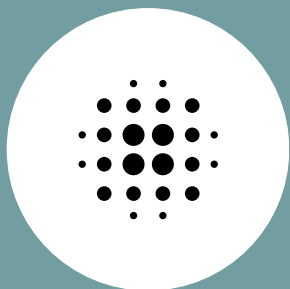


ICA 2026: COMMUNICATION HISTORY DIVISION (CHD)



4-8 JUNE 2026

76TH ANNUAL ICA CONFERENCE

COMMUNICATION AND INEQUALITIES IN
CONTEXT

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

PRE-CONFERENCE: **DECOLONIZING THE** **VISUAL: COMMUNITY,** **MEMORY, AND** **RESISTANCE**

THURSDAY, 4 JUNE | 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
OFF-SITE: UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN CAPE

DIVISIONS / INTEREST GROUPS:

ACTIVISM, COMMUNICATION AND SOCIAL JUSTICE;
COMMUNICATION HISTORY; ETHNICITY & RACE IN COMMUNICATION;
INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION; PHILOSOPHY, THEORY AND
CRITIQUE; POPULAR MEDIA & CULTURE; VISUAL COMMUNICATION
STUDIES

ORGANISERS:

DR. ASHLEY AJUMOKE STEWART
(UNIVERSITY OF PORT HARCOURT, NIGERIA)

TOM DIVON
(THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM)



ICA 2026

C A P E T O W N



DAY 1

Friday, June 5, 7:30 am–5:45 pm



PHD AND EARLY-CAREER SCHOLARS' COMM HISTORY WELCOME RECEPTION

Chair: *Dominique Trudel (Audencia Business School)*

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM; Westin Ballroom West (Westin, Old Harbour Level)



WOMEN AS SCHOLARS, WORKERS, ACTIVISTS, AND CUSTOMERS

Chair: *Kathryn Montalbano (University of Kentucky)*

1:30 PM – 2:45 PM; 1.43 (CTICC1, Lev 1)

- **Joel Moroney** and **Lori A. Roessner** (University of Tennessee, Knoxville), Help Wanted: The Role of Women in the Production of the Oak Ridge Journal, 1943–45
- **Terhi Rantanen** (The London School of Economics & Political Science), “C’est un(e) miraculé(e)?” Gendered Capital, Forced Migration, and Becoming Professor Hilde Himmelweit
- **Wanxi Mao** (Sun Yat-sen) and **Jinniu Zhang** (University of Chinese Academy of Social Science), Desexualization and Resexualization of Clerical Writing: Chinese Typewriters and Female Typists in Republic of China
- **Esperanza Herrero** (University of Murcia); **Leonarda García-Jiménez** (University of Murcia); **Peter Simonson** (UC Boulder), Critical Footprints in Early Functionalism: Rethinking the Origins of Communication Research Through the Work of Women Scholars
- **Fanny A. Ramirez** (LSU) and **Will Mari** (Texas A&M), Selling the Digital Home: The Domestic Turn in Desktop Advertising



INTERCULTURAL ENCOUNTERS AND COMPARATIVE HISTORIES

Chair: *Will Mari (Texas A&M)*

3:00 PM – 4:15 PM; Freesia (CTICC2, Lev 2)

- **Liane Rothenberger** (University of Bamberg), **Kevin Grieves** (Whitworth), **Marie Hartmann** (University of Bamberg), **Carsten Källner** (Complexity Science Hub Vienna), and **Diana Peña Ruiz** (Institut national de la recherche scientifique), The Image of German Immigrants Through the Lens of the U.S. Press, 1848 to 1914
- **Maria Löblich** (Freie Universität Berlin), An East-West German Laboratory? Social Inequality and the Editorial Office of Berliner Zeitung in the Long Post-unification Period
- **Thomas R. Schmidt** (UC San Diego), The Making of Digital Journalism in the U.S. and in Germany: A Comparative Cultural History, 1995–2001 **[Most Promising Research (Best Extended Abstract)]**



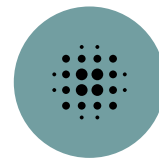
COMMUNICATION HISTORY DIVISION BUSINESS MEETING

Chair: *Gabriele Balbi (U della Svizzera italiana)*

4:30 PM – 5:45 PM; Freesia (CTICC2, Lev 2)

Executive Team: **Dominique Trudel** (Audencia Business School), **Kathryn Montalbano** (University of Kentucky), **Nelson Ribeiro** (U Católica Portuguesa), **Esperanza Herrero** (U of Murcia), **Deborah Barcella** (Università della Svizzera italiana), **Carlos Scolari** (U Pompeu Fabra) and **Will Mari** (Texas A&M)

ICA 2026: COMMUNICATION HISTORY SCHEDULE



DAY 2

Saturday, June 6, 9:00 am–2:45 pm



HISTORIES OF NETWORKS, INFRASTRUCTURES, AND SOFTWARES

Chair: *Dominique Trudel (Audencia Business School)*

9:00 AM - 10:15 AM; 1.42 (CTICC1, Lev 1)

- **Riccardo Ferrigato** (U della Svizzera italiana), The Politics of Maintenance. Building, Rebuilding and Maintaining the Swiss Telegraph Network, 1852-1882 **[Top Student Paper, ex æquo]**
- **Martin Fomasi, Deborah Barcella, Gabriele Balbi, and Eleonora Benecchi** (Università della Svizzera italiana), When Europe Missed the “Web Train”: The 1993 Alexandria Proposal and the Decline of Europe’s Role in Shaping the Web’s Public Future **[Top Paper]**
- **Megan S. Ankersen** (Michigan), Zombies on the Live Web: Network Communication and the Problem of Time
- **Morgan Weiland** (Boston University), Technologies of Participation: A History of the Framework for Networked Computers as a Speech System
- **Zhuoxiao Xie** (Nanjing U) and **Cong Cai** (Nanjing U), Making the Screen Speak Chinese: A Historical Study of Speech Synthesis Technology in Screen Reading Software



GOVERNING COMMUNICATION: SURVEILLANCE, CENSORSHIP, AND COUNTERPOWER

Chair: *Nelson Ribeiro (U Católica Portuguesa)*

12:00 PM - 1:15 PM; 1.44 (CTICC1, Lev 1)

- **Sheila Lalwani** (The University of Texas at Austin), Technologies of the Self Under State Surveillance: A Thematic Analysis of the Life Writings of East German Author Brigitte Reimann **[Top Student Paper, ex æquo]**
- **Martin Rutsch** (Freie Universität Berlin), The “Hugenberg-Konzern” as Approach Towards Media Counterhegemony in the Weimar Republic
- **Kathryn Montalbano** (Kentucky), Telegraphic News: Common Carriage and Liability in U.S. Distribution Networks
- **Chafic T. Najem** (Northwestern U - Qatar), Prison Media Histories in the Arab World: Illicit Communication Practices as Counter-Infrastructures
- **Jayson Harsin** (The American U of Paris), A Conceptual History of Dis-/misinformation: Implications for Communication Research and Policy

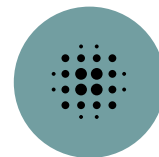


COMMUNICATION HISTORY DIVISION POSTER SESSION

1:30 PM - 2:45 PM; Hall 2 (CTICC1, Ground Level)

Dandan Wu and **Sanghee Kweon** (Sungkyunkwan University), An Integrated Meta-Analysis and Text-Mining Comparison of Research on Media Effects Theories, 2006–2025: Agenda-Setting, Cultivation, Uses and Gratifications, and Third-Person Effect

ICA 2026: COMMUNICATION HISTORY SCHEDULE



DAY 3

Sunday, June 7, 10:30 am–2:45 pm

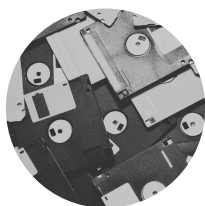


IN-BETWEENNESS IN MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION HISTORY

Chair: Gabriele Balbi (U della Svizzera italiana)

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM; 1.62 (CTICCI, Lev 1)

- **Jaime L. Kirtz** (Arizona State), From Bureaucratic Tools to Governing Machines: LLMs as Western Archival Imagination
- **Susan Douglas** (Michigan), Conjunctural Moments in the History of Media Studies
- **Burçe Çelik** and **Sebastian J. Rose** (Loughborough U), Airborne Coloniality: Aerial Media and the Vertical Politics of Mediation and Violence [**Runner up (Top Paper), ex æquo**]



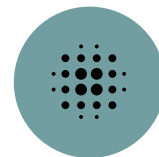
EXPLORATIONS IN MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION HISTORY, ARCHAEOLOGY, AND MEMORY

Chair: Deborah Barcella (Università della Svizzera italiana)

1:30 PM - 2:45 PM; Victoria & Alfred (Westin, Harbour Edge Level)

- **Tiffany Lewis** (Baruch College), The Bathing Suit Method: The Rhetoricity of Swimming in Women's Suffrage Advocacy, 1912–1915
- **Susan Keith** (Rutgers U), "Upbeat, Irreverent" and Losing Money: Paris Passion, the English-language Magazine of the City of Lights, 1981–1991
- **Yanning Chen** (independent scholar), 'They Are Not Old': Vintage Mobile Phone Collecting and Compensatory Nostalgia in China
- **Ioli Campos** (Catholic University of Portugal), From Dark Basements to the Cloud: A Multi-Case Study of the Adaptation of the News Archives and the Key Challenges for Digital-Native Journalism

ICA 2026: COMMUNICATION HISTORY SCHEDULE



DAY 4

Monday, June 8, 10:30 am–2:45 pm



RECOVERING REPRESSED HISTORIES OF MEDIA, INSTITUTIONS, AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

Chair: Esperanza Herrero (U of Murcia)

10:30 AM – 11:45 AM; 1.64 (CTICC1, Lev 1)

- **Nelson Ribeiro** (U Católica Portuguesa), Broadcasting and the Creation of a Black Public Opinion in the Portuguese Empire: Using Radio to Promote and Counter Cultural and Social Inequalities
- **Dominique Trudel** (Audencia Business School) and **Dave Park** (Lake Forest College), “Communicating in the Air Force”: The National Society for the Study of Communication and US Military Education, 1950–1962
- **Russell Adzedu** (U of Cincinnati), Communicating Disability, Silencing Dissent: Veteran Media and Colonial Biopower in Algeria and Senegal
- **Martha J. Evans** (University of Cape Town), ‘Covering Our Tracks’: Archival Research on Liberation Movement Communication in South Africa, 1963–1980 | Limits and Possibilities



REDRESSING HISTORICAL INEQUALITIES: REPARATORY APPROACHES TO COMMUNICATION HISTORY AND MEDIA REFORM

Organizers: Wendy Willems (The London School of Economics & Political Science) and David Cheruiyot (University of Groningen)

1:30 PM – 2:45 PM; 1.64 (CTICC1, Lev 1)

- **Aymar J. Escoffery** (Northwestern), Repairing Historical Harm in U.S. Entertainment
- **Gawie Botma** (Stellenbosch U), Remembrance and Restitution: Slavery and the Press in South Africa
- **Irene Awino** (University of Wisconsin – La Crosse) and **David Cheruiyot** (University of Groningen), Confronting Dark Legacy: Historical Harms in journalism’s Reparative Turn
- **Wendy Willems** (London School of Economics and Political Science), Towards Reparatory Histories of Publics and Infrastructures

*A special thank you to our rockstar reviewer,
Jaime Kurtz (Arizona State University)!*