ICA Election 2020 Results: Noshir Contractor, President-Elect-Select

by Julie Arnold, ICA Senior Manager of Governance

The International Communication Association annual election has closed. The scope of the election included both association-wide votes (on both officers and bylaws changes) as well as votes specific to any divisions or interest groups.

CERTIFICATION OF RESULTS

ICA election results were certified by the Tellers Committee comprised of the Executive Director, the President and the Nominating Committee Chair. The committee reviewed both the list below, prepared by ICA’s Senior Manager of Governance, and checked it against the actual submission system’s tallies to ensure accuracy.

TERMS

Unless otherwise indicated, candidates elected in the Fall 2020 election serve a two-year term beginning Monday, 31 May 2021 (the last day of the 71st Annual ICA Conference) and ending with the conclusion of the 2023 Annual ICA Conference in Toronto, Canada.

Message from ICA Regarding the #ICA21 Conference

After careful discussion and consideration, it is our sad duty to announce that the 71st Annual Conference of the International Communication Association, scheduled for 27-31 May, will no longer include Denver as an in-person portion of a hybrid event. In light of COVID-19 and the additional ways that the pandemic "ripple effect" has affected travel budgets, travel restrictions, and in-person events, we will instead be convening the ICA conference entirely virtually on an entirely new platform with the conference theme of Engaging the Essential...continued on page 10

Professor Jennings Bryant

Mary Beth Oliver (Pennsylvania State U) & Arthur A. Raney (Florida State U)

Professor Jennings Bryant, ICA President from 2002-2003 and Distinguished Professor Emeritus at the U of Alabama, passed away on October 14th. We are heartbroken that he is gone, and he will be missed beyond measure. In this time, we wanted to take a moment to celebrate his remarkable life while we also mourn his passing and send our heartfelt condolences to his loving family.

It is difficult to imagine a more accomplished and respected scholar who has shown Professor...continued on page 2
Bryant’s level of leadership, influence, and initiative. He and his exemplary career personified excellence in scholarly pursuit, mentorship, and integrity. His research in media effects has touched countless scholars in a wide variety of related disciplines across the world, and his distinguished scholarly record has formed the basis of one of the largest and fastest-growing areas of research in the field of communication: entertainment psychology. To say that Professor Bryant was influential is an enormous understatement of his invaluable contributions.

Throughout his career, Professor Bryant published hundreds of book chapters and journal articles, gave countless presentations around the world at professional meetings and at invited lectures, and wrote and edited over 25 book volumes that form the basis of almost all social scientific research on children, families, and media; media effects; and entertainment psychology. The breadth of his scholarly contributions to media psychology is astounding, as virtually every theoretical model routinely employed by scholars throughout the field of media psychology reflects Professor Bryant’s theorizing and research.

But his influence across the discipline of communication cannot be overstated. As co-editor of the Communication Series and editor of the Communication Textbook Series at Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, he oversaw and championed the development of more than 400 books in 16 sub-disciplines of the field including interpersonal, intercultural, group, organizational, and political communication; rhetoric; communication law; media economics; public relations; and journalism. Further, his applied research helped to shape prosocial children’s programs like Sesame Street, The Electric Company, and Blue’s Clues, and he served on boards and task forces at the federal and state level to promote public access to broadband and other media technologies. It follows that Professor Bryant was the recipient of numerous honors, including ICA Fellow from the International Communication Association, the Distinguished Scholar Award from the Broadcast Education Association, the Steven Chaffee Career Productivity Award from ICA, the Burnum Distinguished Faculty Award from the University of Alabama, and an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Davidson College, among many others. In October of 2018, Professor Bryant was inducted into the University of Alabama’s College of Communication and Information Sciences Hall of Fame, an honor shared with such notables as Harper Lee, Helen Keller, and Gay Talese.

In addition to his unparalleled scholarly contributions, Professor Bryant was a generous, giving, inspiring, and talented mentor and teacher. His students absolutely adored him. This adoration reflects both their admiration of his scholarly insight and contribution, and their appreciation of his obvious careful attention to and concern for their future academic careers and aspirations. Professor Bryant was a strong yet gentle leader to his students—demanding that they live up to their potentials, that they evidence integrity in their scholarship, and that they show respect to their colleagues. He was a role model to countless generations of grateful students who have flourished under his tutelage. These students have gone on to have distinguished careers at some of the leading universities in the world, but they carry with them the recognizable mark that Professor Bryant endowed upon them—a sincere intellectual curiosity, a drive for scholarship in the public interest, and a gentleness of spirit that is respectful toward and celebratory of others’ ideas and accomplishments.

Finally, if you have had the chance to work or study with Professor Bryant, you have had the pleasure of knowing that in addition to being a singularly exceptional scholar, he was a remarkably generous, kind, and big-hearted individual. Professor Bryant was a champion for others—never hesitating a moment to provide helpful advice, feedback, and praise. He was a careful mentor—encouraging others to reach higher goals than they thought possible. And he was a humble scholar—giving others credit rather than accepting accolades for himself.

Professor Bryant was—without qualification—one of the “giants” in the field of communication. His voluminous productivity, his broad influence on the direction of theorizing in mass communication, his mentorship of scholars, and his contribution to the profession only begin to scratch the surface of his magnificent life and scholarly career.

We are grateful to you, Jennings. We are honored to have learned from you and grow from you. We are appreciative to you for your guidance and inspiration. Because of your mentorship and generosity, you will continue to live on in our scholarship and in our hearts.
ICA Election 2020: Increased Voter Turnout
by Julie Arnold, ICA Senior Manager of Governance

For the second year in a row, ICA hosted a social media campaign in an effort to invigorate voter turnout in the ICA Election 2020. Upon submitting their votes, members were encouraged to tweet using the sticker and hashtag #IVotedICA20. To incentivize engagement, we shared that one participant would be randomly selected to win a blanket with our new ICA logo. As the election progressed, ICA division and interest group chairs were provided with several updates on turnout percentages; they were urged to send reminders via email and social media to help get out the vote.

More robust elections tend to lead to leaders with a stronger mandate to get things done, and a better sense of community. As staff, my goal is to see ICA members active and engaged in the ICA community, divisions and interest groups. Participating in the political process is a starting point to building a culture of member investment in the future of their division and interest groups through carefully considered choices in leadership. With every division and interest group having representation on the Board of Directors (via the Chair); their leadership represents the voice of all members in decisions that guide the future of our Association.

I am pleased to share this year as an Association, we saw a marked increase in voter turnout. Voter turnout in the ICA wide election increased from 17% in 2018 and 19% in 2019 to 24% in 2020. 27 division and interest groups saw an increase in voter turnout from last year (one did not have an election last year, three did not have an election this year, one remained the same and two decreased slightly). The average voter turnout gained 50% from 16% in 2018 to 24% in 2020 - a huge step in the right direction! We had four division/interest groups end with over 30% voter turnout! Kudos to Computational Methods, Intergroup Communication, LGBTQ & Popular Communication for their efforts to get out the vote and member engagement!

Voter turnout percentages are included on the 2020 Election Results page. My objective is to see an upward trend in voter turnout over the coming years. If you do not routinely vote in the ICA election, I welcome input for how we might earn your vote in the future. Please feel free to contact me with election suggestions or questions at jarnold@icahdq.org.

Thank you to all those that participated in #IVotedICA20! We appreciate your effort to tweet, and even more importantly, your vote!

Congratulations Preeti Raghunath, Symbiosis International (Deemed U) Symbio, winner of a cozy ICA logo blanket! Preeti’s tweet: “Membership renewed, Voted for the Election #IVOTEDICA20.” was randomly selected to win.
ICA Awards Nominations Deadlines
by Katie Wolfe, ICA Manager of Conference Services

ICA Book Awards (Outstanding Book Award, ICA Fellows Book Award) **Deadline: 14 December 2020**

ICA Awards (Applied Research Award, B. Aubrey Fisher Mentorship Award, Early Career Scholar Award, Outstanding Article Award and Steven H. Chaffee Career Achievement Award) **Deadline: 29 January 2021**

In recognition of the extraordinary burden the pandemic places on everyone (and particularly those with caregiving responsibilities), the International Communication Association’s Awards Chairs have relaxed the rules for Awards this year. For more information please visit our award page.

ICA has revised its deadline for book-related awards to allow the committee more time to read and evaluate the submissions. The two ICA Book Awards (Outstanding Book Award and Fellows Book Award) have a separate nomination period and deadline: **14 December at 12:00 Noon ICA Office Time (EST).**

To nominate for one of the two ICA Book Awards, please go here: [https://www.icahdq.org/page/BookAwardsNoms](https://www.icahdq.org/page/BookAwardsNoms).

All other ICA Awards (Applied Research Award, B. Aubrey Fisher Mentorship Award, Early Career Scholar Award, Outstanding Article Award and Steven H. Chaffee Career Achievement Award) are now open for nominations. Get your nominations in before the deadline! **Deadline: 29 January 2021 at 12:00 Noon ICA Office Time (EST).**

To nominate for one of the five ICA Awards, please go here: [http://www.icahdq.org/?page=AwardNomination](http://www.icahdq.org/?page=AwardNomination).

For more information on all ICA Awards, please visit: [http://www.icahdq.org/page/Awards](http://www.icahdq.org/page/Awards).
MEMBERSHIP COLUMN

By Kristine Rosa, ICA Manager of Member Services & Marketing

Continue Accessing Your Favorite Benefits, Renew Today!

You may know that as a member of the International Communication Association (ICA), you receive a discount to the upcoming conference and access to ICA’s scholarly journals. But did you know there are two affinity programs available to ICA members?

By being an ICA member you also enjoy:
• 20% off any of ICA’s Handbook Series, and
• US$10 discount when you join the Communication Institute for Online Scholarship (CIOS)

Check out the ICA website to learn more and access these discounts: https://www.icahdq.org/page/ICA-Member-Discounts. Be sure to check in regularly for added discount benefits.

Continue accessing the ICA member benefits you love by renewing today and preventing a lapse! As a reminder, ICA membership is not prorated. It begins every year on 1 October and ends 30 September, with a 60-day grace period. We strongly encourage members to renew by the end of the grace period (1 December) to ensure a full year’s worth of ICA member benefits.

Click the link to renew your membership today: https://www.icahdq.org/login.aspx

ICA membership is working hard to bring about great changes and additional benefits to you, with one new and very exciting member benefit coming very soon (more information will be released at a later date).

Our goal has been to be your most valuable professional asset. If you haven’t renewed already, we hope you will renew your membership and join us again for this new and exciting membership term!

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A Special Report from Grazia Murtarelli, U IULM and Cecilia Zhou, U of Massachusetts - Amherst, ICA - SECAC Members

Voices and Aspirations: ICA Student & Early Career Representatives

In its continuing efforts to keep ICA students and early career scholars engaged, the Students and Early Career Advisory Committee (SECAC) interviewed the Students and Early Career Representatives (SECRs). What motivates them to serve? What are their perceptions of their roles? What are their intentions or plans to further their contributions to ICA’s growth?

Motivations

At first sight, the motivations that have stimulated them in becoming Student and Early Career Representatives are very similar. They showed a strong sense of belonging and gratitude towards ICA and its divisions that have been defined as “intellectual homes,” where different perspectives are included and welcomed and where support is provided for personal and professional growth. All the SECRs have been moved by the desire to bridge the gap between academics and young researchers and students to guarantee accessibility to resources, conversations, and research opportunities. Some of them would like to provide visibility to specific groups like students and young researchers from the global south. The majority of SECRs have received strong stimuli in actively participating in ICA from their divisions’ academics and mentors. These views show how much the dialogue and mutual support between academics and young scholars and students are crucial for the engagement and involvement of new generations.

Perceived Roles and Benefits of Engagement

SECRs have taken their role seriously and the opportunity to represent students and early career scholars from different countries. Covid emergency has revolutionized the field and the modalities to manage relationships and interactions amongst associations’ members. Despite the difficulties, SECRs desire to keep commitments and carry on the planned activities. Each division has its peculiarities, but some common guidelines and intentions could be put on evidence. Many SECRs would like to keep some events (even online) organized in the past, such as new conference formats and pre-conferences addressed to young scholars to provide them feedback on their academic works. The attention towards students and early scholars’ engagement will be increasingly high in the future by enriching their toolkit that they could have at their disposal with practical guides about, for instance, how to review or how to publish in an academic journal. The majority of SECRs intends to facilitate the mentorship activity addressed to young scholars to improve their inclusivity. They want to multiply the opportunities for them to grow up within the association.

In terms of benefits, all the SECRs feel positively affected by their experience in ICA. The SECR experience allows them to enlarge their networks of professional connections and get in touch with known scholars that sometimes appear so far from students’ lives. They have also experienced the opportunity to receive feedback and peer-review for what concerns their research outputs. ICA offers the possibility to know a variety of disciplines and methodological approaches. SECRs have been stimulated in broadening their research horizons and developing new ways of thinking to explore and understand the communication field. ICA represents an ideal place where acquiring and sharing knowledge.

Additionally, SECRs appreciate the most! These include the diversity of scholars’ interests and backgrounds; the multitude of research approaches, perspectives, and methods that is possible to know; the inclusivity guaranteed by the association in everyday initiatives and behaviors; the real sense of care showed towards the members; the sense of community developed through connections and constant interactions.

Intentions and Plans

SECRs hope to intensify their engagement and contributions to ICA’s growth. SECRs would like to find new ways to keep relationships and provide students and young scholars with the opportunity to actively participate in ICA’s undertaking. The SECRs hope to be provided with clear guidelines for them to understand better how to organize possible pre-conferences and workshops in COVID times could be a useful tool. SECRs and SECAC desire to build new pathways that could be innovative and disruptive to stimulate disciplinary research practices globally.
ICA Election Results from page 1

year term. Preceding the Treasurer’s three year term, they will serve one year as Treasurer Elect in which the role is non-voting and observational.

ICA WIDE RESULTS (24% VOTER TURNOUT)

President: Noshir Contractor, Northwestern U
Treasurer*: Elisia Cohen, U of Minnesota
Board Member at Large*: Michael Kent, U of New South Wales
Board Student & Early Career Representative: Christine Cook, New Jersey Institute of Technology
Bylaws Revision: Passed - "I accept the proposed changes to the bylaws"

DIVISION & INTEREST GROUP RESULTS

ACTIVISM, COMMUNICATION & SOCIAL JUSTICE (21% VOTER TURNOUT)
- Vice Chair: Hanan Badr, Cairo U
- Student & Early Career Representative: Antoine Haywood, U of Pennsylvania

CHILDREN ADOLESCENTS & MEDIA (28% VOTER TURNOUT)
- Vice Chair: Drew Cingel, U of California, Davis
- Bylaws Revision: Passed - "I accept the proposed changes to the bylaws"

COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY (n/a VOTER TURNOUT)
No ballot items due for the 2020 election

COMMUNICATION HISTORY (23% VOTER TURNOUT)
- Secretary: Isah Nasidi, U of Nigeria

COMMUNICATION LAW & POLICY (19% VOTER TURNOUT)
- Vice Chair: Luzhou (Nina) Li, Monash U

COMMUNICATION SCIENCE & BIOLOGY (24% VOTER TURNOUT)
- Secretary: Robert Potter, Indiana U

COMPUTATIONAL METHODS (30% VOTER TURNOUT)
- Secretary: Chung-hong Chan, U of Mannheim
- Student & Early Career Representative: Felicia Loecherbach, Vrije U Amsterdam

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNICATION (20% VOTER TURNOUT)
- Secretary: Hang Lu, U of Michigan

ETHNICITY & RACE IN COMMUNICATION (22% VOTER TURNOUT)
- Vice Chair: Mohan Dutta, Massey U

FEMINIST SCHOLARSHIP (26% VOTER TURNOUT)
- Vice Chair: Esra Ozcan, Tulane U
- Student & Early Career Representative: Emily Edwards, Bowling Green State U

GAME STUDIES (24% VOTER TURNOUT)
- Vice Chair: Maxwell Foxman, U of Oregon
- (Interim) International Liaison* (now through May 2021): Christine Cook, New Jersey Institute of Technology
- International Liaison* (2021-2023): Akiko Shibuya, Soka U
- A special note regarding the Interim International Liaison Election - This Division/Interest Group experienced an unanticipated vacancy of the International Liaison role. Christine Cook agreed to fill the vacancy and is already serving in this role until the last day of the 2021 ICA Annual Conference. Christine was included on the ballot to ratify the appointment. Christine’s successor was determined via the 2020 election to take office, per usual, the last day of the 2021 Annual ICA Conference in Denver.
- Bylaws Revision: Passed - "I accept the proposed changes to the bylaws"

GLOBAL COMMUNICATION & SOCIAL CHANGE (22% VOTER TURNOUT)
- Vice Chair: Saba Bebawi, U of Technology Sydney

HEALTH COMMUNICATION (21% VOTER TURNOUT)
- Secretary: Jessica Myrick, The Pennsylvania State U
- Student & Early Career Representative: Nikki McClaran, Michigan State U

HUMAN-MACHINE COMMUNICATION (23% VOTER TURNOUT)
- Secretary: Margot van der Goot, U of Amsterdam
- Student & Early Career Representative: Hannah Mieczkowski, Stanford U
- International Liaison: Carmina Rodríguez-Hidalgo, U Adolfo Ibáñez

INFORMATION SYSTEMS (22% VOTER TURNOUT)
- Vice Chair: David Jeong, Santa Clara U

INSTRUCTIONAL & DEVELOPMENTAL COMMUNICATION (16% VOTER TURNOUT)
- Secretary: Myrene Magabo, U of the Philippines Open University
- Student & Early Career Representative: Ryan Goke, North Dakota State U
- Voting Items #1-3: Motions to create three Division Awards: (all 3) Passed - "Yes"
- Voting Items #1-3: Creation of three Division Awards: The Instructional and Developmental Communication Division proposed the creation of three Division awards that recognize an outstanding thesis, outstanding dissertation, and outstanding graduate student teacher. These awards were discussed at the 2018 conference in Prague and received unanimous support. They were voted on as individual motions.
INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION (20% VOTER TURNOUT)
- **Vice Chair**: Sudeshna Roy, Stephen F. Austin State U

INTERGROUP COMMUNICATION (33% VOTER TURNOUT)
- **Vice Chair**: Yan Bing Zhang, U of Kansas
- **Student & Early Career Representative**: Stephenson Brooks Whitestone, U of California, Santa Barbara

INTERPERSONAL (21% VOTER TURNOUT)
- **Vice Chair**: Jeffrey Hall, U of Kansas
- **Student & Early Career Representative**: Elizabeth Hintz, U of South Florida

JOURNALISM STUDIES (29% VOTER TURNOUT)
- **Secretary**: Nikki Usher, U of Illinois
- **Student & Early Career Representative**: Margareta Salonen, U of Jyväskylä

LANGUAGE & SOCIAL INTERACTION (23% VOTER TURNOUT)
- **Vice Chair**: Todd Sandel, U of Macau
- **International Liaison**: Shengqin Jin, U at Albany, SUNY

LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER & QUEER STUDIES (33% VOTER TURNOUT)
- **Co-Chair**: Sharif Mowlabocus, Fordham U
- **Secretary**: Qi Li, King’s College London (The secretary elected in the Fall of 2020 will serve a special three-year term May 2021–May 2024)

*Regarding the Co-Chair role: LGBTQ employs a Co-Chair model instead of the standard ICA Chair/Vice Chair model. A new Co-Chair is elected every other year to serve a four year term.

**Regarding the Secretary role: ICA bylaws (Articles VI and VII, Section 3) mandate:
- "Each [Division/Interest Group] shall have a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, a Secretary and a Student and Early Career Representative... The Vice-Chairperson and the Secretary shall be elected in alternate years, each for a term of two years." {note: instead of the traditional Chair/Vice Chair model, LGBTQ employs a Co-Chair model}. This Division/Interest Group has both positions slated for election in the same year. In an effort to correct the election schedule, the secretary elected in the Fall of 2020 will serve a special three-year term.

MASS COMMUNICATION (29% VOTER TURNOUT)
- **Vice Chair**: Dana Mastro, U of California, Santa Barbara

MEDIA INDUSTRY STUDIES (n/a VOTER TURNOUT)
No ballot items due for the 2020 election

MOBILE COMMUNICATION (26% VOTER TURNOUT)
- **Vice Chair**: Mariek Vanden Abeele, Tilburg U
- **Bylaws Revision**: Passed - “I accept the proposed changes to the bylaws”

ORGANIZATIONAL COMMUNICATION (23% VOTER TURNOUT)
- **Secretary**: Anu Sivunen, U of Jyväskylä

PHILOSOPHY THEORY & CRITIQUE (22% VOTER TURNOUT)
- **Vice Chair**: Tanja Dreher, U New South Wales
- **Student & Early Career Representative**: Isaac Hoff, U Leicester

POLITICAL COMMUNICATION (n/a VOTER TURNOUT)
No ballot items due for the 2020 election

POPULAR COMMUNICATION (32% VOTER TURNOUT)
- **Secretary**: Amber Day, Bryant U
- **Student & Early Career Representative**: Krysten Stein, U of Illinois at Chicago
- **Vote Result**: Option 1 Passed - “I approve the proposed name change option 1: Popular Media & Culture” (contingent upon approval by ICA’s Executive Committee) - Regarding the proposed name change vote - The Popular Communication Division outlined proposed name change options and rationale. Option 1 passed (in favor of a change) by the division’s members. It will be subject to final approval by ICA’s Executive Committee prior to formally changing.

PUBLIC DIPLOMACY (19% VOTER TURNOUT)
- **Vice Chair**: Steven Pike, Syracuse U
- **Secretary**: Phillip Arceneaux, Miami U of Ohio (The secretary elected in the Fall of 2020 will take office immediately upon election and serve for two and half years - Oct 2020 - May 2023)

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Call for Editor for Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication (JCMC) & Series Editor for the ICA Handbook Series
ICA is currently accepting applications for both editor positions.

CLICK HERE

NOVEMBER 2020 ICA NEWSLETTER
2023)
- Regarding the Secretary Election- ICA bylaws (Articles VI and VII, Section 3) mandate:
- “Each [Division/Interest Group] shall have a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, a Secretary and a Student and Early Career Representative... The Vice-Chairperson and the Secretary shall be elected in alternate years, each for a term of two years.” This Division/Interest Group has both positions slated for election in the same year due to an unanticipated vacancy. In an effort to correct the election schedule, the secretary elected in the Fall of 2020 will serve a special two and a half year term taking office immediately upon election.

PUBLIC RELATIONS (26% VOTER TURNOUT)
- Vice Chair: W. Timothy Coombs, Texas A&M U
- Student & Early Career Representative: Alvin Zhou, U of Pennsylvania
- Vote: Passed - "I approve the Annual Business Meeting Minutes 2019"

SPORTS COMMUNICATION (24% VOTER TURNOUT)
- Secretary: Shaun Anderson, Loyola Marymount U

VISUAL COMMUNICATION STUDIES (25% VOTER TURNOUT)
- Vice Chair: Saumava Mitra, Dublin City U
Factors driving this difficult decision
This was a very difficult decision for the ICA Executive Committee to make, particularly because the conference was virtual in 2020. Yet as we planned for a hybrid format, it became increasingly clear that the in-person component of our conference was likely to be severely restricted because of health concerns, travel limitations, and the safety measures required by the hotel conference venue. We tried to imagine an ICA conference with these necessary restrictions:

- a precipitous decrease in the number of accepted panels because of the need to increase breaks from 15 minutes to 30+ minutes for room sanitizing,
- attendees would likely not be able to gather at the hotel restaurants or bars,
- people with accommodations would have difficulty in terms of access due to restrictions in elevator use,
- all elevators would be restricted to two people at a time (can you imagine the lines?)
- many local attractions would be closed or severely limited, making it nearly pointless to even travel somewhere new,
- registration would have included healthcare professionals hired by ICA doing mandatory temperature checks,
- distanced lines to get into the space each morning after a health screening, etc.

These restrictions all but eliminated the positive aspects of conferencing in person. Likewise, because of the pandemic, our members who would be participating virtually would have actually had the quality of their experience lessened by the existence of the in-person component – the extra breaks would have meant far more people turned away due to lack of time slots available, as the virtual event would have followed the timetable of the in-person one. Virtual attendees would get only a small slice of the in-person events, as streaming talks and presentations would be restricted to a small number due to exorbitant expenses. It became clear that the 2021 conference as a whole could only survive if we sacrificed the in-person component.

We want to be clear, however, that we remain committed to a future that includes hybrid conferencing: we just think hybrid will be more successful when the in-person component isn’t curtailed to such a drastic extent, so that both formats can flourish side by side.

Time is of the essence
While we are disappointed, we wanted to make this decision as early as possible in the process: before attendees started booking flights and hotels, before we sent out acceptances, and even, this year, before the deadline to submit has passed. The submission deadline isn’t until 6 November, so if you were ambivalent about a hybrid conference but might be more interested in a fully virtual one, you still have time! Many divisions have options for submissions that do not require a full paper. Please check the CFPs for more info.

What we learned from #ICA20
One thing is quite certain: this will not be 2020’s virtual conference. While many of you applauded our efforts in turning around quickly to a virtual conference in 2020, you also highlighted what we already knew: while it was impressive, it wasn’t ideal. We were the first association in our field to “call it” for virtual back in March 2020 (which seems like several decades ago now, doesn’t it), and so we didn’t have much to go on. No “best practices” had yet been established. Since then, we’ve helped numerous other associations in our field by sharing what we have learned and those conversations have helped us, in turn, refine what we valued about the experience. We gained valuable insights based on our virtual conference last year, and based on the feedback we received from the members (thank you to everyone who filled out the conference survey!), we are determined and optimistic about making this year’s virtual conference a rewarding experience for everyone. We also hope that we can work with you as a community to make #ICA21 a success.

Vast improvements in the virtual experience for #ICA21
We are pleased to share that our new platform from Cadmore does a lot of things that last year’s platform could not; in fact, of our bullet points of “must haves” for a new platform, after an extensive RFP process and doing tons of demos, we have found a platform that gives us everything on our wish list, including:

- Ease of navigation – it’s not as flashy with little avatars congregating in the lounge, but you won’t get lost looking for your paper
- The ability to receive notifications when people comment on your video, or reply to a comment you made
- Compatibility with ScholarOne, so that your video gets uploaded to EXACTLY where your paper is and can’t be misplaced
- Automatic captioning that will be generated by the system, emailed to presenters for typo corrections, and then synched to the video so that the captions not only appear at the bottom of each video but also appear as a transcript on the right side of the screen
- An incredible search function that allows you to not only search for a person’s name or a paper title, but to search for all the presentations that include a certain phrase in the video...and when you click on the results, it takes you to the exact moment in the video where the phrase occurs
- The ability to house your videos indefinitely if you so desire, so that your videos can be cited and listed on your CV

Message from ICA Regarding the #ICA21 from page 1

Work of Care: Communication, Connectedness, and Social Justice.
Social events
We are also working on new and creative ways to add more varied and robust social components to the conference, with one "hub" area that lists everything going on that day. And in a couple of months, we will be launching an online community engagement platform, an ICA member-only social platform. We hope that these measures will increase your engagement with the platform and with other humans, something we are all craving! As with the 2020 conference, we will have an #ICA21 FAQ page up soon to answer your other questions.

Synchronous or asynchronous? That is the question
While we won’t adhere to a schedule grid as if we were in-person, and most sessions will be asynchronous/pre-recorded, we will be more specific about what to look for each day, sending out a daily highlights "schedule" of ICA-wide events to look for.

Drastically reduced registration fees
We are also pleased to announce that we were able to come to agreement with the Hyatt in Denver so that, as we negotiated with the Gold Coast, we will incur no financial penalties and will instead move this Denver conference to June 2025. Because of this negotiation and the fact that we won’t have to pay for many of the things we normally pay for at an in-person conference (virtual attendees don’t need to be fed!), we are able to offer a steeply discounted registration fee this year for ICA members. Active ICA members will pay only the following fees:

- Tier A: US $50
- Tier B: US $25
- Tier C: US $0

Non-members will pay the same rates as last year, which are significantly higher. Joining or renewing has never been more worthwhile! We hope that this member discount will bring numerous new faces to ICA who will remain part of our academic community for years to come. ICA is more than just the annual conference! We’ve got lots of new member benefits launching this year as well.

Pre & post conferences
Finally, we hope to work with local communities that might, pandemic allowing, be able to organize local events around the #ICA21 conference (if you are organizing a preconference or post conference, the headquarters conference staff will be contacting you soon to ask if you wish to do your event virtually, in-person if you’re local, or not at all).

In summary
Going online (again) is not something we do lightly. But the pandemic leaves us with little choice. An early decision will allow our community to plan and engage ahead of time. In the unlikely event that everything resolves and it turns out, in the end, that the conference could have taken place in Denver next Spring, we might be critiqued for having taken this decision early. We believe the upsides of an early decision outweigh the uncertainty we would otherwise all be feeling in the next months.

There are so many decisions we each must make every day during this pandemic—some of them life-altering—that anything we can do to provide more certainty for the community, eliminate another decision “pain point,” and provide some uncertainty reduction for our community is a net positive. In 2020, we reassured you, “we will meet you where you are.” This holds true today. Life has not gotten easier since May 2020, but we’ve perhaps gotten a bit more accustomed to this way of being, and maybe we’ve each worked out some coping mechanisms. You can still have your child on your lap during your presentation. We will still have an epic showdown of cats (the mascots of Communication and Technology) and dogs (recently adopted unofficial mascots of the not-actually-renamed Division of Games). We will have dance parties and maybe a talent show and, if you’re not careful, karaoke. We know you’d rather be drinking carafe coffee and eating pastries – we would too! We will do our best to make our second virtual conference as fun, as worthwhile, and as rich as it can possibly be.

In closing, let us thank you in advance for your support of the association and the scholars in our field. Like many of you, we really long for meeting colleagues and friends, discussing new research and gathering socially. We hope and believe we can leverage the fantastic community spirit in ICA to make the conference a success and stand together in these challenging times.

Stay safe, stay well. We’ll see you soon.

Laura Sawyer, Executive Director
Mary Beth Oliver, President-Elect, Conference Planner
2021
Claes de Vreese, President
Member News

This column includes new postings with the latest news from ICA member news, as well as outside publication announcements. All ICA members are encouraged to submit their latest professional news for inclusion in the Newsletter by emailing Katie Wolfe at kwolfe@icahdq.org.

NEW BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT

Handbook of Research on Cyberbullying and Online Harassment in the Workplace
Editor: Dr. Leslie Ramos Salazar, West Texas A&M U, lsalazar@wtamu.edu

Description:
Given users’ heavy reliance on modern communication technologies such as mobile and tablet devices, laptops, computers, and social media networks, workplace cyberbullying and online harassment have become escalating problems around the world. Organizations of all sizes and sectors (public and private) may encounter workplace cyberbullying within and outside the boundaries of physical offices. Workplace cyberbullying affects the entire company, as victims suffer from psychological trauma and mental health issues that can lead to anxiety and depression, which, in turn, can cause absenteeism, job turnover, and retaliation. Thus, businesses and organizations must develop strategies to prevent and resolve such issues from becoming too large to manage.

The Handbook of Research on Cyberbullying and Online Harassment in the Workplace provides in-depth research that explores the theoretical and practical measures of managing bullying behaviors within an organization as well as the intervention strategies that should be employed. The book takes a look at bullying behavior across a variety of industries, including government and educational institutions, and examines social and legislative issues, policies and legal cases, the impact of online harassment and disruption of business processes and organizational culture, and prevention techniques. Featuring coverage on a broad range of topics such as cyber harassment, sexual abuse, trolling, and victimology, this book would be beneficial to academicians, researchers, students, business and human resource managers, practitioners, and policymakers.

Publisher’s Website with a 20% Discount: https://www.igi-global.com/book/handbook-research-cyberbullying-online-harassment/244615

Free Examination Copy: https://www.igi-global.com/course-adoption/?titleid=244615

Digital Creatives and the Rethinking of Religious Authority provides a rare and detailed investigation into both the historical roots and beliefs about religious authority, and what authority is becoming in the 21st century. Through in-depth interviews with over 100 religious digital creatives (RDCs) in the USA and Europe, Campbell identifies and unpack three unique categories of digital workers emerging in contemporary culture:

- Digital entrepreneurs
- Digital strategists
- Digital spokespersons

She outlines how these new roles shape religious organizations and communities in ways that give them authority, especially in the eyes of community outsiders.

By studying these different RDCs, their online and offline religious influence, and how they understand religious authority, Campbell shows how “they are challenging religious establishments as they find themselves serving as unintentional influencers and authorities.”

Available September 2020.


Google Books and Amazon.

Excerpts of the book can be found at the Network for New Media, Religion and Digital Culture website: https://digitalreligion.tamu.edu

NEW BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT

John Seiter, john.seiter@usu.edu

Nonverbal Communication in Political Debates, coauthored by John S. Seiter and Harry Weger Jr., presents a framework for understanding and analyzing the multiple ways that nonverbal behavior functions in political debates. In addition to addressing the ways in which politicians are presented and present themselves in debate broadcasts, the framework considers a wide array of strategic objectives and unintended consequences of candidates’ nonverbal behaviors. Along the way, this book examines theory and research from both humanistic and social scientific approaches, as well as an immense range of factors that influence how
nonverbal behavior is enacted and portrayed. Scholars of communication, political science, psychology, and public relations will find this book particularly useful.

Reviewer comments:

"Nonverbal Communication in Political Debates is a long overdue, much needed interdisciplinary synthesis of theory and research in nonverbal behavior, persuasion, argumentation, politics, and media studies as these fields relate to political debates. This book is wide ranging in the scope of literature surveyed, grounded in theoretical perspectives drawn from relevant fields and carefully argued to assess the status of our knowledge about nonverbal behavior in debates. An essential work for scholars studying political debates, John S. Seiter and Harry Weger Jr.’s work has set the stage for advancing our understanding of how nonverbal behaviors contribute to shaping political images in debates, not only in the United States but in any political system that features political debates."- Edward A. Hinck, Central Michigan U

Table of Contents:

Chapter 1. A Rationale and Framework for Exploring Nonverbal Communication in Political Debates
Chapter 2. A Primer on Nonverbal Behavior
Chapter 3. Nonverbal Behavior of the Speaking Candidate
Chapter 4. Background Nonverbal Behavior in Political Debates: The Role of Nonspeaking Candidates
Chapter 5. Mediated Nonverbal Communication and Political Debates
Chapter 6. Applying Principles of Persuasion to the Social Scientific Study of Nonverbal Behavior in Political Debates
Chapter 7. Humanistic Theories for Analyzing Nonverbal Behavior in Televised Debates


NEW BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT

Christopher J. Carpenter, cj-carpenter2@wiu.edu

Frank Boster and I are pleased to announce we have published our new persuasion textbook with Cognella. Please email me any questions you have about the book itself. Here is the official announcement:

Cognella Academic Publishing is pleased to announce the publication of Critical Questions in Persuasion Research by Franklin J. Boster (Michigan State U) and Christopher J. Carpenter (Western Illinois U).

This textbook presents students with a refreshing way to study persuasion, communication theory, and human behavior. Rather than examining different types of persuasion research and reviewing each one at a time, authors Franklin J. Boster and Christopher J. Carpenter explore eight key controversies, as well as research and theory related to each topic:

- What constitutes a strong persuasive message, and does it matter?
- How do we adapt persuasive messages to diverse audiences?
- Do persuasive messages have side effects?
- How can we manage the buzz?
- How can we maintain attitude change?
- Can a persuasive message be counterproductive?
- How can we encourage resistance to persuasion?
- To what extent does action follow from attitudes?

By focusing on how various disciplines deal with the big controversies in the persuasion process, students gain an understanding not only of key ideas and theories, but...
how the ideas and theories fit together in a meaningful whole. By framing persuasion as a series of critical questions, students learn that social science is a dynamic and exciting way in which to study persuasion.

Critical Questions in Persuasion Research is an ideal textbook for courses with focus on persuasion, communication, and human behavior. To request a complimentary review copy, please visit:

https://titles.cognella.com/critical-questions-in-persuasion-research-9781516591091

In Memoriam: Emile Bruneau, Peace and Conflict Neuroscientist

Emile Bruneau had a front row seat to many historic global conflicts: He was in South Africa at the end of apartheid. In Ireland during “The Troubles.” In Sri Lanka during a Tamil Tiger attack. Seeing the darkest impulses in humanity – and how similar they seemed across cultures – led him to his life’s work: using the tools of neuroscience and psychology to bring groups of people together with the goal of building lasting peace.

To continue reading Bruneau’s in memoriam, please click here.

ICA TIP #101
FOLLOW OUR SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS FOR THE MOST RECENT NEWS & UPDATES!

DON’T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR ICA MEMBERSHIP FOR THE 2020-2021 MEMBERSHIP YEAR!
Division & Interest Group News

ACTIVISM, COMMUNICATION, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Dear all,

First of all, we hope you are all safe and healthy! We have some information points to share with you that we intended to share earlier, but the ICA website and back-end experienced technical issues.

As you might have seen the ICA election results are in and we are happy to welcome Hanan Badr as vice-chair and Antoine Haywood as SEC-representative to the team. Their term starts with the conference in May.

Talking of which, ICA just announced that the conference will go all digital even in 2021 and is now preparing for the set-up. We will keep you updated!

So please submit your papers, panels and roundtable suggestions to the interest group the deadline is approaching quickly (6 November)!

In connection to that conference, please volunteer as reviewers also this year (graduate student reviewers are welcome too). Without reviewers, we are not able to serve the interest group the best papers of the field.

Please keep in mind that we are looking for candidates for the IG outstanding book and outstanding dissertation award (Deadline on 1 March). Instructions for how to nominate excellent candidates see below.

Tomorrow is also the deadline for Edwin Baker Award nominations sponsored by the Communication Law and Policy and Philosophy, Theory and Critique Divisions (more on that also below)

All the best and please take good care of yourself,
The management team

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Call for Award Nominations 2021

ACSJ, ICA

The ICA Interest Group on Activism, Communication, and Social Justice (ACSJ) invites nominations for the inaugural Outstanding Dissertation Award and Outstanding Book Award to be given at the ACSJ business meeting at the 2021 ICA convention in Denver.

ACSJ Outstanding Dissertation Award

This dissertation award is given to the best dissertation on themes central to the mission of ACSJ completed in the past two years.

Unfortunately, nominations have to be limited to English-language dissertations due to our limited language resources. Nominations should be made by the dissertation advisor or committee member. All submissions are electronic and should be sent with the subject line "ACSJ Award Nomination" to Todd Wolfson at wolfsont@gmail.com by 5 pm Eastern Standard Time on 1 March, 2021. The author must be a member of the ICA ACSJ interest group. ACSJ’s book award committee will evaluate the nominations and select the award winner.

ACSJ Outstanding Book Award

This inaugural book award honors the best book (sole or jointly authored, excluding edited volumes) on themes central to the mission of ACSJ published in the past two years. Nominations have to be limited to books published in English due to our limited language resources.

A full nomination package should comprise (1) a signed rationale from the nominator (who shall not be the person nominated) (2) a signed, supporting statement and rationale from one other person (who shall not be the person nominated), (3) the resume of the person (or persons) whose book has been nominated including a complete list of his or her publications, and (4) a summary of the book and copies of at least two chapters from it. All submissions are electronic (including copies of book chapters), and should be sent electronically with the subject line "ACSJ Award Nomination" to Anne Kaun at anne.kaun@sh.se by 5 pm Eastern Standard Time on 1 March, 2021. All nomination packages should be prepared by one person, and may come from the author, the nominator, or the publisher. The author must be a member of the ICA ACSJ interest group. ACSJ’s book award committee will evaluate the nominations and select the award winner.

FEMINIST SCHOLARSHIP DIVISION

Dear FSD members,

This opportunity may be of interest to some of you. See details below.

Best regards,

Ingrid
The newly formed European Training Network (ETN) "G-VERSITY – Achieving Gender Diversity" will determine how significant background factors affect educational and professional pathways of women and men, including sexual and gender minorities, and produce scientifically based interventions for use in the workplace—including workshops, guidelines, and training materials, to be applied by employers to attain gender diversity.

G-Versity will provide 15 PhD positions for international early career researchers who demonstrate a high motivation to do research on gender diversity and a strong desire to work in a trans-disciplinary research environment.

Two of them are related to communication studies and will be located at Freie Universität Berlin, Germany, supervised by Prof. Carola Richter and Prof. Margreth Lünenborg.

*Project 3*
Acting out gender identity — Self-portrayal in digital media

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Carola Richter, Freie U Berlin, Germany (www.polsoz.fu-berlin.de/en/kommwiss/arbeitsstellen/internationale_kommunikation/Team/crichter/index.html)

Social media are changing the techniques for the social and cultural construction of gender. Social media have transformed both the private discourses of adolescents with their peers and the presentation of adolescents’ developing professional identities. The aims of this PhD project are to identify how adolescents communicate their gender and professional aspirations in digital media and to assess the relation between (de-)gendered self-portrayals in digital media and professional aspirations.

We are looking for a highly motivated candidate with
- a strong interest and relevant past experience in research on gender diversity and/or social media.
- a very good university master’s degree in communication studies, journalism or in a related discipline of social sciences.
- relevant empirical research experiences (e.g., setting up research designs, scientific writing skills, etc.).
- very good methodological skills (e.g., content analysis, interviews, focus groups).
- very good German skills, good English skills.
- ability to work independently and to collaborate in teams.
- organizational talent and project management skills.

*Project 8*
What’s on TV? The role of gender and social status in media representation


Media coverage strongly relies on gendered patterns of representation and addresses the audience with well-known stereotypes, contributing to gender-imbalanced representation of women and men in certain professions. The aims of this PhD project are to identify gendered forms of media representation depending on social status on public television and to assess differences in gendered media representations between privileged and disadvantaged social groups in public television.

We are looking for a highly motivated candidate with
- a strong interest and relevant past experience in research on gender diversity and media research.
- a very good university master’s degree in communication studies, journalism or in a related discipline of social sciences.
- relevant empirical research experiences (e.g., setting up research designs, scientific writing skills, etc.).
- very good methodological skills (e.g., content analysis, interviews, focus groups).
- very good German skills, good English skills.
- ability to work independently and to collaborate in teams.
- organizational talent and project management skills.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS DIVISION

Dear InfoSys Members,

We hope you’re all doing well. We wanted to send out a few reminders:

1. Submission Deadline is approaching—November 6th! Note we are planning to entertain research escalator (work in progress) submissions this year. And we have a couple of special calls for particular types of papers. Please see specifics in our call here: https://icainfosys.org/annualconference/

2. We need reviewers! Commonly, we have a lot of student submitters who may not be/feel qualified to review. We need your help! Please note that if you submit this year, you will automatically be enrolled to review at least one submission. If you do not submit and would still like to serve InfoSys by reviewing, which we love and appreciate, please login to the ScholarOne system and update your profile to elect to review for us! Doctoral student reviewers are welcome! https://ica2021.abstractcentral.com/login

3. Lastly, please remember to consider nominations for our awards. This year, we have open calls for nomination for the Hunter Meta Analysis Research Program Award, the Krippendorf Book Award, and the Lang Dissertation Award. Nomination deadline Jan 1! See details here: https://icainfosys.org/awards/
STILL SAD ABOUT MISSING THE KOALAS?

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE THAT, AS A MEANS OF NEGOTIATING OUR WAY OUT OF HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF US DOLLARS IN PENALTIES FOR CANCELLATION OF THE #ICA20 PHYSICAL CONFERENCE, ICA’S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LAURA SAWYER HAS SIGNED CONTRACTS TO BRING THE 2024 ICA CONFERENCE BACK TO THE GOLD COAST FOR AN “AUSTRALIA DO-OVER!” THE DATES WILL BE IN THE SECOND HALF OF JUNE, MAKING IT EASIER TO GET AWAY, SO START SAVING UP FOR THAT BIG TRIP NOW!

ICA 2024

NOVEMBER 2020 ICA NEWSLETTER
Calls for Papers

Visit our Resources section for more Call for Papers: http://www.icahdq.org/page/CFP.

Lusophone Journal of Cultural Studies | Call for papers on “Sentient city. An atonal landscape”

Editors: Helena Pires (CECS, U of Minho, Portugal), Zara Pinto-Coelho (CECS, U of Minho, Portugal) & Cintia Sanmartin Fernandes (Rio de Janeiro State U, Brazil)

The body is part of our ontology. We are body, not only partly body (Ihde, 2002). In feeling, in thinking, in action. Perhaps this condition differentiates us from other ways of being, namely the organic (the animal being, the vegetable), endowed with a body, but without such a pressing need to inhabit or to relate with a place. We are being-there (Dasein, Heidegger, 1927) and our ontology is relational. The body protects itself, the body is in a constant flux, the body moves, till ing the covered territory (post-card book), while drawing an interior geography. E-motion (Bruno, 2007) – emotion and movement – dictates the doubly dynamic tone of our historiography. It will be said that the genesis of the city (Mumford, 1961) goes back to the imperative of protection and survival of the body, a function to which the vocation of myth and décor (function-myth-décor) (Pimenta, 1989) is added. The shelter city, the temple city, the garden city. In one place many feelings are accommodated (or are troubled). Fear (Bauman, 1989, 1999; Kováldff, 2004), the beautiful (Han, 2016; Kant, 1790), nature-landscape (Cauquilin, 1989; Simmel, 1913), the happiness principle or the inter-est (Arendt, 2001/1958). And so many others. But also multiple things (already) felt (Perniola, 1993). The body becomes a (non) sentient place. Unstable in its (un) limits, mixed with all kinds of technological devices, the post-body interacts (we ask, even more than ever?) with the material-virtual architecture, with the mediascapes (McQuire, 2008) planted in the traveled space, immerses itself in the humidity, in the promiscuity of odors, in the chaotic orchestration of tones and acoustic landscapes, lets itself being guided by the haptic and cinematic experience (Friedberg, 2002) and also by the “aroma of time” (Han, 2016).

Is the city today a meaningless signifier or a pure imaginary production (Domingues, 2010)? Its “possible side” is perhaps still an excess. The perennial luminosity makes the objects and the details invisible and threatens the vision of heavenly landscapes. The polyphony of timbres and the variability of frequencies both inspire artistic and acoustic creations (see the case of concrete music), as well as colonize the interior time. More recently, the body has contracted radically, and in a special way in the urban spaces, closing itself within walls and inhibiting itself from touching, smelling, breathing and dialogic interaction. Meta-landscapes and technological extensions of feeling have become less risky and more inviting inter-trans-places as communicative forms of living. Are we living the beginning of the end of the urban experience (Felice, 2012)? How do organicity and post-urban landscapes still resist? A deaf song is awaiting us, lamenting the death of the sentient body-city? If the "escape" from nature originally motivated the building of the city and, at the same time, its rescue, under the form of a hybrid idea that encloses both harmony in its utopian form, as well as a terrifying vision of an indomitable and pre-human universe, we are concerned today about the (im)possibility of the body-place and its "fulfillment in becoming" (Henri, 2001).

Risking to temper this call with an appeal to an organicist vision of the (post) city, the editors invite you to write about the urgency of re (feeling) the (post) body- (post) place, not forgetting the smell of temporalities and paths, the kinesthetic landscapes, the (in) visible breakdowns of the territory over which the "body-without-organs" (Deleuze & Guattari, 1972, 1980) stretches, the very being intertwined with that of the lived place.

Taking dodecaphonism as a reference that inspires a certain boldness that we try to print here, we would like to flatten the “dominance of the eye” in our culture, placing it at the same level of (although rich in infinite diversity) of the other senses, claiming for each sensory mode – that we artificially confuse (with excessive concern for discernibility) with sound, smell, tactility, taste – the same demand and tonic gradation, inextricable as a whole. The debate about the significance of the senses in shaping our urban experience needs the contributions of Cultural Studies and of Communication, generally speaking, crisscrossing disciplinary boundaries, methodological approaches and geographical locations, in order to (re)constitute the concreteness of this experience and the conditions that nourish it and make it possible.

This issue of Revista Lusófona de Estudos Culturais /Lusophone Journal of Cultural Studies accepts proposals that aim to address, from different points of view and methodologies, the following issues (among others):

- The city-nature
- The city of bodies
- The lived city
- The city-flow
- The light city
- The cinematic city
- The cyborg city
- The city of objects
- The city-performance
KEY DATES
Full article submission deadline: January 31, 2021
Editor’s decision on full articles: March 22, 2021
Deadline for sending the full version and translated version: April 30, 2021
Issue publication date: June, 2021

LANGUAGE
Articles can be submitted in English or Portuguese. After the peer review process, the authors of the selected articles should ensure translation of the respective article, and the editors shall have the final decision on publication of the article.

EDITION AND SUBMISSION
Revista Lusófona de Estudos Culturais/Lusophone Journal of Cultural Studies is a peer-reviewed journal that uses a double blind review process. After submission, each paper will be distributed to two reviewers, previously invited to evaluate it, in terms of its academic quality, originality and relevance to the objectives and scope of the theme chosen for the journal’s current issue.

Originals must be submitted via the journal’s website (https://www.rlec.pt/). If you are accessing Revista Lusófona de Estudos Culturais/Lusophone Journal of Cultural Studies for the first time, you must register in order to submit your article (here).

The guidelines for authors can be consulted here.

For further information, please contact: rlec@ics.uminho.pt

Call for chapters
Under the radar: Marginalized women’s use of mobile communication (tentative title)

Xin Pei, Pranav Malhotra, and Rich Ling are developing a proposal for an edited book that examines the use of mobile communication among women in the lower rungs of their respective societies. We would like to invite contributions.

Our interest is to illuminate how these women use mobile communication in their everyday lives. We would especially like to shed light on what we call the “under the radar” use of mobile communication that usually occurs in an unremarkable manner across the various aspects of daily life and work. The goal of this book is to uncover how (sometimes covert) mobile communication is deeply inscribed within diversified social, cultural, historical, and political milieus, and how it affects the gender construction processes at the individual, institutional, and societal levels.

We aim to capture women’s dynamic negotiation of agentic mobile usage that sometimes enables them to seek a certain relief from social structural constraints and acquire some social freedom for their individual interests and desires. The book also intends to probe how mobile adoption and usage can fail to ameliorate women’s marginalized situations. Does mobile communication help the women, add another dimension of oppression, or both?

We would particularly welcome work that develops feminist insight from a contextualized perspective of socially marginalized women via mobile practices. By examining these questions, the book aims to obtain a more nuanced understanding of the gendered social impacts arising from the “under the radar” use of mobile communication that may fall beyond the long-standing dichotomy of (dis) empowerment.

To examine “under the radar” mobile communication use, this book intends to include studies of marginalized women in the lower rungs of society across the globe, as well as those who migrate within and across the national borders. We are interested in articles from a variety of methodological perspectives. We also would like to have perspectives from different disciplines that investigate mobile communication and its social impacts through diversified theories.

At this point, we are in the process of pulling together a book proposal, possibly with Routledge. We wonder if you would be interested in contributing to a book chapter. Currently, we are sounding out eventual chapter authors for the development of the final proposal which will be presented to the publisher.

If you are interested, please contact us at:
Pei Xin (peix0001@gmail.com)
Pranav Malhotra (pranavm23@gmail.com)
Rich Ling (riseling@gmail.com)

If you know of others who may be interested in this, please share the email.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Call for Papers
Asian Journal of Communication

Special Issue
Media Freedom in Asia: Challenges from Below

Special Issue Editors
Kyu Ho Youm, U of Oregon
Cherian George, Hong Kong Baptist U

Advancing media freedom has been one of the megatrends in Asian communication over the past 30-40 years. Media space has been opened up by political revolutions and reform movements, television deregulation, the rollout of the internet, and demands for more choice and voice.
by hundreds of millions of better educated and more economically empowered citizens.

Over the past decade, however, this trend has slowed, stalled, or even reversed in several Asian societies. This is in line with a global pattern of “democratic recession” and “authoritarian resilience” observed by many analysts. The most obvious cause is the emergence of authoritarian leaders. However, top-down explanations do not capture fully the current dynamics. One striking feature of the state of media freedom in many Asian societies is the ambiguous role of the publics that are ostensibly the main beneficiaries of the right to freedom of expression.

In some settings, popular responses to state interventions range from indifference and apathy to active, partisan support for authoritarian leaders’ attacks on media. In other cases, the attacks come directly from popular movements. Religious and other identity-based groups may even be the main drivers of censorship and self-censorship, in societies where government control is less of an issue. Sometimes, in the absence of well-functioning independent media accountability systems, the public’s legitimate ethical concerns can result in interventions that obstruct the media.

We invite papers that expand our theoretical and empirical understanding of Asian media freedom’s “challenges from below”. The guest editors’ working definition of “media” covers traditional mass media, online media, and internet intermediaries and platforms. We will focus on media that already or potentially contribute to public discourse and political culture, especially news media but also entertainment formats. In line with the Asian Journal of Communication’s scope, papers must be grounded in one or more Asian jurisdictions, and can address the topic from any appropriate disciplinary tradition and methodological approach, including historical, legal and comparative methods.

Submissions are invited on questions such as:
- How and why has support for media freedom changed over time in selected Asian countries?
- How have the rhetorical strategies of populist leaders in Asia sought to delegitimise independent media?
- How do decentralised attacks on media, such as through cyber troops and vigilante violence, operate in Asia and what are their effects?
- How do publics in Asia understand media freedom, for what historical or cultural reasons, and to what extent are their framings compatible with the idea of freedom of expression as a universal human right?
- Based on trends in Asia, how can we better conceptualise media and their publics?
- What makes “free” Asian countries stand out and how in the mostly partly free or not free Asia?

Full papers are due by 11 January 2021.

For more information please contact Drs. Youm & George

Call for Papers: Special Issue of Human Communication Research
Rethinking (Human) Communication in the Era of Artificial Intelligence

Guest Editors:
Eun-Ju Lee (Seoul National U)
S. Shyam Sundar (Pennsylvania State U)

This special issue aims to bring together communication/media/journalism scholars who directly tackle the questions of how artificial intelligence (AI) might change communication and research on communication phenomena. Ranging from message production to message dissemination to message consumption, across various contexts including one-to-one conversation to mass-mediated communication, AI is now replacing, assisting, and/or augmenting human communicators in diverse roles, thereby potentially modifying the processes and outcomes of communication – for better or for worse. Tight integration of AI in mediated communication has created or aggravated issues such as filter bubble and mis/disinformation. At the same time, AI is also considered a solution to social ills, like hate speech. While praising the capability of AI tools like smart speakers and chat bots to reduce loneliness and depression among otherwise socially isolated individuals, people also express concerns about them lacking human touch. With rapid and seemingly fundamental changes in how communication is performed, it is imperative for communication scholars to critically evaluate the relevance and utility of existing theories and research findings, and propose new ones. How is human communication changing, and what should communication researchers study in the emergent AI landscape?

Topics include (but are not limited to):
- How does AI affect the way we communicate and what comes out of it (e.g., obtaining information, making sense of the world, connecting with each other, entertaining ourselves, etc.)? What are the psychological, social, political, and cultural implications of such changes?
- What are the emerging research agendas in each subfield of the communication discipline – e.g., interpersonal communication, organizational communication, political communication, health communication, mass communication, journalism studies, communication law and ethics, etc. – that are attributable to the advancement of AI?
- What are the key constructs in communication research that need to be revisited in light of the current integration of AI in communication processes?
- How can various models and theories about
communication help us better understand, predict, and explain potential impact of AI on individuals and society? How can they inform and guide the development of AI applications and services to promote the public interest?

Both theoretical essays and empirical research reports are welcome. Authors should submit an extended abstract to the guest editors via email (Eun-Ju Lee: eunju0204@snu.ac.kr and S. Shyam Sundar: sss12@psu.edu) no later than January 15, 2021. Extended abstracts should consist of no more than 1,000 words (excluding references).

For empirical research papers, the author(s) should discuss the theoretical rationale for the proposed project, key hypotheses or research questions, and plans for data collection and analysis. For theoretical essays, the author(s) should clearly elaborate the focus, outline and contribution of the proposed essay. Selection of abstracts will be made by the guest editors. Authors invited to proceed will be given five months to submit a complete paper via Scholar One, which will undergo peer review. Page limits for the complete paper will be allocated at the time of invitation, and may vary depending on the submission type.

The timeline for the publication process is as follows:

01/15/2021: Deadline for abstract submission
02/15/2021: Notifications to authors
07/15/2021: Deadline for full manuscript submission
11/15/2021: Deadline for revised/ final manuscript submission
04/01/2022: Publication in HCR