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## Virtual Convention Information Now Available

The NCA 106<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention will be completely virtual and will include both asynchronous and synchronous sessions. Asynchronous content will be available beginning November 1 on [NCA Convention Central](#). Most synchronous sessions will take place as originally scheduled on November 19-22. Please click on the links provided below for information relevant to attending and presenting virtually. Note that accepted session participants also will receive additional information regarding how and when their sessions will take place from the NCA convention team.

[Guide to NCA's 2020 Virtual Convention](#): This guide offers essential information for all NCA Annual Convention participants. The guide addresses basic questions about transcriptions and captioning; creating virtual sessions for panel discussions, paper sessions, performance sessions, and film sessions; organizing a virtual presentation as an individual submitter; business meetings; and the NCA Career Center and Graduate School Open House, and offers tips for creating safe, accessible, and inclusive virtual presentations. All convention registrants can find helpful information [here](#); please make sure to review it carefully.

[Best Practices for Virtual Engagement by Presentation Type and Role](#): This document offers best practices for both synchronous and asynchronous presentations. Chairs, presenters, and respondents for synchronous presentations can find information about keeping presentations secure, tips for crafting engaging and accessible virtual presentations, and much more! Presenters for asynchronous presentations and Scholar to Scholar presentations can also find presentation tips, including how to use phones or laptops to record a presentation and how to create a poster with PowerPoint. The reimagined convention requires more attention to process by convention presenters, so please make sure to review the information provided [here](#) carefully.

## Communication at the Crossroads Series: Difficult Decisions and the Future of Our Associations

For the first time in over half a century, many Communication associations were forced to cancel their conventions this year. Though health, wellness, and a variety of other concerns may have rightly taken precedence in people's minds, it still meant the loss of significant professional and personal opportunities for those in the discipline and resulted in great disappointment for many individuals. For those in association leadership roles, it meant difficult decisions needed to be made. While this most recent experience was particularly profound, association leaders are frequently called on to make tough decisions about foreseen and unforeseen issues (e.g., strikes, disease, finances) that are becoming increasingly prominent in convention planning.

In this special session, [Difficult Decisions and the Future of Our Associations](#), current and former Presidents and Executive Directors of Communication associations will discuss issues and challenges related to convention planning and decision making. They will also discuss the future of associations in regard to not only conventions but also academic life.

Those in attendance will gain a greater understanding of the discipline, how associations function, and decision-making processes in academia. The session will provide special insight for members of all associations, especially those interested in personally engaging in association leadership.

Presenters:

Shawn D. Long, Kennesaw State University  
Scott A. Myers, West Virginia University  
Trevor Parry-Giles, National Communication Association  
Candice Thomas-Maddox, Ohio University, Lancaster  
Lynn H. Turner, Marquette University  
Jennifer Waldeck, Chapman University  
Sara Chudnovsky Weintraub, Regis College  
Richard West, Emerson College

Please join us for this very important session.

--[David T. McMahan](#), NCA First Vice President, Missouri Western State University

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## Teachers on Teaching Series

Please join us at the NCA 106<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention as we honor Professor Sandra Faulkner, Bowling Green State University, and the Professors Lacey Brown, Meredith Clements, Kristen Foltz, and Chris Gurrie of University of Tampa's Teaching Team, through the Teachers on Teaching Series.

NCA's Teachers on Teaching Series recognizes innovative, impactful, and inclusive communication faculty. At each session, current and former students will discuss how the faculty member(s) made a positive influence on their academic, intellectual, and professional lives, and the faculty member(s) will respond and share insight about their work as teachers, leaders, and mentors.

For more information, please visit [NCA Convention Central](#).

--[Lisa Hanasono](#), Teachers on Teaching Program Planner, Bowling Green State University

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## Scholar to Scholar Series

The 106<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention will feature six Scholar to Scholar sessions. Papers in Scholar to Scholar sessions are presented in an interactive format. Each Scholar to Scholar session will feature 18 scholars displaying digital slides, photographs, text-rich posters, and other kinds of media. Wandering Scholars, colleagues from across the discipline, add to the conversation by engaging with presenters and attendees alike. Each Scholar to Scholar session has particular divisions and interest groups presenting at that time; so you can select those sessions where the groups with which you affiliate are scheduled.

For more information on the Scholar to Scholar sessions, please visit [NCA Convention Central](#) and search the online program for Scholar to Scholar.

--[Narissra Punyanunt-Carter](#), Scholar to Scholar Co-planner, Texas Tech University; and [Eddah Mutua](#), Scholar to Scholar Co-planner, St. Cloud University

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## Student Caucus Travel Grant

In support of its commitment to promoting diversity within the Communication discipline, NCA offers a limited number of grants for student members of NCA's caucuses to attend the Annual Convention. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Annual Convention will be a virtual event this year and grant recipients instead will receive a discount on their 2021 NCA membership. Applicants must be student members of NCA, registered to attend the Annual Convention, and a member of one of the association's six caucuses. To learn more about the NCA Caucus Student Travel Grants, including application requirements, visit the [NCA Student Caucus Travel Grant](#) webpage.

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