

**2025 Health Communication Division Awards
Call for Nominations
Deadline: May 31**

Members are invited to submit nominations for the following awards:

- Distinguished Article/Chapter Award
- Distinguished Book Award
- Dale E. Brashers Distinguished Mentor Award
- Early Career Scholar Award
- Outstanding Contributions to Promoting Equity and Inclusion Award
- Outstanding Health Communication Scholar Award

Nominations, unless specified, must be submitted through the [NCA nomination portal](#). **The deadline for all nominations is May 31.**

All awardees will be recognized at the Health Communication Division's business meeting during the 2025 NCA convention.

For questions regarding submissions, please email Immediate Past Chair Dr. Jill Yamasaki, University of Houston, at jyamasaki@uh.edu.

AWARD DESCRIPTIONS, NOMINATION CRITERIA, AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

1. The **Distinguished Article/Chapter Award** recognizes research that has made, or offers the promise of making, a significant contribution to scholarship in health communication theory, research, and/or practice. Articles/chapters become eligible for this award 5 years after the original publication date. Only articles/chapters published on or before 2020 are eligible.

Please submit a single PDF nomination packet that includes: (a) No more than 3 nomination or support letters giving a brief rationale and explanation of the significance of the nominated piece to the advancement of health communication theory, research, and/or practice; (b) An electronic copy of the article; and (c) Published reviews of the nominated work (if available). Self-nominations are welcome.

2. The **Distinguished Book Award** recognizes research that has made, or offers the promise of making, a significant contribution to scholarship in health communication theory, research, and/or practice. Textbooks are not eligible for the book award. Books become eligible for this award 5 years after the original publication date. Only books published on or before 2020 are eligible.

Please submit a single PDF nomination packet that includes: (a) No more than 3 nomination or support letters giving a brief rationale and explanation of the significance of the nominated piece to the advancement of health communication theory, research, and/or practice; (b) An electronic copy of the book; and (c) Published reviews of the nominated work (if available). Self-nominations are welcome.

3. The **Dale E. Brashers Distinguished Mentor Award** recognizes significant contributions to the field of health communication through advocacy for the discipline and mentorship of its members. These contributions can take many forms, such as mentorship at the scholarly (e.g., role-modeling through exceptional scholarship, division leadership, etc.), institutional (e.g., development of health communication within a college or university), departmental (e.g., development of health communication within an academic department), and, perhaps most importantly, individual (e.g., teaching and mentorship of scholars who contribute to the broader discipline) levels.

Please submit a single PDF nomination packet that includes: (a) A rationale and explanation of the significance of nominee contributions to the field of health communication, institutions, departments, and/or individuals through the provision of exceptional mentorship; (b) The scholar's vita; and (c) Optional letters of support for the nomination (maximum of three). Self-nominations are welcome.

4. The **Early Career Award** recognizes a communication scholar who has made a substantial positive impact on health communication research, yet who is currently early in her/his career. Nominees should have a productive record of high-quality publications and show evidence of sustaining their upward scholarly trajectory. In addition, nominees' research should be of theoretical significance to health communication, offer practical contributions, and demonstrate methodological strength.

There are three nomination criteria. The nominee must: a) have a PhD in Communication; b) have received her/his PhD within the last seven years (i.e., to receive the 2025 Early Career Award, the nominee should have earned a PhD between 2018–present); and c) be a member of NCA's Health Communication Division the year that she/he is being nominated.

Please submit a single PDF nomination packet that includes: (a) A single, detailed letter of nomination addressing the aforementioned criteria; (b) The scholar's vita; and (c) Five representative peer-reviewed publications. Self-nominations are welcome.

5. The **Outstanding Contributions to Promoting Equity and Inclusion Award** recognizes a division member who has clearly demonstrated excellence in promoting equity and inclusion in health communication. These contributions can take many forms, such as: (a) service to the discipline (e.g., promoting equity and inclusion within the Health Communication Division); (b) research (e.g., publications, conference papers, grants); (c) teaching and mentorship; (d) departmental/institutional service (e.g., promoting equity and inclusion within an academic department, college, or university); (e) outreach and impact such as public scholarship and having an impact on organizations/institutions (e.g., schools, colleges, health clinics, hospitals, non-profits), community groups, communities, health practices, and/or public policies; (f) activism and social justice work at any level.

To be eligible, the recipient must be a current member of the NCA Health Communication Division. Current Health Communication Division Executive Committee and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity (DE&I) Committee members are not eligible for this award while in service to the Division.

The DE&I Committee will assess the nominees' contributions in promoting equity and inclusion in terms of their ability to demonstrate: (a) The promotion of equitable inclusion in health communication (whether that be teaching, scholarship, practices, and/or the discipline); (b) Practices addressing marginalization by giving attention to inequities in power and participation based on one or more points of human difference; (c) Impact may include, for example: (1) Service to the discipline may include mentorship and leadership activities that enhance inclusivity and reduce barriers to equitable participation; (2) Research contributions may/should build understanding of previously underrepresented groups, revise existing theories and practices based on diverse voices, develop theories and practices that promote equity in health communication; (3) Teaching contributions should/may develop new or innovative methods for teaching issues of diversity, equity, and inclusivity in health communication, demonstrate excellence in addressing marginalization in health communication courses; this may include pedagogical publications that share such insights; (4) Outreach contributions should/may promote equitable practices of health communication, whether that be related to schools, community groups, communities, significant health practices, and/or public policies.

Please submit a single PDF nomination packet that includes: (a) a nomination letter (3 pages max) written by the nominee or a nominator that explains the significance of the nominee's contributions to equity and inclusion; (b) the nominee's current CV; and (c) up to two supporting documents and up to three additional letters of support (from any source). Self-nominations are encouraged.

6. The **Outstanding Health Communication Scholar Award** recognizes a significant and original contribution, in the form of a monograph, book, and/or program of research, to the study and application of the field of health communication.

There are five nomination criteria. The scholar's work must have: (a) a significant and long-lasting effect on the field of health communication; (b) strong heuristic value; (c) influence over others' work; (d) originality regarding theory, research, and/or practice; and (e) contributed to the development of health communication as a distinct field of study.

Although nominations are open to anyone who has made a significant contribution to the health communication field, preference is given to members of ICA's and NCA's Health Communication Divisions.

Please submit a single PDF nomination packet that includes: (a) A single, detailed letter of nomination addressing the aforementioned criteria; (b) The scholar's vita; and (c) The single most influential or representative piece of work from the scholar. Self-nominations are welcome.