PRESIDENT’S COLUMN
Eun-Ju Lee, President (Seoul National U)

Celebrating and Looking Forward

What comes to your mind when you think of the ICA? To me, the two most salient things are the conferences and the journals. I’m delighted to share some exciting news on both fronts as we begin to wrap up this year.

On 16–18 October, the ICA in Africa Regional Conference with the theme “De-centering International Communication Studies: African Perspectives” took place in Cape Town and Stellenbosch, South Africa. The conference was initially planned for 2020, but was postponed several times during the long COVID-19 pandemic. It was incredibly encouraging to witness that more than 150 participants from 19 countries

continued on page 9

PRESIDENT-ELECT’S COLUMN
Silvio Waisbord, President-Elect (George Washington U)

Update on Submissions and Review Process for the 2024 Gold Coast Conference

Welcome to the last month of 2023! I hope you are well, as we wrap up the calendar year (and the academic year in some regions of the world).

I am pleased to inform that we had a strong number of submissions for the 2024 Gold Coast conference. We received 5,670 submissions – 4,630 in-person individual and 1,040 remote individual submissions. Also, we received a total of 246 session proposals, both in person (153) and hybrid (93). These are slightly below the record-breaking numbers of 2023 Toronto and 2022 Paris, but they are still very robust. I am very happy about this news, especially because as we continue to host our annual conferences around the world, it is important to maintain high levels of submissions and attendance. Strong interest in presenting and attending the 2024 conference suggest that we are on the right path.

We have reviewed a good number of exciting proposals for pre- and post-conferences as well as Blue Sky sessions on a wide range of topics of interest across divisions and interest groups. Just to highlight the themes of some proposals: various panels on the

continued on page 10
ICA NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2023

74th ANNUAL ICA CONFERENCE
Numbers updated on 11/13/2023

ICA 2024 paper submission numbers & statistics.

UNIQUE # OF INDIVIDUAL SUBMITTERS’ CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE
3,168 in-person (79%)  835 virtual (21%)
4,003 total

INDIVIDUAL SUBMISSIONS
5,670
total submissions
(not including individual proposal submissions that are linked within session proposals)

INDIVIDUAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSIONS
734
total submissions
(these are the submissions linked within session proposals)

SESSION PROPOSAL ATTENDANCES
246 session proposals were submitted
153 intend to present in-person
93 intend to present virtually

ANNUAL SUBMISSION COMPARISONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SAN DIEGO 2017</td>
<td>4,546 ind. submissions 373 session proposals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIRTUAL 2021</td>
<td>3,815 ind. submissions 183 session proposals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAGUE 2018</td>
<td>4,796 ind. submissions 415 session proposals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARIS 2022</td>
<td>6,268 ind. submissions 383 session proposals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DC 2019</td>
<td>4,638 ind. submissions 377 session proposals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TORONTO 2023</td>
<td>6,062 ind. submissions 392 session proposals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIRTUAL 2020</td>
<td>3,863 ind. submissions 201 session proposals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOLD COAST 2024</td>
<td>5,671D ind. submissions 246 session proposals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CONTENTS

page <article title

01  President’s Column  Eun-Ju Lee, President
01  President-Elect’s Column  Silvio Waisbord, President-Elect
02  Conference Submission Infographic
04  Day Trips and Things to do on and Around the Gold Coast  Local Host Committee
05  REACH-ing Out: Nigeria Chapter  Ekaete George, President, ICA Nigeria Chapter
06  REACH-ing Out: ICA Indonesia: Two Conferences  Dorien Kartikawangi, Chair, ICA Indonesia Chapter  Yearry Panji Setianto, Chair, COMNEWS 2023
07  Member Spotlight: Chaeyun Lim  Karly Senesac, Member Services Coordinator
08  Student Column  Christine Gilbert, SECAC Member
09  Call for Papers

International Communication Association 2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee
Eun-Ju Lee, President, Seoul National U
Silvio Waisbord, President-Elect, George Washington U
Noshir Contractor, Immediate Past President, Northwestern U
Mary Beth Oliver, Past President, Pennsylvania State U
Claes De Vreese, General Secretary, U of Amsterdam
Elisia Cohen, Treasurer, U of Minnesota
Laura Sawyer, Executive Director (ex-officio), ICA

Members-at-Large
Herman Wasserman, U of Capetown
Michael Kent, U of New South Wales
Shinsuke Eguchi, U of New Mexico
Soumia Bardhan, U of Colorado, Denver (ex-officio)
Rabindra Ratan, Michigan State U (ex-officio)

Student & Early Career Representatives
Yue “Nancy” Dai, City U of Hong Kong
Yuxi Cecilia Zhou, U of Massachusetts, Amherst

Division & Interest Group Chairs
Hanan Badr, Activism, Communication, and Social Justice, Paris Lodron U of Salzburg
Drew Cingel, Children, Adolescents, and the Media, U of California, Davis
Caleb Carr, Communication and Technology, Illinois State U
Cristina Mislan, Communication History, U of Missouri, Columbia
Luzhou (Nina) Li, Communication Law & Policy, Monash U
Richard Huskey, Communication Science and Biology, U of California, Davis
Annie Waldherr, Computational Methods, U of Vienna
Silje Kristiansen, Environmental Communication, SUNY
Mohan Dutta, Ethnicity and Race in Communication, Massey U
Esra Ozcan, Feminist Scholarship, Tulane U
Maxwell Foxman, Game Studies, U of Oregon
Saba Bebawi, Global Communication and Social Change, U of Technology, Sydney
Lourdes Martinez, Health Communication, San Diego State U
Chad Edwards, Human-Machine Communication, Western Michigan U
David Jeong, Information Systems, Santa Clara U
Michelle Violanti, Instructional and Developmental Communication, U of Tennessee
Sudeshna Roy, Intercultural Communication, Stephen F. Austin State U
Yan Bing Zhang, Intergroup Communication, U of Kansas
Jeffrey Hall, Interpersonal Communication, U of Kansas
Annika Sehl, Journalism Studies, U der Bundeswehr München
Todd Sandel, Language & Social Interaction, U of Macau
Lik Sam Chan, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Queer Studies, The Chinese U of Hong Kong
Sharif Mowlabocus Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Queer Studies, Fordham U
Dana Mastro, Mass Communication, U of California, Santa Barbara
Emily West, Media Industry Studies, U of Massachusetts, Amherst
Mariek Vanden Abeele, Mobile Communication, Ghent U
Boris Brummins, Organizational Communication, U of Montreal
Tanja Dreher, Philosophy, Theory, and Critique, U of New South Wales
Frank Esser, Political Communication, U of Zurich
Yupei Zhao, Popular Media & Culture, Zhejiang U
Steven Pike, Public Diplomacy, Syracuse U
W. Timothy Coombs, Public Relations, Centre for Crisis and Risk Communications
Michael Butterworth, Sport Communication, U of Texas at Austin
Saumava Mitra, Visual Communication Studies, Dublin City U

Editorial & Advertising
Jennifer Le, ICA Director of Conference Services
Katie Wolfe, ICA Manager of Conference Services

ICA Newsletter is published 10 times annually (combining January-February and June-July issues) by the International Communication Association.
DAY TRIPS AND THINGS TO DO ON AND AROUND THE GOLD COAST

ICA24 Local Hosts: Oscar Davis (Bond U), Sasha Goodwin (Bond U), Chauandra Manorome (Bond U), and Samantha Vilkins (Queensland U of Technology)

Welcome to the second installment of a series of local insights, recommendations and advice for what to do, see, eat and explore around the Gold Coast. This series of articles from your local hosts will hopefully inspire you to get out and explore the beautiful area when you visit for the conference. The following will detail some recommendations for day trips and local experiences in the area. While we cannot detail everything since there’s so much to do around here, we have compiled some of our favourite things! At the bottom of this article, you find some more resources to help you plan out the rest of your trip. This article will cover from Noosa Heads to Byron Bay.

My (Chaundra) personal recommendation as someone who is not from Australia and has had many overseas visitors is to plan your trip in advance. I’d recommend, if you are flying into Brisbane and you have a few days before the conference begins, to head straight up to the Sunshine Coast (North of Brisbane). Along the way, you will find the beautiful Glass...
THE ICA KENYA CHAPTER
Wangeci Kanyeki, ICA Kenya Chapter

ICA Kenya Chapter Developing Research Capacity

The ICA Kenya Chapter currently has 90 members. It is spearheaded by a Board of 19 members from various universities including Aga Khan U, Daystar U, Koitaleel Sameoi U College, Laikipia U, Multimedia U of Kenya, Tangaza U College, The Catholic U of Eastern Africa and Africa Community Leadership and Development.

In preparation for the 74th International Communication Association, the ICA Kenya Chapter organized an online intervarsity webinar (see photo) where Prof. Bala A. Musa, Communication Studies Department of Azusa Pacific U, California, USA shared with participants how to optimize participation and submission of abstracts for the ICA Annual conference and how to maximize one’s ICA membership fully.

ICA Kenya’s objectives to develop research capacity are gradually taking center stage. Dr. Nema Aluku invited ICA Kenya Chapter Board members to an event to equip members with modern-day research tools. The event themed “Qualitative methods, analysis and Dedoose was organized by Africa Community Leadership and Development (ACLAD) from 25th – 27th September 25th and held in Karen, Kenya. Dr. Patrick Okanga, Executive Board Member of the ICA Kenya Chapter who attended the workshop event says, “We had an opportunity to be introduced to the new cloud software for quantitative and mixed method analysis and learned how to use Dedoose for data preparation, codebook development, and data analysis,” says Okanga. Deputy Chairman of ICA Kenya Chapter Paul Kimweli and Dr. Margaret Mtange of Multi-Media U attended to learn how to communicate about their positionality and how this is related to qualitative analysis. “Besides learning, it was an opportunity to network with practitioners and scholars interested in qualitative methods, and we tremendously thank ICA Kenya for providing the platform for exposure and learning,” said Mtange.

In other news, ICA Kenya Chapter Chair, Sr. Prof. A. L. Lando has been appointed to the ICA Headquarters’ Strategic Planning Task Force responsible for identifying strategic issues that ICA headquarters should address within the next five years. In addition, they will develop a compelling vision of what ICA will look like in five years and recommendations on how they will reach their short to mid-term goals.
REACH-ING OUT: ICA INDONESIA: TWO CONFERENCES

I. Looking Back at Digital Technology Integration with Basic Communication

Dorien Kartikawangi, Chair, ICA Indonesia Chapter

The School of Communication, Atma Jaya Catholic U (Unika) of Indonesia hosted the 7th International Conference on Corporate and Marketing Communication (ICCOMAC), 23-24 October 2023. The theme was Revisit Communication: Integrating the Basics with Digital.

changed how humans communicate and interact. For example, sending instant messages daily, conferencing via video, or making friends virtually, including Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology developments. However, the basic principles of effective communication are timeless, namely, delivering messages to recipients in the right channels and providing and accommodating feedback. So, it is important to communicate with a consistent message and identity to be recognized. This conference showcased 36 (online and offline) presentations on corporate communications, marketing communications, media, and special issues such as technology, AI, education with online learning, and social media.

The conference also included expert speakers, namely professors from domestic and foreign universities such as Dorien Kartikawangi from Unika Atma Jaya, who explained about harmonization between digital and traditional communication to make relationships more intense, build trust, and global unity in the context of building organizational innovation.

Eun-Ju Lee from Seoul National U, South Korea, and the President of ICA spoke about integrating AI and human communication. “In this era of technological development, including AI, the key is to build trust with society. So, it is necessary to prepare human resources with special skills that can answer the needs of future technological developments, including in the world of work,” explained Lee.

Noshir Contractor, from Northwestern U, United States, and Past President of ICA, explained how utilizing social science computational approaches can help address grand societal challenges. For example, how can big data motivate new communication theories and methods?

This theme emphasizes the technological revolution that has

PHOTO: From L to R
(1) Prof. Reiner Janz, from Westphalian U of Applied Science, Germany (2) Dr. Leila Mona Ganiem from ISKI (3) Anna Agustina, Ph.D. from ASPIKOM (4) Prof. Noshir Contractor from Northwestern U, California, US (5) Prof. Dorien Kartikawangi, Head of the Unika Atma Jaya Communication Science Study Program (6) Dr. Nia Sarina, Senior Lecturer of the School of Communication, AJCU (7) Dr. Eko Widodo, Dean of FIABIKOM, AJCU (8) Dr. Hadi Saba Ayon, U of Le Havre, France

Dorien Kartikawangi, Chair of the ICA Indonesia Chapter, noted “This year, we were specifically affiliated with the International Communication Association (ICA). So, the academics who attended did not only come from within but also abroad, such as China, South Korea, and Russia.”

This theme emphasizes the technological revolution that has

continued on page 13
MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: CHAEYUN LIM
Karly Senesac, Member Services Coordinator

ICA membership is a community of scholars from various professional methodologies, with expertise, unique talents, and diverse cultural influences from around the globe. Our ever-growing member base is the backbone of our organization. We are continually grateful to those who participate in the association’s success. In this new column, we will periodically introduce you to some of ICA’s members.

Q&A with Chaeyun Lim
Doctoral Candidate
Michigan State U

Q. Tell us how long you’ve been an ICA member, why you joined ICA, and which was your first conference?
A. I’ve been an ICA member since 2019. My first conference was the 69th ICA in Washington, D.C., as a master student. I presented my first paper to the Computational Methods Division.

Q. What is your academic/research focus and your methodological approach?
A. I am passionate about augmenting equitable workplace through communication technologies, inclusive of computational social sciences approaches.

Q. How have you benefited from being an ICA member?
A. The regular announcement of events helps me engage in the field actively, which makes me keep in the loop. Especially, the benefit of attending ICA conferences as a member helps me engage in networking with wonderful scholars around the world.

Q. Tell us about your favorite interaction you’ve had within ICA or at the conference?
A. At the ICA conferences in Paris last year, I eventually met collaborators (Dr. David Beyea, Dr. Maxwell Foxman) in person! As I started my PhD journey during the pandemic, I haven’t had many opportunities to interact with collaborators in person. I met Dr. Jorge Pena and Yoo Jung (Erika) Oh. As our lab (led by Dr. Rabindra Ratan) held a VR exhibition at ICA Paris, I was able to interact with many wonderful scholars who attended the exhibition. I had a chance to make amazing friends there. The in-person interaction with my collaborators and friends at Paris was most exciting and my favorite part at ICA conferences so far!

Q. What divisions and interest group(s) do you participate in and why did you make that selection?
A. Because of my research interests and methodological approach, I participate in the Communication and Technology, Information Systems, and Computational Methods Divisions.

Q. Which professional accomplishment are you most proud of, and why?
A. My advisor and mentor is Dr. Rabindra Ratan. He has always been my supportive mentor. His mental and intellectual support always motivates me and helps me have emotional resilience as a social scientist. He is always open to my perspective, encourages my engagement in research projects, and trusts my decisions and insights. We work on many research projects and always share ideas about new Q&A with Chaeyun Lim

Doctoral Candidate
Michigan State U

TOP FIVE REASONS TO GIVE THE GIFT OF ICA MEMBERSHIP:
1. A great way to say thanks, congratulations, or job well done!
2. Funding varies
3. Help student and early career scholars connect
4. Help boost someone’s career
5. ICA members enjoy immediate access to an array of benefits

Gift of Membership

Give the Gift of Membership
STUDENT COLUMN
Elisa Baek, SECAC Member (U of Southern California)

Nurturing Mental Wellness in Academia

It is a very busy time of the year, with academic terms coming to a wrap and holidays travels begin. If you are like me, you might be swamped with end-of-term grading and deadlines, while also thinking about all the work you plan to do during your holiday break! While academia often provides quite a bit of flexibility when it comes to when and where you work, the lack of clear boundaries can lead to burnout. It is important to remember to prioritize your mental well-being, and taking proactive steps to support your mental and physical health can be a key to thriving in academia. While I am by no means an expert, here are some tips that I have learned over the years that I hope can be helpful.

1. Establish a routine: As noted above, a career in academia can often be very flexible—outside of meetings, you can pretty much structure your time in any way you would like. This level of flexibility can be a double-edged sword, though, and establishing a routine that works for you can be critical to create a sense of stability. Creating rhythms for your life that incorporate some structure for work and non-work activities might be helpful. For instance, my day typically starts at around 6am, and I spend the first hour or two in my morning routine, which consists of walking my dog, meditating, and coffee and breakfast before I dive into work. I have found that having this morning routine is helpful to ground me to deal with the many demands of academia—your routine could look very different, but having a structure of some sort can go a long way in promoting your well-being.

2. Celebrate achievements: Academia can often feel like a series of rejections—whether that be from funding agencies, journal/conference submissions, or job applications. Also, good empirical research often unfolds over a long period of time! These elements can make it easy to feel discouraged with what feels like a lack of timely progress, which makes it even more important to celebrate your achievements—big or small. Take a moment to celebrate, anything from submitting a paper to a journal, receiving a revise & resubmit, and passing your qualifying exams!

3. Learn to say no: We are often inundated with requests—everything from reviewing papers to serving on committees and collaborating on new projects, and the list goes on. While it can be hard to say no, it is important to practice this early in your career—it will only get more challenging as you become more senior! When considering a new request, pause and think about whether you have the bandwidth to do so and whether the request aligns with your short and long-term goals. It could also be a good idea to reach out to mentors that you trust to ask whether saying "yes" to a new request would be advisable.

4. Seek support: Having a great social support system can make a big difference in your well-being. Identifying both formal and informal mentors who can advise you as you navigate your way through graduate school, postdoctoral years, and (if you choose an academic career) your effort toward tenure is critical. Seek out mentors who can not only support you professionally but who may also understand your unique identities and challenges. I also cannot emphasize enough the importance of establishing connections with colleagues in a similar career stage as you—these are the people who you will develop friendships and collaborations with for years to come!

As we near the end of the year, the hustle and bustle of year-end responsibilities can overshadow the need for self-care. It is important to remember, though, that investing in your mental well-being will not only enhance your overall well-being but will also promote your resilience and success in the demands of academia. Wishing you a happy and restful holiday season!
gathered for this long-awaited event, engaging in meaningful dialogue, sharing their insights, and forging connections with colleagues from diverse backgrounds. As Dr. Herman Wasserman, the Chair of the Local Organizing Committee, noted, the conference represents our continued efforts “to complicate, disrupt and shape dominant theoretical narratives, which are so often based on perspectives and experiences from the Global North.”

Preceded by the Knowledge Exchange Pre-Conference, where emerging scholars and mentors came together to exchange ideas and seek opportunities for future collaboration, the three-day conference was packed with an impressive array of exciting and pressing topics – from decolonizing media, media research and media education, to fighting mis/disinformation and hate speech, to revisiting journalism practices and norms, to regulating digital platforms and understanding cyberactivism. With the establishment of two ICA Regional Chapters in Nigeria and Kenya, we believe that ICA is well-positioned for deeper engagement with communication scholars in Africa throughout the year. It is on its way to transitioning “from a U.S.-based organization that happened to have international members to a truly international organization that happened to be based in the U.S.,” as noted on the ICA website. I’m immensely grateful to the members of the Local Organizing Committee and the staff who worked tirelessly to make this conference a reality.

Another exciting piece of news pertains to the upcoming special issue of Human Communication Research (HCR): “Rethinking and Expanding Communication Theories on HCR’s 50th Anniversary.” As a flagship journal in our discipline, HCR has served as “an important outlet for projects that develop, advance, and critique communication theory using social science methods (broadly defined),” as characterized by the Guest Editors, Drs. Mary Beth Oliver, Tamara Afifi, and Homero Gil de Zuñiga. In celebration of its 50 years of unparalleled legacy, the Guest Editors have curated a truly special issue that invites us to envision how we, as a discipline, may move forward – by revisiting classical models, exploring new concepts, and developing innovative ways of explaining various communication phenomena in the context of rapid and profound political, cultural, and technological transformations (For a preview of featured articles, click here).

While serving in various ICA-related roles, I’ve had the privilege of meeting and working with countless individuals who are not only brilliant scholars but also genuinely dedicated to community building. It is the collective efforts of these talented individuals that have shaped what ICA is today. In this season of thanksgiving, allow me to express my gratitude once again to all of you for your continued support of ICA. Happy Holidays!
"computational turn" in communication studies, ethics and human rights, visual communication, intelligent communication, area/regional media and communication studies, and disability communication. 

For the past weeks, the ICA staff and the Division/Interest Group planners have been working on the review process. As you can imagine, there are many moving parts in this process, which requires regular communication and consultation among staff and planners. We greatly appreciate the time, care, and dedication of everyone involved. 

As always, we welcome any suggestions about ways to improve the process. In the past, a few people asked about the timing of the review process, given that it falls at a time when many ICA members have several commitments and celebrate the holidays. While we are cognizant of the time crunch, it is important to remember that the timing is based on the need to have the decisions with enough time ahead of the conference (generally in May, except for this year in June). This is not only necessary to arrange conference logistics, but also to give plenty of time to colleagues who need to apply for visas. In the past, the visa application process has taken several months depending on the country of destination and country of residence and citizenship. In fact, in many instances, members received a response only a few days before they had to travel to the conference. So, we try to give members sufficient time to make plans once they hear about their visa application. Feel free to contact me if you have any suggestions that you would like the Executive Committee to know, as we continue to refine the submission process.

Finally, be on the lookout for upcoming information on tourism experiences.

House Mountains (which you can hike up Mt NgunGun for a beautiful 360 view. Not far from there, you will find yourself at Australia Zoo (Steve Irwin’s Zoo), and if you continue, you will end up in beautiful Noosa, a holiday destination for many Australians in the area. Then on your way back, you can stop in Brisbane, then arrive on the Gold Coast. From there, you could do some more day trips down South to beautiful Byron Bay.

City escape: Brisbane

The state capital city of Brisbane, known as Meanjin, on Yuggera Turrbal Country lies an easy hour north of the Gold Coast – and offers big city perks (like great shopping and on-trend eateries) along with plenty of that relaxed Queensland charm. You can also easily get from the Gold Coast to Brisbane without a car, as the Gold Coast tram links up to the train line right into Brisbane Central Station.

In Brisbane itself, Queen Street Mall delivers shopping in the city’s heart, with leading high street brands and department stores, the Wintergarden’s surplus of edgy boutiques, and QueenPlaza’s international designers (including Chanel, Dior and Saint Laurent), all in one place.


For a slower-paced afternoon, park your car in South Bank and enjoy a stroll along the riverfront, grab something to eat at Fish Lane, or wander one of Brisbane’s world-class exhibitions. South Bank is at Brisbane’s cultural heart and between the Queensland Art Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA), State Library of Queensland, Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC), Queensland Maritime Museum, and Queensland Museum and Sciencentre, there’s sure to be a show, exhibition or historical tale to take your fancy.

If you’re keen to meet some Australian native animals on your trip, there’s no better place than Brisbane’s Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary, home to over 100 koalas and 75 other species of Australian native animals. For native flora instead, Brisbane
has two botanical gardens: the riverside City Botanic Gardens, and the Brisbane Botanic Gardens at Mt Coot-tha, boasting a massive Tropical Display Dome and offering guided walks through its 56-hectare gardens.

Tangalooma wrecks, from: https://www.tangalooma.com/moreton-island/tangalooma-wrecks
Queensland is home to the largest sand islands in the world, with many accessible from Brisbane. Ferries across to Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island) and Mulgumpin (Moreton Island) depart from Brisbane’s oceanside suburbs, while Yarun (Bribie Island) is accessible by bridge. All are stunning, with activities in and out of the water from snorkeling to art gallery tours.

"Bluey’s Brisbane”, from: https://www.bluey.tv/blog/explore-blueys-hometown-of-brisbane/
Brisbane is also the real-life home of the children’s television show Bluey. If you’re a fan, scouting the city for familiar locations can make for an excellent adventure and a way to better get to know Brisbane.

Local Activities on the Gold Coast

Warner Bros Movie World and Dreamworld
Looking to trade the Gold Coast’s laid-back charm for something more thrilling? A trip to Warner Brothers Movie World or Dreamworld is just what the doctor ordered. If you are bringing your children with you they will love meeting their favourite characters, from Superman to Bugs Bunny and enjoy the adrenaline-pumping rides.

National Parks

Draped with lush rainforest, the Gold Coast Hinterland is an ideal place to sneaker up and take a walk to see where the green meets the gold. Both Lamington and Springbrook national parks offer ample opportunity to get up-close-and-personal with nature. Part of the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia World Heritage Area, the parks are home to ancient natural beauty, like Springbrook's Natural Bridge - an enchanting waterfall that cascades through the arches of a basalt cave. You could also wind your way up Lamington National Park Road for waterfall spotting and a stroll among the treetops at O’Reilly’s Rainforest Retreat. Or, settle in at the base of the mountain at O’Reilly’s Canungra Valley Vineyards, where you can pair a free wine tasting with a gourmet homestead picnic – tartan rug included.

Tamborine Mountain is one of the most beautiful peaks in Australia that many enjoy hiking and trekking all year round. The Tamborine Rainforest Skywalk is probably the best – and easiest way to get your head around just how beautiful Mount Tamborine is. Pack a camera, put on your best activewear and grab your walking shoes! This brings you to the best spots in the national park and the experienced guide will help point out the huge variety of wildlife, flora and fauna that you can spot along the way.

Wildlife

The Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary has a huge variety of Australian birds and animals displayed in modern habitats for clear viewing & optimal animal welfare. There’s plenty here to do for the whole family, including a walkthrough kangaroo enclosure and the new Lost Valley experience. The bird show here is excellent with stars like the giant wedge-tail eagle, the heart faced barn owl, barking owl, black Kites and colourful parrots. You can pat and feed a kangaroo or hold a snake. If you are feeling adventurous you can try the treetop climbing course. Aside from Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary, the Gold Coast is also home to Fleays Wildlife Conservation Park, which offers more of an educational experience to the local wildlife. This is a great place to see some local animals being rehabilitated and learn all about their habitats. If you have a bit more time on your hands and want to also see some of these furry creatures in the wild, you can find koalas in the Burleigh headland (if you’re lucky, I actually saw one there just the other day!). But if you have a mode of transportation like a rental
car and you want to see some wild kangaroos, I recommend driving out to Currumbin Eco Village. There’s always kangaroos hanging out there. Then if you continue down the road, you will find the Currumbin rockpools, a great place for a picnic or a quick swim!

**Staying active while you’re on the coast**

If you are athletic and love to go to the gym, swim, bike or run, then you will love the opportunities available here on the Gold Coast. Aside from having gyms around every corner like Snap Fitness, Anytime Fitness, World Gym, BFT etc. there are lots of opportunities for exercise along the coast. You will find outdoor gym equipment in each stretch of beach, from Mainbeach all the way down to Coolangatta. However, there are also a lot of running, cycling and swimming groups that meet along the coast for some outdoor activities. As someone who is part of these types of groups I can attest that they are always welcoming to newcomers. Before you arrive at the Gold Coast just google ‘run’ or ‘cycling’ or ‘triathlon’ groups in the area and make contact to find out their meeting schedules.

If you are a cyclist and you are bringing your bike, I’m (Chaundra) more than happy to show you some local rides in the area, another option is to check the Strava routes. There will be hundreds available in the area. If you’re bringing a mountain bike there are also great trails around. Nerang would be the closest. Or there’s the BVRT rail trail which makes for a great day excursion if you’re on a gravel bike.

Another great way to stay in shape and active while you visit is by walking along the beach during sunrise, sunset, or any time of the day! However, if you walk along during dusk and dawn, you will often find several outdoor group fitness classes or yoga classes. A lot of these activities are listed on the Gold Coast Council Website.

### Resources if you’re looking for more things to do (locally)

- [https://www.theurbanlist.com/goldcoast/a-list/things-to-do-on-the-gold-coast](https://www.theurbanlist.com/goldcoast/a-list/things-to-do-on-the-gold-coast)

### Coming up...

Our next article will cover more specific things to do on the Gold Coast and will showcase the diverse and vibrant culinary scene, including top restaurants, local delicacies, and catering options for conference attendees. We will also explore the cultural attractions and artistic offerings of the Gold Coast, such as museums, galleries, and live performances that conference attendees can enjoy before or after the event. 

---

**ARE YOU READY FOR AN ADVENTURE?**

We are delighted to announce the return of ICA-curated tours and excursions for #ICA24, provided in partnership with Kiff & Culture, a local company that crafts immersive travel experiences, connecting guests with the region’s best purveyors and artisans through bespoke tours. Kiff & Culture’s three main values are local knowledge, ethical eats, and “nature first” – they only work with eco-friendly providers and venues. Get ready to explore landscapes, taste local flavours, and engage in cultural activities, all guided by expert local staff! With tailored itineraries, award-winning venues, and over two hundred five-star endorsements (including nomination as the World’s Best Sustainable Tour Operator in 2021), Kiff + Culture offer authentic and unforgettable adventures tailored to your unique preferences.

ICA’s selections for curated tours for our attendees include both adult-only and kid-friendly adventures, half day and full day experiences during the conference, and even longer trips to the surrounding areas that occur prior to or immediately after the conclusion of the ICA conference. Don’t book your flight until you’ve checked on what Kiff has to offer for our attendees! We are working with Kiff & Culture on a curated list of experiences as we speak, and we will launch the tours page—complete with pricing, excursion details, and reservation links—in the next month! Stay tuned...
Reiner Janz from the Westphalian U of Applied Science, Germany, presented the importance of communication in organizations, especially when experiencing a communication crisis, including during a pandemic. They need a communication strategy to solve problems.

Fabien Liénard from the U of Le Havre, France, talked about looking at digital traces with the “Human Trace” approach, namely the approach of sociolinguists regarding words created through writing and speaking.

This conference partnered with various professional organizations in communication, accredited scientific journals, media, and publishers, providing a platform for academics, researchers, and practitioners to share and dialogue on research results. The hope is that it can contribute to developing communication science at local and global levels.

II. COMNEWS 2023 Conference: Discussing the Future of Communication Research in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

Yearry Panji Setianto, Chair, COMNEWS 2023

The COMNEWS 2023 Conference, a collaborative effort between the Faculty of Communication Science at Multimedia Nusantara U (UMN) and the Department of Communication Science at Udayana U was held in the vibrant setting of Bali at the Prime Plaza Hotel from October 25-26, 2023. This international conference, supported by the ICA Indonesia chapter, delved into crucial discussions on the evolving landscape of media and communication in Indonesia in the era of artificial intelligence.

COMNEWS 2023 focused on identifying and addressing contemporary challenges in media and communication, with a particular emphasis on the impact of artificial intelligence. The theme, “Rethinking Post-Digital Society,” set the stage for thought-provoking discussions on the future of communication and sustainability in an increasingly digitized world.

In his address, Yearry Panji Setianto, Chair of COMNEWS 2023, conveyed that the international conference was attended by more than a hundred participants from various universities, covering diverse research topics in communication and technological innovation, especially artificial intelligence.

Meanwhile, Andrey Andoko, the Dean of the Faculty of Communication Science at UMN, expressed concerns about the presence of AI, which has already replaced some jobs in the field of media and communication in Indonesia. Specifically, Andrey mentioned, “We are not only required to utilize machines as assistants but also to enhance our abilities beyond those of machines.”

The opening keynote session featured presentations by Axel Bruns (Queensland U of Technology) and Claes de Vreese (U of Amsterdam). Bruns delivered a presentation on “What is lost when Twitter is lost? Reflections on the impending death of a platform.” He emphasized issues causing social media to fail as public spaces and their consequences for the democratization process.

Claes de Vreese discussed “AI, media and democracy: New challenges ahead.” Based on a survey conducted in European society, he found that the majority of respondents demand transparency in AI usage. His research also found, when communicating online, people want to know whether they are interacting with fellow humans or AI. Additionally, they consider job security and personal data security as the two biggest challenges related to AI.

In the closing keynote session, Verica Rupar (Auckland U of Technology) addressed how journalists’ dependence on algorithms further distances media from public interests, especially when news and information curated by these algorithms only reflect the interests of the elite.

The final keynote speaker, (Northwestern U) emphasized how the increasing reliance on AI in the workplace can fundamentally alter social relationships in the long term. In his research, he found that AI was more appreciated by humans only if it contributed in specific ways to completing tasks. Such phenomena are predicted to become more common in today’s post-digital society.
research projects. I am so happy and grateful to work with him and get his support and advice! He is also a wonderful professor to undergraduate students, a great collaborator to other researchers, and a good father to his kiddos, which means he inspires me in many ways. I can say that he is the best mentor I’ve ever met in my life. I feel so grateful for having him as my supervisor and mentor in my academic journey!

Q. Is there an article or publication you would like to highlight?
A. I would like to highlight one of my co-authored papers about exploring students’ online learning experiences during the pandemic. I’ve engaged in this class as a teaching assistant at the time and my advisor was the instructor of the class. He led the project and we could finally come to fruition.


Getting to know Chaeyun on a more personal level:

Q. When you have 30 minutes of free time, how do you pass the time?
A. I would watch Indian Matchmaking on Netflix, which is one of my favorite programs on Netflix, and the new season arrived a week ago!

Q. If you could meet anyone (living or deceased), from the past or present, who would you want to meet and why?
A. I want to meet Jesus, and want to ask what he thinks about many issues people are fighting.

Q. What is your favorite album, song, movie, TV show or book?
A. I am a big fan of documentaries. One of my favorites is “American Factory” on Netflix.

Q. What is one talent or skill that you wish you had?
A. It would be really great if I just breathe, then my muscles grow. Then I don’t need to sweat working out.