2023 ICA ELECTIONS

Julie Arnold, Director of Governance and Member Services

In early September (expected 6 September), International Communication Association members will begin voting for association-wide and division/interest group officers. Like previous years, the vote takes place using an online-only ballot. Polls will remain open until 12:00 (noon) ICA headquarters time (EDT) on 11 October.

Candidate statements for the ICA Presidential position are included in this newsletter; all other (association wide and division/interest group) candidate statements are included within the online ballots in the ICA election system. All candidate statements are also shared by ICA Headquarters via The Link.

A note on voting engagement and promotion

Official ICA channels of communication can and should be used to promote voter participation, not to advocate for specific candidates. ICA strongly discourages any candidate running for office within the association, or members in general, use ICA communication channels or platforms, such as The Link, or ICA official mailing lists to solicit the votes of others. Campaigning is awkward for all involved and is therefore strongly discouraged. Active campaigning via non-ICA channels, such as social media, is also strongly discouraged.

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published May 24, 2023

LISTEN ANYWHERE

Presidential Candidate: Thomas Hanitzsch

I am deeply honored to be nominated for president of ICA along with my dear colleague and friend, Yariv Tsfati. The association has provided me many

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Presidential Candidate: Yariv Tsfati

ICA has been my home for the past quarter century. This is where I met some of my best friends, heard inspiring talks, and had the opportunity to interact with scholars from around

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2023 ICA Elections
Julie Arnold, Director of Governance & Member Services

Presidential Candidate: Thomas Hanitzsch

Presidential Candidate: Yariv Tsfati

Submission Management System Now Open!
Conference Team

President’s Column
Eun-Ju Lee, President

President-Elect’s Column
Silvio Waisbord, President-Elect

State of the Association
Laura Sawyer, Executive Director

REACH-ing Out: Kenya Chapter
Wangeci Kanyeki & Jean Murungi, Chair of ICA Kenya

Call for Submissions: First Nations Scholarship

Climate Action Committee Column
Jiyounghan, Climate Action Committee Member

Membership Column
Membership Team

ICA Journal Metrics
Tom Mankowski, Director of Publishing Operations

Member Spotlight: Agnes Lucy Lando
Karly Senesac, Member Services Coordinator

Student Column
Nancy Dai, Board Student & Early Career Representative

Call for ICA Journal Editors

Call for Papers: 7th ICCOMAC 2023 – ICA Affiliated Conference

ICA Newsletter is published 10 times annually (combining January-February and June-July issues) by the International Communication Association.
ICA invites you to submit your individual submission or session proposal for the 74th Annual ICA Conference to be held as a hybrid event. Participants will be able to attend in-person in Gold Coast, Australia, or present remotely. The physical conference is slated to take place in Gold Coast on 20–24 June 2024. The conference theme is Communication and Global Human Rights.

Click here for the Conference Calls for Papers.

Tips for Online Submission

IN-PERSON OR REMOTE?

The first choice you will make is whether the submission will be presented in-person or remotely. This decision is binding and cannot be changed after 1 November.

INDIVIDUAL PROPOSAL: SUBMITTING A PAPER OR EXTENDED ABSTRACT?

Have your document ready to upload! You MUST upload a paper or extended abstract in order to complete the individual submission process. Before submitting your document, remember to remove all author identification from the text, cover page, and the file properties. (In the "File" menu select "Properties," delete any identifying information, click "OK," and save the document.)

SESSIONS PROPOSALS: SUBMITTING A PANEL OR ROUND TABLE PROPOSAL?

Plan ahead! The Session Organizer submits the panel proposal, and enters all of the panel information including the abstract rationale, and listing of all panel participants. When entering a panel participant, please SEARCH THE DATABASE for the participants. ENTER ONLY TWO OR THREE LETTERS OF THE FIRST AND LAST NAMES WHEN SEARCHING. This strategy will minimize the possibility of missing a record because of a ‘special’ character in the first or last names. In the Panel Description field enter the text of your panel proposal including rationale, presentation authors and titles, and abstracts or any other information mentioned in the Call for Papers. You can do this by copying and pasting the text of the panel proposal from your Word document.

CONSIDER SUBMITTING YOUR WORK OR PAPER AS A THEME SESSION

If your topic crosses the interests of several divisions or interest groups, and relates to this year’s theme,
PRESIDENT’S COLUMN
Eun-Ju Lee, President (Seoul National U)

How Can We Communicate Better?

My doctor friend says, half-jokingly, that if we follow what doctors say, we can live long—but if we follow what doctors do, we will die young. No other scholarly association has more communication experts than ICA does, but how well are we doing communication-wise? With approximately 7,000 members dispersed across 87 countries worldwide, there’s no question that effective communication between the leadership and members, as well as among members at both the Division/Interest Group and Association levels, is crucial to ICA’s successful operation, and equally challenging.

Among the various communication channels ICA currently maintains for official communications, social media platforms are probably the most widely and frequently used ones. Especially considering the recent and ongoing (not so trivial) changes in the social media landscape, it seems imperative for us to revisit how to engage with social media as a means of communication (see the Immediate Past President Noshir Contractor’s Newsletter column, “Is it time for ICAstodon?”). To address this issue, we have created the Social Media Task Force to be led by Dr. François Heinderyckx (Chair), who will work closely with Drs. Aicha Adoui, Curd Knüpfer, Adrienne Massanari, and Katy Pearce. The Social Media TF is tasked with evaluating the potential long-term benefits of the current ICA platforms (i.e., Twitter, LinkedIn, Mastodon, Facebook, and Threads), based on their functionality and actual usage. This includes analyzing social media strategies of comparable academic societies, the utilization of social media by our Divisions and Interest Groups, and the use of the current member engagement platform, The Link. They are also asked to assess new social media platforms in terms of overall functionality and potential benefits, and ultimately, make recommendations on how ICA should (or should not) engage with them, for the Board’s approval in June 2024. If you have any thoughts and/or experiences to share, please feel free to contact any of the TF members, so your invaluable input can be well integrated into the general guidelines for ICA’s social media use.

Another newly established task force is the Data Collection & Privacy Policy TF. It was brought to our attention that there were concerns regarding sensitive personal information that was being collected during the membership renewal process. In response, we promptly removed the related questions and decided to form a task force to develop an official ICA policy that governs the collection and use of members’ data. I am immensely grateful to Dr. Christian Hoffman, who will lead a team of experts including Drs. Peng Hwa Ang, Dmirty Epstein, Kelly Quinn, and Philipp Masur. Their primary responsibilities involve evaluating ICA’s current practices concerning the collection, usage, and storage of members’ personal data, such as those obtained during the membership renewal process and displayed as part of the member profile, and then formulating ICA’s privacy standards in line with the best practices implemented by international academic associations, which fully uphold the core principles of voluntariness, transparency, and visibility. Once again, I’d like to express my sincere gratitude to those who not only alerted us to this important matter, but also graciously agreed to serve on the TF, and strongly encourage you to lend your voice to strengthen the ICA community—we’re all ears.
PRESIDENT-ELECT’S COLUMN
Silvio Waisbord, President-Elect (George Washington U)

Insights From the Toronto 2023 Conference Survey

One of the most interesting aspects of my current role as President-Elect is participating in conversations and decisions about running our association and planning annual conferences. For example, reading and analyzing the findings of the Toronto 2023 conference survey was very enlightening. There were plenty of ideas about what works, what could work better, what members expect, and what we should learn for future meetings. Thanks to everyone who completed the questionnaire (total of 719 respondents).

There were 4,356 conference attendees: 3,898 in person and 492 remote. The total number of student attendees was 1,580 (36% of total attendees). ICA membership fluctuates throughout the year but currently stands at 5,583; student members are 1,929, 35% of total membership.

Most respondents share that the conference was very good (42%) or excellent (17%), which suggests that ICA continues to organize well-received meetings with great success. It is also encouraging to see that more than 70% of the respondents believe that communication from ICA headquarters was good, very good, or excellent.

ICA members loved personal engagement during the conference, giving high marks for attending social events (83%) and making new connections (89%). Seventy-three percent of respondents agree or strongly agree with the statement that they “felt a sense of community among my fellow scholars.” Regarding social media engagement, 55% and 48% of respondents indicate that they used the #ICA23 hashtag on Twitter (now X) and other social media, respectively. We need to examine our social media presence and use, and I hope the new Social Media Task Force will help us figure out ideas.

We are very pleased to know that upwards of 70% of respondents agree or strongly agree that they had a positive experience with the conference audio/visual technology. Having dedicated technicians in most meeting rooms made a difference. There were infrequent cases of problems with connectivity and missing cables that delayed the panels and resulted in shorter presentations, which we hope to avoid in the 2024 Gold Coast conference.

Respondents made several suggestions that we are considering as we plan the 2024 Gold Coast conference. In no particular order of relevance, here are some issues that were mentioned: making the conference app easier to use; producing better turnout estimates of accepted panels so sessions are scheduled in appropriate rooms; offering more frequent coffee/food breaks and options (vegan/environmentally friendly, non-alcoholic drinks) during sessions and social events; ensuring effective time management during sessions; and promoting better the conference platform (or app, if platform goes away).

Also, we are mindful that there were a few challenges with the Toronto conference/hotel, such as the size of rooms (too large or too small), wifi reliability in some rooms/spaces, and minor difficulties finding rooms. Respondents were generally pleased with COVID protocol/mask availability, a matter that we will continue to watch closely as we plan

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT
Laura Sawyer, MA, CAE, Executive Director

The State of the Association 2023

The International Communication Association officially emerged on 1 January 1950 as the National Society for the Study of Communication (NSSC), but didn’t become “ICA” until 1969, in recognition of its growing international reach. As we near the end of fiscal year 2023, we are stronger than ever, in spite of some significant global challenges.

Hearteningly, while other businesses and some associations have shuttered or are still struggling a great deal, ICA has persevered. I believe this is because of the closeness of our community, our ability to be flexible in times of great stress, and our determination to use challenges as an opportunity for innovation rather than a stumbling block. As I write, we are in the middle of various global definitions of “post” pandemic life, political upheaval, and war. Things can feel quite dire, almost all the time. And yet, our connections to other scholars, via ICA and other associations, help us to maintain our sense of community.

Though many of us are getting back to “normal” in many ways, things are still not the way they once were. In spite of this, I have never felt more connected to our members. We have together interrogated the myth of “individual resilience.” The days (still) feel like an endless series of Zoom and Teams and Slack calls: when there is no delineation between work and home, work is always there, and you have no plausible deniability to keep you from being available 24/7. But as I write, it has become clear that in spite of this chaos, our members are a resilient, funny, and fantastically creative group who will find a way to thrive in spite of enormous obstacles. The work you do—the work I am honored to help you do, in my small way—is so important to our understanding of the world, and the implications of this virus on society, which continue to reverberate, are no exception.

Yet ICA continues to thrive, finding new avenues of influence and new ways to expand our #CommUnity and build our networks. That said, there is always more that can be done to strengthen and diversify the organization going forward.

Fiscal Health

ICA’s fiscal health remains remarkably strong. Despite the pandemic canceling two of our contracts for in-person conference venues in Australia (2020) and Denver (2021), in both cases we were able to negotiate postponements that allowed us to sidestep all of the significant expenses that would typically come with canceling a physical conference of this size. While ICA’s conference used to only break even and the association was carried by publications revenue, that formula has flipped with the impending move towards Open Access (not just for ICA but as a field), with the conference now representing a larger piece of the revenue “pie,” meaning that the conference must now carry the burden of paying for some of our other endeavors. As a result, we run a lean “machine” and steward our resources carefully. Our annual conference is the “crown jewel” of our activities. The silver lining of the pandemic is that we have attracted hundreds of NEW attendees (and members) who couldn’t attend (or didn’t even know about) the solely in-person ICA conferences prior to the pandemic, but are now joining us virtually and will hopefully stay and choose ICA as their professional home for years to come.

The Continuing Evolution of the Annual Conference

Despite this upheaval and change, we didn’t pass up the opportunity to continue to innovate! We learned much from our first experiment with hybridity using the “tech squad,” and based on feedback from attendees, the Toronto ICA23 conference had a more focused offering of 11 streaming “hybrid” rooms (constituting over one-third of the total number of sessions offered), all of which were facilitated by professional audiovisual technicians.

This year in Toronto, subsidized childcare, nursing caregivers’ room, and the kids’ picnic returned; and we added a few new events, including a performance/dance hall by madison moore for LGBTQ+ members/attendees, an ice cream social served by our president and other members of our Executive Committee, the return of poster awards, and a ”meet the editors” social hour. We also “tightened up” the schedule a bit, starting sessions at 9am (instead of the dreaded 8am) each day and ending at 5:45pm rather than 6:15pm, giving you more time for receptions and other social events. The Closing continued on page 22
REACH-ING OUT: KENYA CHAPTER
Wangeci Kanyeki, Daystar U & Jean Murungi, Daystar U

Growing its Kenya Chapter Communication Scholars and Practitioners

**Nairobi, Kenya**, ICA Kenya Chapter is in its sixth month since it was launched in Nairobi on 5th April 2023 by then ICA President, Prof Noshir Contractor.

The ICA Kenya Chapter Chaired by Sr. Prof. A. L. Lando (Daystar U) is part of an initiative by the International Communication Association (ICA). It is spearheaded by a Board of 19 members from various universities: Aga Khan University, Daystar University, Koitaleel Samoei University College, Laikipia University, Multimedia University of Kenya, Tangaza University College, The Catholic University of Eastern Africa and Africa Community Leadership and Development.

Speaking at the ICA Kenya Chapter Kick-off, Daystar University Vice Chancellor Prof. Laban Ayiro congratulated the launch of the Chapter, "This is a crucial initiative which will provide a vital platform for communication scholars in Kenya and beyond to connect, collaborate and share knowledge and expertise. In collaboration with other universities, we look forward to advancing the goal of improving the skillset of researchers in Africa and unleashing the latent academic potential in Africa," said Prof. Ayiro.

According to Dr. Patrick Okanga who heads the Membership Committee, "the Chapter inauguration took off successfully, and as of 22nd August 2023, the recruitment drive had registered 90 members into the Kenya Chapter. The Chapter has also formulated various working committees responsible for different assignments within the board of management to enable effective planning and execution of the Chapter deliberations. Consultations within the board have resulted in tangible outputs from the Chapter and the recruitment team has been on the drive to disseminate the concept of the ICA Kenya Chapter as an interdisciplinary association in line with the larger ICA vision", says Dr. Okanga.

As part of supporting the academic communities in Kenya, ICA Kenya Chapter hosted the 73rd International Communication Association Regional Hub which was held at Daystar, Nairobi campus from 25th May to 27th May, concurrent with the ICA annual conference in Toronto from May 24th to May 28th. In her presentation to the ICA Kenya Regional Hub, delivered from Toronto via Zoom, Director, Research and Graduate Studies Sr. Prof. A. L. Lando appreciated Prof. Noshir Contractor for making her dream come true, by bringing ICA to Africa by launching Regional Chapters in Kenya and Nigeria. Sr. Prof. A. L. Lando was in Toronto leading a delegation of Kenya Scholars as they presented their research papers at ICA.

The Deputy Chairman, ICA Kenya Chapter, Paul Kimweli said that ICA chapters will overcome the funding barriers and advance African scholarship. According to Mr. Kimweli the ICA Nairobi Chapter will also provide professional guidance to students in communication to advance their communication professionalism, as well as nurture young career researchers to conceptualize their research methodologies.

**L-R Prof. Laban P. Ayiro, Vice Chancellor Daystar University, Prof. Noshir Contractor, ICA president, Sr. Prof. A. L. Lando, Chair, ICA Kenya and Prof. Faith Nguru, Deputy Vice Chancellor ARSA at Daystar University during the launch of ICA Kenya Chapter in April 2023.**

**L-R. Prof. Noshir Contractor, ICA president, Sr. Prof. A. L. Lando, Chair, ICA Kenya and Prof. Faith Nguru, Deputy Vice Chancellor ARSA at Daystar University cake cutting celebration during the launch of ICA Kenya Chapter in April 2023.**

**During the three-day Regional Hub event, participants listened to papers presented in person at Daystar University DAC Auditorium by Mercy Chebet of Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology,**

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CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION 74TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN GOLD COAST, AUSTRALIA SEeks FIRST NATIONS SCHOLARSHIP

As part of the 74th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), ICA is seeking to promote the scholarship and participation of First Nations scholars in both the conference and the association as a whole. Founded in 1950, ICA is the premier international academic association for scholars engaged in the study, teaching, and application of all aspects of human and mediated communication. It is organized into 33 Divisions and Interest Groups, each representing a subfield in the study of communication. The breadth of divisions and interest groups is our strength, showcasing our wide-ranging discipline in which different aspects of communication are linked not only by common processes and structures, but also by diverse theories and methodologies.

The 74th annual conference will be held at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre at Broadbeach, Gold Coast, from 20-24 June 2024. The conference theme is Communication and Global Human Rights, with an aim to foster research, teaching, and collaboration about these topics.

ICA is keen to engage First Nations scholars in debates around communication in general, and, when applicable, Global Human Rights at the 2024 conference. We recognize Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the sovereign people of Australia, and the Yugumbeh people as the traditional custodians of the lands on which the ICA conference is to be held. We welcome the participation of other First Nations researchers of the Pacific region and elsewhere to participate in the conference, such as the Māori people of Aotearoa (New Zealand).

For the 2024 conference, the ICA will financially support the participation of up to ten First Nations scholars accepted to present at the conference, to cover travel to and accommodation on the Gold Coast, to a maximum of US $1,000 (AUD $1,600) per individual. One can propose a paper or panel that is applicable to the 2024 conference theme of Global Human Rights, or that relates to the call for papers from one or more of ICA’s 33 Divisions and Interest Groups. Priority will be given to First Nations researchers from Australia in recognition of the Traditional Custodianship, by Aboriginal and Torres Straits Islander people, of the lands on which the conference is being held.

If you wish to be a part of this academic gathering, please provide the Conference Organizers with a title, 400-word abstract of your contribution and its relationship to the conference theme, plus a separate 150-word summary of the description to appear in the conference program. Submissions may take the form of individual papers or pre-formed panels of up to five participants. If the latter, panels are expected to be gender balanced and to have a connected set of presentations. The submission deadline for this initiative is Friday, 15 December 2023. Outcomes will be formally advised by mid-January 2024. Selection of eligible papers will be based on the capacity of the work to advance communication research and scholarship based upon the ICA Guiding Principles.

NOTE: If you are a senior-level indigenous scholar and wish to volunteer to chair a panel in this initiative or attend as a mentor or respondent for early-career and student indigenous scholars, please contact us using the information below.

For further information on participation in the ICA 2024 conference as a First Nations researcher through this initiative, please contact Laura Sawyer, ICA Executive Director (lsawyer@icahdq.org) and Prof. Silvio Waisbord, President-Elect/2024 Conference Planner (waisbord@gwu.edu). Submissions must be received by 15 December 2023 to be considered and should be emailed to Dr. Waisbord and Ms. Sawyer with the subject line, “ICA24 First Nations Submission.”
The birth of my first child initiated a series of transformations in my life. These changes involved me carrying a reusable tumbler and my own bags and containers for grocery shopping. I suddenly became attentive to conserving energy and practicing water conservation. A strong desire to partake in endeavors that would leave a positive impact on the world my child would inherit took root within me. This marked my initial conscious stride towards environmentally responsible conduct, going beyond mere trend-following.

The internal changes I experienced were truly fascinating. The joy that accompanied parenthood ignited an unexpected desire to contribute to the betterment of society. I willingly embraced inconveniences in pursuit of environmental preservation. The behavioral shift sparked by feeling happy appeared far more potent than the sense of urgency evoked by images of a vulnerable, emaciated polar bear on a melting ice cap in a flickering world.

As a researcher, I thus developed two hypotheses: (1) Positive emotional experiences will invigorate individuals' aspiration for community contribution, subsequently motivating them to engage in pro-environmental behaviors. (2) The indirect effect of positive emotion via aspiration will surpass the influence of perceived risk and personal control, which are the two most widely acknowledged cognitive mechanisms in traditional risk communication research.

The hypotheses were tested through an online experiment with three emotional priming conditions (positive vs. negative vs. neutral) with a national sample of 770 Americans. The data was collected from Prolific from October 5th to 6th in 2022, using quotas in terms of gender, age, and race based on the 2020 US Census.

The results, which were presented at the last ICA convention within the Environmental Communication Division, showed that individuals exposed to positive emotion priming exhibited increased intentions to adopt measures for climate change mitigation via heightened aspirations towards addressing climate change. No additional indirect effects through perceived risk and personal control were observed. Notably, the impact of the positive emotion priming was more evident among climate skeptics—those who reject the notion of anthropogenic climate change—as compared to climate believers who endorse the idea of human-induced climate crisis.

My research findings shed light on the potential of leveraging positive emotions as a persuasive tool in climate communication efforts. As society faces the impending risks of climate change, it is imperative to recognize that tapping into individuals' intrinsic motivations, triggered by emotions like joy and optimism, could prove to be a pivotal strategy for driving collective action towards a sustainable future, transcending ideological controversies and backlash. In this sense, climate action campaigns may find it beneficial to adopt affirmative imagery, a forward-looking vision that deeply connects with individuals' hopes, instead of resorting to threatening depictions.

Echoing the dire warnings of the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) regarding the world's proximity to a perilous climate threshold—1.5 degrees Celsius above preindustrial temperatures—we find ourselves at a critical crossroads. Even modest yet coordinated efforts can contribute to a more resilient planet for future generations. For example, the communication academic community could set an example of coordinated efforts by reimagining the way we engage. By rescheduling annual conventions to occur simultaneously and in close proximity, the need for extensive flight travels could be reduced, thereby curbing carbon emissions.
MEMBERSHIP COLUMN

Membership Team

The 2022 – 2023 ICA membership term comes to end on 30 September. We encourage you to renew your membership now to ensure you receive a full year’s worth of ICA member benefits. Don’t let your membership expire!

Top five reasons to renew your ICA membership today:

ICA is the premier academic association for scholars engaged in the study, teaching, and application of all aspects of communication globally. To be a member of ICA means to:

1. **Amplify your voice**: Increase your knowledge and influence in your field by belonging to an ever-growing community of communication scholars across 90+ countries.
2. **Find your home**: Customize your ICA experience by joining one or more of our 33 divisions and interest groups and even take it a step further by participating in the many additional engagement opportunities.
3. **Access exclusive benefits**: Take advantage of great member-only benefits, such as access to the top scholarly journals in the field, members-only grants and awards, and job postings in the ICA career center.
4. **Receive generous discounts**: ICA members receive significant member discounts including to attend our world leading conference in the field of communication. ICA24 Gold Coast will, as in Paris & Toronto, continue to offer both in-person and remote options. Don’t miss out in 2024!
5. **Expand your network**: Connect with thousands of scholars through ICA’s engagement platform The Link. Whether you wish to network, chat with fellow division/interest group members, listen to podcasts, or join an ICA Affinity Groups – The Link has a place for you!

Click here to renew today

Forgot password? Please click here to reset.

Need help?
Contact the Member Services Team at membership@icahdq.org.

The fine print.
ICA membership runs from 1 October – 30 September each term, with a 60-day grace period. If you do not renew your membership by 30 September, then you will have 60 days to renew before your ICA membership access is officially suspended. ICA welcomes new and renewing members to join/renew throughout the year. Members joining/renewing mid membership year receive full membership benefits upon enrollment, including online access to all previously published ICA journals. Dues are not prorated based on the date joined. For this reason, we recommend renewing your membership now to maximize your access to a year’s worth of member benefits.

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP TYPE TIERS & PRICES

![Regular membership tiers and prices]

Click to view all other individual membership types
ICA JOURNAL METRICS

Tom Mankowski, Director of Publishing Operations

The ICA Journals, through Oxford University Press and Taylor & Francis, abide by the recommendations of the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA). This post is meant to shine light on the outstanding work of the editorial teams, authors and reviewers, through the metrics that are currently available, and does not endorse one or any metric over another. DORA is a worldwide initiative covering all scholarly disciplines which recognizes the need to improve the ways in which the outputs of scholarly research are evaluated and seeks to develop and promote best practice. (https://sfdora.org/)

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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.

Research on topical social issues. I am also an enthusiastic mentor who co-researches, publishes and participates in conferences with graduate students and emerging scholars. As such, my other research interests lie in identifying research gaps in the lives of graduate students and early career scholars.

Q. How have you benefited from being an ICA member?
A. Top on the list is networking and collaboration. So far I have attended 10 ICA Annual Conferences, 2 ICA Regional Conferences (in Nairobi and Accra) and one Regional training workshop on publication and grant writing for graduate students and emerging scholars (Entebbe - Uganda). Out of each of these, I created new partnerships and collaboration for my research interest areas, but also for Daystar University. As a result, we have conducted joint studies with individuals and Universities from the global north.

Secondly, the establishment of ICA Regional Chapters is a great benefit. In 2014 in Seattle WA, there were hardly any Africans at the Conference. But with the various successive ICA leaderships, my dream of intensifying the I in ICA (international) has come to pass with the creation of ICA Regional Chapters. The ICA Kenya regional chapter was formally inaugurated by the ICA President, Prof. Noshir Contractor on 5th April 2023.

And for lack of space to capture all the benefits I’ve reaped from ICA, allow me to add just one more. This is visibility and holding of ICA positions by persons from Africa. This gives me great joy! Oh, one more! The ever increasing presence of Africans in the ICA annual Conferences, which is always heavily subsidized by ICA travel grants.

Q. Tell us about your favorite interaction you’ve had within ICA or at the conference?
A. (a) same as above.
(b) It was such a humbling honour to be elected the first African to sit on the ICA Board of Governors - Board Member-at-Large representing Africa.
(c) Being mentored to grow academically, and to be able to publish with ICA colleagues.

Q. What divisions and interest group(s) do you participate in and why did you make that selection?
A. I participate in the listed divisions and interest groups because they fall within the research areas of my interest. These are: Children, Adolescents and Media, Interpersonal Communication, Mobile Communication, Organizational Communication, Public Relations, and Public Diplomacy.

Q. What advice would you offer new members or to those starting in the field?
A. Once you join ICA, seek to interact with people from outside your country/continent, outside your institution because the opportunities are simply limitless. And if you have a point that you think can grow ICA, do not hesitate to propose it because ICA listens. I did it in 2014, ICA listened, and now we have ICAfrica and ICA Regional Chapters. And finally, when you go to the ICA Annual Conferences, DO ACTUALLY ATTEND THE SESSIONS, and don’t miss out on the brief to propose it because ICA listens, and now we have ICAfrica and ICA Regional Chapters. And finally, when you go to the ICA Annual Conferences, DO ACTUALLY ATTEND THE SESSIONS, and don’t miss out on the brief to propose it because ICA listens, and now we have ICAfrica and ICA Regional Chapters. And finally, when you go to the ICA Annual Conferences, DO ACTUALLY ATTEND THE SESSIONS, and don’t miss out on the brief to propose it because ICA listens, and now we have ICAfrica and ICA Regional Chapters. And finally, when you go to the ICA Annual Conferences, DO ACTUALLY ATTEND THE SESSIONS, and don’t miss out on the brief to propose it because ICA listens, and now we have ICAfrica and ICA Regional Chapters. And finally, when you go to the ICA Annual Conferences, DO ACTUALLY ATTEND THE SESSIONS, and don’t miss out on the brief to propose it because ICA listens, and now we have ICAfrica and ICA Regional Chapters. And finally, when you go to the ICA Annual Conferences, DO ACTUALLY ATTEND THE SESSIONS, and don’t miss out on the brief to propose it because ICA listens, and now we have ICAfrica and ICA Regional Chapters.

Q. Which was your favorite ICA conference you’ve attended, and why?
A. My first love - the ICA 2014 in Seattle, WA, USA because that is where it all started. I can never talk about ICA without falling back to THE BEGINNING.
**STUDENT COLUMN**

Nancy Dai, Board Student & Early Career Representative (City U of Hong Kong)

Hi there. As we approach the time for ICA membership renewal, we hope to once again introduce to you the newly established SEC Hardship Fund and, hopefully, call for your kind contribution to make a lasting difference in the lives of students and individuals at the outset of their careers in their times of difficulty.

**What’s it for?**

Think of the SEC Hardship Fund as a safety net for students and those embarking on their careers. If you’re an early career scholar facing financial hardships – whether legal or unexpected – you can turn to this fund throughout the year. The goal is to ease your financial worries, giving you space to focus on your studies or launch your career. It’s important to note that this isn’t for travel or conferences; it’s designed to assist during crises like natural disasters, sudden medical expenses, or legal battles. Graduate students and postdocs will be given priority in the decision-making process.

**How did it start?**

The SEC Hardship Fund was started in 2022, thanks to the dedication of three remarkable individuals: Drs. Joomi Lee, Alison Eden, and Sun Joo (Grace) Ahn. It all began when Dr. Lee found herself in a legal challenge to maintain her presence in the US during her postdoc period. The academic community, including many ICA members, came together to raise funds to support her cause. The response was overwhelming, leaving surplus funds. This surplus inspired them to approach the two former SECAC co-chairs, Dr. Lara Schreurs and Dr. Christine Cook, to establish the SEC Hardship Fund.

**Information for Applicants**

Here’s something notable if you are considering applying for the fund: In order to be eligible for the application, your ICA membership must be active since only current members are able to access the application page. But, even if your ICA membership has lapsed, there’s a solution. Simply drop an email to ICA’s Member Services department at membership@icahdq.org and ask for a one-time waiver of your dues for the current membership term. This reinstates your eligibility to apply for the SEC Hardship Fund. Remember to mention your plan to apply for the fund – it’ll help things go smoothly. On this page, you will find more information about eligibility and the specific criteria for the decision-making process.

**Wanting to make a donation?**

We invite you to be a part of creating a lasting impact. Currently, there’s US $3,500 in the fund, which is a meaningful start. However, our goal is to ensure sustainable support. This is where your participation comes into play – as valued members of ICA, your contribution carries significant weight. Whether you’re an individual, part of a group, or even representing an entire organization, your involvement resonates with the spirit of our community. The process to contribute is simple – just follow the steps outlined on this page to make a secure donation. Each contribution you make directly aids students and early career individuals during their times of challenge.

Thank you in advance for considering this opportunity to make a positive difference. Your generosity embodies the community spirit that defines ICA.

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**ICA FRANCE CHAPTER**

**KICKOFF EVENT**

**JANUARY 2024**

The philosophy of the ICA France Chapter is to introduce to French PhDs students and post-doctorates the communities of researchers belonging to other ICA Regional Chapters in order to develop cross-cultural events and research, cross-cultural PhDs or postdocs opportunities. The kickoff event will take place at the University of Franche-Comté (Besançon and Montbéliard) hosted by ELLIADD, one of the four research units mastering the Chapter [GIMEOS (Burgundy University), CRESAT (University of Haute-Alsace), CREM (University of Lorraine)], late January 2024 16th or 19th (day to be confirmed in September).

The provisional program is:

**Morning:**
- Welcome words: Daniel RAICHVARG, Honorary President of French Society of Information and Communication Studies, Federico TAJARIOL, President of ICA France Chapter.
- Introductory speech: Noshir CONTRACTOR (ICA board).
- Guest-speaker: Claes de VREESE, (ICA board), AI and Society.
- Round table: 3 young researchers who experienced postdoc or research programs overseas.
- Speaker from ICA Indonesia Chapter: Dorien KARTIKAWANGI, Atma Jaya Catholic Uni., Jakarta: An overview of Indonesian Community of Researchers in Communication Sciences.

**Afternoon**
- 2 presentations of running PhDs. (2nd or 3rd year), topics: IA and communication
- 2 presentations of running PhDs. (2nd or 3rd year), topics: Crisis communication

For further information, feel free to contact: Daniel RAICHVARG (daniel.raichvarg@u-bourgogne.fr), Federico TAJARIOL (federico.tajariol@univ-fcomte.fr).
**CALL FOR ICA JOURNAL EDITORS**

**DEADLINE: 12:00 Noon ICA Headquarters Time (EST) on 31 January 2024**

The ICA Publications Committee is soliciting applications for the next editor(s) of *Human Communication Research* and *Communication, Culture and Critique*. The four-year terms will begin with a transition in September 2024.

*Human Communication Research* works to advance understanding of human symbolic processes with a strong emphasis on theory-driven research, the development of new theoretical models in communication, and the development of innovative methods for observing and measuring communication behavior. The journal has a broad social-science focus and offers important applications for scholars in psychology, sociology, linguistics, and anthropology, as well as areas of communication studies.

*Communication, Culture & Critique* publishes high-quality, original scholarship utilizing a diversity of critical approaches to place questions of power, inequality, and justice at the center of empirical and theoretical inquiry. CCC prioritizes qualitative scholarship that engages with wider historical, economic, cultural, and political dynamics. The Journal is particularly interested in providing a space for scholarship on, by, and/or about people and topics underrepresented in academic publishing.

More details about the journals can be found at [https://academic.oup.com/hcr](https://academic.oup.com/hcr) and [https://academic.oup.com/ccc](https://academic.oup.com/ccc).

The Publications Committee seeks applications from individuals or small teams of scholars from the ICA membership. The successful applicant(s) will be expected to build an editorial structure that reflects the tremendous diversity of the communication discipline around the globe. Multiple factors are considered when evaluating candidate applications, including, but not limited to:

- Clear understanding of the mission of the journal
- Clear articulation of an intellectual and operational vision for the journal
- Demonstrated openness to a range of epistemologies and methodologies appropriate for the scope of the journal
- Demonstrated interest and/or experience in theoretical development
- Demonstrated interest and/or openness to interdisciplinary work
- Demonstrated communication skills and diplomacy
- Reputation and excellence of academic output
- Editorial, managerial or administrative experience
- Tenure or advanced rank

Team submissions should also demonstrate successful past collaboration and an articulation of how the workflow will be managed among team members.

A complete application package should include:

- A letter of application
- A vision statement for the editorship
- A CV for each candidate
- For each candidate, two letters of support from scholars familiar with the quality of the individual’s research as well as experience with and suitability for journal editing
- A letter of institutional support from each candidate’s home institution

Within the scope of their work for ICA, editors of ICA publications should be committed to respecting and enhancing diversity in terms of interest areas, gender, ethnicity, and national origin.

Questions and materials should be submitted to Thomas Mankowski, ICA Director of Publishing Operations (tmankowski at icahdq dot org) by 31 January 2024. Finalists will be notified in March 2024 and subsequently interviewed by members of the Publications Committee.
CALL FOR PAPERS/PARTICIPANTS
7TH ICCOMAC 2023 – ICA AFFILIATED
“REVISIT COMMUNICATION: INTEGRATING THE BASICS WITH DIGITAL”
23-24 OCTOBER 2023

Background
Effective communication has become vital for individuals and organizations in the rapidly evolving digital era. We are acutely aware of the challenges posed by the dynamic digital landscape. Exploring the symbiotic relationship between traditional communication fundamentals and contemporary digital technologies is necessary for academics and practice. By examining the integration of foundational communication theories with cutting-edge digital platforms, we can seek to offer insights and strategies to enhance communication practices in the digital age.

Communication is the cornerstone of human interaction and the linchpin for the growth and prosperity of societies. Over the past few decades, we have witnessed a paradigm shift in communication, with the advent of digital technologies redefining how individuals, groups, and organizations connect and engage. The pressing need to revisit and blend the timeless fundamentals of communication with the limitless possibilities digital platforms offer becomes essential. Therefore, we must underscore the indispensability of blending traditional communication fundamentals with digital advancements. By embracing the symbiosis between the timeless principles of effective communication and the innovative tools of the digital era, communication academics, and professionals can navigate the complexities of modern communication landscapes and foster meaningful connections that shape a more informed and cohesive global society. As we evolve in this digital age, this conference is a guiding beacon for communication scholars and practitioners seeking excellence in their craft.

Theme: “Revisit Communication: Integrating the Basics with Digital”

Date: Monday-Tuesday, 23-24 October 2023

Venue: The conference will be held in a hybrid mode, onsite at Unika Atma Jaya, Jakarta, Indonesia, and online at Zoom.

Objectives:
1. Provide updated research, enhanced marketing and corporate communication practice, and media on solutions to today's communication issues.
2. Understand how communication fields are affected by current changes due to various issues such as pandemics, crises, and technology to manage presence, trust, and credibility.
3. Discuss how these innovations have affected organizations and media and what has shifted regarding ethics and values.

Speakers:
1. Prof. Reiner Janz, Westphalian U of Applied Science, Gelsenkirchen, Germany
2. Prof. Fabien Liénard, U of Le Havre, Normandy, France
3. Prof. Eun-Ju Lee, Seoul National U, South Korea (ICA President)
4. Prof. Noshir Contractor, Northwestern U, US (Former ICA President)*

Parallel Session

A. Paper Topics:
The 7th International Conference on Corporate and Marketing Communication is the locus for scholars, educators, and practitioners seeking to promote and advance knowledge by blending basic and digital. The topics can be in the following area:
  a. Corporate Communication
  b. Marketing Communication
  c. Media
  d. Special issues

B. Deadline Date:
  • Abstract Submission Deadline: 15 September 2023
  • Notification of Abstract Acceptance: 20 September 2023
  • Final registration: 10 October 2023
  • Full Paper Submission Deadline: 10 October 2023
Submit your abstract to: http://bit.ly/7thICCOMAC_2023

C. Contributions
This conference will consider theoretical and empirical papers, working papers, and extended abstracts for review, and ideas for special session proposals will be welcomed.

Prizes will be awarded for the best paper in four categories (corporate communication, marketing communication, media, and special issue) as judged by experts.

Publication:
  • Journal (selected paper only)
  • Proceeding

Registration Fee
  • Paper Presenter IDR 1.000.000 (75 USD) - on site
  • Paper Presenter IDR 700.000 (50 USD) - online
  • Undergraduate/Postgraduate Students (with identification): IDR 250.000 (15 USD)
  • Early bird special by 1 October 2023: IDR 150,000 (10 USD)
  • Public: IDR 250.000 (15 USD), early bird special by 1 October 2023 is IDR 200,000 (12 USD)

Contact
Secretariat: email secretariat-iccomac@atmajaya.ac.id
A candidate’s record and qualifications should stand on their own merits. Learn more about ICA Elections: Protocol and Practices.

To access the ballot from the ICA website, members will need their ICA username and password. Members, please make sure that ICA has your correct email address so that the association can send you an announcement of the election and a link to the ballots. The ICA website allows you to personally verify, correct, and/or update the information. If you have any questions about the elections, please contact Julie Arnold, ICA Director of Governance and Member Services.

ICA wide positions are Board level roles, representing the top level of our leadership. ICA wishes to thank the Nominating Committee for their diligent efforts to put forth a fantastic, experienced, and qualified slate. Congratulations and best of luck to each of the 2023 ICA-wide candidates:

## PRESIDENT

The member selected as president makes a 5 1/2-year commitment to the Executive Committee (six months as president-elect-select; one year as president-elect/conference program chair; one year as ICA President; three years as past president). The final year on the Executive Committee, the past president serves as General Secretary and chair of the Regional Conferences Committee. The President Elect Select selected in the 2023 election will begin service on the Executive Committee immediately upon announcement of the results.

[Images of candidates]

Thomas Hanitzsch  
LMU Munich  
Yariv Tsfati  
U of Haifa

## BOARD STUDENT AND EARLY CAREER REPRESENTATIVE

Board Student and Early Career Representatives serve in pairs, with one elected each year for overlapping two-year terms. The Board Student and Early Career Representative selected in the 2023 election will begin service at the end of the 2024 Annual ICA Conference in Gold Coast, Australia.

[Images of candidates]

Daniela Jaramillo-Dent  
U of Illinois at Chicago  
Felicia Loecherbach  
New York U  
Nikki McClaran  
Arizona State U
scholarly opportunities and nurtured friendships and collaborations across the globe. If elected, my priorities will focus on (1) professional development and well-being of ICA members, (2) diversity and inclusiveness, (3) the AI challenge for academia, and (4) public engagement and social impact.

My story of ICA
ICA has been my intellectual home for 20 years, and my involvement in it is a story of passionate commitment. When I attended my first ICA conference in 2003, I had difficulty connecting with my fellow journalism researchers whose papers were scattered across various divisions and interest groups. In 2004, while still a graduate student, I founded and chaired the Journalism Studies Interest Group, which became the Journalism Studies Division only two years later.

I have served ICA in various roles during these past two decades, including chairing its Research Awards Committee, Steven H. Chaffee Career Achievement Committee, and Outstanding Article Award Committee. I also edited *Communication Theory* from 2011 to 2014, and am currently an editor of the ICA Handbook Series and associate editor of the Annals of the ICA.

My engagement in ICA has always been immensely rewarding. It has brought me in contact with rich ideas from all parts of the globe. But more important, it has taught me that despite ICA's scale and well-designed infrastructure, its individual members—including its early-career researchers—make the most difference in it.

The challenges facing our community
ICA has grown considerably since I joined two decades ago. It has become visibly more international, inclusive, diverse, and cognizant of the different needs of its members, which are often contingent on their career stage, geographical locale, gender, caregiving responsibilities, disabilities, race, sexual orientation, and many other aspects.

Nevertheless, academia still faces serious challenges, both old and new. COVID-19 has exacerbated many problems that predate the pandemic and are broadly related to inequalities in our working environments. High levels of insecurity and precarity characterize employment in academia in many places. At the same time, researchers face growing demands to publish in prestigious venues, obtain large grants, and provide reviews and evaluations.

Mounting anecdotal evidence and a growing body of research, including our 2022 survey of communication researchers, raise concerns about mental health and emotional well-being in academia. The situation has become particularly critical for early-career scholars.

Yet another challenge has just emerged: ChatGPT and other AI-based technologies, which have the potential to revolutionize academic practice as we know it.

What can I offer ICA?
These challenges need to be tackled from many angles. As the leading professional association in communication, one that reaches members in 100+ countries who work in different subfields, ICA has an obligation to work to help its members. If elected, my priorities will fall into four areas:

Professional development and well-being: ICA has always held academic mentorship in the highest esteem. However, we need to have a serious conversation about the mental and emotional toll brought on by the demands of our academic environment. We must reconsider our publication and review culture, recognize different types of scholarship, and cultivate more realistic expectations about scholarly productivity. We need to increase our mental health literacy and establish strong peer networks. We need to create safe spaces—including during annual conferences—for our colleagues, particularly early-career researchers, to speak openly about and advocate for their well-being.

Diversity and inclusiveness: Academic work takes place in spaces where privileges and resources are unevenly distributed. ICA has come a long way in addressing this issue, especially in the context of internationalization. Yet, inequalities come in many forms, including gender, race, disabilities, health, caregiving responsibilities, and employment conditions. As a result, individual scholars are unequally positioned in the competition for jobs, publications, and scholarly prestige. There is a greater need to be sensitive to the fact that many scholars face competitive disadvantages due to persistent global and social inequalities. We need to devise further strategies to ensure that diversity is better reflected in ICA leadership positions and in the honors and awards it confers.

AI and academia: We have started a much-needed conversation about the potential and the likely disruptive impact of ChatGPT and other advanced AI-based technologies on academic practice. The AI revolution will have vast implications for many aspects of our work pertaining to intellectual property, authorship, reviewing practice, productivity evaluations, ethical concerns, and other issues. We must continue this conversation within ICA leadership and in special sessions at future conferences.

Public engagement and social impact: ICA has made significant strides in amplifying the visibility of communication scholarship in external communities. From disinformation to climate change and social justice, our field is poised to provide relevant answers to many burning questions. Here, our scholarship could gain
greater traction in public conversations by giving greater visibility to descriptive research and reports that are often most relevant to our non-academic stakeholders.

**About Me**
Growing up in the east of Germany, I spent my childhood and teenage years in an authoritarian state and participated in the protest movement that ended the regime. My journalism and Arabic studies degree brought me to Indonesia, where I spent five years as a graduate student, journalist and researcher. After returning to Germany and earning my doctoral degree in 2004, I launched the Worlds of Journalism Study that today unites researchers from more than 100 countries across the globe. I am currently a professor of communication and head of the Department of Media and Communication at LMU Munich, one of Europe’s largest communication departments, and have been an ICA Fellow since 2020.

My biography has significantly shaped my approach to academic leadership. I am deeply aware of the multiple contingencies caused by inequalities in global academia. My leadership typically involves bringing together people with various backgrounds and perspectives and inspiring and guiding them to work to achieve common goals.

I look forward to working toward helping ICA become an even more intellectually vibrant, equitable and inclusive, socially relevant, and emotionally supportive community of scholars.

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Interventions from the Global South -
Usha Raman, Feminist Approaches to Work published May 26, 2023

LISTEN ANYWHERE

The voice of communication research in policy debates about technology and society. As Past President Noshir Contractor demonstrated in his presidential address in Toronto, communication has become a central discipline in the social sciences and humanities. I absolutely agree that this central position brings with it great responsibility. ICA has traditionally refrained from intervening in policy issues at the national level, and justly so. However, recent decades have seen the rise of global media technology conglomerates that are more powerful than most countries. Their business relates to the...
expertise of many ICA members and our research shows how their operations vastly influence citizens’ privacy and well-being as well as the spread of disinformation, political polarization and instability worldwide. ICA should carefully think about its role in more actively influencing policy and legal debates vis-à-vis the tech giants, and how conversations with these companies can promote the public good in line with our research findings and in ways that guarantee that data collected by these companies are made available for academic research. As the leading and most reputable international academic association in communication research, we are better situated to promote change than any individual scholar. If elected president, I will form a special ICA taskforce to consider such engagement and ways to approach it.

• The future of text analysis. Communication research has always been a leader in various epistemological approaches to text analysis. This leadership means that we are also responsible for setting methodological and ethical standards for qualitative and quantitative text analysis in the age of endless amounts of texts and in light of replication challenges in the field of machine learning. This should not be a top-down process; rather, an ongoing conversation should be held about the role of ICA in defining standards, creating infrastructure for data sharing, and fostering a culture of collaboration. Presently, separate teams are developing tools that do very similar things independently, each team on its own (e.g., developing tools for news scraping or data donation; developing free open-source qualitative data analysis software). If elected, I will enable and facilitate a broad conversation at the annual conference and elsewhere about these and other challenges of analyzing texts.

• Internationalization. ICA has become more diverse (intellectually, generationally and in terms of international representation) since I attended my first ICA conference as a graduate student in 1998. While progress has been achieved, we are just at the beginning of this effort. Our objective should be to hold regional conferences in locations situated at the intersection of the global North and South as they will likely draw participation from current members while at the same time attracting new members from the host and neighboring countries. ICA should also increase the use of technologies to bridge participation barriers by expanding the virtual component of conferences, the ICA podcast, and initiating methodological webinars and virtual professional mentoring and career enrichment activities.

• Student and early career scholars. Tremendous progress has been made in offering students and early career scholars wonderful mentoring activities at the annual conferences and elsewhere. SECAC welcome panels and Blue Sky Workshops are important opportunities, and divisions and interest groups should be encouraged to expand such activities. As Pol-Comm division chair, I learned that graduate student pre-conferences offer wonderful opportunities for mentoring and for the formation of meaningful professional networks. They also help divisions increase participation. However, many of ICA’s interest groups and smaller divisions have a hard time supporting such activities given expensive hotel costs. ICA should seek ways to enable, incentivize and encourage divisions to initiate such activities, with help from local hosts. Cross-divisional collaborations in these initiatives and in other respects should also be encouraged. We should invest more effort to keep the ICA conference welcoming and open, and indeed more fun for new and existing members alike. We could also foster year-round student engagement by establishing a student-led blog in which students interview the authors of recent ICA journal articles.

I hope to have the opportunity to serve the association and advance these goals as ICA president.

My website: https://yariv.com.haifa.ac.il
"Communication and Global Human Rights", consider submitting your work or paper as a theme session for the conference, rather to a single division or interest group. The theme invites communication scholars to examine how authenticity has become a variable, rather than a constant, in public discourses and popular culture across the globe, and with what relational, social, political, and cultural implications. Please read the full theme here.

If you have any questions about submitting your work for the theme sessions, please get in touch with one of this year’s theme co-chairs:

- Silvio Waisbord, waisbord@gwu.edu
- Kari Anden-Papadopoulos, kari.anden-papadopoulos@ims.su.se
- Tanja Bosch, tanja.bosch@uct.ac.za
- John Erni, johnerni@eduhk.hk
- Gerard Goggin, gerard.goggin@sydney.edu.au
- Kerry Moore, moorek4@cardiff.ac.uk
- Ella McPherson, em310@cam.ac.uk
- Pradip Thomas, pradip.thomas@uq.edu.au

MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS SHOULD SUBMIT ONLINE

ICA Member Associations are entitled to one panel program at the conference. The highest ranking elected officer or designated program planner of each Member Association is invited to submit a panel proposal through the online submission system by the 1 November submission deadline. Follow the instructions for submitting a panel session and submit under Sponsored Sessions.

Contributors of individual and panel submissions to Conference Theme will be requested to self-assess diversity. At the time of submission, individuals who seek to contribute to the conference theme will self-assess: (i) the extent to which the submission focuses on a specific region of the world or is global in its scope; (ii) the extent to which the submission references and builds on scholarship diverse in terms of region, ethnicity, gender, and career stage; (iii) the extent to which coauthors (if any) reflect diversity in terms of region, ethnicity, gender, career stage, other academic disciplines (including those beyond the social sciences and humanities), and non-academic entities (e.g., civil society, government, industry, NGOs, policy makers). In addition to the above, contributors to all panel conference theme submissions will be requested to self-assess, at submission, the extent to which the panel as a whole reflects diversity in terms of region, ethnicity, gender, career stage, other academic disciplines (including those beyond the social sciences and humanities), and non-academic entities (e.g., civil society, government, industry, NGOs, policy makers). These self-assessments will be used along with other criteria in making decisions about submission acceptances.

Panel conference-theme submissions are encouraged to: (i) showcase and/or critique ongoing inter-divisional communication scholarship relevant to the conference theme; (ii) propose the development of an inter-divisional research agenda relevant to the conference theme; and/or (iii) assemble a blue-sky session for individuals to workshop nascent ideas that could lead to the future development of an inter-divisional research agenda relevant to the conference theme.
President-Elect’s Column from page 5

I am happy to report that fun name tags were a big success. Given unbridled enthusiasm for this form of expression during the conference, I kindly solicit ideas for other forms of diversion and social connection.

Fifty-two percent of respondents indicate that they may or will definitely attend the 2024 Gold Coast conference (84% in person, 14% remote). Among those who do not plan to attend, 75% mention cost, 32% that universities will not pay, and 49% mention carbon emissions. Thirty-five percent mention travel duration and location (remote/appeal).

To my mind, these numbers confirm that holding conferences in different corners of the world, a priority for ICA, is a balancing act. Various factors affect the selection of specific conference sites, including adequate and sufficient facilities, affordability, and interest and support from local partners. No matter how careful and deliberative the selection process is, no decision would meet all expectations. Cost and carbon emission are always important considerations, but they are particularly salient when conferences are held outside western countries, given that most of our members reside in North America and Europe. Thus, while we are committed to being an inclusive, global association, we need to be mindful of financial and environmental issues for all members. I welcome any ideas you may have on these and related matters.

REVIEWER

All individual submitters are expected to review at least one submission (if applicable). Please declare your interest in being a reviewer by updating your profile in the submission management system. Watch this tutorial on how to sign up to review.

REMEMBER

Submitters can only be the first author on three submissions max. But there is no longer a limit on submissions in general, only for the first author.

ACCESSING THE SITE

To access the submission management system, please click here. You do not have to be an ICA member to access and submit, but you do need a ScholarOne Abstracts profile. If you created a ScholarOne Abstracts profile last year, you can use the same login information to access the website. Our membership database is not linked to the submission management system. If you have any questions or concerns about accessing or editing your profile, please contact ScholarOne’s Help Desk.

IMPORTANT NOTE

Messages or emails are regularly sent from ICA or Unit Planners concerning paper submissions or reviewing. Sometimes our emails will filter into spam folders, usually of those who have a university address. So be sure to frequently check your message center in the paper submission system after signing in. The message center stores all sent messages and eliminates the problem of universities blocking emails.

Submission Deadline: Wednesday, 1 November @ 12:00 (noon) ICA headquarter time (EST)

Be sure to read the conference guidelines for more tips on how to submit, and check out the tutorial for more information.

Calls for Papers

Visit our Resources section for more Call for Papers: http://www.icahdq.org/page/CFP.
**Executive Director’s Report page 6**

**Visa Issues**

We were dismayed by the difficulties so many of our colleagues encountered in getting a timely visa when attempting to enter France for #ICA22 and recently, to enter Toronto for #ICA23. Some of this is based on the brief but extremely disruptive government workers’ strike in Canada which held up visa applications, but there were also a disappointing number of applications rejected by Canadian authorities based on spurious reasons such as “we are not convinced that you will leave Canada when the conference is over.” While we already do quite a bit to facilitate immigration processes for our members—every year I personally call multiple embassies vouching for various attendees/presenters in addition to their visa letters, not to mention liaising directly with the immigration office in the host city—we are exploring even more ways to aid in those difficulties and to explore how difficult countries are to get into as a part of our conference venue selection rubric. For Toronto, my personal intervention with a list of outstanding applicants was finally heeded by someone in the immigration office at the eleventh hour; over 120 stalled visa applications were approved overnight. We are looking for more reliable data on the ease of the visa process for various Global South countries, especially, who always seem to be met with difficulty and delays. It is our fervent hope that everyone who wants to attend ICA can do so, so in addition to our inclusion efforts and over US $120,000 in travel grants, we hope to find more and more efficient ways to ease the visa process for all of our members.

**Future Conferences**

We are currently contracted through 2027 with the exception of 2026 (the Executive Committee has expressly stated our intention to do a conference in Latin America by no later than 2028, but potential plans in Buenos Aires and Santiago did not come to fruition despite our best efforts). Bids are still open for both years.

**Environmental Concerns**

We continue to manage to do more and more with our resources while at the same time keeping sustainability and sound fiscal decisions at the fore. The most recent major decision for our carbon footprint was ICA’s Executive Committee voting unanimously in 2020 to discontinue the production of the larger version of the program (the two-inch-thick "phone book" version). The smaller (magazine-sized) version was retained and has absorbed a few advertising and informational pages from the discontinued large version. The conference website hosts a PDF of all of the same information as the discontinued large program, but in a searchable format, online; in addition, ICA23 saw the return of a conference app which made schedule information and venue details available at your fingertips. As a matter of sustainability, ICA does not provide tote bags, branded “giveaway” items, etc as most of those types of items end up in the hotel trash and are not packed to go home. We do operate an ICA store, but it’s important to note that all of those branded items are ordered online on a print-on-demand basis, so there is no waste involved. There are numerous challenges associated with global climate change that affect the way academic conferences conduct themselves; many years ago we eliminated bottled water, plastic souvenir “freebies” at registration, tote bags, and numerous other items that simply get tossed out after the conference is over by the majority of participants. We give preference

*2024 and 2025 locations are out of order for our typical global rotation due to contractual obligations to “do-over” the conferences that went virtual during the pandemic in 2020 and 2021.

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**YEAR** | **CITY**                  | **COUNTRY** | **REGION** | **VENUE**          
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2015 | San Juan, Puerto Rico    | US Territory | North America | Hilton             
2016 | Fukuoka                  | JAPAN       | Asia/Oceania | Hilton             
2017 | San Diego, California    | USA         | North America | Hilton             
2018 | Prague                   | CZECH REPUBLIC | Europe | Hilton + Hilton  
2019 | Washington, DC           | USA         | North America | Hilton             
2020 | Gold Coast*              | POSTPONED   | VIRTUAL     | Star + Sofitel     
2021 | Denver, Colorado         | POSTPONED   | VIRTUAL     | Hyatt              
2022 | Paris                    | FRANCE      | Europe      | Hyatt + Le Meridien 
2023 | Toronto, Ontario         | CANADA      | North America | Sheraton         
2024 | Gold Coast*              | AUSTRALIA*  | Asia/Oceania | Star + GCCEC      
2025 | Denver, Colorado*        | USA*        | North America*| Hyatt + Hyatt    
2026 | TBD                      | TBD         | LatAM or Europe | TBD       
2027 | Chicago, Illinois        | USA         | North America | Hyatt             
2028 | TBD                      | TBD         | LatAm or Europe | TBD       
2029 | TBD                      | TBD         | Asia        | TBD
in contracting to LEED-certified (and equivalent) venues, we work with our venue partners to donate unused food and flowers, and we implemented a carbon offset option for attendees with an environmental nonprofit provider starting in 2020 as well (though 2022 was the first year since implementing it that anyone actually flew to the conference!).

ICA leadership are aware that a flight to attend the conference in Australia presents a moral quandary for many of you who keep environmental concerns at the fore, and we understand that some of you may not make the trip. For those who are unable to come to Australia in person, over one-third of the conference (in 10 out of 27 session rooms) will be offered as live, hybrid sessions. While there is more to be done, the seismic change of learning very quickly how to do a successful virtual conference—which we then parlayed into learning how to do in-person and virtual at the same time for the 2022 conference—has been the biggest single step we have taken thus far to have an impact on global climate change. While undertaken as an emergency measure under duress, what we have learned in the past few years has become an opportunity for us all to explore the possibilities and limitations of various conference formats, to allow attendees the flexibility to stay home in years when the trip is too long for their comfort/schedule, and to incorporate those who either cannot get approved (whether by their institution or by immigration authorities) or cannot afford to travel to the in-person conference venue. We have a keen eye on making sure, however, that these efforts do not create silos where one half of the globe stays home while the other half attends in person—that is counter to the environment of intellectual cross-pollination we are trying to maintain. Every year we learn more about what various groups of attendees need and want, and we adjust our sails accordingly.

Fellows, Honors, and Awards
Through the hard work of Fellows’ Chairs Larry Gross (2017), Cynthia Stohl (2018), François Cooren (2019), Barbie Zelizer (2020), Dhavan Shah (2021), François Heinderyckx (2022), and Pablo Bocczkowski (2023), who have led initiatives to increase candidacies from diverse prospective Fellows, our Fellow demographics are becoming more and more diverse in terms of gender, geography, and ethnicity, and are only beginning to reflect ICA’s truly global membership. We continue to have no shortage of talented and qualified candidates for elected offices within the association, and we have an abundance of deserving candidates for ICA-wide awards each year. All of this points to an association that is thriving. In 2023, ICA inducted 30 new Fellows (the total number eligible to be approved each year is kept in check by an ICA bylaws clause stipulating a maximum percentage of total ICA membership) into an ever-more-diverse Fellows pool, with a greater number of non-men and non-US inductees and than ever before.

Financial Aid
Typically, ICA gives over US $70,000 in travel grants to students (and faculty with financial hardships), particularly those in Tier B & C countries and those who suffer from systemic inequities due to ethnic minority status. In 2020, we also created the ICA20 Hardship Fund, spearheaded by then President-Elect Claes de Vreese, to reimburse these same demographics for non-refundable flights and visa fees. With the general travel grant, the more people in need we can assist, the better, for it is that personal contact with ICA as an organization—the conversations with colleagues and mentors, the “a-ha moments” they have while listening to a talk—that keeps people coming back year after year as we grow the “next generation” of ICA scholars. We express our sincere thanks to those individuals and institutions who gave to this important effort. In 2022, in response to overwhelming interest in attendance and a record number of applications that met eligibility guidelines, we gave just over US $100,000 in travel grants, primarily to students in Tier B & C countries but also, in some cases, to scholars who are members of historically underrepresented or systemically oppressed groups, even in Tier A countries (this was the result of a policy revision to make the travel grant process more inclusive). We are working with the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access (IDEA) Committee on other ways to augment our aid for scholars with financial needs as well. That group has designated a large portion of the US $150,000 IDEA grant given to them by the ICA Executive Committee in 2021 to be used to augment the Michael Haley Travel Grant for both Toronto and the Gold Coast with specific, targeted travel grants for those who meet specific criteria for inclusion.

Accessibility
As always, we have made every effort to make the conference accessible to everyone, including both virtual and onsite attendees who have various accommodation needs for hearing, vision, or medical conditions, those who are first-time ICA attendees and might be a little overwhelmed, and for nonbinary and transgender scholars. Please check the accessibility page (currently showing #ICA23 information, to be updated soon but it will remain 90% the same as in Toronto) on our website for more information on our offerings such as AA meetings, the quiet room, nursing infants’ room, childcare, gender-neutral restrooms, and more.

Publications
Our publications continue to thrive. In 2022, the ICA journals received 2,037 submissions, publishing 227 articles. The Journal of Communication’s new editorial team also began their editorial tenure: David R. Ewoldsen (Michigan State
ICA Headquarters

The ICA headquarters staff continue to be small but mighty, located in several different cities (Jennifer, Katie, Brad, and Laura in Virginia/DC; Tom in Sleepy Hollow, NY; Karly in Chicago, IL; and Julie in North Kingstown, Rhode Island. I celebrated my seven-year anniversary at ICA this past January (my first ICA, #ICA16 in Fukuoka, feels like decades ago!), but the staffer with the longest time served at ICA is Jennifer Le, who has been here for more than eleven years. For more on our current staff—Tom Mankowski in Publications, Jennifer Le and Katie Wolfe in Conference Services, Julie Arnold in Membership and Governance, and Brad Brewer and Karly Senesac in Member Services—and whom to ask what, visit this page and scroll down for a listing.

Conclusion

Lastly, we continue to come together to move the association forward in the face of new challenges such as global nationalism, travel bans, censorship, the lingering effects of the COVID pandemic, war, travel restrictions, university funding cuts, and even the struggle to adhere to the spirit of Open Access while remaining financially viable as an NPO. We live in an increasingly fragmented and combative world, but we are well-positioned to meet every challenge. We continue to collaboratively make ICA an even stronger institution and with your input, participation, and support, we can be assured that the International Communication Association has a future as bright as its legacy. We have a talented and engaged team at the ICA headquarters, and we are each focused on providing excellent service to our members. Feel free to reach out to any of us at any time; we are happy to hear from you and we look forward to seeing you at #ICA24!

Warmly,
Laura
Brian Kweyu of The Catholic University of East Africa. Dr. Lydia Radoli made a virtual presentation of her paper titled **Suppressing Narratives: A lens through the life cycle of virtual rhetors** which captures how audio-visual storytellers are affected by the traumatic events they observe. Dr. Lucy A. Wakiaga, Acting Director, Quality Assurance, Tangaza University College spoke regarding research mentorship and publications and Ph.D candidates and early scholars including Kevin Mudavadi, Dr. Joy Kibarabara, Miriam Ayieko, Magdalene Kiying and Wangeci Kanyeki shared their experiences of how they got to know about ICA and how they have benefited from ICA through mentorship, publishing, and scholarships.

ICA Kenya Chapter was also able to virtually connect with ICA Indonesia Chapter in a Regional Hub-to-Hub session titled **Communication and Technology Progress and Challenges** where ICA Board member, Dr. of Multi-Media University participated.

The ICA Kenya chapter Board of Directors was unveiled and introduced to the Regional Hub conference participants. Stating the benefits of becoming a member, Deputy Chairman Paul Kimweli encouraged participants to register as ICA Kenya Chapter members.

Extra photos Link to the Photos: [https://photos.app.goo.gl/if5YE2WavYnfUrhu6](https://photos.app.goo.gl/if5YE2WavYnfUrhu6)

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**Q. Which professional accomplishment are you most proud of, and why?**

**A. Bringing (getting) ICA to Africa!**

**Q. Who is your mentor/who inspires you and why?**

**A. The ICA leadership structure - Since 2014 when I approached ICA to embrace Africa, the then leadership (Executive Directors - Michael Haley and now Laura Sawyer, together with the then President (2012-2013 Cynthia Stohl) to the current (2022-2023 - Noshir Contractor). These successive ICA leaderships collectively contributed to getting ICA to Africa. If any of them could have developed cold feet, ICA would not be in Africa, and ICA Regional Chapters wouldn’t have taken off.**

**Q. Have you published in an ICA journal? If yes, please share a link to your article. If no, is there an article or publication you would like to highlight?**

**A. Yes. The ICA Annals.**

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**Q. When you have 30 minutes of free time, how do you pass the time?**

**A. I go to the gym!**

**Q. What could you teach a whole class on that has nothing to do with your actual field of expertise?**

**A. Seeing how much ICA has given to Africa without counting the cost, I have already begun, and would continue to teach a whole class, on the benefit of giving unreservedly (that is, mentor others by giving), not from your abundance, but out of love and desire to see others grow.**

**Q. What is your favorite album, song, movie, tv show or book?**

**A. The Bible. My favorite book. In it I find LIFE.**

**Q. What’s one thing people are generally surprised to learn about you?**

**A. That I am the brownest child in my family.**