Conference Update: Be There at the Beginning and Stay Until the End...It Will Be Worth It!

Peter Vorderer, ICA President-Elect, U of Mannheim

With just a few weeks to go until ICA’s 64th conference kicks off on 22 May at the Sheraton in Seattle, it’s time for us to summarize what you can expect at the convention. First of all, there will be more than 2,000 colleagues and students present, almost a third of whom will be attending for the first time—and this figure only takes into account those who have already registered! The majority of these attendees are, of course, coming to share their research: Our program currently includes 1,382 individual paper presentations, 48 presentations based on extended abstracts, 140 paper presentations submitted as part of a session, and 42 interactive paper sessions. Looking at the schedule from a slightly different perspective, we’ll have a total of 200 panels, 228 paper sessions, and 14 roundtable proposals, in addition to 48 meetings, 15 Blue Sky Workshops (which will be listed in the program along with their respective time slots and locations), a few international research meetings (which will remain unlisted), 31 receptions, and one evening event (Sunday night from 8 to 10) where we invite you all to come “dance with the scholars.”

As we’ve mentioned in previous newsletters, the conference will both begin (on 22 May) and end (on 26 May) with plenary sessions featuring discussants who will focus on the theme of the conference: “Communication and the ‘Good Life.’” This theme has sparked a great deal of interest and will of course also be addressed throughout the entire convention; in fact, in addition to the opening and closing events, we’ll have a mini plenary, 10 panels, 5 papers, and 4 posters included in our set of conference theme sessions. I’d like to encourage you not only to stay for the entirety of the conference — so that you can join the discussion at the outset of the convention as well as share your reflections at the end of our time together — but also to attend as many of these additional theme-related sessions as possible.

I’ll close with a bit of advice on how to reach the Sheraton from the airport, offered by our Seattle-based colleague Patricia Moy (U of Washington): “Take the Central Link light rail from SeaTac. The terminus is connected to the airport by covered walkway and considerable signage. The ride takes 40 minutes and costs $2.75. Stay on the light rail until the last stop, Westlake. All exits lead to Pine Street, where one can walk over to Sixth Avenue and south one block to Pike Street. The Sheraton is on the corner of Sixth and Pike.”

The entire ICA team is very much looking forward to welcoming you there.
For Your Information: Preparing for Seattle

Jennifer Le, ICA Executive Assistant

As you get ready for our conference in Seattle, here's some useful information that might help your trip go a little bit smoother.

Transportation to the Sheraton Seattle Hotel

From the Seattle/Tacoma International Airport (SEA)

Many conference attendees will likely arrive at Seattle/Tacoma International Airport, which is about 20 minutes away from the Sheraton Seattle Hotel. There are several different ways to travel from the airport into downtown Seattle, below are a few suggestions. Read on to determine the best way for you to arrive at the conference hotel.

The Sheraton Seattle Hotel recommends Shuttle Express as transportation to the hotel. Shuttle Express offers scheduled Downtown Airporter shuttle which is available 24 hours a day, every day. Downtown Airporter departs from Level 3 of the parking garage, island 2. Follow the signs to ground transportation, taxis, limos, hotel shuttles on the third floor of the parking garage. A one way ticket for an adult is $18 USD and roundtrip is $31 USD. Children 17 and under ride free (one per paying adult) and any additional youth ride at an adult price. The shuttle leaves SeaTac Airport every 30 minutes. For additional information, please continue here.

Light Rail is another method of transportation available from the SeaTac Airport to the Sheraton Seattle Hotel, located on the fourth floor of the airport garage. Guests can ride Sound Transit's Link Light Rail from downtown to the airport. Each way costs $2.75 USD each way and takes about 35 minutes each way. To help you find the Link Light at the airport, view the map below.

And of course, taxi cabs are always available at airports. All Yellow Cabs are located on the third floor of the parking garage. Visit their website here.

Childcare at the Conference

At ICA, we understand that some attendees may need to provide care for their children. Parents who require child care during the conference may make arrangements with existing child care services in Seattle. ICA does not endorse any company nor is held liable for services provided by them. On Call Nanny, is in partnership with Visit Seattle. These nannies are available at a moment's notice and can provide care in the hotel. For more information, visit their website.
ICA Newsletter is published 10 times annually (combining January-February and June-July issues) by the International Communication Association.
Onsite FedEx Office Business Center

Even with months of planning, sometimes last minute changes happen. There is a FedEx Office located onsite at the Seattle Sheraton Hotel offering full menu printing, copying, signs, and graphic services. They are open 7 days a week, and have a 24 hour area that attendees can access with their room key. To learn more about the business center, visit here.

President's Message: On the Virtues of Procrastination

Francois Heinderyckx, ICA President, U libre de Bruxelles (ULB)

I don't remember the last time I met anyone, colleague, student, staff member alike, who was anything but overwhelmed with work, late, struggling with deadlines, wondering how to make it. There are recurring patterns associated with these variations of feeling you have more tasks to complete than work time allows. The first defense mechanism is to resign to doing work after hours. Longer office hours, then bringing work home at night, then taking on weekends, which quickly become the overflow slot to try to catch up with overdue assignments of all kinds.

The weekend-as-an-overflow strategy is widespread. It is a lifesaver throughout the week, as one can appease one's anxiety about not being able to cope by fantasizing that "it's all right, I'll do it over the weekend." Notwithstanding the consequences for one's family and social life of spending what is socially expected to be "free time" doing work, this strategy often proves delusory: when the weekend ends, the "to-do list" is still obscene.

Managing our tasks and responsibilities, tending our to-do lists and completing our duties always comes down to ranking priorities and deciding what to do first, and for how long, in order to achieve a sense of being afloat, and of matching the expectations of our employer, our colleagues and all those who rely on us for any number of tasks and responsibilities. The order in which we decide to tackle these tasks follows its own logic. Some people discipline themselves to do the smaller tasks on the go, as they come in (a particular strategy consists of doing immediately any task that can be done in under 2 minutes). Others focus by layers, focusing on the upper layers or the in-tray or the desktop, i.e. the tasks that manifested themselves most recently. Reminders are usually a sure way to bring one particular set of tasks back to the surface, to the upper layers of our attention. This is often more than a metaphor: layers of papers on one's desktop (actual and on the computer) are showing only what's on the very surface. We often let ourselves drift in a delusory state not unlike that of young infants for whom anything that slips out of our sight ceases to exist.

There is an inherently perverse mechanism at play when we prioritize our tasks: smaller tasks and short-term deadlines always prevail over longer term, ampler tasks, even though the latter are generally more intellectually intensive and rewarding, more gratifying and more important to our careers, professional achievements and self-esteem. As a result, small things due in the next few days or hours will always cut in the queue: reports, lectures, marking, reviewing, forms and various paperwork. That article, book or research project that we deem so much more important, will have to wait. And so not only are we under pressure, feeling we are not keeping up with our responsibilities, we are at the same time feeling a growing frustration that we are forced to neglect the core tasks, the ones that we thought were the heart of our vocation, of our social raison-d'être.

These important and gratifying tasks are mechanically pushed back, over and over again, until the proximity of their own deadline makes them a clear-and-present priority, but with so little time left that trying to complete it as best as possible will only create further frustration by forcing a botched-up job produced in afflictive bursts of sweat and tears. Adrenaline probably enhances creativity, but science and ideas need time to materialize, and last-minute panic-driven creativity doesn't bode well for quality.

Postponing one or several difficult tasks to "later" was given a scholarly name, "procrastination," like lively children became stricken by "Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder," except that the pharmaceutical industry has not (yet) come up with a drug to help us cope with our crammed to-do lists and impossible deadlines. The notion of procrastination is associated with a counterproductive, dysfunctional approach to work, an inability to focus on the right tasks and a compulsion to do first what's easy and push back everything else. Procrastination is socially reproved and is to be avoided, cured, overcome.

Yet, one can find virtues to procrastination. To begin with, procrastinating is often rewarded by a last-minute revelation that one particular task wasn't that important after all, sometimes even unnecessary, or different from what was originally asked.
In other words, by waiting until the last minute, we give ourselves a chance to be exempted. More importantly, because we are swamped with intellectually poor, and always urgent tasks (administrations boast about their lack of flexibility), a procrastination-free approach to work would likely postpone intellectual work indefinitely. Procrastination, and in some cases, open rebellion against red tape and the audit culture that crept on our institutions, is often the only viable strategy to preserve the essence of our job, to do what we were trained and hired to do and what society expects and needs from us. Strategic procrastination then becomes an asset to achieve our goals as scholars.

Not only is procrastination acceptable, not only is it often functional, it is a fundamental right we should claim to preserve our standing, our nature and our intellectual productivity. No short-term chore should deprive us of significant time to read, contemplate, debate, think, articulate, write and share. We owe it not just to our colleagues, our students, our employer and the world we live in. We owe it to ourselves.

New Affiliate Journal Developed
Cynthia Stohl, Immediate Past President, U of California - Santa Barbara

We are very pleased to announce the inaugural call for applications for ICA Affiliate Journal status. In January, 2014 the ICA Board established a new journal category, "Affiliate Journal." An affiliate journal is published independently of ICA, in a language other than English, and meets or exceeds the general standards of an ICA journal and the specific standards developed for affiliate journals. Once approved by the ICA board, the affiliate journal will carry the ICA imprimatur and will be designated as such on the ICA website. An affiliate journal will be available to ICA members on line for free or at a discount.

The procedures and guidelines for this Affiliate Journal initiative will be operative for a trial period of three years. A maximum of two journals will be selected for this initial phase. For the first 2 years journal editors of the affiliate journals will provide the ICA Board with an annual report submitted one month before the annual meeting. During the third year a comprehensive formal review will be conducted by a specially appointed affiliate journal evaluation committee comprised of members of ICA’s Executive Committee and at least one appointed member from both the ICA board and the publication Committee. At that time the entire program will be evaluated, long term procedures for continued assessment and evaluation will be established, and decisions will be made regarding continuing affiliate status for the journal.

Rationale

The Affiliate Journal initiative serves several of the internationalization goals articulated by the EC and the ICA Board. Affiliate journals build bridges with the international communication community, connect our membership with research published in non-English high quality journals, help publicize the finest communication research done throughout the world, and give our members access to new and diverse audiences.

To be accepted as an affiliate journal, the editorial management must agree to publish extended abstracts of each article in every issue in English. Other efforts to share research not typically published in English are encouraged. An affiliate journal might for example, invite English language reviews of literature of research in a particular area that has not been readily accessible to most members of ICA. Efforts to enable ICA members to share their work with colleagues working in other languages are also highly desirable. Affiliate journals may, for example, publish interviews (both in English and the official language of the journal) with scholars who typically publish in a language other than the official language of the journal. On line or in print for free or at a discount, English language extended abstracts will be available for free online.

Application Procedures

Criteria for selection and the application form can be found A href="http://www.icahdq.org/cfp/affiliatejournal_application.pdf"here If you have any questions please contact Cynthia Stohl, Chair, Affiliate Journal Committee at cstohl@comm.ucsb.edu or Michael Haley, ICA Executive Director at mhaley@icahdq.org
Media Neuroscience and New Research

John Paul Gutierrez, ICA Communications Director

I'm standing next to Rene Weber (UC Santa Barbara), and I'm emptying my pockets: wallet, keys, and mobile phone.

"Is that everything?" Rene says.

"Yeah, I think."

Rene is not robbing me; he's making sure I have no metal on me as he guides me into a room that houses a multimillion dollar fMRI machine. The magnetic field could rip out any internal metal objects, like a pacemaker. Luckily, I have no pacemaker (or a metal plate in my head).

Rene and his team at the Media Neuroscience Lab at UC Santa Barbara are doing truly cutting edge research in Communication. Taking the tenets of traditional Communication research and lifting the hood, so to speak, to see how these things can be explained by looking at our brains. Doing studies on narratives and morality, narratives and violence, and persuasion, he's adding another element to what Communication research has to offer.

I'm not going to be inserted into the tube, but Rene is explaining to me how the machine works, using magnetization between oxygen-rich and oxygen-poor blood as its basic measure, then to visualize this by color on a three dimensional image of a person's brain. It's fascinating, the blending of social and hard sciences, taking another step into interdisciplinary work.

Media neuroscience is gaining steam at ICA, for the second year, a preconference, "The Communication Science - Evolution, Biology, and Brains: Innovations in Theory and Methods," will be held in Seattle. And it looks like this is just the tip of the iceberg in media neuroscience research. It's clear that augmenting traditional work, like survey-based research, with brain research can provide a well-rounded look at how Communication can influence our behavior.

This is the kind of stuff I look for when trying to engage the media in what Communication scholars are working on. New and exciting research and how it can change what is happening in the real world, right now. If you have a lab that is doing cutting-edge research, I want to know. See first hand how these studies are being conducted, what the challenges are, and how it could change the way we live.

After we walk out of the fMRI room, we sit and watch an experiment in action: a simple motor experiment where the subject is given a task to move an arrow into a red box on a monitor (not one of Rene's). A subject can spend up to 45 minutes in the tube. In one of Rene's experiments, a subject watches soap operas for an extended period of time, and they measure activity toward show characters and moral judgments. That can be lonely. Imagine, 45 minutes without your mobile phone. Now that's a real crime.

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After Seattle, Explore the Nearby Islands

Mike West, ICA Publications Manager

So you've enjoyed an insightful, inspiring conference and done some great networking. In between, you've explored the sights and sounds of Seattle. But you have some time left before you need to get back home. What do you do now?

Well, one option is to take to the water. Seattle is situated on Puget Sound, an inlet of the Pacific Ocean. On the west side of the Sound lies the Kitsap Peninsula; within it lie several islands, with three (Bainbridge, Blake, and Vashon Islands) particularly notable. Each of these are filled with treasures for the keen tourist—and, the best part, they're all easily accessible from Downtown Seattle by ferry. In fact, if you're a true adventurer, you can grab a high-speed ferry that goes out of Puget Sound and all the way to Canada's Vancouver Island, home to the Canadian city of Victoria.

When we say a ferry from Downtown Seattle, we mean it. The ferry lines out of Elliott Bay dock at the piers on the southwestern edge of the Downtown district. From the Sheraton Seattle (where the 2014 ICA Conference is taking place) to the Seattle Ferry Terminal is a distance of eleven blocks, an easy walk or a 15-minute ride by bus or taxi. (You can even drive yourself: The Washington State ferries, which go to the islands and the peninsula, can shuttle cars as well as passengers.) From Pier 50 you can take the ferry to Vashon Island; Pier 51 is the departure point for Bremerton, a town on the Kitsap Peninsula from which you can reach Port Orchard; Pier 52 will get you to Bainbridge Island. A few blocks up, at Pier 55, is the boat for Blake Island. You have to go substantially further north, to Pier 69, for the trip to Victoria.
Vashon Island is actually larger than the island of Manhattan in New York City. However, its personality is more like the Hudson Valley of upstate New York. It hosts a population of only around 11,000 people—literally an island of pastoral character in the wake (20 minutes’ ferry ride) of a giant urban area. In fact, from the mid-19th to the late 20th centuries, Vashon Island was almost entirely farmland, populated by apple orchards and strawberry fields. Today the island has been developed into a more suburban area, but still a very quiet and largely rural one; numerous small farms still thrive within the community, and each July the island holds a Strawberry Festival. The island’s pastoral feel means that there are many sweeping vistas to behold: Of the Sound, of Seattle, of the other peninsula and other islands. Many of these you can see by walking along the beaches that form the island’s perimeter. But it’s not completely isolated from civilization: In the center of the island you will find a host of restaurants, cafes, gift and antique shops, bed-and-breakfasts, and art galleries.

Bainbridge Island, to the north of Vashon Island and 35 minutes from Downtown, is only three-fourths the size of Vashon in area—but contains over twice the population. Even with this higher density, however, Bainbridge Island retains the same rural character, and a similar history, as Vashon. (The city is very rigorous about keeping real estate development on a tight leash, and maintaining green space.) It also has an artisanal character when it comes to liquor and spirits, with seven wineries, a brewery, and an organic vodka/gin/whiskey distillery in its environs. While the entire island is occupied by the city of Bainbridge Island (or Isle), there are four primary villages within that city: Winslow, the downtown area; Lynwood Center, on the western side; Fletcher Bay, to the east; and Rolling Bay, to the northeast. Each has its own small commercial area featuring restaurants, shops, and lots of parkland.

Sitting in between Bainbridge and Vashon, Blake Island also sits in marked contrast to them. It is tiny—a little more than a square mile—undeveloped and uninhabited. In fact, apart from the small marina and the longhouse that houses Tillicum Village, it looks substantially like the Suquamish tribal campground that it was for thousands of years before European explorers found it. It was also the birthplace of Chief Seattle, for whom the city is named. (Tillicum Village is a small museum and performance attraction that celebrates the island’s Native American heritage.) The entirety of Blake Island is a Washington State park, and is preserved as a campground and marine park. In fact, it’s so secluded that the boat that reaches Blake Island is not a ferry, but a small tour boat—either that, or you can charter a private boat for the trip.

Bremerton is not an island, nor on an island. It is a small city on the Kitsap Peninsula’s Sinclair Inlet that is 55 minutes’ ferry ride from Seattle. The primary attraction of Bremerton is the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, commissioned in 1891 and used in the World Wars as a construction facility (and, in the second, to repair ships that were damaged in battle). Currently a National Historical Site, it houses four decommissioned aircraft carriers and one battleship, the USS Turner Joy, that serves as a tour-able museum. However, the same ferry terminal at which you arrive in Bremerton also contains boats (no cars—foot ferry only) that depart for Port Orchard, which is just ten minutes across the inlet to the south. Port Orchard is only about a third of the size of Bremerton, but it has a reputation in the Seattle area for its abundant antique shops, making it a popular destination for locals and tourists alike.

The big trip across the water from Seattle, however, isn’t a quick little jaunt across the sound to a suburb. It’s a three-hour, $102.50USD ride on the Victoria Clipper, a large ferry that crosses international borders to arrive in Victoria, Canada. Victoria is the capital of British Columbia, the westernmost province of Canada; its large, baroque Parliament building dominates the city from almost any aspect. For all its proximity to the United States, it is a distinctly non-American city; it is sometimes referred to as the most English city in all of Canada. It is also known as “The City of Gardens” for its beautiful, landscaped green spaces. These are effectively summarized in Beacon Hill Park, a 200-acre green park that includes gardens, walking trails, two playgrounds, a waterpark, athletic fields, a petting zoo, and tennis courts, along with the world’s fourth largest totem pole. Being on Vancouver Island, however, Victoria also has waterfront areas, exemplified by its Inner Harbour (where the Parliament is situated)—which in the summertime, in addition to the regular arrival of boats and floatplanes, fills with artists and performers. There are many other attractions in Victoria as well, including more gardens, museums, and the second oldest Chinatown in North America.

There is much to see and do in Seattle, and plenty of day trips to be taken between sessions at the 64th annual ICA Conference. But Seattle is also a gateway to the Pacific Northwest region. When the conference ends on 26 May, if you have the opportunity, do take some time to explore these other possibilities.
New Media and Citizenship in Asia: Values, Digital Politics, and Civic Well-Being

**Time:** Thursday, 22 May 9:00 - 17:00  
**Location:** Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Cedar A  
**Cost:** $45 USD student, $100 faculty/ nonmember (lunch is provided)

This preconference aims to showcase innovative scholarly work examining various subjects concerning the role of social media, mobile phones, and other new communication technologies in the formation of democratic citizenship writ large in Asia. The preconference seeks studies that address relevant topics in any particular Asian country; comparative research on two or more Asian countries or Asian and non-Asian countries is also welcome. In particular, the preconference encourages studies examining national elections in Asian countries which present a theory-driven analysis of the role of social media in real-world, offline civic and political action. In addition, the preconference invites research that explores the role of values and traditions in Asian digital politics. Studies utilizing innovative and mixed methods approaches are particularly welcome. Scholars whose research concerns the overall ICA conference theme, Communication and the Good Life, in an Asian context are also encouraged to submit a paper.

**Contact(s):** Nojin Kwak (kwak@umich.edu)

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Researching and Working in a Global/Transnational Context: Mentoring on Practical Considerations

**Time:** Thursday, 22 May 9:00 - 17:00  
**Location:** Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Boren  
**Cost:** $100/ $75 students (lunch is provided)

With campuses internationalizing in several regions, as well as the trend of universities establishing communication programs modeled after their "home" campuses in other countries, new job opportunities in a transnational context have opened up for graduate students and early career academics. Further, practical considerations in doing research transnationally have only intensified as obtaining funding becomes more difficult and regulations become more complex. This a perfect time for senior scholars to share their experience in these areas. Through interactive plenaries and workshops, participants and presenters will engage with current challenges and opportunities.

**Registrants must have their papers accepted by the session organizers.**

**Contact:** Rashmi Luthra (rluthra@umich.edu)

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Sharing: A Keyword for the Digital Age

**This preconference is not held at the Sheraton.**

**Time:** Thursday, 22 May 9:00 - 17:00  
**Location:** U of Washington, Husky Union Building 340  
**Transportation:** Shuttle Buses Set-up by ICA  
**Cost:** $70 USD (lunch is provided)

Sharing is a rich and emotive concept that refers to a range of distinct yet associated practices, all of which are powerfully salient in contemporary society. At the very least, sharing is the constitutive activity of Web 2.0; an alternative mode of production, distribution and consumption; and a category of speech. Through their presentations and analyses of different practices of sharing (and nonsharing, and oversharing...), the various speakers will interrogate both the rhetoric and the praxis of sharing, often with reference to the overarching digital frameworks of contemporary sharing. As such, this preconference will seek to advance research and theorization of sharing.
Keynote Speaker: Russell W. Belk, Schulich School of Business, York University, Canada. Prof. Belk is a key figure in the study of sharing. His research has focused on questions of materialism and the meaning of possessions, collecting, gifting and sharing. More recently, he has taken an interest in the nature of sharing in the digital age. His 2010 article in the Journal of Consumer Research, Sharing, is an important reference point for research into contemporary practices of sharing.

Website: http://sharing2014.wordpress.com/

Contact(s): Nicholas John (n.john@huji.ac.il)

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Social and Semantic Networks in Communication Research

**Time:** Thursday, 22 May 9:00 - 17:30  
**Location:** Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Cedar B  
**Cost:** $60 USD student, $100 USD faculty (lunch will be provided offsite)

The quick advancement of social networks and semantic network analysis is still weakly received in the communication sciences. Network researchers have developed powerful and scalable tools and approaches to the analysis of discourse texts and communicative interactions, and first inroads are being cut toward the joint analysis of social and semantic network data. However, these methods' communication theoretic foundations, as well as their applications for addressing pressing questions in the field are still underdeveloped. This workshop is aimed to connect network analytic methodology with important developments in the field of communication research.

Contact(s): Christian Baden (c.baden@lmu.de)

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Innovation in Higher Education: Building a Better Future?

**This preconference is not held at the Sheraton.**

**Time:** Thursday, 22 May 10:00 - 16:00  
**Location:** Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, 500 5th Avenue North, Seattle  
**Transportation:** The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is on the edge of downtown right across from the Seattle Center, slightly over a mile north of the hotel. (For a map, see http://goo.gl/maps/5sXHw). Public transportation is available (participants will have to pay for their own fares.)  
**Cost:** $50 (lunch is provided)

This preconference proposes to explore the issues raised by these developments, focusing on several interrelated questions:

1. Is higher education really in crisis or is it really a success story of a system that has adapted over time, and will survive the current challenges without major change?  
2. What are the major innovation challenges for the higher education system and how can they best be addressed?  
3. What do MOOCs mean for the future of higher education? Are they just a marketing device for elite institutions, or can they really be a force for the 'democratisation of education'?  
4. How is technology-enabled online learning more generally changing the nature of teaching and learning, the role of faculty and the teacher-student relationship?  
5. What is the potential for the use of learner analytics and big data approaches to large-scale online education, and are there threats hidden in this advances?

Website: http://www.oii.ox.ac.uk/events/?id=634  
Contact(s): Bill Dutton (william.dutton@oii.ox.ac.uk)

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Communicating Corporate Social Responsibility: A Showcase of Projects from the Arthur W. Page Center

**Time:** Thursday, 22 May 13:00 - 17:00 (half-day)  
**Location:** Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Aspen  
**Cost:** $0.00 free
This preconference will feature recent corporate social responsibility projects supported by the Arthur W. Page Center. Following a panel of prominent scholars discussing recent CSR research, local practitioners will share their experiences with practical application of CSR in the field. The research presentations will address a broad spectrum of CSR work, including environmental sustainability, social responsibility, nonprofit-corporation partnerships, employee diversity, and measurement of CSR impacts.

Contact(s): Denise Bortee (dsb177@psu.edu)


Time: Thursday, 22 May 13:00 - 17:00 (half-day)
Location: Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Redwood A
Cost: $20 USD student, $60 USD regular

ICA employs English as the primary language for scholarly publication and exchange. However, this focus on English may create a disadvantage to scholars for whom English is a second language. This preconference provides guidance regarding publication in English-language journals, from journal editors, reviewers, and from scholars for whom English is a second language. This preconference is intended for younger faculty and graduate students, or more senior faculty planning to publish in English-language journals.

Contact(s): Jochen Peter (j.peter@uva.nl)

Student Column: Early-Career Scholars’ News and Events at the Seattle Conference

Anne Kaun, ICA Student Board Member, Sodertorn U & U of Pennsylvania

The annual conference is getting closer and we would like to take the chance to point out some of the events organized for early-career scholars. But before going into detail with the conference events, we also would like to introduce the new graduate student group website that hopefully becomes a helpful space for graduate student members and early-career scholars within in the ICA. The website’s primary goal is to provide key resources for academic achievement, professional development, and work-life coherence. A key component of this strategy is building and enhancing a comprehensive Early Career Scholars’ Network. The website highlights several aspects of this network, including: ways and strategies to get involved with ICA and network with other scholars, news and information on opportunities, Frequently Asked Questions for early career scholars, and a mentoring platform that be will online shortly. Have a look around at gsg.icahdq.org and let us know what you think!

That brings us to a number of events that are organized for early-career scholars at this year’s conference in Seattle. Come and join us for no less than five pre-conference workshops with relevance for early-career scholars (see list below), the ICA Annual Member Meeting and New Member/Graduate Student Orientation and of course the Graduate Student Reception.

The Annual Member Meeting and New Member/Graduate Student Orientation that takes place on Friday 23 May, 10.30 to 11.45 (Redwood A) and is a great opportunity not only to interact with the Executive Committee of the ICA, but also to raise questions, issues and concerns linked to the ICA and beyond. New members will get in introduction into the structures of the association.

Last but not least, we would like to continue mingling with you in a relaxed atmosphere at the graduate student reception off-site the conference hotel. Join us for drinks, food and music at Kells Irish Pub just a short walk from the Sheraton. We hope you like to party!
Besides ICA, the following sponsors have made the reception possible with their support.
Thank you!

Pre-Conference Events

Public Scholarship Behind the Podium and On the Screen  Time: Thursday, 22 May 13:00 - 17:00 half-day
Location: Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Juniper
Cost: $0 USD
Organizers: John Paul Gutierrez, ICA Communication Director
Description: Scholars are increasingly asked to share and promote their research by universities, granting organizations or publishers who seek to reach a broader and more diverse audience. These opportunities can be rewarding and can influence the public discourse. This session will offer scholars practical strategies to hone their skills as public speakers before non-academic audiences and on television. Topics will include how to express complex ideas in a 15-minute presentation that is memorable and connects with the audience, how to make numeric information accessible and meaningful, and how to prepare for live and taped television interviews.
Contact: John Paul Gutierrez jpgutierrez@icahdq.org

5th Annual Doctoral Consortium of the Communication and Technology Division
**NOTE** This preconference is not held at the Sheraton.
Time: Thursday, 22 May 8:30 - 17:00
Location: Seattle Public Library (1000 4th Ave -- room 2 on the 4th level of the library)
Transportation: The library is about a 10-minute walk from the Sheraton Seattle hotel (0.5 miles away). Doctoral Consortium participants can meet in the lobby of the Sheraton and walk over together at 8:15am on May 22nd
Cost: $75 USD (lunch is provided)
Organizers: Dr. Nosh Contractor, Northwestern U
Dr. Ang Peng Hwa, Nanying Technical U
Dr. Lee Humphreys, Cornell U
Dr. Nicole Kraemer, U of Duisburg-Essen
Dr. Leah Lievrouw, U of California, Los Angeles
Dr. Miriam Metzger, U of California, Santa Barbara
Dr. S. Shyam Sundar, Pennsylvania State U
Description: The consortium will bring together PhD candidates working on Communication and Technology to give them the opportunity to present and discuss their research in a constructive and international atmosphere. The goals of the event are to provide feedback and advice to participating PhD candidates on their in-progress research thesis. Moreover, the doctoral consortium will provide the opportunity to meet experts as well as fellow PhD candidates from different backgrounds working on related topics. During the consortium, students will present their work and receive feedback from their fellow students and faculty participants, all of whom will have read the proposals in advance of the Doctoral Consortium. In addition, at least one faculty participant will be assigned to respond in detail to each proposal. Besides the presentations of proposals, there will also be discussion of other topics such as ethics, research methods, publishing the thesis, and positioning one's work for the job market.
*Please note that this preconference is open to selected applicants only. Information about how to apply is forthcoming in early 2014.*
PhD Workshop: Public Relations and Strategic Communication
Time: Thursday, 22 May 9:00 - 13:00
Location: Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Leschi
Cost: $30 USD
Organizers: Friederike Schultz, Jennifer Bartlett
Description: This seminar is relevant for PhD students within the research field of Public Relations at different stages of their dissertation process. The aim of the seminar is to provide doctoral students in the field of Public Relations with an opportunity to present and discuss their dissertation research in a constructive atmosphere. Students receive feedback and advice on their projects, theoretical frameworks, methodologies and research designs from senior scholars and other students, who review the proposals.
Contact: Jennifer Bartlett (j.bartlett@qut.edu.au)

Political Communication Graduate Student Workshop
**This preconference is not held at the Sheraton.**
Time: Thursday, 22 May 9:00 - 17:00
Location: U of Washington, Alder 103
Transportation: Shuttle Buses Set-up by ICA
Cost: free (lunch is provided)
Organizers: Claes de Vreese
Description: A preconference graduate workshop focused on providing guidance, feedback and professional socialization to political communication graduate students. The preconference goals include providing guidance, feedback and professional socialization to political communication graduate students at the master's and doctoral levels, introducing graduate students to ICA and inviting them to take part in the academic discourse on political communication through ICA, and cultivating a network among young political communication scholars. To achieve these goals, the preconference will bring together a select group of graduate students working on political communication projects and provide them with the opportunity to present and discuss their projects in a constructive atmosphere. The preconference will also address common issues graduate students face, including working toward publication and building a CV. *You need to pre-approved by Claes before you can register.*
Contact: Claes de Vreese (c.h.devreese@uva.nl)

Time: Thursday, 22 May 13:00 - 17:00 (half-day)
Location: Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Redwood A
Cost: $20 USD student, $60 USD regular
Organizers: Jochen Peter
Description: ICA employs English as the primary language for scholarly publication and exchange. However, this focus on English may create a disadvantage to scholars for whom English is a second language. This preconference provides guidance regarding publication in English-language journals, from journal editors, reviewers, and from scholars for whom English is a second language. This preconference is intended for younger faculty and graduate students, or more senior faculty planning to publish in English-language journals.
Contact: Jochen Peter (j.peter@uva.nl)

Member News

This article includes new postings with the latest ICA member news, as well as updates on outside conferences and publications. All ICA members are encouraged to submit their latest professional news for inclusion in the Newsletter by emailing jle@icahdq.org.

New Book Announcement

Abstract

This book presents an in-depth exploration of the Twilight saga in relationship to transnational cultural and social trends found in our global world. The analysis provides an explanation for the series’ extraordinary popularity, presenting a wealth of original research on audiences, cultural referents, and conceptual links that connect Twilight to other franchises. Including 15 chapters written by contributors from 5 different countries, the book also presents new ideas regarding Twilight's main characters, textual aspects of the films, and representations of gender, race, class, sex, and power. The approach is interdisciplinary and the overarching framework is Cultural Studies.


Robert Gutsche Jr. and a team of journalism professors at Florida International U (Miami) was one of 12 teams to receive a $35,000 grant from the Challenge Fund for Innovation in Journalism Education awarded in April by the Online News Association. The FIU team will produce student journalism related to sea level rise in South Florida. More than 120 teams applied for the grant from across the country. Follow their work at #hackcurriculum @SLRSoFla #crowdhydrology.

Calls for Papers

Asian Cultural & Media Studies Research Cluster

6-7 November 2014
Monash Asia Institute, Monash U, Melbourne, Australia


The conference aims to critically revisit some of the key issues in the study of Asian culture, media and communications, which have been developed rapidly over the last twenty years, to discuss what kinds of new approaches and scholarly frameworks are required in the current socio-historical context. The conference will focus on four key areas of investigation, whose historical significance and transgressive potential requires reassessment in light of the advancement of market-driven processes of globalization and intensifying socio-economic disparity:

1) Alternative modernities and de-Westernization
2) Trans-Asian connections, dialogue and unevenness
3) Cultural convergence, citizenship and socio-cultural diversity
4) Mobility, imagined communities and cosmopolitanism

We are inviting proposals for paper presentations on these issues, although proposals that are in other ways relevant to the topic of Asian Cultural and Media Studies Now will also be considered.

The conference format will be discussion-oriented and all speakers will give a concise talk of the main points for 10-15 minutes. Speakers are not expected to present complete papers but to raise key theoretical questions with related empirical examination where relevant.

Please send your paper proposals (less than 300 words) with your affiliation details and e-mail address no later than 12 May to: MAI-Enquiries@monash.edu. Please clearly put “Paper proposal for Asian Cultural and Media Studies Now” in the subject line. Acceptance of proposals will be notified in mid-June.

Please kindly be advised that we will not be able to offer financial support for participants’ travel costs. There will be no registration fees for the conference.

We look very much forward to receiving your proposals!
Communication and Technology

James Danowski

CAT Climate Change: 2007 to 2014

What was hot in 2007 CAT paper topics compared to what is cool now in the 2014 papers? Looking at Figures 1 and 2 may stimulate insights for you.

Taking the paper titles from the CAT program in 2007 and 2014, I extracted word pairs from each set using the same parameters. Z-tests on relative word pair frequencies found the significant differences resulting in Figures 1 and 2. Figure 1 shows what was hot in 2007. These are the word pairs that are significantly more frequent in 2007 compared to 2014. Figure 2 is the reverse. It shows the network among pairs that are significantly higher in relative frequency now compared to 2007.

In seven years the number of hot/cool word pairs more than tripled, from 20 to 72 (Chi squared = 29.391 with df = 1, two-tailed p < 0.0001). Groups jumped from 5 to 16 (Chi squared = 5.762 with df= 1, two-tailed p < 0.016).

As you look at the word networks across the seven-year stretch, consider the content changes in light of your experience of the 2007 "information society." The "new media" were not yet "social," as "computer-mediated" was the main descriptor of that communication domain. Twitter, having launched in 2006, was exploding in media coverage about it. Also launched in 2006, Facebook for ages 13+ was fast becoming the cool new way for a student to become an instant narcissistic media celebrity in his or her social network. Most people had a mobile phone that was quite dumb, except for in Japan. In Europe, Nokia’s Symbian devices were emerging to dominate its smartphone market. In North America, Apple introduced the iPhone in 2007, and in 2008 the first Google Android phone appeared. Looking at this seven year semantic flash of 2007 CAT paper topics in light of the new CAT content, the evolution has suddenly become more personally meaningful. I hope it has for you, too.
Environmental Communication

The ICA Conference in Seattle is just a few weeks away. Please see the program for all of the ECIG sessions, including co-sponsored sessions with the Political Communication and Journalism Studies divisions.

We will see many of you at the ECIG breakfast reception, which will be held before our business meeting on Saturday, 24 May 2014 (9:00-10:15A, Jefferson B). We will be in touch in the coming weeks with more details for those who RSVP’d for the breakfast reception.

Also, we wanted to take a moment to correct an error in the recent ICA newsletter. The correct schedule and room for Zheng Yang’s top faculty paper entitled “Extending the RISP Model: Elaboration, Policy Support, and Behavioral Intention Related to Climate Change Mitigation” is below:
Scheduled Time: Sun 25 May 2014, 13:30 to 14:45, Building/Room: Seattle Sheraton / Kirkland

We’re looking forward to meeting together in Seattle. Remember, if you haven’t already done so; please make sure to register for the conference on ICA website: http://www.icahdq.org/shopping/

Gay Lesbian Bisexual and Transgender Studies

Technologies of Sex and Gender Unconference: Queer Theories and Subjects http://icaglbt.wordpress.com/

As explained in the CFP and on the website this is not your usual conference, or even preconference. Unlike traditional academic conferences, the schedule and sessions are wholly determined by the participants. Space is still available, even if you missed the proposal deadline.

As of right now we have 13 sessions proposed, but only have space and time for 6-9 depending on how we use our available space. Given the flexible nature of the unconference format, if the weather is nice we might even be able to schedule more outside.

Right now we are taking feedback from participants on what sessions they are most interested in. Nearer to May we shall put together a working schedule, but on the day of the precon we will have time in the morning to rearrange the schedule as necessary.

Proposed Schedule for May 22:

8:00: If you want to travel with the group to UW via public transit meet in the lobby of the Hilton (1301 6th Ave, Seattle, WA, 98101) by 8am. If you wish to get there on your own we will have a specific room/building posted to the website closer to the conference.

9:00-10:00: Opening remarks, finalizing of schedule and 2-minute lightening round research talks with coffee!

10:00-11:00: 2-3 concurrent sessions
Potential for one larger group and one small break out room, or two smaller sessions in larger room and one small break out room

11:00-12:00: 2-3 concurrent sessions
Potential for one larger group and one small break out room, or two smaller sessions in larger room and one small break out room

12:00-13:30: Lunch break (joint lunch for all preconferences provided by U of Washington)

13:30-14:00: Check in on afternoon schedule and opportunity for additional two-minute lightening round presentations (and buffer for late lunch returners)

14:00-15:00: 2-3 concurrent sessions
Potential for one larger group and one small break out room, or two smaller sessions in larger room and one small break out room

15:00-16:00: Concluding remarks and coffee

Let us know if you have any questions (adrienne.shaw@temple.edu)

ICA GLBT Seattle Schedule
Organizational Communication

All division members are invited to attend our annual division reception. We extend a special invitation to all new members of the division (those who joined within the last year or two) and to all those who have served the division as paper reader or respondent this year. We have free drink tickets for all of you to say “welcome” and as a thank you for your important work. This year’s event will be held at Elephant & Castle Pub and Restaurant, 1415 Fifth Avenue (just a block west of the Sheraton in the Red Lion Hotel). The reception is Friday, May 23 from 18:00-19:30, right after our division business meeting. This event is generously co-sponsored by VU Amsterdam, Management Communication Quarterly (Sage), and Wiley Publishers. The party promises free food, good drinks, and a fun venue in which to visit with your colleagues in the division. A very short program to recognize our sponsors is also planned.

Finally, the division is still soliciting paper reviewers for the ICA 2015 Conference. If you want to volunteer, please contact Keri Stephens at keristephens@austin.utexas.edu prior to the Seattle conference (and earn your free drink ticket for next year!).

See you in Seattle!
-Craig Scott (Rutgers U), Vice Chair

Available Positions and Other Advertising

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
College of Media and Communication
Post-Doctoral Position

The College of Media and Communication at Texas Tech University invites applications for a post-doctoral position in crisis communication, organizational response to natural disasters, and/or disaster preparedness. The post-doc will work with college faculty as part of a University-wide interdisciplinary cluster in the area of wind hazards. Required qualifications and a full job description are available at http://www.depts.ttu.edu/comc/employment/post-doc-crisis-comm.php. Deadline for full consideration for this position is May 5, 2014, but applications will be considered until the position has been filled. Informal queries may be made to the chairs of the search committee, Dr. Glenn Cummins (glenn.cummins@ttu.edu) or Dr. Erik Bucy (erik.bucy@ttu.edu).
Postdoctoral and PhD studentship opportunities in Media and Communication, Karlstad University, Sweden

Media and Communication at Karlstad University, Sweden

Karlstad University has around 16,000 students and 1,200 members of staff. Media and Communication is part of the Department of Geography, Media and Communication (which also includes Film Studies) and offers a vibrant and diverse research environment. Several members of our academic staff are internationally recognized and most staff members are research active. Researchers in the department have extensive experience of publishing in international peer-reviewed journals and of attracting external research funding. Research in the department is conducted within two core, overarching areas: Media, Democracy and Citizenship, and Communication, Culture and Identity. Within these broader areas, researchers in the department study topics such as global media studies; journalism studies; media geography; communication for development; visual communication; popular culture; and the political economy of media and communication.

The department has recently received a major grant to set up The Ander Research Centre on News and Opinion in the Digital Era (NODE), with Professor Henrik Örnebring as Director and Dr Michael Karlsson as Co-Director. Thanks to this grant, we are now able to offer a fully-funded 2-year postdoctoral position in news, public opinion, and digital media, and two fully-funded PhD studentships (full-time salaried positions for 4 years) – one linked to the NODE research centre (the proposed PhD thesis topic should be relevant to the research programme of NODE), and one open position (any PhD thesis topic in the areas of Media, Democracy and Citizenship and/or Communication, Culture and Identity).

Further details (in English) on these posts and how to apply can be found here:

*Postdoctoral position in News, Public Opinion and Digital Media (full-time, 2 years):*  

*Fully-funded PhD bursary (full-time, 4 years) – News, Public Opinion and Digital Media:*  

*Fully-funded PhD bursary (full-time, 4 years) – Media, Democracy and Citizenship and/or Communication, Culture and Identity:*  

For queries, contact Professor Henrik Örnebring (henrik.ornebring@kau.se) or Dr Michael Karlsson (michael.karlsson@kau.se).