

A map of Ohio in a light tan color, serving as the background. Overlaid on the map is a blue-tinted collage of various images: a building with 'The University of Akron' signage, a 'SMUCKER'S' logo, a 'ORRVILLE' street sign, and a 'Wayne College' sign.

Ohio Communication Association 82nd Annual Conference

Leveraging ^{of} Strengths our Discipline:

Teaching • Scholarship • Service

October 5-6, 2018



The University of Akron
Wayne College

Social Media Contest and Raffle

Use #OCA2018 to tag your posts on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook (public posts) during the conference. Our biggest fan will receive a \$100 Amazon Gift Card at the end of the conference, so don't forget to Tweet, tag, and post your pictures and memories throughout the 2018 OCA conference.

Amazon Gift Cards will be raffled off throughout the conference. You can earn raffle tickets by:

- Picking up your conference packet
- Completing conference session evaluations
- Using #OCA2018 in your public social media posts

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Thanks to The University of Akron School of Communication for sponsoring OCA's 2018 Social Media Contest.



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Welcome Members!

It is with great honor that the Executive Board of the Ohio Communication Association welcomes you to the 82nd annual conference. In keeping with this year's conference theme of "Leverging the Strengths of our Discipline: Teaching, Scholarship and Service," this year's sessions provide support for our discipline, our colleagues, and our Association.

We are especially grateful to gather on the beautiful campus of The University of Akron Wayne College in historic Orrville. We hope that you will enjoy the fellowship, scholarship, and comradery the conference team has worked to create.

As our Association continues to grow and thrive, please know that you are always invited to help us "Leverage our Strength," through conference attendance, presentations, and participation on our Board and committees. Please feel free to talk to any board member about how you might continue your contributions to our Association.

Have a wonderful conference!

You Ohio Communication Association
Executive Board

Leveraging the Strengths of our Discipline: Teaching, Scholarship, and Service

Conference Schedule Friday, October 5

| | |
|--|---|
| 10:00 am – 2:00 pm SLB 205/Gault Training Room | Executive Board Meeting |
| 9:30 – 9:45 am SLB Lobby | Undergraduate Pre-Conference Registration |
| 9:45 am – 12:30 pm SLB 102, 103, & 107 | Undergraduate Pre-Conference Sessions <i>Sponsored by the University of Akron Wayne College</i> |
| 1:00 – 2:00 pm SLB Lobby | Conference Registration |
| 1:00 – 5:00 pm SLB Gallery | Opportunity Fair |
| 2:00 – 5:00 pm SLB Gallery | Poster Display <i>Posters judged from 2-2:50 p.m.</i> |
| 2:00 pm – 4:50 pm SLB 102, 103, & 107 | Conference Sessions |
| 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm SLB 107/Multipurpose Room | Awards Ceremony <i>Light appetizers and cash bar</i> |

Complete Session Surveys - Earn More Raffle Tickets

We value your feedback, and we will be asking you to complete a short survey at the end of each conference session. We use the feedback when making programming decisions for future conferences, so don't forget to make your opinion known.

Every session survey returned to the registration table will earn one raffle ticket. Raffles for Amazon gift cards will occur throughout the conference. Thanks to The University of Akron School of Communication for sponsoring our raffle and social media contest.



The University of Akron
School of Communication

Conference Schedule Saturday, October 6

8:00 am
SLB Lobby

Conference Registration

8:00 am
SLB Cafeteria

Networking Breakfast

9:00 – 11:15 am
SLB Gallery

Opportunity Fair and Poster Display

9:00 – 11:10 am
SLB 102, 103, & 107

Conference Sessions

11:15 am – 12:00 pm
SLB 107

Lessons Learned During a Life in the Academy
Keynote Speaker – Raymie McKerrow, *Ohio University*.

12:15 – 1:50 pm
SLB 109/Multipurpose Room

Lunch and Business Meeting

2:00 – 3:50
SLB 102, 103, 107, & 205

Conference Sessions

Open OCA Executive Board Positions

During the Saturday board meeting, we will be electing four members to the executive board. If you are interested in serving OCA in this capacity, we will be accepting nominations from the floor during the board meeting. If you have any questions about what each of the open positions require, feel free to ask any current or former OCA Board Member.

Positions available for the 2018-2019 Executive Board:

Vice President

Southwest District Representative

Northwest District Representative

Central District Representative

Graduate Student Representative (Two)

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2018 OCA Poster Competition

During the poster session, judges will review posters in a variety of areas including construction of the poster, presentation skills, and quality of research. Posters will be displayed throughout the Opportunity Fair in the SLB Gallery, and judged between 2:00 and 2:50 pm on Friday and will remain on display through Saturday morning.

The top poster will be recognized during the Awards Ceremony.

Poster judges:

Kristin Hungerford, *Miami University of Ohio*

Lee Horrisberger, *Walsh University*

Laura Russell, *Denison University*

Smartphone Usage. Jacob Buechele, *The University of Akron*

Deadliest Catch: Analyzing Masculine Emotions through Nonverbal Communication. Michael Caiazza, *Kent State University at Stark*

Islam and Politics in The Gambia Since Independence. Musa Dampha, *Ohio University*

The 1955 and 1981 Adaptations of John Steinbeck's 'East of Eden.' Daryl Davidson, *Ohio University*

Thin Ideology Populism and Securitization in the 2016 Donald Trump Campaign. Andrew J. Harris & Lily Russell, *Cedarville University*

The Sinking of Tangier Island: A Rhetorical Analysis of an Environmental Crisis. Morgan Henry, *Capital University*

Self-Presentation in Social Media: Review and Research Opportunities. Erin Hollenbaugh, *Kent State University at Stark*

Reflecting Back: Examining Stories from Cancer Patient's Partners. Brandon Mock, *University of Cincinnati*

Positive Interpersonal Communication & Its Relationship with Healthful Behaviors. Katheryn Nydegger, *Wittenberg University*

The Impact Theory: How Nonverbal Cues Influence Prosocial Behavior. Cody Silverthorn, *Kent State University at Stark*

The Bachelorette "First Impression Rose." Joanne Stallard, *Kent State University at Stark*

Session Chair: Julie Semlak, *Clark State Community College*

2:00 – 2:50 pm

PRESENTATION SESSIONS

SLB 102
101

“Keeping it Real” in the Undergraduate Communication Law Course

Brett Barnett, *Slippery Rock University*

This workshop is designed for undergraduate Communication Law instructors interested in learning some ways they could maintain and even increase student interest in their classroom by “keeping it real.” For purposes of this workshop, “keeping it real” translates to providing real-world examples during lecture and discussion as well as creating activities and assignments that allow students to recognize the relevancy of subject matter generally and be able to apply that subject matter to their real-world situations.

The objective of this workshop is to introduce participants to some instructional methods as well as activities and assignments that can be employed while teaching the undergraduate Communication Law course, a core requirement of many, if not most, undergraduate degree programs in Communication. The workshop concludes by providing participants quantitative and qualitative data regarding the efficacy of “keeping it real” when teaching the undergraduate Communication Law course.

Session Chair: Alyssa Fisher, *Bowling Green State University*

SLB 103
102

Basic Course Discussion Group: The State of the Basic Course

Tammy Bosley, *Lorain County Community College*
Adam Earnhardt, *Youngstown State University*

Join us for the inaugural Basic Course Discussion Group. This discussion group was proposed as a way for OCA members to discuss pressing issues surrounding the Basic Course, including curriculum, assessment, teaching, and improving student learning.

Session Chair: Liane Gray-Starner, *Ohio University*

- SAVE THE DATE -

**October 4 – 5, 2019
83rd Annual OCA Conference
Xavier University
Cincinnati, OH**

SLB 107
103

How Are Our Institutions Changing? A Research Collection

Dialogic Principles in Higher Education: A Content Analysis of Law School Instagram Use
Alecia Bencze, *The University of Akron*

The Multigenerational Workforce: A Communication Audit
Kaitlyn Bernauer, *The University of Akron*

Global to Mobile: Restoring Trust in Journalism for Citizens of the 'Mobile Village'
Brandon Szuminsky, *Baldwin Wallace University*

Session Chair: Shawn Starcher, *Kent State University*

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Contact Dr. Rebecca Curnalia, Graduate Program Director
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3:00 – 3:50 pm

PRESENTATION SESSIONS

SLB 102
101

“Keeping it Real” in the Undergraduate Communication Law Course

Continued from previous session

SLB 103
202

Just DO It: Experiential Learning in a Variety of Communication Course Contexts

Elycia Taylor, *Columbus State Community College*
Kay-Anne Darlington, *University of Rio Grande*
Betsy Pike, *Capital University*

Experiential learning offers communication students a way to reinforce and apply the theoretical concepts and skills acquired through their education. Panelists from three different institutions will share experiential learning projects they created for their unique courses. Each project overview will provide an explanation of the process, unique details to give context at each institution, and suggestions for how the audience can implement experiential learning in their own communication courses.

SLB 107
203

The "New Communications:" Marketing Communications using Social Media

Dan O'Neil, *Youngstown State University*
Adam Earnhardt, *Youngstown State University*
Joseph Lyles, *Youngstown State University*
Drae Smith, *Youngstown State University*

This program will focus on several techniques used by Social Media as persuasive tools to market products through the presentation of two papers. The first paper discusses the ways in which celebrity figures are presented as social media influencers on YouTube, Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. After reviewing how celebrity endorsement has evolved with the increasing dominance of social media platforms, the first paper goes on to chronicle how celebrity influences have evolved into a new mode of persuasion within social media. The second paper takes a look at the effects that Instagram is having on the fitness industry and how fitness brands use influencers to persuade followers. Since its inception in 2010, Instagram has served as a sort of hub for fitness professionals and influencers, making Instagram the ideal platform for health and fitness based brands to flourish.

Session Chair: Andrew Hunt, *Miami University*





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Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi
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4:00 – 4:50 pm

PRESENTATION SESSIONS

SLB 102
301

**Graduate Student Discussion Group: Tips and Advice for
Passing the Comprehensive Exam**

Zach Humphries, *Kent State University*
Tammy Bosley, *Lorain County Community College*
Shawn Starcher, *Kent State University*
Raymie McKerrow, *Ohio University*

This panel will address the best practices for studying and preparing for the comprehensive exam. Moreover, this panel will be made up of four doctoral candidates who have been through the process and who have all succeeded in passing the test. The panel will discuss topics such as: study habits, what to study, how to stay in contact with your advisor and committee members, the oral defense, and much more. We feel that this panel can help alleviate some of the pressure that comes with having to take the comprehensive exam. Preparing for this test is not easy, but being organized and preparing well can make a big difference. We hope that those who are currently in graduate school will come join us for a roundtable discussion about the comprehensive exam.

Session Chair: Liane Gray-Starner, *Ohio University*

SLB 103
302

**What Are They Up To Now? Insights Into 21st Century Student
Behaviors**

Self-Regulation, Mood Management, and Cell Phone Dependency
Y. Marie Ortiz, *Youngstown State University*
Crawford Warrick, *Youngstown State University*
Alene Harris, *Youngstown State University*

Ghosting: Terminating A Relationship Through Avoidance
Sarah Demetruk, *Youngstown State University*

The Impact of Professional Motivations and Identification on Student Engagement
Drae Smith, *Youngstown State University*
Enzo Recchia, *Youngstown State University*
Laura Roch, *Youngstown State University*

Session Chair: Jeffery L. Tyus, *Youngstown State University*

**SLB 107
303**

**Public Deliberation about American Politics: A National
Issues Forum Discussion**

Nancy Jennings, *University of Cincinnati*
Philippe Chauveau, *University of Cincinnati*

Public deliberation has become increasingly challenging with the rise in partisan divides experienced in the United States. The National Issues Forum Institute (NIFI) offers a unique framework for having meaningful discussion and interaction regarding various topics and concerns facing the nation. This panel will utilize the NIFI deliberative process to lead a discussion on “How Should We Get American Politics Back on Track?” with trained facilitators from the Common Ground Project. Resources provided by the NIFI will be used to guide a discussion among participants starting with a professionally prepared video from NIFI to introduce the topic followed by implementation of their Issue Guide on the topic. The intention of the panel is to get a richer understanding of American politics and to gain insight to varying points of view regarding American politics among Communication scholars, students, and professionals.

5:00 – 6:30 pm

**2018 OHIO COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION
AWARDS CEREMONY**

SLB 109/Multipurpose Room

Awards Ceremony Host: Jeffery L. Tyus, OCA Awards Coordinator,
Youngstown State University

Appetizers and cash bar available



9:00 – 9:50 am

SATURDAY PRESENTATION SESSIONS

SLB 102
401

Student Engagement Within Communication Classes

Sean Gilmore, *Baldwin Wallace University*

Cassandra Waickman, *Baldwin Wallace University*

Students thrive when they become engaged in their own learning process. There are different methods of student centered teaching. This workshop will focus on the following techniques: journals, student led discussions, the benefits of student-generated questions, student led activities and other teaching tactics. This workshop is facilitated by an instructor and student who have designed and participated in this form of pedagogy. This is an extremely interactive workshop that introduces numerous teaching strategies. All teachers interested in student engagement in the classroom can benefit from this workshop. Topics include:

- I. Student led discussions
- II. Journals on the readings
- III. Activities conducted by students
- IV. Benefits of student-generated questions

Session Chair: Kristen Hungerford, *Miami University of Ohio*

SLB 103
402

Move the World: Leveraging Pedagogy to Promote Students' Literacy and Empowerment

Rekha Sharma, *Kent State University*

James Belcher, *Stark State College*

Jon Judy, *Stark State College*

James D. Ponder, *Kent State University*

Ikram Toumi, *Kent State University*

Just as Archimedes once claimed to be able to move the world if given a lever and a place to stand, so, too, can instructors provide the tools and settings necessary for students to embrace and direct meaningful action. This panel aims to provide different instructional approaches to creating meaning in academic environments by demonstrating the value of theory through praxis. The presenters will address ways to inspire students to engage actively in their own intellectual development by igniting enthusiasm for the practical application of academic knowledge they acquire from readings, lectures, exercises, and assignments in communication courses. The presentations will feature instructional methods, speech activities, experiential learning structures, and cross-cultural learning opportunities designed to build on students' interests and expand their ability to communicate effectively in a variety of contexts.

Session Chair: Amber Ferris, *The University of Akron Wayne College*

Your 2017 – 2018 Ohio Communication Association Executive Board Members

| | |
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| Web Administrator: Mike Chuey | Archivist: Jerry Feezel |

SLB 107
403

Corrections Education in the 21st Century

Deleasa Randall-Griffiths, *Ashland University*
Shawn Orr, *Ashland University*
Wendy Hall, *Ashland University*
Jessica Coleman, *Ashland University*

This round table discussion features multiple perspectives of online higher education within correctional institutions. While the uniqueness of the corrections content imposes limitations and restrictions, it also opens opportunities for transformational education experiences. Participants contribute insights from various points of view, including: administrative-level issues involved in corrections education; curriculum design and implementation; and the rewards and frustrations of teaching students within two learning management systems (a restricted version of the Blackboard LMS and Lantern, a narrow application of the Canvas LMS).

Session Chair: Cody Clemens, *Marietta College*

SLB 205
404

Leveraging the University System: Building Discourse Across Campus

Paul A. Sommer, *Kent State University at Stark*
Erin E. Hollenbaugh, *Kent State University at Stark*
Patrick J. Dillon, *Kent State University at Stark*

The discussion panel will present three interrelated tensions that need to be managed by faculty operating in the campus system. These tensions include the nature of curriculum development and course offerings, research, tenure, and promotion decisions, as well as teaching to and advocating for different student populations. The three panelists all belong to the same university system, which prides itself on being a “one university” system. The panelist’s academic program operates as a single, yet geographically dispersed department, where regional and main campus faculty serve on committees, attend faculty meetings, and teach courses together.

The panel will briefly present the three tensions as they have been experienced by the panelists in an effort to foster further discussion and reflection among participants. While the panelists recognize that they are representing one particular system, the hope is that the brief comments will ignite deeper conversation among the panel attendees as they reflect on their own experiences and perspectives.

Session Chair: Tammy Bosley, *Lorain County Community College*

10:00 – 10:50 am

PRESENTATION SESSIONS

SLB 102
401

Student engagement within communications classes
Continued from previous session

SLB 103
502

New Ways to Look at the World: A Research Collection

“I Guess They’re All Real Moms Then”: Constructing Motherhood through Language in the Adoption Community.

Melissa Weller, *Ohio University*

Standing on a Ttweet’ in the NFL: Public Framing of a Hashtag Social Movement

Laura Seroka, *Bowling Green State University*

Self-Presentation, Self-Disclosures, and Uncertainty Management in Mobile Dating Apps

Daniel Casey, *University of Wisconsin Stevens Point*

Session Chair: Erin Hollenbaugh, *Kent State University at Stark*

SLB Cafeteria
503

GIFTS: Great Ideas for Teaching Students

Argument mapping: Leveraging the strengths of our discipline to analyze reasoning.

Jeffrey Bile, *Spalding University*

A Communication Approach to Understanding Environmental Crises.

Sharon Croft, *Capital University*

Star Trek: The Next Generation, “Darmok”: Cultural Transmissions and Communication.

Melissa Cumberbatch, *Capital University, Columbus State Community College*

Undercover Boss as Communication Case Studies.

Liane Gray-Starner, *Ohio University*

Online Group Presentations.

Wendy Hall, *Ashland University & North Central State College*

Challenges and Successes with The Unessay: A Tale of Two Classes.

Robin Heaton, *Heidelberg University* & Julie O'Reilly, *Heidelberg University*

Fostering Professionalism in Applied Communication Courses: Making Sense of Dollars and Cents. James Jarc, *Central Ohio Technical College*

Social Media Strategy – Senior Level Course.

Sharmaine McLaren, *Xavier University*

Using Augmented Reality to Provide Just-In-Time Instruction.

Shawn Orr, *Ashland University*

Flip the Script: An Assignment to Analyze and Revise a Media Text.

Elycia Taylor, *Columbus State Community College*

Session Chair: Patrick Dillon, *Kent State University at Stark*



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11:15 – 12:00 pm
SLB 107

KEYNOTE SPEAKER – RAYMIE MCCARROW, Ph.D.
Lessons Learned During a Life in the Academy

Raymie E. McKerrow is Emeritus Professor, School of Communication Studies, Ohio University, Athens, OH, USA. His early research focused on Archbishop Whately's rhetoric, along with other work on Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century rhetorical history and theory. He also has contributed work in argument theory. Since the mid 1980's his work has focused on contemporary rhetoric, drawing on the 'ideological turn' in rhetorical theory/criticism, with primary attention on what has become known as "critical rhetoric." In reworking and advancing the arguments contained in early work between 1984 and 1989, he has published on issues such as space and time, the nature of the subject, and corporeal rhetoric. He taught graduate courses on Foucault as well as undergraduate and graduate courses on Feminist Rhetoric and Rhetorical Criticism.



Keynote Speaker Host: Liane Gray-Starner, OCA President, *Ohio University*

12:15 – 1:50 pm
SLB 109/Multipurpose
Room

LUNCH AND BUSINESS MEETING

Welcome by Jarrod Tudor, Dean, *The University of Akron Wayne College*

Social Media Contest and Raffle

Use #OCA2018 to tag your posts on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook (public posts) during the conference. Our biggest fan will receive a \$100 Amazon Gift Card at the end of the conference, so don't forget to Tweet, tag, and post your pictures and memories throughout the 2018 OCA conference.

Raffle drawings will take place at the Awards Ceremony, the Business Meeting, and at the end of the conference. You **MUST** be present to win.

Thanks to our social media contest sponsor!



2:00 – 2:50 pm

PRESENTATION SESSIONS

SLB 102
601

Political Polarization, Media, and Common Ground

Nancy Jennings, *The University of Cincinnati*
Philippe Chauveau, *The University of Cincinnati*
William Jennings, *The University of Cincinnati*
Brian Calfano, *The University of Cincinnati*

Partisan divides over political values has become a widespread concern and has been seen in attitudes about the media and the press. To explore these issues, the Common Ground Project (CGP) was established as a collaborative initiative by the Departments of Political Science, Journalism, and Communication at The University of Cincinnati. The purpose of the CGP is to open a dialogue between people of differing political affiliations and explore the intersections of the media, political affiliation, and ideology.

In this panel, the researchers will discuss results of focus groups and an experimental survey study to better understand political polarization and media. The goal is to find gaps in political beliefs and use of media and how might those be resolved through cooperation, discourse, and mutual understanding.

Session Chair: Zach Humphries, *Kent State University*

SLB 103
602

Celebrating the Strength of our Discipline: Top Student Papers

Perception, Team Roles, and Cohesion in Student Groups
Allison Centofanti, *Youngstown State University*
Kaija DiPillo, *Youngstown State University*

So You Think You Can Teach?: A Look Into How Negative Evaluations Impact University Professors

Jessica Cann, *Youngstown State University*
Sarah Demetruk, *Youngstown State University*
Joseph Anastasia, *Youngstown State University*
Christiana Savo, *Youngstown State University*

Respondent: Raymie McKerrow, *Ohio University*

Session Chair: Jeffery L. Tyus, *Youngstown State University*

A Panel Presentation: Innovative Ideas for Student Engagement

Lee Horrisberger, *Walsh University*
James Belcher, *Stark State College*
Erin E. Hollenbaugh, *Kent State University at Stark*
Brenda Jones, *Franklin University*

Innovative Ideas for Student Engagement addresses the problem of a lack of student engagement by presenting innovative ideas that Panel members use within their own teaching and learning environment. Ideas include Flipgrid to help students discuss in a visual format. This App gives students a voice, builds community, and expands the classroom. Online discussions extend the conversation of course material with the use of forums, discussion boards, or threads. These discussions can center around one aspect of the course content, one topic, or can be teacher-student discussions centered on the student's work. Student engagement can harness the power of websites and use Skype to connect the classroom with clients. The software Collaborate helps to interact with students across campuses.

The panel members will compare different innovative ideas and explain some of the advantages and disadvantages to each engagement approach, and ways to assess and evaluate the learning environment. The contribution to conference participants is better innovative ideas to employ in their own classrooms or teaching. Participants will have the opportunity to share their innovative approaches to student engagement and reflect how the panel contributions could fit within the learning environment. With conclusion of the panel, participants will have better insights and resources into innovative ways to create student engagement.

Session Chair: Sharmaine McLaren, *Xavier University*

Thank You!

A special thank you to the following groups and individuals who made the conference possible:

- ❖ All conference paper and panel reviewers, panel chairs, respondents, poster judges, and session hosts.
- ❖ Our hosts, The University of Akron Wayne College. Special thanks to Dean Jarrod Tudor, Leslie Kallenborn, Amy Haynes, Traci Carmony, and the rest of The University of Akron Wayne College staff.
- ❖ Our partners and sponsors, whose contributions help to keep registration costs low.

3:00 – 3:50 pm

PRESENTATION SESSIONS

SLB 102
701

Chilling Out?: The Modern-Day Climate of Free Expression

Audrey Wagstaff, *Wilmington College*
Jim Belcher, *Stark State College*
Amber Ferris, *The University of Akron Wayne College*
Rekha Sharma, *Kent State University*

Bombarded with dominant discourse about fake news and stories about censorship, we all likely just wish to escape. Perhaps we would like to seek information on our own, maybe we want to “tune out,” or perhaps we wish to feel comfortable that we can express ourselves without the fear of reprisal. In this panel, we explore all-things with regard to [free] expression including: student [free] expression, self-expression, expression in the form of [fake] news, and global expression.

Session Chair: Morgan Malone, *Kent State University*

SLB 103
702

Using Narrative Analysis to Explore the Influence of Health Humanities

Deleasa Randall-Griffiths, *Ashland University*
Camille Pollutro, *Ashland University*
Erin Staley, *Ashland University*
Samantha Stutzman, *Ashland University*

This panel presents narrative analysis projects from a Health Humanities/Medical Narratives course. Students analyzed a wide range of videos, including: Ed’s Story: The Dragon Chronicles (Chisolm, 2010), a play produced by Dalhousie University’s Medical School in Halifax Nova Scotia featuring the true story of a 16-year-old cancer patient, the film Wit, based on Margaret Edson’s (1999) Pulitzer Prize winning play, and The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, based on Rebecca Skloots’ (2010) New York Times Bestseller. Students explored archetypal and/or master narratives as well as the counter narratives (Nielsen, 2014) that demonstrate resistance to the norm. Panelists applied Charon’s (2006) concept of narrative medicine to critically analyze the characters and storylines in the films.

Session Chair: Laura Russell, *Denison University*

**Communication Lessons Learned, Lessons for Communication
Success Shared**

Molly Taggart, *Kent State University*
Morgan Malone, *Kent State University*
Lance Stumpf, *Kent State University*
Emanuel Jackson, *Kent State University*
Myles Taylor, *Kent State University*
Lucas Kowcz, *Kent State University*
Katherine Wilkes, *Kent State University*
Erica Wagner, *Kent State University*
Dakoda Wright, *Kent State University*

This undergraduate centered debut panel will focus on the evolution of students in their own professional and personal growth journey as they formally study communication at the collegiate level. This innovative panel will feature a cross collaboration of numerous students from across the communication discipline who are excited to present their academic ideas for the first time in a professional setting. The available intellectual curiosity, passion, creativity, and vigor leveraged as a strength is obvious in the wide breadth and depth of the topic areas to be examined. Please join us for a lively discussion about challenges, concerns, opportunities, and lessons learned as related to 1) rhetoric and persuasion, 2) effective communication methods, 3) ethical communication, 4) communication via social media and advertising, 5) communication and self-confidence, 6) rebranding yourself through communication, 7) public speaking through trauma, and 8) political communication. Each topic area has been selected to help highlight opportunities for success in the discipline and will be led by a current undergraduate student majoring in Communication Studies.

Session Chair: Julie Semlak, *Clark State Community College*



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