



March 18, 2020 | Volume 10, Issue 3

**In This Issue:** [Submission Deadline](#) | [Research in Progress Roundtables Call for Submissions](#) | [Short Courses Call for Submissions](#) | [2019 PrepTalk Videos](#)

---

## Submission Deadline: April 8 at 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time

The NCA 106<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, “Communication at the Crossroads,” is now accepting submissions via [NCA Convention Central](#). The deadline to submit proposals for the convention is Wednesday, April 8, at 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time.

Nearly 100 NCA interest groups, affiliate organizations, and special series have issued calls for submissions. To review the calls, click the “View Calls” tab on [NCA Convention Central](#). Interest groups, affiliates, and special series are listed alphabetically. You do not need to be a member to submit, but you do need an account on NCA Convention Central.

Please note that submitters assembling submissions that include a guest speaker will be able to request a guest speaker registration, at no charge to the guest or submitter. If the submission is accepted, the submitter should complete the [guest speaker request form](#) on behalf of the guest.

You are encouraged to submit early and ask questions in advance of the deadline. For tips and suggestions for submitting your work, as well as professional guidelines for participants, visit the [Convention Resource Library](#). Please contact the [NCA Convention Team](#) with any questions.

For more insight into NCA's Annual Convention, check out NCA's new [Annual Convention video](#)! The video features shots of recent conventions and mini-interviews with attendees who describe why they attend the NCA Annual Convention.

---

## Research in Progress Roundtables Call for Submissions

Do you have an idea for a research project, but are unsure about whether it is worth conducting? Are you working on a research project, but have gotten stuck on how best to articulate the project's results? Could you use another person's opinion on fleshing out the practical, theoretical, or methodological implications of your project? Would you value the advice a senior scholar could offer you on the direction in which your project is headed?

If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, consider submitting an extended (1,000-1,500 word) abstract to the Research in Progress Roundtables session at the Annual Convention. Research in Progress Roundtables provide a space for convention attendees to discuss scholarship that is “in progress” with colleagues who are invested in similar or related work. Each roundtable consists of a senior scholar and seven participants who will meet for a 75-minute informal conversation. During this conversation, all participants will share a brief (i.e., 5-minute) summary of their ongoing project and identify any obstacles they are facing. Once the summaries have been presented, a senior scholar will provide feedback to help participants overcome these obstacles and move their research projects closer to

a finished form. By providing participants with valuable feedback about their projects, this conversation acts as a way to facilitate scholarly growth and also provides opportunities for further research collaboration with peers.

To view the [Call for Submissions](#), please visit [NCA Convention Central](#). If you have any additional questions about the extended abstract or the submission process, please contact [Scott A. Myers](#).

--[Scott A. Myers](#), *Research in Progress Roundtables Program Planner, West Virginia University*

---

## Short Courses Call for Submissions

"Communication at the Crossroads" carries a message of intersecting theoretical and practical importance for our discipline, our students, and our own scholarship. Do you have an interesting approach to teaching an idea that connects theory and praxis? Are you working on an interesting way that translates your research into practical application for students or your peers? If so, please consider submitting a proposal to this year's Short Courses.

For those who may not know, a Short Course is an extended session that is intense, pedagogically driven, and privileges utility and practical application. Further, Short Courses generally address theories, concepts, research practices, methodology, pedagogical techniques and practices, specific content areas of teaching, and other specialized topics of interest that members of our discipline and community may find interesting or valuable.

We are encouraging Short Courses for this upcoming convention to be both inclusive and thoughtful of our entire community. While not meant to discourage, it is important to note that this year, we are privileging new and original short courses that incorporate new voices and ideologies. If you have presented before, please highlight how your short course has been improved and/or updated from prior years.

As the Short Course Program Planner this year, I highly encourage Short Course submissions from all persons, regardless of rank or status, and encourage you to share the full [call for submissions](#) with new faculty, graduate students, and local community members. As we explore Communication at the Crossroads, I believe it's time for us to rethink how we approach our teaching and our scholarship within a rapidly changing educational climate.

--[Brian Grewe](#), *Short Courses Program Planner, University of Denver*

---

## 2019 PrepTalk Videos

The NCA Career Center at the 105th Annual Convention featured three dynamic presentations offering practical advice to job-seekers. Those discussions were recorded and are available on the [NCA website](#).

Stacy Smulowitz, University of Scranton, demonstrated the differences between non-academic and academic job interviews. Attendees learned strategies to prepare for different types of interviews, such as video or in-person, and strategies for interview preparation.

Vinita Agarwal, Salisbury University, discussed strategies for constructing a CV that represents the contributions of graduate students and early- to mid-career academics.

Jade Olson, University of Maryland, addressed the characteristics of a well-crafted elevator speech, along with strategies for creating and using your elevator speech in a variety of contexts.

---

### David T. McMahan

Missouri Western State University  
NCA First Vice President  
Primary Program Planner  
[mcmahan.nca@gmail.com](mailto:mcmahan.nca@gmail.com)

### Kristin Yednock

Assistant Director for Conventions and Meetings  
[kyednock@natcom.org](mailto:kyednock@natcom.org)  
202-534-1113

### National Communication Association

1765 N Street NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-464-4622  
[convention@natcom.org](mailto:convention@natcom.org)