PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

by (1) Noshir Contractor, President, Northwestern U, (2) François Heinderyckx, Past President, U libre de Bruxelles and (3) Claes de Vreese, Past President, U of Amsterdam

Is it time for ICAstodon?

It has been over three decades since the invention of the World Wide Web. In its dawn, the Web was celebrated as an invention to decentralize and democratize the flow of communication and knowledge. The Web paved the way for the emergence of “social media” alongside more traditional “mass media” like radio, TV and newspapers. As communication scholars, members of ICA have been at the forefront of understanding and critiquing the multifaceted ways in which social media are simultaneously enabling and undermining contemporary society.

In this column we explore how ICA might reimagine its engagement with social media.

One seemingly inexorable trend over the past three decades has been the move towards a centralization of the Web as it became the purview of a few major corporations such as Alibaba, Amazon, Apple, Baidu, Google, Meta, Microsoft, Tencent, and Twitter. This trend has captured the attention of a wide range of thought leaders around the world.

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PHOTO: HOLLANDSE HOOGTE/SHUTTERSTOCK

PRESIDENT-ELECT’S COLUMN

by Eun-Ju Lee, President-Elect, Seoul National U

On Track for Another Vibrant Conference!

It’s hard to believe we’re already in the last month of Year 2022. In South Korea, the academic year ends in December, making this time of the year even more... chaotic (X) special (O). We received a total of 6,136 individual submissions and 352 session proposals for ICA23 in Toronto, which is the second highest turnout in ICA history, only slightly behind ICA22 in Paris. Based on the submitting author profiles, the submissions were made from 76 countries, well reflecting ICA’s continued efforts to serve and engage with communication scholars in all corners of the world. Among them, over 80% of submitters indicated that they planned to attend ICA23 in person, so we’re on track for

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73rd Annual ICA Conference
ICA 2023 paper submission numbers & statistics

INDIVIDUAL SUBMISSIONS
6,136 total individual submissions

- **IN-PERSON**
  - 5,044 submissions marked as presenting in-person

- **REMOTE**
  - 1,038 submissions marked as presenting remote

INDIVIDUAL SUBMISSIONS
6,136 total submissions (not including individual proposal submissions that are linked within session proposals)

SESSION PROPOSAL SUBMISSIONS
352 total submissions

- **IN-PERSON**
  - 314 submitted in-person session proposals

- **REMOTE**
  - 38 submitted remote session proposals

HYBRID SESSIONS
10.8%

IN-PERSON SESSIONS 89.2%
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ICA Newsletter is published 10 times annually (combining January-February and June-July issues) by the International Communication Association.
NATURE WALKS, PATHS AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

By the ICA23 Local Host Committee: Arun Jacob, Bree McEwan, Sarah Stang, and Stephen Surlin

Toronto is embedded in and surrounded by a variety of outdoor paths, trails, and attractions that you can enjoy during your time here at ICA.

Toronto Walking, Cycling and Trail Maps:

The City of Toronto: Walking, Cycling & Hiking provides resources that can help you get started with navigating Toronto's walking, cycling and hiking trails.

Trails: You can learn more about Toronto’s trail systems by going to the website City of Toronto Trails. Here are some specific Toronto trails system maps, Humberwoods Park to Sunnybrook Park, and Sunnybrook Park to Rouge Park.

Paths and Walkways: You can connect to the Don Valley Lower River Trail from Sherbourne or Castle Frank station using the following map: Evergreen Brickworks Trail Map. Once on the trail you can bike, walk, or run to several locations across the Don Valley. Including Evergreen Brick Works which has ongoing events and a Saturday Farmer’s Market and Todmorden Mills Heritage Site. Other destinations might include Riverdale Farms, Craighleigh Gardens Park, or Wellesley Park. The trail is a great option for runners looking to get some pre-panel miles in.

No time for a trail-based adventure? Take Line 2 to Greektown and watch as the Don Valley unfolds below you on the open air bridge between Castle Frank and Broadview station.

Outdoor Activities and Attractions:

(1) High Park:

PHOTO: Find High Park on a Google Map Here: High Park

Toronto’s High Park is one of Toronto’s largest parks and contains walking paths, ravines, gardens, several creeks
GOVERNANCE CORNER

By Julie Arnold, Director of Governance & Member Services

Spotlight on ICA Leadership

Leadership at ICA comprises a robust group of ICA members bringing together varied professional methodologies, expertise, unique talents, and diverse cultural influences, from around the globe. With a Board of Directors of forty-seven individuals, five elected leadership roles per thirty-three divisions and interest groups, and a number of standing committees and task forces, our association is truly member driven. We are guided by, and grateful to, those who contribute to the association’s success through service. Periodically, we’ll introduce you to some of ICA’s leaders to give you an insider’s look at who helps propel the ICA mission.

Q&A with Sharif Mowlabocus (Fordham U), Co-Chair, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Queer Studies Interest Group

Q. Tell us how long you’ve been an ICA member and which was your first conference?
A. I’ve been a member of ICA since 2017, when I attended the conference in San Diego.

Q. What is your academic/research focus and your methodological approach?
A. My primary area of research is LGBTQ cultures, with a particular focus on how folk who identify as LGBTQ utilize digital modes of communication. My work is qualitative in nature and my methods include interviews, focus groups, ethnography and also some textual analysis and CDA.

Q. What is your favorite thing about ICA?
A. It sounds like a cliché, but the ICA community is what keeps me coming back for more. Yes, this is a massive community and no, you cannot meet everyone, but you *do* get to know a group of people that you see every year, and hear from between conferences. For such a massive organization, I’m always surprised how intimate it can feel.

Q. What leadership qualities do you most value and which are your personal strengths?
A. I think that when it comes to leadership roles within ICA, you need to be on the ball when it comes to organization - elected officer roles are great for those who can manage their schedules well. I was attracted to the interest group co-chair role for this reason. But I also think you need to be a cheerleader for your interest group or division. People look to you to set the tone and being a booster for your group is important.

Q. Describe your ICA leadership journey (where did you start, what roles have you held prior to your current role/s)?
A. I joined ICA as a member of the LGBTQ group in 2017 and attended conferences. I also reviewed submissions on a regular basis and acted as a mentor to early career scholars. I then stood for election in 2020 and officially took up the role of co-Chair for this IG in 2021.

Q. What advice would you offer members interested in leadership roles with ICA?
A. First off, expect to work during your tenure - people are depending on you. But much of that work is not onerous if you pay attention, read everything that comes through from HQ, and use your calendar. Secondly, be prepared to be the ‘mamma bear’ and step in to support your membership before, during and after conference. People are looking to you for encouragement, advice, support and leadership. Thirdly, enjoy the fact that you are working with a headquarters that is unbelievably well organized. Seriously, the team is amazing and they will guide you through every step.

Q. Tell us a little about the charge of your group, what goals are you working towards?
A. The LGBTQ Interest Group seeks to provide a voice for scholars engaged in research that explores any aspect of communication that affects queer folk. We strive to represent the diversity of the LGBTQ community and our current goal is to increase submissions that focus on queer lives and practices outside of the Anglo-American / Western hegemony. We also strive to be as inclusive as possible when it comes to early career scholars.

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MEMBERSHIP COLUMN
By Brad Brewer, Manager of Member Services

Thank you for Being an ICA Member

On behalf of the entire International Communication Association team, I want to thank all our members that have renewed during the 2022-2023 membership renewal period. By renewing your membership between the months of July and December you have ensured that you will receive a full year’s worth of ICA member benefits without lapse. There are many exciting things ahead of us in 2023 and we are incredibly thrilled to continue to serve you. Don’t forget to take advantage of all of your member benefits and we also hope to see everyone (remote and in person) in Toronto during ICA23.

Your ICA membership benefits include:

- Online access to ICA’s six journals
- Discounted conference registration to ICA23
- Networking on The Link
- Exclusive ICA member discounts
- Leadership Opportunities
- Discounts on job postings in the ICA career center
- Voting privileges
- ... and more!

ICA continues to diligently improve on the member benefits and the member experience. Don’t forget to utilize one of ICA’s newest benefits – networking via the engagement platform: The Link. Members are utilizing this benefit in many ways: gauging interest in panels, posing research questions, seeking feedback, hunting for relevant literature, and more!

We greatly appreciate and value all our members. Please do not hesitate to reach out directly with any and all feedback on your member experience. Our goal at ICA is to provide the highest quality of services and continue to be your most valuable professional asset. Thank you again for choosing ICA. We are looking forward to a great 2023!

If you have any questions, suggestions, or comments on your member experience contact the ICA membership team at membership@icahdq.org.

STUDENT COLUMN
By Arienne Ferchaud, SECAC Member, Florida State U

I remember vividly the emotional roller-coaster that was my first journal submission. It was a manuscript based on my masters’ thesis—a project I felt very strongly about. I truly believed that the project was strong.

And then came the rejection.

To say I took it hard would be an understatement. I was devastated. How could reviewers just crush my paper? How couldn’t they see how hard I’d worked?

My first several journal submissions went this way—I’d submit a paper I felt strongly about, only for it to be rejected. There were tears.

But you know what? Eventually, all those pieces were published. All those pieces I cried over because reviewers “just didn’t get it” found a home.

Rejection is tough. I don’t want to pretend that it’s not. It sucks to see people posting online about their successes, or about the conference locations they’ll get to visit, when your work isn’t getting accepted. It still sometimes stings when someone rejects a piece I feel passionate about. Over time, though, I’ve learned to deal with it. How? Well, I’ve changed the way I look at reviewers. They are not all-knowing arbiters of what is right and wrong. They are, as the phrase “peer-reviewed” suggests, peers! At the end of the day, their review is a well-informed opinion. So, when I get news that a paper has been rejected, I first put it aside for a bit, to give myself time to breathe. Then, I read the reviews.

In my experience, there are a few different types of reviews: First, the reviewer that is flat-out rude, or mean. These people go straight into the bin. Their words are not helpful, and even if there are nuggets of wisdom in there, it’s not worth putting myself through the anguish to read just how little the world needs work like mine (yes, that’s a real review I once got).

Secondly, the reviewer is well-intentioned, but wrong. These reviewers are giving great feedback… on someone else’s paper. They’ve got some of the facts wrong, or they don’t understand what you’ve done. Sometimes, it’s worth digging in to see if the fault is yours, or theirs. It could be that your writing is not clear, and you have to do some work to polish it up. The third type is the holy grail of reviewers: the reviewer is clear, concise, and helpful. Perhaps they don’t think your paper is ready, but they are there with concrete feedback to help you. These are the reviewers you really pay attention to, using their words to help improve your work for the next submission.

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Communication theory, particularly ecological and critical understandings, has much to bring to health research. In particular, it can provide a robust framework to explain human understandings, potentials, and actions in health systems. This virtual issue of Communication Theory pulls together recent articles that utilize ecological approaches (i.e., highlighting the role of larger environments and systems) as well as critical and post-colonial perspectives (i.e., questioning entrenched Western perspectives and valuing community voice and researcher reflexivity). The first two articles provide an overview of health communication’s themes and theories, and are followed by scholarship that exemplifies critical frames of inquiry.

1) Lie and Servaes (2015) offer a practice-oriented overview of the themes and sub-disciplines within Communication for Development and Social Change, which is a common paradigm used in health communication. The authors divide their discussion into non-thematic and thematic sub-disciplines. On the non-thematic front they cover strategic communication, participatory communication, crisis communication, risk communication, development journalism, international communication, as well as online media and internet studies. Thematic sub-disciplines include health communication, agricultural communication, and environmental communication. Health is identified as one of the most common thematic areas of communication research with examples and tie backs to key articles in the field. This article offers a point of entry to understand how health and medicine fit into the purview of communication.

2) In a classic article, Fischbein and Yzer (2003) provide an overview of major health communication theories at the turn of the century, many of which are still used today. These theories include the health belief model, social cognitive theory, and the theory of reasoned action. The authors observe that these theories have a number of key variables in common: intentions and beliefs, abilities, and environmental constraints that shape health behaviors. They recommend theoretical synthesis for building an integrated model that is distinct but complementary to the media priming model. Taken together, the authors argue, these two models may help health interventionists identify and strengthen associations between beliefs and intentions. This article offers readers a way of connecting different theoretical frameworks across health communication while the next three articles exemplify ecological and critical understandings of health communication.

3) In discussing entertainment-education for health promotion, Literat and Chen (2014) map out an ecological approach to health communication theories. They point out that most research has been framed socio-cognitively and thus has focused on how persons internalize and integrate information into knowledge structures. Identifying a gap in theory building, the authors advocate for Communication Infrastructure Theory (CIT), which folds in an ecological approach in which the individual’s interpersonal network, community, government and society all impact that individual’s responses to health messages. Ecological theory traditionally has overlapping layers—micro (individual), meso (community), and macro (national, governmental). Adopting ecological thinking by systemically looking at various communication channels from local to global could give researchers and practitioners innovative insights on how to encourage interpersonal communication about their initiatives, what channels may be most appropriate or underutilized, and how to work within dynamics of media saturation in the countries where work is situated.

4) Patric Clair et al. (2016) introduce us to Extended Narrative Empathy (ENE). ENE is a reflexive, post-colonial approach to research that focuses on deep, multilayered understandings of community problems. Methodologically, ENE suggests that the researcher first collect a singular narrative and then gather additional narratives that branch out from the original one. The additional narratives could include historical, cultural, or religious backgrounds, or divergent perspectives on a problem. Grouped altogether, the collected narratives are called a poly-narrative, a collection of stories that give multiple viewpoints on the issue at hand. The collection of narratives is a feature of many participatory research approaches; crucially, however, in the ENE methodology researchers do not attempt to homogenize multiple sources into a singular community narrative. Instead, they report the differences emerging from the collection of opposing, contentious, and diverse stories. Such an approach serves inquiry into complex issues that may not have singular solutions. As an illustration of ENE, the authors discuss their studies of why people in India continued to choose open defecation after toilets were built. Cumulatively, the collected narratives showed a
Indeed, this issue was front and center in May 2022 at the Opening Plenary of the 72nd Annual Conference of the International Communication Association in Paris where all four panelists - Tim Berners-Lee, Saffiya Noble, Siva Vaidyanathan, and Nigel Shadbolt - spoke of the pressing need to “re-decentralize” the Web. Their comments reflected the diversity of opinions among ICA members, and society at large, on if/how we could accomplish this goal. Few if any would have foreseen that, five months after that panel convened, a change in ownership would result in the social media landscape being rocked by a Twitter-quake. Although Twitter is far more prevalent in the US than many other parts of the world, especially the Global South, it has emerged as arguably the most influential forum for the spread of information - and mis/dis-information. In the wake of this upheaval, there has been a renewed interest in ICA, and indeed society writ large, exploring more decentralized options for our discourse on social media.

Two former Presidents of ICA, François Heinderyckx and Claes de Vreese, are among the most ardent champions for ICA as a community to explore these options both as a means of communicating as well as an object of study. I have therefore asked them to join me in co-authoring this edition of my newsletter entry. We believe academic communities, such as ICA, are increasingly engaged in open scholarship as a strategy to secure and promote our core values which require, among other priorities, protection from excessive dependence on powerful commercial companies. ICA, as a learned society, enables and stimulates exchanges among scholars, and with the rest of society. Digital technologies offer many opportunities to augment such exchanges. Twitter has become an important part of the public debate, and a significant space for scholars to engage in that conversation. The difficulties and uncertainties that followed the recent change of ownership led many to seek alternatives: not just to the next shiny object, but an alternative which would be structurally different and protect users from the vulnerabilities associated with the leading commercial platforms.

We believe that recent changes in the social media landscape offer ICA an opportunity to reimagine how ICA members can interact with the global community, as well as our interactions within the ICA community. Are there opportunities for us to interact globally, within and beyond the ICA community, within the same interface, while not being heavily reliant on one or a handful of U.S.-based profit-driven companies? Furthermore, given its international focus, can ICA risk relying on the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution (for the companies that are headquartered in the US) and Section 230 of the Communication Decency Act as cardinal in regulating their service? We are reminded that leading online platforms are for-profit companies subject to the views and whims of a handful of business leaders. The monopolistic concentration of the sector creates a dependence on those platforms, leaving us vulnerable to potentially troubling consequences stemming from how the platforms are managed.

Among the alternatives, federated or decentralized social media technologies appear to have reached sufficient maturity to offer not just a credible solution, but to open a range of new and exciting possibilities, which are remarkably consonant with our academic culture and aspirations. Unlike dominant social media platforms such as Twitter or Facebook, which are in the control of a single and rather opaque entity, emerging social media platforms operate as decentralized and distributed servers hosted by several users, each responsible for the rules under which they choose to operate, but collectively creating a social network. Because we are communication scholars, these online collaborative platforms are not just a set of tools: they are research objects and experimental material. Of all academic communities, ours has not just the capacity but the intellectual imperative to engage critically but decisively with these technologies.

One such platform that has caught the imagination of many in our community is Mastodon, which describes itself as “a free, open-source decentralized social media platform.” Although it was launched back in 2016 by a non-profit company in Germany, its user base has grown sharply in the past few weeks to reach over 8 million accounts and 2.5 million monthly active users, after the recent change in Twitter ownership. This Tweet (sweet irony, no doubt), posted by Mastodon on October 27, 2022 argues why one should choose Mastodon: “...Because it’s decentralized and open-source, it can’t be sold and won’t go bankrupt. It respects your privacy and gives control over the network to the people. It’s a protocol on top of a protocol, the way Twitter should have been.”

Like Twitter, Mastodon has a timeline with "Toots" also simply called "posts" (equivalent to tweets), which can be fav-ed or boosted (the alternative to a retweet). Individuals can join one of over 8,000 Mastodon servers that focus on various geographies or interest groups, and servers are interconnected so that joining any one of these servers gives individuals the ability to interact...
with users on all Mastodon servers – not unlike when one creates an email account with one service, but then has the ability to email with users on any other email service. But creating an account is a necessary, but not sufficient, condition for joining conversations. Fortunately, in four simple steps, it is possible for a user to follow some or all of who they follow on Twitter who also have created a Mastodon account: (i) Go to movetodon.org; (ii) Login to twitter; (iii) Login to Mastodon; (iv) See full list of the twitter accounts that you follow and that are now present on Mastodon and select the ones you want to follow. And while you are at it, consider following ICA at @ICAH-DQ@mastodon.online as well as former ICA Presidents, my coauthors on this column, François Heinderyckx (@fheinderyckx@mastodon.social) and Claes de Vreese (@claesdevreese@mastodon.social) and me (@noshir@mastodon.social), as well as other current members of the ICA Executive Committee including ICA President Elect-Select Silvio Waisbord (@silviowaisbord@mastodon.world), President-Elect Eun-Ju Lee (@ejlee@mastodon.world), Immediate Past President Mary Beth Oliver (@olivermb@mastodon.nz) and Past President Terry Flew (@terryflew@mastodon.au).

It is too early to tell if Mastodon would be the right re-decentralized social media platform for the ICA community. In the aftermath of recent events, it is uncertain where we and the crowd will go. But we agree that Mastodon is interesting to add to the mix to augment (or replace?) Twitter.

We would like to hear your views, concerns and suggestions on Mastodon (using hashtag #ICAmastodon for discussion about using Mastodon for ICA, #icaCommUnity for general ICA discussions, and #ica23 for the ICA 2023 conference).

Of course we also welcome your opinions about ICA and social media on Twitter (@icahdq) or ICA’s LINK, an online platform for ICA members. We wish you all a wonderful 2023! – Claes, Francois and Noshir

For the past several weeks, the ICA staff and the Division/Interest Group planners have been working endlessly and tirelessly to ensure a fair, rigorous, and efficient review process. At the time of this writing, thousands of ICA members are carefully evaluating their peers’ works before the 27-day review window is closed. Huge thanks to all who are eager to share their latest work with the ICA community and graciously volunteered to take part in this indispensable peer-review process. Despite our painstaking efforts, some of you might have been assigned a paper(s) or a proposal(s) outside of your areas of expertise – if so, my sincerest apologies. Once the review and session allocation processes are completed, we will collect feedback from the planners, so if you have any brilliant ideas for future improvement, please do convey them to your Division/Interest Group planners or send them directly to the ICA headquarters.

We have also received a record-breaking number of Blue Sky Workshop proposals. A total of 38 well-thought-out proposals were submitted to tackle "BIG" ideas that go beyond specific subfields and stimulate thinking outside the box (Big Ideas Session), to discuss various pedagogical issues we as educators should consider in our teaching (Pedagogical Workshop), to brainstorm how better to deal with common challenges we encounter as we advance in our research career (Professional Development Workshop), to share the type of knowledge and skills we wish we had possessed when we first embarked on our academic journey (Student & Early Career Advisory Committee Skills Workshop), and to examine communication-related issues from the administrators’ point of view (Administrator Workshop). The list of Blue Sky Workshops will be announced in January, so stay tuned if you’re up for lively conversations around important topics in these domains.

Last but not least, a total of 43 individual papers and 19 panel proposals were submitted that center on the conference theme, “Reclaiming Authenticity in Communication.” Theme Co-Chairs – Gunn Enli (U of Oslo), Sun Sun Lim (Singapore Management U), Miriam Metzger (U of California, Santa Barbara), Sebastián Valenzuela (Pontificia U Católica de Chile), and Karin Wahl-Jorgensen (Cardiff U) – are currently reviewing them, but a sneak peek reveals a wide array of interesting research that examines news consumption/diffusion, self-presentation on social media, advertising, human-AI communication, political discourse, popular culture, media production, and virtual reality through the lens of authenticity. Can’t wait to hear how similarly or differently this core construct is defined and appropriated in various subfields, and how it can enrich our understanding of communication!
and ponds, sporting facilities, cultural and educational facilities, picnic areas, playgrounds, and a zoo. This 400 acre hilly park is the second largest in Toronto, and is partially a recreational space and partially a protected natural space with unique ecology. Highlights are the Oak Savannah, home to countless towering Black Oak trees; the beautiful landscaped Hillside Gardens; and the huge Grenadier Pond, where you can spot wildlife and waterfowl and even go fishing. High Park is also full of Japanese cherry trees, meaning that while you’re in Toronto for ICA you might get lucky and see the beauty of the cherry blossoms in full bloom. You can take a 30-minute trackless train ride through the park, which runs from 10:30am to dusk. Tickets are $5 (just pay the conductor) and you’re allowed one included stop, so you can get off to check out a site and then hop back on!

Getting to and around High Park:

**TTC:** the easiest way to get to High Park from the Sheraton is to try out our famous Toronto streetcars! Depending on the time of day, you can take the 501, 504, or 505! Google maps will be the easiest way to figure out the route.

**Car:** High Park has four vehicle entrances and four main roads within the park:
- Colborne Lodge Drive which runs through the park between Bloor Street and The Queensway; West Road which branches off Colborne Lodge Drive along the west side of the park; High Park Boulevard, the main entry point from Parkside Drive; and Centre Road which connects Colborne Lodge Drive to High Park Boulevard. **Note** that High Park is closed to vehicles on Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays.

**Parking:** There is limited free parking available within the park. Street side parking and parking lots can be found along Colborne Lodge Drive and West Road. There is a parking lot at the foot of Greenhouse Road beside the zoo. There is a parking lot at the south-east corner of the park off of Spring Road. Green P Parking is available on Bloor Street and south of High Park along Lake Shore Boulevard West (then it’s a short walk up Parkside Drive). There is a small lot east of Keele Subway Station, off of Indian Road. There’s also Precise ParkLink on the north side of Bloor Street West, off of Pacific Avenue. Street parking is available on the east side of Parkside Drive.

**Bicycle:** Bicycles are permitted on all park roads and paved trails. Cyclists must yield to pedestrians! Bicycle parking can be found throughout the park and near some park buildings. **Bike Share Toronto** operates 10 stations within and around the park including at main entrances and facilities.

**Walking:** There are six natural trails that lead into High Park: Ellis Park Road near Wendigo Pond; Bloor Street West, south of Parkview Gardens; Bloor Street West, south of Pacific Avenue; South-east corner of Bloor Street West and Parkside Drive; Parkside Drive at Howard Park Avenue. There are also six paved trails/sidewalk entrances to High Park: Colborne Lodge Drive, High Park Boulevard, Spring Road from Parkside Drive, Colborne Lodge Drive at Bloor Street West and The Queensway, and High Park Loop.

(2) Evergreen Brickworks:

**The Brickworks Trail** at the Evergreen Brick Works is a flourishing spot that focuses on sustainability and nature. It is a 2.4-kilometer trail that is easily accessible and suitable for all. The wooded trail is filled with wildlife and has views of the city skyline, and also features a farmers’ market on Saturdays. Generally considered an easy route, it takes an average of 30 min to complete. This is a very popular area for bird watching, hiking, and running, so you will likely encounter other people while enjoying the trail. The trail is open year-round and is beautiful to visit anytime. Dogs are welcome, but must be on a leash. And everyday that the Evergreen Brickworks is open (which is almost 365 days a year), there is Cafe Belong. It’s a full-service sit down restaurant that also does takeout, and they have a full bar too along with a gorgeous patio space that’s perfect on a summer day.

**Getting to Evergreen Brick Works:**

**Shuttle bus:** The free Evergreen Brick Works shuttle bus departs every 30–45 minutes from the parkette on Erindale Ave, east...
of Broadview Ave (just north of Broadview subway station). The shuttle bus is wheelchair accessible.

**TTC:** TTC service is available via the 28 Bayview South bus from Davisville subway station.

**Car:** Evergreen Brick Works is located at 550 Bayview Avenue, South of Pottery Rd. There are three paid parking lots available on site along with electric car charging stations.

**Bicycle:** There are several ways to get to Evergreen Brick Works by bike. Download the [City of Toronto trail map #6](#).

**Walking:** From the Bloor–Danforth Subway and South Rosedale. It is a half an hour walk, with a relatively gradual descent into the valley. The path you’ll be taking is called Milkman’s Run and has a really cool history to it dating back to the 1890s.

(3) **The Beaches:**

Although Lake Ontario will be a bit chilly in May, if you need a break from the conference rush, find your way to one of Toronto’s many beaches overlooking the harbourfront and Lake Ontario. “The Beaches” is a neighbourhood on the east end of the city that features access to several different beach options including Woodbine Beach and Ashbridge’s Bay (with connecting Boardwalk). Woodbine Beach is accessible via the Queen streetcar (get off at Woodbine and walk towards the lake). For Ashbridge’s Bay take TTC Line 2 to Coxwell and the Coxwell bus south (the last bus stop will be across from [Toronto’s largest skate park](#)). The Beaches neighbourhood also features shopping, bars, and restaurants.

Another series of beaches are on the Toronto Islands and accessible by ferry. These include Hanlan’s Point, Centre Island, and Ward’s Island. Centre Island also features canoe and kayak rentals as well as a carnival and petting zoo! The [Centreville Amusement park](#) is typically only open on weekends in May. The "Far Enough Farm" should reopen for the season in early May.

**Walking, Biking and Trail Navigation Apps:**

- **Google Maps:** Using the [Google.com/Maps](#) website, or downloading the [Google Maps app](#) on your mobile device can give you suggestions on how to travel Toronto by foot, bike, car, or transit. Google Maps can also give you nearby contextual information, including park information like the nearest bathroom, nearby restaurants, or reviews and images contributed by other visitors.

- **Komoot:** This app and platform connects you with user created trail maps and routes to help you find more personalised ways to travel by active transportation. Focused on biking and hiking, you can see the type of terrain, elevation and user feedback about your route to help you choose the way you prefer.

- **Strava:** If you feel like being more competitive, you can challenge yourself or others to track routes during a jog or bike ride. Find popular routes and track your own progress, including time and other fitness metrics, or see other user’s stats and times to climb the leaderboard.
Q. Which goal of your group do you find most invigorating or rewarding, and why?
A. I would say that our current goal of including more research from the majority world. Undertaking queer focused research in some contexts can be extremely challenging. Providing a space within ICA for those who undertake such research means a lot to me.

Q. Which accomplishment of your group are you most proud of, and why?
A. The abstract-writing workshops we have begun to run for early career scholars, in advance of the submission deadline, has been a great initiative (not mine!) and it is already improving the quality of submissions.

Getting to know Sharif on a more personal level:

Q. If you could learn any new skill, what would you choose and why?
A. I’ve been trying to learn to knit for years. I keep getting frustrated and giving up - so if there are any ICA knitters out there, willing to give me a few lessons, hit me up!

Q. Are you team #dogsofica or #catsofica?
A. I am #catsofica all the way. Nothing against doggos but my cat Angus would never forgive me if I said otherwise.

Q. If you weren’t going to be in the communication field, what career would you choose and why?
A. Communication is something I teach and research, but I also really enjoy communicating so that would be central to any alternative career. I also like my work to have meaning - so maybe a therapist or counselor?

Q. When you have 30 minutes of free time, how do you pass that time?
A. I am very much a latecomer to podcasts other than my regular news podcasts, so at the moment, if I have 30 minutes, I’m going to be listening to the latest episode of whatever I’m following that week.

Q. What’s one thing people are generally surprised to learn about you?
A. I think people are surprised to learn that I’m an avid cyclist and that I captain a small NY-based team. In 2022 we completed the AIDS LifeCycle ride - 545 miles from San Francisco to Los Angeles - and our team raised over $55,000 for charity.
At the end of the day, rejection is hard. My advice? Learn what you can from the reviewers, and send your work out again. In 90% of cases, that paper will find its way out there into the world.

5) Sastry et al. (2021) take a Culture-Centered Approach (CCA) to health communication research, defining it around three major constructs—culture, structures, and agency. Central implications of CCA are researcher reflexivity (ethical self-reflection) and dialogic co-construction (communicating deeply and effectively with communities and involving them throughout the research process). The authors conducted a PRISMA literature review in which they included 47 peer-reviewed health communications articles that self-identify as applying the CCA approach. The authors point out that most articles included some degree of self-reflexivity, but that the inclusion of community stakeholders as dialogic co-constructors was less frequent. Responding to how CCA has been employed in the field, the authors recommend the conceptualization of a nested system in which the first tier represents problem definition, the second tier focuses on problem interpretation, and the final tier affords movement towards participatory design and social justice. The establishment of this nested model does not necessarily impose a “how to do” CCA, but challenges researchers to consider how they can validate and build trust within the community under research—both practices integral to CCA.

The environment impacts individual abilities to understand and act upon health messaging. The articles in this Virtual Issue may help health researchers find entry points for structuring health communication projects, particularly if they pursue data collection in societies where disparities are evident.

ARTICLES


ICA 2023
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

Introducing an improved, streamlined hybrid ICA conference.

Browse through our FAQ page to learn what you can expect for ICA 2023. Some of the questions that will be answered:
• What are the new hours for the session day?
• When will the hotel block open?
• When will registration open?
• Who do I contact about being a sponsor?
• How does ICA help its attendees/members obtain visas?

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Calls for Papers

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New Master of Arts in Advocacy and Equity Studies at Furman University: Virtual Information Sessions Available and Applications Open

Kelly Grant, Kelly.grant52@furman.edu

The new Master of Arts in Advocacy and Equity Studies at Furman University in Greenville, SC, is now accepting applications for Fall of 2023. Furman’s MA in Advocacy and Equity Studies prepares students as professionals and civic activists to advance social justice, access, and inclusion through critical inquiry and change leadership. It situates graduates at the intersection of diverse voices, including historically marginalized and minoritized voices, persons in positions of power, and agents of social change. This program prepares graduates to help communities meet their equity goals by learning how to apply social justice theories, develop public narratives for social change, cultivate grant writing skills, conduct community-engaged research, and strengthen community organizing skills. We hope you’ll join our virtual information sessions to learn more about how our program can help you reach your goals!

We are hosting virtual information sessions in the coming months. Each will showcase a presentation on the program, space for questions and answers, as well as networking opportunities with a program representative and faculty in the program. Please feel free to share this information with your students, faculty, staff, industry colleagues, or any community minded individuals! Early applications for Fall 2023 are due March 15, 2023. Apply today at https://admission.furman.edu/apply/ Virtual information session registration links are below:
December 1, 2022, 4pm–5pm EST: https://admission.furman.edu/register/maaes1212022
January 12, 2023, 4pm–5pm EST: https://admission.furman.edu/register/maaes1122023

For more information and how to apply, contact Kelly Grant, graduate admissions coordinator, at Kelly.grant52@furman.edu, or visit our website: https://www.furman.edu/maaes

British Medical Journal

Has recently released BMJ Careers Mental Health, the 1st and only job board dedicated to helping mental health professionals find work and mental health employers find candidates.

The website (https://healthjobs.bmj.com) includes over 3,000 jobs and a library of articles offering practical advice on mental health careers and job hunting for mental health nurses, psychologists, therapists, counsellors and many other roles.