Ethica
The Newsletter of the
Communication Ethics Division

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Division Description

The purpose of the Division is to promote research and teaching relating to ethical issues and standards in all aspects of human communication and to encourage educational programs that examine communication ethics. General membership in the Communication Ethics Division is open to any member of NCA who is interested in promoting the Division’s purpose.

The Communication Ethics Division exists by authority of the Constitution and By-laws of the National Communication Association (NCA) ratified by the membership in 2003, and formerly by the Legislative Council of the Speech Communication Association (SCA) in 1984.

Message from the Division Chair:
Please join us at the
Business Meeting and Top Papers Panel

Michelle A. Leavitt
William Jessup University, Bay Area

As we anticipate the National Communication Association’s 105th Annual Convention, we look forward to discussing scholarship on the convention theme, “Communication for Survival,” and sharing ideas on teaching and service. Vice Chair, Janie Harden Fritz, has planned a dynamic program this year. We welcome you to join us at our panel discussions and paper sessions. The Top Papers in Communication Ethics panel will be Friday, November 15 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. in the Hilton’s Calloway Room (Second Floor).

I also cordially invite you to attend our annual business meeting where we will reconnect with colleagues, learn about opportunities to contribute to our division, and plan for the year ahead. Our Business Meeting will be:

Saturday, November 16th
11:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Hilton, Key Ballroom 10 (Second Floor)

We have some significant decisions for the Communication Ethics Division members to discuss this year and value your participation in this important meeting. Some of the topics on our agenda include:

- Report on the convention program
- Update on Legislative Assembly
- Elect division officers
- Recognize award recipients

If there are topics you would like to add to the agenda, please contact me. My sincerest thanks to my colleagues: John Prellwitz, Janie Harden Fritz, Sarah DeLulis, Inci Ozum Ucok-Sayrak, and Matthew Mancino for their dedicated service to our division. I look forward to seeing you in Baltimore!
The 105th Annual Convention of the National Communication Association

Thursday, November 14 to
Sunday, November 17, 2019
Baltimore, Maryland

Message from the Vice Chair and Program Planner:
2019 Convention Plans Feature “Communication for Survival”

Janie Harden Fritz
Duquesne University

Join us for the 105th annual convention of the National Communication Association in Baltimore, Maryland, November 14–17, 2019. This year the Communication Ethics Division will offer paper sessions and panel discussions on topics relevant to communication ethics within the broad horizon of the theme “Communication for Survival.” Our division received a total of 20 submissions and will host 10 compelling sessions (other than the business meeting) at the conference. We were pleased to note that one of our 10 slots is co-sponsored (by the Organizational Communication Division).

You are invited to attend the Top Papers in Communication Ethics panel on Friday, November 15, 12:30–1:45 p.m. in the Hilton’s Calloway Room (2nd floor). The top scholar paper is awarded to Austin Hestdalen of Duquesne University, whose paper, “Neighbors and Strangers: A Communication Ethics for the City,” also secured the top student paper ranking. Congratulations to all of the scholars on this panel! Please see the schedule that follows this update listing all of the exceptional papers and panels planned for our conference program.

Without dedicated scholars willing to submit their work to the division, we would not have the outstanding programs that we are able to offer. Thanks to all who submitted papers and panels to represent our division so well. Many, many thanks to those division members who were willing to invest time reviewing the submissions this year. Your efforts are much appreciated. Please thank our colleagues when you see them in Baltimore, and we will recognize them at our Business Meeting on Saturday, November 16, at 11:00 a.m. in the Key Ballroom 10 in the Hilton. The 2019 reviewers include the following division members: Ronald C. Arnett, Kenneth Bohl, Joshua Clements, Adrienne Hacker Daniels, Sarah Deluliiis, Melinda Farrington, Robert Foschia, Koji Fuse, Brian Gilchrist, Eric Grabowsky, Hannah Karolak, Matthew Mancino, Susan Mancino, Amanda McKendree, Leeanne Bell McManus, Dominic Ofòri, Marianne Pabis, Elizabeth Parks, Andrew Tinker, Inci Ozum Ucok-Sayrak.

Please join us for all of our panel discussions and paper sessions. The following list identifies the sessions sponsored by the Communication Ethics Division of NCA. Join us for engaging scholarship and vigorous discussion! I look forward to seeing you in Baltimore!
## Communication Ethics Divisional Panels

**Thursday, Nov. 14th**

### 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM
Risk and Crisis Communication Ethics in a Technological Age: Democracy, Speech, and Survival

**Chair:** Craig T. Maier  
Duquesne University

**Presentations:**
- Craig T. Maier  
Duquesne University
- Joel S. Ward  
Geneva College
- Sean Fourney  
San Francisco State University
- Amanda Grace McKendree  
University of Notre Dame

Hilton  
Room: Poe (Second Floor)

### 5:00 PM - 6:15 PM
In Search of Ethical Workplace Behavior: Issues of Reputation, Identification, Satisfaction, and Informal Communication

**Chair:** Steve May  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

**Respondent:** Megan Kenny Feister  
California State University Channel Islands

**Presentations:**
- Rebecca M. Rice  
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
- Cameron Wade Piercy  
University of Kansas
- Caleb T. Carr  
University of Kansas
- Cassandra Ann Ray  
University of Kansas
- Joshua M. Parcha  
Penn State University, Hazleton

Hilton  
Room: Holiday Ballroom 5 (Second Floor)

### 5:00 PM - 6:15 PM
A Student’s Guide to Surviving Communication Ethics

**Chair:** Michelle A. Leavitt  
William Jessup University

**Presenters:**
- Robert L. Ballard  
Pepperdine University
- Lori J. N. Charron  
Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota
- Annette M. Holba  
Plymouth State University
- Spoma Jovanovic  
University of North Carolina, Greensboro
- Tammy Swenson Lepper  
Winona State University
- Leeanne M. Bell McManus  
Stevenson University
- Melba Velez Ortiz  
Grand Valley State University

Hilton  
Room: Holiday Ballroom 1 (Second Floor)
**Friday, Nov. 15th**

**8:00 AM – 9:15 AM**
From Survival to Flourishing: Ethical Praxis for Engaged Communication about Disability

**Chair:** Brendan G. A. Hughes  
Metropolitan State University of Denver

**Presenters:** Karen L. Lollar  
Metropolitan State University of Denver  
Elizabeth S. Parks  
Colorado State University  
Robert L. Ballard  
Pepperdine University  
Sarah Ballard  
Pepperdine University  
Melba Velez Ortiz  
Grand Valley State University  
Brian Grewe  
University of Denver  
Brendan G. A. Hughes  
Metropolitan State University of Denver  
Sophie Jones  
University of New Mexico  
Lauren Chu  
Pepperdine University

**3:30 PM - 4:45 PM**
Corporate and Organizational Communication Ethics: Multiple Perspectives

**Chair:** Amanda Grace McKendree  
University of Notre Dame

**Respondent:** Elizabeth S. Parks  
Colorado State University

**Presentations:** Craig T. Maier  
Duquesne University  
Ronald C. Arnett  
Duquesne University  
Allen Zimmerman  
Georgia State University  
Kara L. Starnes  
Missouri State University

**Saturday, Nov. 16th**

**11:00 AM - 12:15 PM**
Communication Ethics Business Meeting

**Presenter:** Michelle A. Leavitt  
William Jessup University

**Co-Presenter:** Janie Harden Fritz  
Duquesne University

**12:30 PM - 1:45 PM**
Top Papers in Communication Ethics

**Chair:** Janie Harden Fritz  
Duquesne University

**Respondent:** Ronald C. Arnett  
Duquesne University

**Presentations:** Austin David Hestdalen  
Duquesne University  
Miles C. Coleman  
Rowan University  
Justin N. Bonanno  
Duquesne University  
Karen L. Lollar and  
Metropolitan State University of Denver  
Daniel J. Lair  
Metropolitan State University of Denver

**2:00 PM - 3:15 PM**
Discussing the Ethics and Importance of Ideological Diversity in Communication Studies

**Chair:** Ronald C. Arnett  
Duquesne University

**Presenters:** Robert Asen  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Jean Goodwin  
North Carolina State University  
Andrew M. Ledbetter  
Texas Christian University  
John M. Murphy  
University of Illinois  
Amy Pason  
University of Nevada, Reno  
Scott Stroud  
University of Texas, Austin

**Hilton**  
Room: Key Ballroom 10 (Second Floor)
3:30 PM - 4:45 PM
Surviving Interruptions, Interrupting Survival: The End and Ends of Life in Michael J. Hyde’s The Interruption That We Are
Chair: John Rief
Duquesne University
Respondent: Michael J. Hyde
Wake Forest University
Presentations: Michael R. Kearney
Duquesne University
David Errera
Duquesne University
Katherine Rogers
Duquesne University
Annette M. Holba
Plymouth State University

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM
Richard Vatz and the Survival of Rhetorical Responsibility
Chair: Richard H. Thames
Duquesne University
Respondent: Richard E. Vatz
Towson University
Presentations: D. L. Stephenson
Western Connecticut State University
Eric Grabowsky
Dickinson State University
James M. Brandon
Hillsdale College
Theodore F. Scheckels
Randolph-Mancon College

Hilton
Room: Calloway (Second Floor)

Sunday, Nov. 17th

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM
Communication Ethics: Reflections on and Applications of Methodological Approaches
Chair: Inci Ozum Ucok-Sayrak
Duquesne University
Respondent: Melba Velez Ortiz
Grand Valley State University
Presentations: Elizabeth A. Hintz and
University of South Florida
Marleah Dean
University of South Florida
Kelly M. O’Donnell
University of Pittsburgh
Alexandra C. Klaren
John Hopkins University

Hilton
Room: Key Ballroom 11 (Second Floor)

“To be undone by another is a primary necessity, an anguish, to be sure, but also a chance—to be addressed, claimed, bound to what is not me, but also to be moved, to be prompted to act, to address myself elsewhere, and so to vacate the self-sufficient ‘I’ as a kind of possession.”

—Judith Butler
What is the primary question driving your work?

How does Fred Rogers reach his *Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood* television viewers and sustain their interest for more than thirty years on the air?

What are three ideas that structure an understanding of your book?

Fred Rogers, who departs from both a Christian and child development understanding (Piaget, Winnicott, Erikson, Spock), recognized in the television medium the parasocial possibilities for making the critical embodied, social-emotional communication connections that humans need to develop and cope in the world.

The success of *Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood* revolves around Rogers’ establishment of a space of emotional and relational safety and healing, a pathos recognized by *The Little Prince* author, Antoine Saint-Exupéry, as “invisible to the eye,” through rhetorics of care and connection in his televisual encounter.

*On Becoming Neighbors* reveals how *Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood’s* success is largely owed to Fred Rogers’ effective deployment of “ethical emotionality” (defined by Belgian scholar, Roger Burrgraeve, as “passion through and for the other”) and tele-dialogism to reach his viewers.

How do you see your work situated in and contributing to the study of communication ethics?

This interdisciplinary book sits at the crossroads of communication and rhetoric, media and culture studies, American studies, and communication ethics. Despite the program’s longevity and popularity, it has received only scant attention from humanities scholars. Only a few researchers have attempted to study *Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood* viewer mail and other archived writings by Rogers and others (unavailable before the establishment of the Fred Rogers Center in 2008).

Given Rogers’ conception of his communication project and the importance of the active response of his viewers, my deep study of viewer mail is indispensable to any analysis not only of the show, but of the general cultural environment within which it operated. With its distinct but closely integrated primary chapters on vision, production, and reception, the book presents an original inquiry.
that moves across, with a coherent conceptual framework and method, three distinct aspects of the *Neighborhood* television event.

From a strictly communication ethics perspective, *On Becoming Neighbors* demonstrates how Rogers’ project evolved upon layer upon layer of dialogical practice – creating music to express human emotion, interactive learning with children at the Arsenal Family and Children’s Center, using dyadic address throughout *Neighborhood*, constructing and deconstructing everyday objects on *Neighborhood*, and corresponding with viewers via letter writing – and thus follows a structural format of dialectical unfolding.

**How is your book relevant within and beyond the communication classroom?**

*On Becoming Neighbors* promises to appeal to three primary audiences. First, it has a strong draw for departments of Communication and Media Studies, American Studies, and English, offering undergraduate and graduate classes in communication ethics, rhetorical production, critical/cultural studies, and mass media.

The second audience for the book is outside the realm of academia. Because of Rogers continuing presence in the public memory as a media figure and virtual “neighbor” who touched lives and who is widely regarded as a deeply respected teacher of children, the book should be of interest to the wider, educated public.

The third audience is comprised of media professionals working specifically in children’s media, parents, media psychologists, and educators of young children. While many childhood education professionals who have viewed *Mister Rogers* may have a sense that it fostered social-emotional learning, it is unlikely that they have a deep and multi-varied perspective on how exactly Rogers does this. *On Becoming Neighbors* will help those who are committed to the social-emotional development and health of children develop a robust interdisciplinary understanding of the value systems, knowledges, and communication tools that Rogers integrated and employed in order to achieve this learning objective.

**Author Bio:**

Alexandra C. Klarén, PhD (Communication, University of Pittsburgh) is Assistant Professor at the Johns Hopkins Carey Business School. She has expertise in the areas of communication & rhetoric, media & culture, and ethics. Dr. Klarén’s research and teaching interests are rooted in the study of culture, communication, ethics, and human emotion. She is primarily interested in understanding the ways that value systems and identities are constituted by and through the media and other prominent social institutions.

**Call for Submissions:**

Honoring the Life and Legacy of Dr. Roy V. Wood

We were saddened to learn Dr. Roy V. Wood, former professor at the University of Denver and Dean at Northwestern University, passed away on October 1, 2019. To honor Roy’s life and legacy, we are creating a special issue of *Ethica*. We invite you and those who knew Roy to submit articles, reflections, photographs, and other creative products related to Roy’s teaching, scholarship, and service by **January 30, 2020**. Submissions will be reviewed and given full consideration for inclusion in the special issue of *Ethica*.

Questions and submissions may be directed to the Guest Editors of this issue:

Spoma Jovanovic, PhD
University of North Carolina, Greensboro
s_jovano@uncg.edu

Michelle Leavitt, PhD
William Jessup University, Bay Area
mleavitt@jessup.edu

Bert Ballard, PhD
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The 16th Biennial Communication Ethics Conference will be held May 11–12, 2020 (Monday and Tuesday), at the Duquesne University Power Center in Pittsburgh, PA. The conference is sponsored by the Department of Communication & Rhetorical Studies of Duquesne University and the Communication Ethics Institute.

NOTE: The conference venue is shifting to accommodate decreasing financial support for conferences. This conference will be a venue for ideas, presentations, and professional collaboration and conversation. Participants will be responsible for arranging and paying for meals, lodging, and parking. We will provide coffee throughout the conference. We will schedule times for small group conversation and music entertainment in the evening.

The theme for this year’s conference is Communication Ethics After Virtue. The conference centers on considering the implications of the work of Alasdair MacIntyre for communication ethics, with keynote speakers offering insights and connections.

Presenters are encouraged to develop panels and submissions based on the work of Alasdair MacIntyre tied to communication ethics, specifically addressing the following works:

1) Dependent Rational Animals: Why Human Beings Need Virtues
2) After Virtue
3) Whose Justice? Which Rationality?

As always, we welcome papers addressing any aspect of communication ethics, regardless of connection to the conference theme.

Papers: We invite abstracts of 200–500 words or completed papers of a maximum of 30 pages, including references. Submissions should be double-spaced, using MLA, APA, or Chicago citation styles.

Panel Proposals: Panel proposals may include up to five participants. Please include a title page with a 500-word (maximum) rationale and a 200-word abstract for each presentation.

Registration:

1. Conference registration is free.
2. There is a charge for parking—details to follow.
3. Boxed lunches will be available at an additional charge—details to follow.

Send all submissions to cec@duq.edu by April 10, 2020.

For more information and ongoing updates on the conference, please visit our website (www.duq.edu/summerconference) or contact the conference planner (Mrs. Rita McCaffrey) or graduate student conference director (Kati Sudnick) at:

Email: cec@duq.edu
Phone: 412-396-6446
Website: http://www.duq.edu/summerconference
Communication Ethics Division Officer
Contact Information

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2019 Graduate Student Committee

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To use the Communication Ethics Division LISTSERV

Follow these guidelines:

☐ To start sending messages to members of our group, send an email to comethics@yahoogroups.com
☐ To reply to a message, simply answer the message and your reply will be sent to all members.
☐ To become a new subscriber to our listserv, send an email to comethics-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
☐ To communicate with the moderator, send an email to comethics-owner@yahoogroups.com
☐ If you do not wish to belong to our group, you can unsubscribe by sending an email to comethics-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com
☐ If you wish to receive a private response from our members, enclose your email address in your note and encourage people to send you a note using that address, rather than the group address.

To learn more about the Communication Ethics Division, please visit us online:

www.commethics.org
www.facebook.com/commethics.org