentha Sepúlveda, Northeastern Illinois University

"AI Wives: Digital Misogyny in Translation" Sydney Kamps, Grand Valley State University

"Commercial Media Framing of Israeli War on Palestine" Lee Artz, Purdue University Northwest

"Dominant Evangelical Discourses: Formation and Constraint on Anti-Punitive, Politically Progressive Prison Ministry" Elinor Hiller, Graduate of Wheaton College

3510 2:00 PM to 3:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway B

### **Translating Crisis as Mediated Events: Toward Theory and Practice**

This panel brings together experts who will share research insights and experiences that examine crises as mediated events and their implications for crisis communication theory and practice. More specifically, Dr. Xianlin Jin will present research comparing media framing of the 2023 Hawaii and

2022 Chongqing mountain fires, exploring how coverage shaped public responses, influenced perceptions of crisis management, and informed policymaking. Dr. Khairul Islam will discuss the 3M PFAS crisis, highlighting how prolonged neglect of risk evolved into a full-scale corporate crisis. Adding a broader lens, Dr. Deborah D. Sellnow-Richmond will examine media's role in perpetuating, exacerbating, and even creating mega-crises, with special attention to peace journalism and radical media ethics. Perspectives from the Global South will also be featured. Dr. Mohammad Ali will share insights from a project that analyzes the 2016 Bangladesh Bank cyber heist, one of the world's largest financial scams, as a mediated event, focusing on how news coverage framed the crisis and shaped public perceptions. Dr. Najma Akhther will discuss media's role in government crisis communication, further emphasizing the global scope of crisis mediation. Together, these projects illustrate how crises become mediated events and deepen our understanding of their influence on public discourse, crisis management, and organizational responses.

Sponsor: Strategic and Applied Communication Interest Group

Chair: Matthew W. Seeger, Wayne State

Presenters:

Khairul Islam, Florida Atlantic University

Deborah Sellnow-Richmond, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Xianlin Jin, The University of Toledo

Najma Akhther, Nazareth University

Rodrigo Soares, University of Vermont

Mohammad Ali, University of North Dakota

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3511                      2:00 PM to 3:15 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Lakeshore B

**Translating Health as Liberation: Healthy Citizens and State Power (Top Panel)**

Amid broader crackdowns on marginalized communities, this panel examines how the state struggles to meet their health needs. We center translation as a communicative process across legal, interpersonal, cultural, and organizational contexts, foregrounding how meaning travels across settings. In doing so, we trace how rights to health and wellbeing are constituted and materialized through everyday communicative practices. Our perspectives illuminate the intersections and processes through which discourses about rights to health and wellbeing are actualized and made materially consequential.

Sponsor: Health Communication Interest Group

Chair: Nolan Bowers, Ohio University

Presenters:

Jonathan Baker, Ohio University

Cimmieron Alvarez, Kean University

Nolan Bowers, Ohio University

Josephine K Boumis, University of South Florida

R. Amanda Cooper, University of Connecticut

David Dooling, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

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3512                      2:00 PM to 3:15 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Lakeshore A

**Translating Needs and Expectations: Navigating Trust, Coping, and Support Across Relationships**

The papers in this session focus on communication within interpersonal and familial relationships and the needs and expectations we have through the lens of trust, coping, and support processes.

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Family Communication Interest Group

Chair: Brooke Wolfe, Michigan State University

"Adapting Across Borders: How International Graduate Teaching Assistants Communicate Challenges and Navigate Coping Strategies" Deborah Aku Shika Pappoe, Illinois State University; Vera Bonku Turkson, Illinois State University

"Coping Strategies of Ghanaian Dual-Career Couples: A Dyadic and Culturally Situated Perspective" Beatrice Amissah, Illinois State University; Jessica Rick, Illinois State University

"Translating Digital Trust: Autonomy, Security, and Relational Boundaries on Social Media" Moira Alejandra Lizarraga, Missouri State University; Gift Akintoye, Missouri State University

"What is Network Support? Computational Insights Translated from Communicated Tensions Between Friends and Romantic Partners" Junwen Hu, Michigan State University; Xinyu Zhang, Michigan State University

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3513                      2:00 PM to 3:15 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Greenway E

**Translating Our Meanings of Sport: Perspectives on Place and Shaping Connections to Sport**

This panel looks at the role of place as a lens for better understanding engagement with sports. Three different sports, along with the roots of fandom are areas of study as authors explore the role of place in translating how, why, and the degree to which we connect with sports. From leisure to marketing, and generational relationships to the physical playing field, papers reveal how place translates sport for both players and fans.

Sponsor: Sports Communication Interest Group

Chair: Aimee Lau, Wisconsin Lutheran College

Respondent: Jeffrey Dean Brand, University of Northern Iowa

"Embodied Habits and Relationships around the Paddle Ladder" Elena Gabor, Bradley University

"Fore Better or Worse: How the Golf Course Translates Sport to Relationship Development and Maintenance" Jake Manning, Marshall University

"Translations from Childhood: Reflections on Foundational Memory Places and the Shaping of Sports Fandom" Scott Jensen, Webster University

"We're not "Wrigley Field North": The Milwaukee Brewers Team and Fan Efforts to "Translate" their Identity during the 2025 NLDS" Jerralyn Moudry, Wisconsin Lutheran College

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3514                      2:00 PM to 3:15 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Skyway A

**Translating your Passion into a Podcast Launch**

In this short course, we offer an introduction to podcasts for academics and hobbyists. Based on the experiences of Danielle (Podcast: Plan, Goal, Plan, a top 1% podcast) and Kyle (Podcast: Publishing Academic Research, a top 5% podcast), we talk about how to generate your purpose, identify your niche, and develop the materials. We'll also discuss some of the common barriers and perks as well as ways of monetizing your work.

Sponsor: Short Courses

Chair: C. Kyle Rudick, University of Northern Iowa

Presenter:

Danielle McGeough, University of Northern Iowa

3:30 PM

3600 3:30 PM to 4:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway H

**AI in Journalism: Production, Framing, and Algorithmic Bias**

This panel brings together four studies that examine how artificial intelligence is reshaping contemporary news production, newsroom decision-making, and representational patterns across both local and global contexts. Collectively, these papers investigate how journalists adopt AI writing tools, how generative models shape news framing and issue salience, and how algorithmically produced content introduces new forms of bias, particularly in relation to political, cultural, and regional representation. Drawing from surveys, content analyses, and industry-facing perspectives, the panel highlights the growing interdependence between journalistic practice and AI-driven systems, emphasizing both opportunities for efficiency and emerging threats to editorial autonomy, accuracy, and accountability. A Global South case study further demonstrates how algorithmic inequality manifests in data-poor environments, revealing the uneven consequences of AI technology across sociopolitical contexts. Together, these papers offer timely insight into the challenges and possibilities of integrating AI into news work, raising broader questions about transparency, fairness, and public trust in an era of computationally mediated journalism.

Sponsor: Communication & Technology Interest Group

Chair: America Edwards, University of Kentucky

"AI Tools in the Newsroom: Perceptions, Barriers, and Ethical Challenges Among Bangladeshi Journalists" Md Hamza Kamal Mostafa, University of Kansas; Chad Edwards, Western Michigan University

"Algorithmic Inequalities in Ghanaian Journalism: How AI Tools Perpetuate Social Hierarchies in News Production (Top Inclusive Scholarship Paper)" Richard Mensah Adonu, University of Tennessee Knoxville

"Is Artificial Intelligence Credible When Writing About Themselves? How Machine Author's Inclusion May Shake Up Journalism" Brandon Tyler Boyce, University of Kansas

"Translating AI Innovation from Newsrooms to Classrooms: U.S. Journalism Faculty Perspectives on Preparing Future Reporters for GenAI Integration." Richard Mensah Adonu, University of Tennessee Knoxville

3601 3:30 PM to 6:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway A

**CSCA Executive Committee Meeting #2**

This is a closed meeting for members of the CSCA Executive Committee listed here.

Sponsor: CSCA Executive Director

Chair: Kristina Scharp, Rutgers University

Presenters:

Stevie Munz, Utah Valley University

Tiffany R. Wang, University of Montevallo

Jeffrey T Child, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Sandra L Faulkner, Bowling Green State University

Meggie Mapes, University of Kansas

Patric Spence, University of Central Florida  
Matthew Meier, DePauw University  
Stephen Spates, Michigan State University  
Gayle M Pohl, University of Northern Iowa

3602 3:30 PM to 4:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis St. Croix

**Difficult Conversations in an Even More Difficult Time**

Discussing discrimination and politics in educational contexts is increasingly difficult and the potential for pushback is high. Due to the charged nature of these topics, students are reluctant to engage in discussions. Outside the classroom, higher education institutions are struggling to communicate the value of the degree and increasingly must deal with accusations of "indoctrination." Humanities and Social Science courses are struggling to convey their value to internal and external stakeholders.

Sponsor: Activism, Communication Ethics, and Social Justice Interest Group

Chair: Becky L DeGreeff, University of Wisconsin - Stout

Presenters:

Rickie-Ann Legleitner, University of Wisconsin-Stout  
Amanda L. Brown, University of Wisconsin-Stout  
Amy Aldridge, Middle Tennessee State University  
Joy L. Daggs, Northwest Missouri State

3603 3:30 PM to 4:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway G

**Identity, Expectations, and Belonging in Transcultural Academic and Social Spaces**

Adopting a diverse methodological perspective, this panel explores how individuals from diverse cultural and social backgrounds negotiate identity, expectations, and belonging within higher education and professional contexts

Sponsor: Graduate Student Caucus

Chair: Md Sazzad Mahmud Shuvo, Florida State University

Respondent: Md Sazzad Mahmud Shuvo, Florida State University

"First-Gen Graduate Students' Communication Strategies in Balancing Academic and Family Expectations" Aklima Begum, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

"Informal Networks and Holistic Wellness Among African International Students In U.S Higher Education: A Qualitative Scoping Review Protocol" Linda Charlote Kabaalu, Illinois State University; Harriet Ayiku, Indiana University

"Translating Pedagogical Expectations across Contexts: An Autoethnographic Account of Pedagogy of the in- between" Irene Martha Lutterodt, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

"Working in a Patriarchal Society: How Women Maintain the Border Between Workplace and Family" Md. Sumon Ali, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

3604 3:30 PM to 4:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Minnehaha

**Intercultural and Intergroup Communication Challenges: Translating Theory to Practice**

In a world challenged by increasing intercultural contact and more overt expressions of prejudice and discrimination towards others perceived to be in different cultures and groups, practice informed by

intercultural and intergroup teaching and research are more important than ever. In this panel, several intercultural communication researchers present strategies for translating class and research concepts to our students and to society at large, inviting strategies from the audience as well, as we engage in dialogue.

Sponsor: Intercultural Communication Interest Group

Chair: John R. Baldwin, Illinois State University

Presenters:

Ahmet Aksoy, Winona State University

Sasha Allgayer, Southern Illinois University

John R. Baldwin, Illinois State University

Nurhayat Bilge, SUNY- FIT

Grace Leinbach Coggio, University of Wisconsin-River Falls

Alberto Gonzalez, Bowling Green State University

Emi Kanemoto, Bryant University

Eddah Mutua, St. Cloud State University

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3605            3:30 PM to 4:45 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway F

**Performance Studies and Autoethnography Interest Group - Open Mic**

Share your voice through story, poem, or other kinds of performance! We will draw names to determine order, and each participant will have 5 minutes.

Sponsor: Performance Studies and Autoethnography Interest Group

Chair: Christina Ivey, Southern Illinois University - Carbondale

Respondent: Vianna Isbister, East Tennessee State University

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3606            3:30 PM to 4:45 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Lakeshore C

**Play, Learn, Act: Edutainment as Praxis for Communication Curriculum Transformation**

This panel examines the promise of edutainment, the integration of educational content with entertainment elements, as an essential translational practice for communication educators. Building on critical perspectives from the communication discipline, the panel explores how infusing curricula with interactive, playful, and culturally relevant pedagogies bridges the gap between abstract academic learning and tangible social impact, particularly in contexts that demand urgent intervention, such as environmental sustainability and civic engagement.

Sponsor: Communication Education Interest Group

Chair: Isaac Asare Kwakye, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign

Presenters:

Amanda Kporwofa, University of Cincinnati

Ransford Asante, Missouri State University

Andrew Donkor, University of Maryland, College-Park

Deborah Aku Shika Pappoe, Illinois State University

Michael Awuah, University of Cincinnati

Albert Junior Nyarko, University of Kentucky

3607                      3:30 PM to 4:45 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Greenway C

**Political Communication and the 2026 U.S. Midterm Elections**

Join a roundtable discussion with several political communication scholars who will analyze the approaching 2026 midterm elections. In the context of current state and national political activity, panelists will consider likely outcomes and the impact of the midterm elections on our national policy agenda; and how the 2026 elections may influence the candidates, strategies and campaign messages that might emerge ahead of the 2028 presidential contest. Audience participation will be invited.

Sponsor: Political Communication Interest Group

Chair: Xavier Lee Scruggs, Wake Forest University

Presenters:

Mary Banwart, University of Kansas  
Dianne G. Bystrom, Iowa State University  
Carolyn Calloway-Thomas, Indiana University  
Mitchell S McKinney, University of Toledo  
Robert C Rowland, University of Kansas  
Benjamin R. Warner, University of Missouri  
David Zarefsky, Northwestern University

3608                      3:30 PM to 4:45 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Skyway B

**Respecting Voices and Nurturing Self: Pursuing Balance While Teaching in Challenging Times**

Society is plagued with unprecedented divisiveness that is carried by students and teachers into teaching and learning spaces. Increasingly, perspectives are polarized and differences are perceived as threatening. This program highlights the imperatives of honoring voice, remaining objective in the face of critical discussion and debate, and discouraging inappropriate and irrelevant social commentary. It suggests strategies for incorporating debate and disagreement in respectful and pedagogically sound ways. Equally important is the need for teachers to be deliberate in their own self-awareness and strategies for coexisting as teachers and engaged citizens. All of this comes together as a call for educators to nurture self-care and life balance within the challenges of teaching in our challenging times. The program includes case studies and suggestions for course management and self-care.

Sponsor: States Advisory Council

Chair: Gina Jensen, Webster University

Presenter:

Scott Jensen, Webster University

3609                      3:30 PM to 4:45 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Greenway I

**Translating Immigrant Advocacy in Healthcare Settings: An Interview with Patient Advocate and Interpreter Patricia Santos**

This session will highlight the life and life work of Patricia Santos. Patricia has worked for over 30 years with the Spanish speaking immigrant community here in MN. She holds a wide array of experience, including active advocacy concerning recent issues facing Spanish speaking immigrants, particularly in healthcare settings. An interview comprised of guiding questions will start this session, opening up to organic dialogue, to include facilitating conversation and/or additional questions from the audience.

Sponsor: Ethnicity, Race, International, and Class Concerns Caucus

Chair: Jennifer Morey Hawkins, St. Cloud State University

Presenter:

Patricia Santos, Children's Hospitals and Clinics of MN

3610

3:30 PM to 4:45 PM

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Greenway E

**Translating Internet Slang and Discourse: Contemporary Perceptions of A.I., Gender, and Animal Rights**

The scholarship presented here addresses alluring rhetorical trends on internet platforms. The authors discuss how social media discourse, as well as native advertising on the same platforms, generates honest, and sometimes strangely problematic, commentary on shifting tides in technology and culture.

Sponsor: Popular Culture Interest Group

Chair: Xin Sheng, Oregon Institute of Technology

Respondent: Tyler Donavon Curran, Missouri State University

"Eggfluencing: The Neoliberal Influencer Aesthetic in Egg Donor Recruitment Advertisements on TikTok and Instagram" Aubrey Armbruster, University of Massachusetts Amherst; Yelim Lee, University of Massachusetts Amherst

"Embracing the Granny: Online Discourse Around Participating in "Granny Hobbies"" Katelyn Beth Case, Ball State University

"Saving the Squirrel: Audience Discourse, Superhero Archetypes, and Shifts in Cultural Attitudes Toward Animal Welfare in Superman (2025)" Sierra Kane, Roosevelt University; Samentha Sepúlveda, Northeastern Illinois University

"That's Not a Meal, Bestie: Gendered Consumption and Girl Dinner on TikTok" Claire Tudor, University of Louisville; Calvin Coker, University of Louisville

"Stupid Clanker": Robot Slurs and the Repository of Otherness" Nathan Rothenbaum, Missouri State University; Kexi Chen, Missouri State University; Rawan Hesham Hamouda Hegazy, Missouri State University; Inna Van Emburg, Missouri State University

3611

3:30 PM to 4:45 PM

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Lakeshore A

**Translating Reflexive Methodologies for Applied Interpersonal Inquiry**

This panel brings together scholars who have authored and published reflexive interpersonal research (e.g., autoethnography, auto-theory, reflexive thematic analysis, critical ethnography). We foreground reflexivity's central premise that researcher position shapes interpretation and presentation of findings. Panelists will offer meta-commentaries on earlier publications from different career stages and time spans from publication, tracing how their stances, contexts, and communities reframe claims over time. We translate those lessons into concrete, applied practices for interpersonal research design, analysis, ethics, and writing.

Sponsor: Interpersonal and Family Communication Interest Group

Chair: Josephine K Boumis, University of South Florida

Presenters:

Tony Adams, Bradley University

Jonathan Baker, Ohio University

Josephine K Boumis, University of South Florida

David Dooling, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Tasha R. Dunn, The University of Toledo

3612 3:30 PM to 4:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Lakeshore B

**Translating Vulnerability: Communicating Masculinity, Sexual Health, and Mental Well-Being**

Health communication often requires translating vulnerability into connection. This panel explores how men and communities navigate stigma, identity, and support through communication. Topics include Nigerian gay men's online sexual health exchanges, men's body image narratives, mental health help-seeking behaviors, and cultural messaging in Muslim sexual health campaigns. Collectively, these studies reveal how communication enables translation between silence and expression, stigma and support, across gendered and cultural contexts.

Sponsor: Health Communication Interest Group

Chair: Habeeb Abdulrauf, Western Michigan University

"Men's Body Image Narratives in Emerging Adulthood" Ellen Jordan, University of Minnesota

"Safe Sex Practices and Social Support Typologies in Digital Spaces: Assessing Nigerian Gay Men's Sexual Health Information Exchange on Social Media" Dennis Ekwemnachukwu Okeke, University of Colorado-Boulder; Mike Allen, UW - Milwaukee; Christiana Oluwakemi Ibiwoye, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Ousman Mbaye, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, U.S.A.; Anthony Okeke, Nnamdi Azikiwe University

"Translating Distress into Dialogue: Predicting Mental Health Help-Seeking Through the Theory of Planned Behavior" Shatakshi Semwal, Ohio University; Athar Memom, Ohio University

"What is Good, Better, or Best? A Literature Review to Assess Outcomes, Challenges, Success, and Way Forward of Sexual Health Campaigns in the Muslim world" Roshni Ashiq, Ohio University

3613 3:30 PM to 4:45 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway D

**Transnational perspectives on online gendered online queer spaces**

The papers in this panel examine queer and feminist digital activism and advocacy across diverse contexts, revealing tensions between empowerment and structural constraints. They offer critical counterpoints to the celebratory narrative of online gendered and of online queer spaces in order to foreground contradictions of how the seemingly queer digital visibility on the one hand cis women's visibility on the other negotiates contradictions of various spatio-temporal as well as of multiply mediated and placed contexts of queer (un)liveability.

Sponsor: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Caucus

Chair: Radhika Gajjala, Bowling Green State University

Respondent: Stephanie Young, University of Southern Indiana

"Digital Empowerment as a Neo-Colonial Practice: How Development Discourses Shape Marginalized Gender Communities' Online Presence and Lived Realities" Srishty Thakur, Bowling Green State University; Radhika Gajjala, Bowling Green State University

"Queer activism and Everyday digital practices" Ahmet Atay, University of Alabama at Birmingham

"Queerly Undercommons in/of Nigerian Digital Resistance" Ololade Faniyi, Emory University

"Traditional Love..Not Enough: Repackaged Karwachauth and Hitting the Boundaries of Queer Love" Tarishi Verma, Albertus Magnus College

5:00 PM

3700 5:00 PM to 6:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Greenway H

**AI in Social Interaction: Support, Empathy, and Emotional Processing**

This session examines how AI agents shape relational and emotional communication. Through studies on empathy, message warmth, agent identity, and user responses to AI-generated content, the panel highlights emerging patterns in how people interpret and engage with emotionally framed AI messages.

Sponsor: Communication & Technology Interest Group

Chair: Xialing Lin, University of Central Florida

"Effects of Empathetic Responses, Agent Identity, and Gender Match on Users' Self-Disclosure of Depression in Human-Chatbot Interactions" Xiaoxia Li, University of Kansas; Cameron Piercy, University of Kansas; Wenrong Cui, University of Kansas; Shirley Hazel Olatunji, University of Kansas

"From Novelty to Normal: Do AI-generated Posts Get Human Treatment? (Top Debut Paper)" Zakia Sabnam, North Dakota State University

"When AI Adds a :) : Exploring the Effects of Textisms in AI-Generated Feedback" Kyle Vareberg, Northeastern State University; Zakia Sabnam, North Dakota State University; Jihyun Kim, University of Central Florida; Stephanie Kelly, North Carolina A&T State University; David Westerman, North Dakota State University

"“I Want to Gently Push Back”: AI Chatbots and Verbal Person-Centered Comforting Messages" Olivia Brashear, Western Illinois University; Nathan Miczo, Western Illinois University

3701 5:00 PM to 6:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Skyway A

**Creativity and Curriculum: Collaborative Multimedia Production for Engaged Learning**

How can educators make academic content more tangible for students? Our session presents a proven solution from The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP): a long-running collaboration between criminal justice faculty and a campus creative team. We demonstrate how story-driven multimedia, like crime scene reconstructions and audio narratives, bridge the gap between theory and practice and measurably boost student engagement. Attendees gain a framework for turning complex subjects into memorable and effective learning experiences.

Sponsor: Instructional Resources Interest Group

Chair: Luis Arias, The University of Texas at El Paso

Presenters:

Adrian E. Meza, The University of Texas at El Paso

Janet Hill, The University of Texas at El Paso

Luis Arias, The University of Texas at El Paso

3702 5:00 PM to 6:15 PM Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Offsite

**Queermunity Field Trip**

Join the SOGI Caucus for a field trip social to Queermunity, a vibrant event venue, gathering space, and café in Minneapolis, dedicated to offering high-quality experiences for LGBTQ+ and BIPOC communities and their allies. We will meet in the lobby of the conference hotel at 5pm to coordinate ride shares. Queermunity, located at 3036 Hennepin Avenue, is open to the public daily from 8am to 8pm, with free general entry. Their space thrives thanks to café patronage, so let's buy some snacks and

beverages as we chat about SOGI community and queer futures! A portion of these sales is reinvested into queer-affirming resources and free community offerings.

Sponsor: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Caucus

Chair: Danielle M Stern, Christopher Newport University

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3703                      5:00 PM to 6:15 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Greenway I

**Racial and Ethnic Othering and Healing in Media, Politics, and Education**

The papers in this session use a variety of research methods to explore various forms of engagement with racial and ethnic identities by dominant institutions across different contexts.

Sponsor: Ethnicity, Race, International, and Class Concerns Caucus

Chair: Diana Trebing, Saginaw Valley State University

Respondent: Ahmet Aksoy, Winona State University

"Amazing Grace: History, Genre, and Former President Barack Obama's Rhetorical Use in Charleston Eulogy in 2015" Saiemeh Wahidi, University of Kansas

"Fictionalizing Reality: A Critical Analysis of the Rwandan Genocide through the Lens of 'Sometimes in April'" Alima Abdul-Karimu, Texas A&M University

"Meta-analysis of Culturally Based Education Effectiveness: The Hawaiian Experience" Mike Allen, UW - Milwaukee; Luke LeFebvre, University of Kentucky; Kristina Logunova, UW - Milwaukee; Chuton Nath, UW-Milwaukee; Dennis Ekwemnachukwu Okeke, University of Colorado-Boulder; Richard Draeger, UW-Milwaukee

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3704                      5:00 PM to 6:15 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      St. Croix

**Rhetoric and Resistance: Translating Activist Movements Across Contexts**

This panel explores the rhetorical strategies that underpin contemporary activist movements, demonstrating how resistance is translated and mobilized across diverse landscapes.

Sponsor: Activism, Communication Ethics, and Social Justice Interest Group

Chair: Kristi Scholten, Ferris State University

Respondent: Samentha Sepúlveda, Northeastern Illinois University

"Chevron's 'Chernobyl' in the Amazon: Activist Rhetoric and Transnational Resistance" Tiffany Ann Dykstra-DeVette, San Diego State University

"The AlcaZAD: A Rhetorical Analysis of Two Occupy Movements" Casey K Weaver, Southern Illinois Univeristy

"'A Glimpse that a Different University is Possible': Meaning of Responsibility in Faculty Letters of Support for Student Protestors" Ellanore Foltz, Illinois State University

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3705                      5:00 PM to 6:15 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Greenway C

**Speaking Power in Democracy**

This panel investigates how political rhetoric translates power, leadership, and legitimacy across global contexts.

Sponsor: Political Communication Interest Group

Chair: Breck Gillespie, University of Missouri

Respondent: Benjamin R. Warner, University of Missouri

"Everyday Resistance and Counterpublics: Female Leadership and Political Rhetoric in Post-Revolutionary Tunisia" Isaac Asare Kwakye, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign  
 "From the Stage to the Real World: Interrogating Presidential Rhetoric's Transformation Process from Debate Stage Moment to Viral Soundbite" Parker Finn Davidson, Ball State University  
 "Political Communication in a Developing Democracy: A Comparative Framing Analysis of President Mahama's 2013 and 2025 Inaugural Addresses" Sekina Saah, Texas Tech University  
 "Translating Biden's National Security Rhetoric and Cyber Statecraft Protocol in the 2021 DarkSide Ransomware Group's Hack of the Colonial Pipeline" Divine Narkotey Aboagye, Villanova University  
 "Translating Property into Public Voice: Rhetoric, Land, and Democratic Discourse" Bryan Kampbell, Buena Vista University

3706                      5:00 PM to 6:15 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Skyway B

**Strategies for Student Engagement: Online and In-Person Classrooms**

Our classrooms are becoming a mix of traditional-aged and adult learners. We also have more online courses and have been asked to teach courses with higher course caps. Additionally, we are working in the realm of AI and its implications for how we teach. With these new horizons, it is important to create strategies for student engagement that are as inclusive as possible for all types of student learners and classroom modalities. This panel of instructors will discuss how they keep the passion and create engagement with their students in online and in-person classes. Some strategies include culturally responsive pedagogy, instructor immediacy, using AI, inclusive classroom activities, student self-designed assignments, distributed learning, use of board games, and more. Come and join us for an engaged discussion!

Sponsor: States Advisory Council

Chair: Donna R. Pawlowski, Bemidji State University

Presenters:

- Donna R. Pawlowski, Bemidji State University
- Darren J. Valenta, Concordia College
- Mark Allan Fokken, Southwest Minnesota State University
- Tim Baird, Bemidji State University
- Tracy Murphy, South Central College

3707                      5:00 PM to 6:15 PM                      Hyatt Regency Minneapolis                      Lakeshore C

**Teaching Empathy Isn't Woke**

This panel explores strategies for teaching other-based communication skills, such as empathy, perspective-taking, and recognizing biased language, in politically hostile climates where such content is often dismissed as "woke." Panelists teaching in conservative regions will share approaches for reframing these skills as professional competencies rather than political stances, designing activities that reduce defensiveness, and fostering respectful dialogue across ideological divides. Discussion will also address managing institutional scrutiny, protecting academic freedom, and sustaining instructor well-being. Attendees will gain adaptable classroom practices and language-framing strategies for cultivating ethical communication competencies in environments resistant to empathy-focused instruction.

Sponsor: Communication Education Interest Group

Chair: Becky Roberts, Jackson College

Presenters:

Tracie Devault, Missouri S&T  
Lisa Marie Pavia-Higel, Missouri S&T  
Kendrea James, Northwest Arkansas Community College  
Melinda Bellatti, Tulsa Community College

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3708            5:00 PM to 6:15 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway D

**Translating Gender-Inclusive Pedagogy Across Educational Contexts: From Theory to Classrooms**

This panel examines how gender-inclusive teaching methods are applied throughout communication courses to create more equitable and socially aware learning environments. Using insights from feminist media theory, intersectional pedagogy, and critical communication, we explore practical ways educators can bring gender conscious perspectives into various activities. We consider how these approaches can shape learning outcomes by pushing back against dominant narratives, elevating underrepresented voices, and helping students navigate real-world communication with a more ethical and inclusive mindset.

Sponsor: Women's Caucus

Chair: Souzeina Mushtaq, University of Wisconsin-River Falls

Presenters:

Karly Poyner-Smith, Columbia College  
Rhodalene Naa Ayekai Odai, Bowling Green State University  
Nagwan R. Zahry, The University of Tennessee-Chattanooga  
Dani R. Soibelman, University of Colorado Boulder  
Kakali Bhattacharya Chakrabarti, Austin Peay State University

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3709            5:00 PM to 6:15 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Minnehaha

**Translating Intercultural Communication Theory into Practice in Leadership and the Classroom**

This panel examines how intercultural communication theory can inform practical strategies for adaptation, inclusion, and leadership. Together, these studies demonstrate how translating theory into practice fosters ethical engagement and empowers diverse communities.

Sponsor: Intercultural Communication Interest Group

Chair: Scott Mitchell, University of Wisconsin-River Falls

Respondent: Fernando Delgado,

"Acculturation and Transnational Communication: Understanding International Students' Adaptation Strategies in the U.S." Rawan Hesham Hamouda Hegazy, Missouri State University; Mst Rokshana Pervin, University of Georgia; Kexi Chen, Missouri State University

"Expanding the Circle into the Classroom: A Thematic Analysis of Parental & Non-Parental Roles in Ethnic-Racial Socialization" Dorcas Ogemdi Ekeanyanwu, Minnesota State University, Mankato

"Translating Theory for Enhancing Praxis: Connecting Intercultural Communication and Leadership Scholarship" Nilanjana Roy Bardhan, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

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3710            5:00 PM to 6:15 PM            Hyatt Regency Minneapolis            Greenway B

### **Translating Privacy and Ethics in Journalism Education for the Digital Age**

The rise of mobile technologies and participatory media practices has altered journalism and public life. Everyday encounters such as walking down a street, sitting in a café, or waiting at a crosswalk can now be instantly turned into content, livestreamed, or circulated virally without the subject's awareness or permission. From prank videos designed to shock or entertain, to so-called "street interviews" with passersby, to citizen journalists documenting social events, the boundaries of public versus private expression are increasingly unsettled. New media encourages translation of ordinary life into digital spectacle, raising urgent questions for journalism and communication educators: How do we translate long-held norms of privacy and consent into a world where public visibility is increasingly coerced?

Sponsor: Media Studies Interest Group

Chair: Getrude Kafui Senu, Illinois State University

Presenters:

Andrew Donkor, University of Maryland, College-Park

Ransford Asante, Missouri State University

Elvis Otoo, Illinois State University

Eleazar Yisrael, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign

Jibrán Zeb, University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign

Nana Yaa Asare, University of Kentucky

Emmanuella Ama Gyamfi, Illinois State University

3711

5:00 PM to 6:15 PM

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Lakeshore B

### **Translating Trust: Media, Meaning, and Power in Health Communication**

This panel examines how health communication translates trust, authority, and meaning across digital, institutional, and global contexts. Papers explore telemedicine readiness in Nigeria, the persuasive power of health infographics on social media, strategies for rebuilding narrative infrastructure amid infodemics, and racialized portrayals of global health power in *Pandemic* on Netflix. Together, panelists interrogate how translation-of trust, visuals, and narratives-shapes public understanding and engagement in contemporary health discourse.

Sponsor: Health Communication Interest Group

Chair: Shalewa Babatayo, University of Central Florida

"From Access to Adoption: Institutional Trust and the Theory of Planned Behavior in Understanding Telemedicine Readiness in Nigeria." Emmanuel O Odunfa, University of Oklahoma; Ifesinachi Ayogu, University of Oklahoma; Solomon Sunday S Tommy, University of Oklahoma; Jennifer I. Ijei, Covenant University, Sango Ota, Ogun State, Nigeria

"Leveraging Infographics for Effective Health Communication: Strategies for Delivering Health Messages on Social Media" Md. Sumon Ali, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

"Racialized Representations and Global Health Power in Netflix's *Pandemic*: A Critical Discourse Analysis" Dora Nentoola, University of New Mexico

"Translating Trust: How to Counter Infodemics by Rebuilding Narrative Infrastructure in Polarized Media Landscapes" Mamunor Rashid, University of Colorado Boulder

7:00 PM

3800

7:00 PM to 8:15 PM

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Northstar Ballroom

### **CSCA Annual Closing Celebration**

Join us to celebrate the final day of the convention. In addition to catching up with all your CSCA friends and family, you can make new friends as the music plays, delicious food is served, and bartenders at cash bars serve beverages.

Sponsor: CSCA Executive Director

Chair: Tiffany R. Wang, University of Montevallo

# Index of Business Meetings

## A

A WINDING ROAD, A WORTHY JOURNEY (CAROLYN CALLOWAY-THOMAS INCLUSIVITY SPEAKER SERIES  
KEYNOTE: DR. FERNANDO DELGADO)

2700            Friday, April 17            6:00 PM - 6:45 PM            Northstar Ballroom, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

ACTIVISM, COMMUNICATION ETHICS, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE INTEREST GROUP BUSINESS MEETING

1601            Thursday, April 16            3:30 PM - 4:45 PM            St. Croix, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

ADJUNCT AND TEMPORARY FACULTY CAUCUS BUSINESS MEETING

3200            Saturday, April 18            9:30 AM - 10:45 AM            Skyway A, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

ARGUMENTATION AND FORENSICS INTEREST GROUP BUSINESS MEETING

1500            Thursday, April 16            2:00 PM - 3:15 PM            Greenway F, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

## B

BASIC COURSE INTEREST GROUP BUSINESS MEETING

2501            Friday, April 17            3:00 PM - 4:15 PM            Greenway C, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

## C

COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY INTEREST GROUP BUSINESS MEETING

3501            Saturday, April 18            2:00 PM - 3:15 PM            Greenway H, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

COMMUNICATION EDUCATION INTEREST GROUP BUSINESS MEETING

1300            Thursday, April 16            11:00 AM - 12:15 PM            Lakeshore C, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

COMMUNICATION THEORY INTEREST GROUP BUSINESS MEETING

1503            Thursday, April 16            2:00 PM - 3:15 PM            Greenway B, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

COMMUNITY COLLEGE INTEREST GROUP BUSINESS MEETING

3203            Saturday, April 18            9:30 AM - 10:45 AM            St. Croix, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

CSCA 2026 PRESIDENT'S PARTY: CELEBRATING THE SERVICE OF JEFFREY T. CHILD

1800            Thursday, April 16            7:00 PM - 8:30 PM            Offsite, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

CSCA 2027 PROGRAM PLANNERS MEETING

1405            Thursday, April 16            12:30 PM - 1:45 PM            Lakeshore A, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

CSCA ANNUAL CLOSING CELEBRATION

3800            Saturday, April 18            7:00 PM - 8:15 PM            Northstar Ballroom, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

CSCA ANNUAL PAST OFFICERS LUNCH

1301            Thursday, April 16            11:00 AM - 12:15 PM            Offsite, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

CSCA ANNUAL PAST PRESIDENTS DINNER

2800            Friday, April 17            7:00 PM - 8:45 PM            Offsite, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

CSCA AWARD REHEARSAL

2302	Friday, April 17	11:00 AM - 12:15 PM	Nicollet Ballroom, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
CSCA COMMITTEE VICE CHAIR AWARD MEETING			
2200	Friday, April 17	9:30 AM - 10:45 AM	Greenway E, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
CSCA EQUITY & INCLUSION COMMITTEE MEETING			
2503	Friday, April 17	3:00 PM - 4:15 PM	Skyway A, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
CSCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING #1			
0200	Wednesday, April 15	4:00 PM - 7:00 PM	St. Croix, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
CSCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING #2			
3601	Saturday, April 18	3:30 PM - 6:15 PM	Greenway A, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
CSCA FACULTY LEARNING COMMUNITY REUNION DINNER			
1714	Thursday, April 16	6:30 PM - 7:45 PM	Offsite 2, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
CSCA FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING			
1203	Thursday, April 16	9:30 AM - 10:45 AM	Greenway H, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
CSCA HALL OF FAME AWARDS LUNCHEON AND BUSINESS MEETING			
2400	Friday, April 17	12:30 PM - 2:45 PM	Nicollet Ballroom, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
CSCA REGISTRATION - FRIDAY			
2000	Friday, April 17	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM	Nicollet Registration, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
CSCA REGISTRATION - SATURDAY			
3000	Saturday, April 18	7:30 AM - 2:00 PM	Nicollet Registration, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
CSCA REGISTRATION - THURSDAY			
1000	Thursday, April 16	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM	Nicollet Registration, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
CSCA REGISTRATION - WEDNESDAY			
0000	Wednesday, April 15	12:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Nicollet Registration, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
CSCA STAFF DINNER			
0300	Wednesday, April 15	7:30 PM - 9:30 PM	Offsite, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
<b>D</b>			
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2201	Friday, April 17	9:30 AM - 10:45 AM	Greenway G, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
<b>E</b>			
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EXHIBIT HALL FEATURING PUBLISHERS AND TECHNOLOGY - FRIDAY			
2112	Friday, April 17	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Nicollet Promenade, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
EXHIBIT HALL FEATURING PUBLISHERS AND TECHNOLOGY - SATURDAY			

3113 Saturday, April 18 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Nicollet Promenade, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

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1114 Thursday, April 16 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Nicollet Promenade, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

**G**

G.I.F.T. INTEREST GROUP BUSINESS MEETING

3504 Saturday, April 18 2:00 PM - 3:15 PM Greenway C, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

GRADUATE SCHOOL FAIR

3302 Saturday, April 18 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM Mirage, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

GRADUATE SCHOOL FAIR SET UP

3206 Saturday, April 18 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM Mirage, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

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2506 Friday, April 17 3:00 PM - 4:15 PM Greenway G, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

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HEALTH COMMUNICATION INTEREST GROUP BUSINESS MEETING - ALL ARE WELCOME!

3406 Saturday, April 18 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM Lakeshore B, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

**I**

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3304 Saturday, April 18 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM Minnehaha, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION INTEREST GROUP BUSINESS MEETING

2206 Friday, April 17 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM Minnehaha, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

INTERPERSONAL AND FAMILY COMMUNICATION INTEREST GROUP BUSINESS MEETING

1507 Thursday, April 16 2:00 PM - 3:15 PM Lakeshore A, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

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3209 Saturday, April 18 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM Greenway B, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

**O**

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3211 Saturday, April 18 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM Greenway J, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

**P**

PERFORMANCE STUDIES AND AUTOETHNOGRAPHY INTEREST GROUP BUSINESS MEETING

3212 Saturday, April 18 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM Greenway F, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

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1610 Thursday, April 16 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM Greenway C, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

POPULAR CULTURE INTEREST GROUP BUSINESS MEETING

3409 Saturday, April 18 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM Greenway E, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

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3213 Saturday, April 18 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM Regency, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

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3508 Saturday, April 18 2:00 PM - 3:15 PM Greenway I, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

**S**

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2209 Friday, April 17 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM Greenway F, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

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3214 Saturday, April 18 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM Greenway E, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

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1509 Thursday, April 16 2:00 PM - 3:15 PM Greenway D, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

**U**

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**W**

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