

Jan 28, 2025

Dr. John Sloop
Publications Council Chair
National Communication Association.

Re: Nomination for editor of journal *Communication and Race*

Dear Dr. Sloop and esteemed Council Members,

It is with great honor and deep respect for the mission of *Communication and Race* that I, Sudeshna Roy, submit my self-nomination for the role of editor for this distinguished journal. I am fully committed to serving in this capacity if elected and to furthering the journal's vital work of centering race, racism, and colonialism as integral to the praxis of communication. My experiences as a scholar, teacher, editor, and leader in national and international academic organizations uniquely equip me to uphold and expand the journal's mission.

Research Experience

My scholarly work is rooted in the critical examination of race, ethnicity, and marginalization, with a focus on how communication practices shape and are shaped by power dynamics in global and local contexts. My work examines how communication practices both perpetuate and resist systemic inequities, with particular attention to postcolonial and decolonial frameworks. I have published extensively on immigrant experiences, diasporic identities, cultural identity negotiation, peace and conflict communication, and intersectional approaches to communication research. My research has been published in peer-reviewed journals, such as, *Journal of Communication*, *Journal of Media Ethics*, *Media, War & Conflict*, etc. and edited volumes that foreground critical inquiries into communication and power structures. My work is deeply informed by non-Western epistemologies and seeks to bridge theoretical gaps between Western and non-Western paradigms, a commitment that resonates with the Journal's mission. My scholarship interrogates the experiences of marginalized communities, especially those who have been displaced by war or other types of crises and particularly within global and transnational contexts. Over the course of my career, I have employed a range of interdisciplinary and intersectional approaches to examine issues of race, power, and representation, engaging with critical, narrative, and humanistic methods.

Editorial Experience

I bring substantial editorial experience to this role, having served as an associate editor for *Global Diaspora and Media* and as a guest editor for special issues in *Frontiers in*

Communication and International Communication Gazette. I have also reviewed manuscripts for over 10 different journals, including *Communication, Culture and Critique*, and various local, regional, national and international conferences. I have a proven track record of fostering rigorous, inclusive, and innovative scholarship. I have published four solo/co-edited volumes (two are in press) and have dedicated myself to creating spaces and registers for scholarship from the Global South. My editorial philosophy emphasizes mentorship, collaboration, amplification of underrepresented voices, fostering rigorous peer review processes, ensuring timely feedback, and maintaining a supportive and constructive environment for authors.

Project Management Experience

In addition to my editorial roles, I have successfully managed large-scale academic projects, including international conferences and collaborative research initiatives. As the chair of the Intercultural Communication Division (2023-2025) and Ethnicity and Race in Communication Division (2021-2023) of the International Communication Association (ICA), I led efforts to diversify conference programming and increase participation from scholars of color. During my tenure as the chair of NCA's Peace and Conflict Communication Division (2014), I brought together scholars from the Global South to share their experiences of war and peace communication. My leadership roles in the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) and the International Peace Research Association (IPRA), have further honed my ability to manage complex projects and foster interdisciplinary dialogue. My work with these organizations has reinforced my commitment to building scholarly communities that prioritize equity and justice.

Vision for *Communication and Race*

If elected, my vision for *Communication and Race* is to build on the Journal's established reputation as a home for rigorous and innovative scholarship while expanding its reach and impact. I provide below some of the ideas I have for editorial plans and projections:

1. Content Direction:

- Prioritize scholarship that bridges communication studies with critical race theory, postcolonial studies, and Indigenous epistemologies.
- Encourage submissions that explore the intersections of race with other axes of identity, such as gender, class, and sexuality.
- Promote transnational and comparative studies that highlight the global dimensions of race and communication.
- Recognizing that the study of race, racism, and colonialism transcends disciplinary boundaries, encourage contributions that connect Communication Studies with fields such as Black Studies, Latinx Studies, Asian Studies, Indigenous Studies, Gender Studies, and Political Economy.
- Integrate insights from critical legal studies to explore communication's role in racial justice and policy
- Build bridges with environmental justice scholarship to examine racial dimensions of climate communication
- Connect with science and technology studies to investigate racial dynamics in digital spaces
- Actively seek out scholarship using alternative methodologies such as poetic, performative, and creative approaches.

- Feature special issues on emerging topics, such as the role of digital media in racial justice movements, communication of environmental racism, intersection of race and technology, decoloniality in communication, and global movements for racial justice.
- 2. Strategies for Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access:**
- Establish a mentorship program for early-career scholars, particularly those from underrepresented backgrounds, Global South institutions, and non-English speaking backgrounds, to support their submission and publication processes including supporting translation initiatives.
 - Creating transparent submission and review processes that actively combat potential biases
 - Organizing writing workshops and submission guidance sessions for scholars from historically marginalized communities
 - Collaborate with professional organizations like IAMCR and ICA to promote the journal among diverse scholarly communities.
 - Offer open-access options and explore partnerships with institutions in the Global South to increase accessibility.
 - Conduct targeted outreach efforts to solicit submissions from underrepresented groups, especially scholars based in the Global South.
 - Hosting webinars and workshops to foster dialogue on emerging issues in race and communication, positioning *Communication and Race* as a hub for intellectual exchange.
 - Create special issues co-edited by scholars from different world regions.
- 3. Editorial Team and Processes:**
- Continue to support and assemble a diverse editorial board that represents various:
 1. Geographical regions and cultural contexts
 2. Methodological approaches and theoretical traditions
 3. Career stages and institutional affiliations
 - Streamline the submission and review process to ensure timely and constructive feedback for authors.
 - Organize virtual workshops and webinars to engage with authors and readers, fostering a sense of community around the journal.
 - Continue to develop a network of reliable reviewers across diverse specialties.
 - Create detailed documentation for editorial procedures.

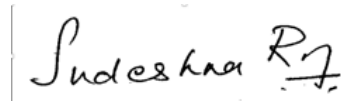
Commitment to Serve

I am deeply committed to serving as editor of *Communication and Race* and to advancing its mission of centering race, racism, and colonialism in communication scholarship. I will dedicate the necessary time, energy, and resources to ensure the Journal's continued success and growth. My university also recognizes the need for contributing to the Journal's crucial mission of advancing scholarship that centers race in communication studies and is willing to support me substantially.

In conclusion, my extensive research background, editorial experience, and leadership roles in NCA, IAMCR, IPRA, and ICA position me well to lead *Communication and Race* into its next

chapter. I am excited about the opportunity to contribute to the Journal's legacy and to support the work of scholars who are pushing the boundaries of communication studies. Thank you for considering my application. I welcome the opportunity to discuss my vision for the journal in further detail.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sudeshna Roy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Sudeshna" is written in a larger, more prominent script, and the last name "Roy" is written in a smaller, more compact script to the right of the first name.

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Chair (2024-2028) – International Communication Div. (IAMCR)
Co-editor-in-chief - Oxford Encyclopedia of Race, Ethnicity and Communication
Associate Editor - Journal of Global Diaspora and Media (Intellect)
Editorial Board Member - Journal of Applied Communication Research, Annals of
International Communication Association