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## Thank You 105th Annual Convention Attendees

Without you, there would be no NCA convention!

The sheer energy I witnessed at the 105<sup>th</sup> NCA Annual Convention tells me people engaged one another, the convention theme, “Communication for Survival,” and Baltimore. Convention registration and attendance were up. Convention activities were vast, and much energy and excitement were had. Sincere thanks go out to all those involved in convention planning, which includes the NCA Officers, the Executive Committee, the Diversity Council, the Publications Council, the Research Council, the Teaching and Learning Council, the NCA staff, unit leaders including division, caucus, and section officers, and participants themselves, who presented excellent, challenging, engaging, and inspiring work.

The Newcomer’s Welcome and Orientation was the most robust I have ever seen it. Not only did we have a tremendous turnout for the event, but unit representatives invited to meet newcomers were full of exuberance about NCA and the convention. We hope newcomers had a wonderful time and want to come back to NCA in future years.

Lisa A. Flores, from the University of Colorado at Boulder, delivered a fantastic Arnold lecture, “Mobility, Containment, and the Racialized Spatio-Temporalities of Survival.” The room for the lecture was packed. Those who could not find a seat in the main room might have found space in the “spillover room,” where Dr. Flores’s talk could also be heard.

Star Muir’s Presidential Address considered the role of technology in producing a culture of distraction and encouraged us, among other things, to make the educational activity of debate a more prominent part of what we do as Communication teachers and professionals.

Special thanks go out to all of our event sponsors for their generosity and vision: Kendall Hunt, Routledge, Taylor & Francis; Pearson; the Waterhouse Family Institute for the Study of Communication and Society; Purdue University, Brian Lamb School of Communication; Morgan State University; Salisbury University; and University of Maryland Baltimore County.

Additional thanks go out to members of the Legislative Assembly, Mentorship Task Force members, NCA Anti-Bullying Task Force members, NCA Qualitative Research Working Group members, and all those who met to do the sometimes behind-the-scenes business of the association. Thank you all for your time, effort, and dedication.

While the Convention was such a positive experience for many, for others it was not as positive. To those members and to those who have given valuable feedback on how to improve NCA and future conventions, thank you! We care about all NCA members, and those who attend NCA’s many gatherings, including its Annual Convention, and our goal is to make NCA a welcoming association, one where all people are welcome, safe, and appreciated.

For those who attended the convention, thank you for doing so, and for working to make the Annual Convention a success. If you attended the convention, please take a few moments to fill out our convention evaluation form which was emailed to you earlier this month, so that we may improve our offerings. Thank you for your commitment and dedication to excellent Communication teaching, scholarship, and service.

--Kent A. Ono, NCA First Vice President, University of Utah

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## Thank You 105th Annual Convention Sponsors and Exhibitors

Thank you to all of the exhibitors, advertisers, and sponsors who contributed to the NCA 105<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention.

Thank you to the following convention sponsors for your support:

Routledge, Taylor & Francis  
NCA Presidential Address and Awards Presentation

Kendall Hunt  
NCA Day of Service

Waterhouse Family Institute for the Study of Communication and Society  
NCA Opening Session

Pearson  
Carroll C. Arnold Distinguished Lecture

Purdue University, Brian Lamb School of Communication  
Convention Tote Bags

Morgan State University, School of Global Journalism and Communication  
Salisbury University, Department of Communication  
University of Maryland Baltimore County, Media and Communication Studies  
NCA Welcome Reception

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## 106th Annual Convention: Communication at the Crossroads

The 106<sup>th</sup> NCA Annual Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana (November 19-22, 2020), is one that you will not want to miss. Beyond the exceptional scholarship, academic development, and opportunities for personal enrichment that you have come to expect from NCA, the upcoming convention promises even more.

The convention theme is **Communication at the Crossroads**. This theme was selected in part because Indiana is known as *The Crossroads of America* due to its central location. It was also selected to provide special opportunities to come together and to examine and discuss future directions for research, teaching, and the Communication discipline itself. *Crossroads* symbolize connection and convergence of scholarship. *Crossroads* also symbolize choice and direction for research and teaching. *Crossroads* further symbolize choice and direction for the discipline. Now more than ever the discipline is positioned at a place of transformation. This convention will provide opportunities for you to be part of important conversations and activities guiding this development.

We are fortunate to have a superb location for the convention. **Indianapolis** is home to a flourishing culinary scene, dynamic clubs and entertainment venues, amazing museums, and eclectic specialty shops located in numerous cultural districts near the convention hotels. Its unique urban landscape offers innovative architecture and stylistic design, more monuments than any city outside of Washington, DC, and a vast city-center park. There really is something for everyone in this incredible city.

The convention hotels are the extraordinary **JW Marriott Indianapolis** and **Indianapolis Marriott Downtown**. Advanced and intuitive accommodations deliver an unrivaled experience. And, the hotels' layout enables large groups such as ours to be close and connected. These hotels are outside of the ordinary and must be experienced to fully appreciate.

These are exciting times for our discipline and our association. Please visit the NCA website to view the [Call for Participants](#). I truly look forward to seeing you in Indianapolis!

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

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