

National Communication Association  
Health Communication Division  
2024 Business Meeting  
New Orleans, LA  
9:30A CST

**2024 Executive Committee Officers:**

Immediate Past Chair: Dr. Leandra H. Hernández, University of Utah  
Chair: Dr. Jill Yamasaki, University of Houston  
Vice Chair: Dr. Charee M. Thompson, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign  
Vice Chair-Elect: Dr. Iccha Basnyat, George Mason University  
Secretary: Dr. Anna M. Kerr, Ohio University  
Graduate Student Representative: Dr. Brooke Wolfe, Michigan State University  
Graduate Student Representative: Liesl Broadbridge, Rutgers University  
DEI Committee Chair: Dr. Sean Upshaw, University of Texas at Austin  
DEI Committee Vice Chair: VACANT  
DEI Committee Member: Dr. Wei Peng, Washington State University  
Legislative Assembly Rep: Dr. Grace Ellen Brannon, University of Texas at Arlington

**9:33a CST – Call to Order, Jill Yamasaki**

**Agenda Items**

- I. Review of 2022 Business Meeting Minutes
  - a. *Motion was made to approve the meeting minutes. Seconded.*
  - b. *Motion carried unanimously*
  
- I. NCA 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Nominee - Shaunak Sastry
  - a. Summarized reasons for running for VP including challenges we faced last year regarding the violation of free speech and free expression.
  - b. Dr. Sastry's full vision is included on the NCA ballot, available 12/3

**Office Reports**

- I. **Grace Brannon, Legislative Assembly**
  - a. Voting for the NCA election closes 12/31/2024
  - b. NCA Finances:
    - "NCA is not going broke"
    - 2023 audit = unqualified (clean) [best it can be]
    - 2025 proposed budget passed
    - NCA historically operates at a loss, but we are relying too heavily on reserves, so fees are being increased:
      - Conference fees planned at 50% increase

- Membership fees planned at 16% increase
    - Cannot fundraise since fundraising is not approved in all states
- c. African Communication Division approved
- d. Women of Color Section approved
- e. Affiliate listings approved (See in NCA website)
- f. Bylaw revision for Legislative Assembly composition:
  - Executive committee is reviewing proposal for only 1 rep per interest group
  - The proposal is pulled to solicit more feedback
  - We anticipate a 2025 bylaws change
- g. The Ad Hoc ethics committee and the Executive Committee reviewed a proposal related the lawsuit from the free speech incident in 2023. The report is complete and recommendations should be released soon.

**Comments from the Floor:**

- a. The Division had an open discussion regarding the increased conference and membership fees due to concerns for how it will disproportionately affect graduate students and other members.
- b. Dr. Sastry (current member of NCA's Executive Committee) announced that NCA is cheaper than most comparable organization meetings. The organization wants to prioritize members, but also need to commit to be financially sound. The EC will consider more models over the next year.
- c. Recommended alternatives included a.) using a tiered system like ICA (this was rejected by the NCA Executive Committee due to lack of time) and b.) reconsidering costly contractual relationships with Gaylord Conference centers to reduce hotel rates.
- d. The membership also asked what we are doing to allow fundraising across the organization despite the
- e. Dr. Upshaw advocated for creating a sub-committee to provide recommendations to the NCA Executive Committee regarding financial concerns.

**II. Jill Yamasaki, Chair**

- a. 1048 members; still the largest division
- b. Our Division budget is \$1300; we spend \$350 on award plaques and allocate the rest to DE&I grants to students

**III. Lea Hernandez, Immediate Past Chair**

- a. Division Awards
  - NCA piloted an internal awards granting system for nominations and voting.
  - Call for Nominations: April 1 – May 31
  - Application Review: June 15 – August 15
  - Winners Announced: September 2024

- Distinguished Article or Chapter Award
  - Shaunak Sastry, Meg Stephenson, Patrick Dillon, and Andrew Carter. “A Meta-Theoretical Systematic Review of the Culture-Centered Approach to Health Communication: Toward a Refined, “Nested” Model.” (Communication Theory, 2019)
- Distinguished Article or Chapter Award
  - Maria Venetis, Jeffrey Robinson, Katie LaPlant Turkiewicz, and Mike Allen - “An Evidence Base for Patient-Centered Care: A Meta-Analysis of Studies of Observed Communication Between Cancer Specialists and Their Patients.” (Patient Education and Counseling, 2009)
- Dale E. Brashers Distinguished Mentor Award
  - Andrew Spieldenner, California State University San Marcos
- Early Career Scholar Award
  - Shaohai Jiang, National University of Singapore
- Outstanding Contributions to Promoting Equity and Inclusion Award
  - Kate Magsamen-Conrad, the University of Iowa
- Outstanding Health Communication Scholar Award
  - Paul Wright, Indiana University Bloomington
- Top Paper Awards
  - Jacqueline N. Gunning, Megan Cardwell, and Mackensie Minniear. The Autoimmune Library: An Arts-Based Approach to Women of Color's (Counter)Narratives of Chronic Illness.
  - Qiaofei Jovi Wu and Shaohai Jiang. Why Communication Matters? The Roles of Patient-Provider Communication and Health-Related Social Media Use in Cancer Survivors Meaning in Life.
  - Emily Mendelson and Charee Thompson. The Communicative Disenfranchisement of Disabled Individuals During Healthcare Appointments: Material Ramifications of Inaccessible Talk and Space.
  - Allyson Bontempo. Conceptualizing Symptom Invalidation as Experienced by Patients with Endometriosis.
  - Top Student Paper Award: Willow Craine and Bianca Siegenthaler. "How did I think I could do this job and who the hell put me in charge of taking care of

someone's life?": Health Care Workers Resilience  
Communication about Workplace Conditions.

- Dr. Jill Yamaski and the EC recognize Lea Hernandez for her service to the Division. This is the last year of her 4-year term.
- Awards Process Updates:
  - The Awards Process Review Committee was formed in March 2023. The Executive Committee is working on integrating their feedback into the bylaws with plans to vote in early 2025 and implement suggestions for the 2025 Awards Cycle.

#### **IV. Charee Thompson, Vice Chair**

- a. Programming Updates:
  - 37 Total Slots
  - 403 Submissions
    - 2 business panels (Division meeting, grad student networking)
    - 12 accepted panels
    - 2 Collaborative Spaces panels (extended abstracts, roundtables)
    - 21 paper panels (including Top Paper and 3 Data Blitz panels)
  - Co-sponsored panels with Human Technology Communication, Interpersonal Communication and Family Communication Divisions.
  - Reviewer Process
    - At least three reviewers per submission, bylaws re: faculty
    - Scores converted to Z-scores
    - Vice Chair and Vice Chair Elect met to review process
  - Thank you to all ~250 reviewers and ~100 panel chair volunteers
- b. 2025 Chair Agenda and Goals
  - Bylaws revisions
    - Awards Process Revisions
    - EC reviews committee recommendations, forwards recommendations for bylaw changes to membership
  - Role Revisions
    - LA Rep
    - Others, to meet membership needs and initiatives
  - Website/social media
  - Membership engagement

#### **[Officer Reports Paused for Additional Agenda Item]**

#### **V. Jeanette Sims, NCA First Vice President, National Office Updates**

- a. Vote! Elections are open 12/3 – 12/31
- b. Go the NCA hub in the exhibition hall and give feedback on the website
- a. Apply for NCA Grants! Available for research, student travel, etc.

- b. Visit the student lounge in the 4<sup>th</sup> floor
- c. Editorship opportunities: Communication and Race, Communication Education, Journal of Applied Communication Research, Journal of International and Intercultural Communication, Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies, Text and Performance Quarterly Call for Nominations. Contact Dr. John M. Sloop (Publications Council Chair) if you are interested: [john.m.sloop@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:john.m.sloop@vanderbilt.edu).

**VI. Iccha Basnyat, Vice Chair Elect**

- a. NCA 2025 in Colorado: *Communicate to Elevate!*
- b. Please look out for emails to sign up for reviewers for next year's conference
- c. Congratulations to our newly elected executive committee and awards committee members!
  - Vice Chair Elect: Shamshad Khan, University of Texas at San Antonio
  - Vice Chair-Elect; Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion: Jamie Robb, Florida Atlantic University
  - Member; Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion: Wenxue Zhou, Coastal Carolina University
  - Secretary: Heather Voorhees, University of Montana
  - Graduate Student Representative: Susan Shrack Wood, University of Pennsylvania
  - Legislative Assembly Representative, Luna Wu, Texas Tech
  - Awards Committee Reviewers:
    - Emily Abellon, University of Portland
    - Kelsey Binion, Indiana University Indianapolis
    - Tricia Burke, Texas State University
    - Crystal D. Daugherty, Western Kentucky University
    - Holli Hitt Seitz, Mississippi State University
    - Jessica Hample, University of Nebraska at Kearney
    - Shari Hoppin, Troy University
    - Rachael Hernandez, University of Missouri
    - Nick Iannarino, University of Michigan-Dearborn
    - Shaohai Jiang, National University of Singapore
    - Melissa Robinson, Penn State Fayette
    - Paul Wright, Indiana University Bloomington
    - Fan Yang, University of Alabama at Birmingham
    - Wenxue Zou, Coastal Carolina University
    - Amjad Abdulaziz Alghamdi, George Mason University  
(*Doctoral Student Representative*)

**VII. DEI Committee – Sean Upshaw**

- a. Check out Sean's recorded Virtual Learning Opportunity on the NCA website: <https://www.natcom.org/vlo>

- b. Seeking volunteers for Health Communication Virtual Learning and Networking Opportunity Series (HCVLNO). We want to feature people in our division. Regardless of your career level, please engage in the HC VLNO. It will start in January, with the first series in February. Reach out to Sean if you're interested: [sean.upshaw@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:sean.upshaw@austin.utexas.edu).
- c. 2024 DEI Graduate Student Travel Grant Recipients:
  - *Sponsored by the Health Communication Division*
  - **Jacqueline Gunning** – University of Connecticut
  - **Olorunsayo Tolulope “Tolu” Ijeluola** – James Madison University
  - **Sarah Nuamah Boateng** – University of Connecticut
  - **Jinxu Li** – Texas A & M University
  - **Haoyu “Harri” Wang** – Renmin University of China

**VIII. Brooke Wolfe & Liesl Broadbridge, Grad Student Representatives**

- a. Please join the graduate student representatives for a networking session with health communication faculty researchers! Saturday, November 23, 2:30p

**IX. Passing the Gavel – Welcome Dr. Charee Thompson!**

**X. New Business:**

- a. **Daena Goldsmith**
  - Health Story Hub: <https://healthstoryhub.lib.uiowa.edu/>
    - Curated searchable database about health, healing, disability, etc. with teaching materials.
    - Please consider submitting stories, teaching materials, etc.
- b. **Bill Elwood (NIH):** will be attending this year's NCA meeting.
  - Dr. Elwood is available to discuss research interests and potential NIH funding opportunities. Bill identifies as a first-generation Ph.D. and a social constructionist interested in biopsychosocial research projects focused on synergistic processes that influence optimal health and well-being. He holds a doctorate in communication from Purdue University.
  - Flyer with Relevant NOFO's for Communication Scholars:
    - Communication Research to Dental, Oral, Advance, and Craniofacial Health Over the Lifecourse **NOT-DE-24-02**
    - NIH R21 Exploratory/Developmental Research Program PA-20-195
    - NIDCR R03 Program for New Investigators PAR-21-084
    - NIDCR R03 Program for Oral Health Data Analysis and Statistical Methodology Development PAR-22-160

- NIDCR’s Research Training and Career Development Programs: <https://www.nidcr.nih.gov/grants-funding/grant-programs/research-training-career-development/more>
  - All NIDCR Grant Programs: [Website Link](#)
  - NIDCR Clinical Trial Intervention NOFOs: [Website Link](#)
  - NIDCR Clinical Trial Planning and Implementation Cooperative Agreement PAR-21-160
  - Continuation or Revision of NIDCR Clinical Trial Implementation Cooperative Agreement (UH3 Clinical Trial Required) PAR-22-068
  - NIDCR Behavioral and Social Sciences Research Branch Contacts
    - **Bill Elwood, Ph.D.** Chief, Behavioral and Social Sciences Research Branch, [william.elwood@nih.gov](mailto:william.elwood@nih.gov)
    - **Jill Mattia, Ph.D.** Director, Assessment, Technology, and Treatment Outcomes Research Program, [jill.mattia@nih.gov](mailto:jill.mattia@nih.gov)
    - **Brian Meier, Ph.D.** Director, Analytic and Translational Research in Behavioral, Social, and Public Health Program, [brian.meier@nih.gov](mailto:brian.meier@nih.gov)
- c. **Ichha Basnyat**, The 8th Biennial D.C. Health Communication Conference (DCHC): May 1-3. “Community-Engaged Health Communication”
- Submissions Due December 1
- d. **Maria Brann**: Consider applying for the Petronio CPM fellowship (<https://liberalarts.indianapolis.iu.edu/departments/communication-studies/current-students/iupui-petronio-communication-privacy-management-dissertation-fellowship/>)
- Applications Due April 15
- e. **Grace Brannon**: The College of Liberal Arts at the University of Texas at Arlington has four new tenure-track Assistant Professor openings:
- Artificial Intelligence in the Liberal Arts
  - Environmental Studies
  - Health and Society
  - Video Game Studies
- f. **Jenn Anderson**: New Textbook Announcement *Health Communication, Principles, Perspectives, and Possibilities*: <https://store.cognella.com/83807-1b-003>
- g. **Heather Carmack**: Hiring Postdoc in Human Computer AI health research (Rochester MN; Mayo Clinic): [Robert D. and Patricia E. Kern Center for the Science of Health Care Delivery](#)
- h. **Teri Thompson**, Welcome to incoming Editor in Chief of *Health Communication*, Xiaoquan Zhao, George Mason University, USA
- i. **Shaunak Sastry** – Request to honor Terri Thompson with a Round of Applause

**XI. Adjournment**

- a. Motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Seconded.
- b. Motion carried unanimously
- c. Chair, Dr. Charee Thompson adjourned the meeting 10:36a CST.

Minutes submitted by Anna Kerr.