

Thank you to the USRC Faculty Reviewers

**Donna Allen, Northwest Nazarene University
Jennifer Asenas, CSU, Long Beach
Teresa Bergman, University of the Pacific
Beth E. Bonnstetter, Adams State University
Carl R. Burgchardt, Colorado State University
Cara Buckley, Colorado State University
Daniel C. Brouwer, Arizona State University
Kristen L. Cole, Denison University
D. Robert DeChaine, CSU, Los Angeles
Quingwen Dong, University of the Pacific
Thomas R. Dunn, Colorado State University
Jennifer Emerling Bone, Colorado State University
Donna Gotch, CSU, San Bernardino
J. Jacob Jenkins, CSU, Channel Islands
Hillary A. Jones, CSU, Fresno
Katie Knobloch, Colorado State University
Brandi Lawless, University of San Francisco
Ziyu Long, Colorado State University
Valerie Manusov, University of Washington
Matthew Petrunia, Fashion Institute of Technology, SUNY
Mihaela Popescu, CSU, San Bernardino
Alexis Pulos, Northern Kentucky University
Karyl Sabbath, Colorado State University
Allison Thorson, University of San Francisco
Elizabeth Williams, Colorado State University
Christina Granato Yoshimura, The University of Montana**

Thanks to these USRC Sponsors

**Western States Communication Association
Colorado State University, Department of Communication Studies,
for generous award support**

**Thanks to WSCA Executive Director, Heather Hundley &
WSCA Newsletter Editor, Christina Granato Yoshimura**

**Thanks to the panel respondents and graduate workshop panelists
noted in the program**

**Thanks to the departments, faculty, and families who supported their
undergraduates to attend the conference**



Western States Communication Association

Undergraduate Scholars Research Conference

February 27, 2016 (Saturday)

Mission Bay/San Diego, CA

Events

(8:00am-1:00pm Mission Ballrooms)

8:00 – 8:15	Morning Reception and Welcome.....CD
8:30 – 9:30	USRC Panel Session IShell, AB, and E
9:45-10:45	USRC Panel Session IIShell, AB, and E
10:45-11:30	BreakCD
11:30-12:30	USRC Panel Session IIIShell, AB, and E
12:30-1:00	USRC Awards CeremonyCD
2:00 – 3:30	Graduate Student WorkshopLa Jolla
3:45 – 5:00	Graduate Programs Open House..... Pavilion

Events Coordinator

Eric Aoki, Ph.D.
WSCA 2nd Vice President
Colorado State University

USRC Welcome: 8:00 – 8:15 a.m.

Continental breakfast and Welcome

Mission Ballroom CD

Panel Session I: 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

Panel 1: Cultural and Relational Communication

SHELL

- Sarah Shammaa, California State University, Long Beach, “Sheep, Wolf, or Sheep Dog: The Victimage of the Muslim Arab”
- Ziyi (Vicky) Su, Whitman College, “The Dilemma of the Tiger Mother: The American Dream and Tokenism”
- Siana Amos, University of San Francisco, “The Best of Both Worlds: Relational Communication in Friends with Benefits Relationships”
- Marcelle Mulier, University of San Francisco, “Until Death Do Us Part: An Examination of Death Communication Through a Western Lens”

– Chair & Respondent –

Jo Anna Grant, California State University, San Bernardino

Panel 2: Rhetorics for Shifting Discourses of Race, Class, and Violence

AB

- Marguerite Lehman, University of San Diego, “Transforming the American Dream: A Close Reading of the 2015 State of the Union Address”
- Jack Wilson, California State University, Long Beach, “A Rhetorical Critique of Ron Finley’s Use of Signifyin(g) to Subvert A Structurally Racist Food System”
- Sara Beth Brooks, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, “An Argument for Dramatistic Nonadic Analysis in the Conflicting Narratives of the Death of Michael Brown”
- Sonni Simmons, California State University, San Marcos, “Poetic Fantasy: Fantasy-Theme Analysis of a Spoken Word Performance”

– Chair & Respondent –

Thomas R. Dunn, Colorado State University

Panel 3: Teachers, Students and Communication

E

- Thalia V. Bobadilla, California State University, Stanislaus, "Student Motives to Communicate: An Examination of Peer-Peer Communication"
- Laura Rose Buser, Colorado State University, "Academic Avowals: Negotiating Teacher Cultural Identity and Perceived Credibility in the College Classroom"
- Tiffany Freitas, California State University, Stanislaus, "The Relationship Between Instructor Humor, Student Incivility and Nagging"

– Chair & Respondent –

Donna Gotch, California State University, San Bernardino

Session II: 9:45 – 10:45 a.m.

Panel 4: Family Communication

SHELL

- Corey Miller, Ciera Belyea, Danielle Carlston, Tyrel Howard, Sunia Tauteoli, The University of Utah, "Parent-Child Communication: How The Big 5 Takes Effect"
- Megan L. Busch, University of San Francisco, "The Complex Relationship Between College-Aged Youngest Siblings and Their Older Siblings"
- Kelsey Duff, University of San Francisco, "'Because She is a Woman, I'd Rather Talk to My Stepmom': Examining Gender and Its Influence on Stepchild Relations with Stepparents"
- Paula Diaz, University of San Francisco, "Bilingual Siblings: How Communication is Affected"

– Chair & Respondent –

Elizabeth Williams, Colorado State University

Panel 5: Mediated Identities and Diversities in Communication

AB

- Sierra Gonzalez, University of the Pacific, "The Patriarchy Inherent in Women's Consumer Advertisements"
- Louise Strando, Western Washington University, "The Proliferation and Contestation of Whiteness in Little Miss Sunshine"
- Vincent Thomas Conroy-Villarreal, Adams State University, "Queer Theory Analysis of Mulan"
- Alyson Schwermer, The University of Utah, "More Than Just a Girl in a Band: Lauren Mayberry's Fight Against The Trolls"

– Chair & Respondent –

Diane Marie Keeling, University of San Diego

Panel 6: Health and Cultural Communication

E

- Ajouah Grass, University of San Francisco, "Strategies for Success: Navigating Alzheimer's and Dementia Communication"
- Amanda Sand, University of San Francisco, "'Consistently Inconsistent': An Analysis of Communication Between Addicts and Their Loved Ones"
- Katherine Orphey, California State University, San Marcos, "Doing Rhetorical Criticism #LikeAGirl"
- Shalay Branch, Kelsea Jackson, Natalie Johnson, and Christine Behle, Utah Valley University, "A Qualitative Study on the Influence of the Mormon Religion on Identity in Utah"

– Chair & Respondent –

Christina Granato Yoshimura, The University of Montana

Break: 10:45-11:30am

Panel Session III: 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Panel 7: Language, Equality, Feminism, and Gender Communication **SHELL**

- Kelsey Koberg, Northwest Nazarene University, “Socially Inclusive Language and Political Candidate Credibility”
- Gabrielle Domingo, University of San Francisco, “Sexual Harassment: The Evolution of Communication After a Woman has been Sexually Harassed”
- Seth Harrington and Cara Holmes, California State University Long Beach, “Gender Equality Is Your Issue Too: But Who Is Left Out?”
- Carlyn Abramo, University of San Francisco, “Grrrrls Just Wanna Be Punk”

– Chair & Respondent –

Jennifer Asenas, California State University, Long Beach

Panel 8: Online Social Networks and Communication **AB**

- Tyler Morgan, Mackenzie Salitsky, Katjana Stutzer, and John Thomas, The University of Montana, “When More Information Does not Help: The Connection between Facebook Monitoring Behavior, Relationship Uncertainty, and Relationship Quality”
- Joshua C. Adamson, California State University, San Bernardino, “Twitter Privacy: Determinants of Sharing Behavior on Twitter”
- Shelby Dillingham, Amanda Lee, Dominique Stewart, Lazar Alemany, & Hallie Calhoun, Chapman University, “What You Post Online and What It Says About You: The Relationship between Perceived Narcissism and Perceived Social Attraction

– Chair & Respondent –

Teresa Bergman, University of the Pacific

Panel 9: Popular Culture, Media Impact, and Communication

E

- Nick Shumate, California State University, San Marcos, "A Dance with the Devil in the Pale Moonlight"
- Gabriella Russo, University of San Diego, "The Developmental Course of Face-ism"
- Sarah Kellner, University of the Pacific, "The Impact of Romantic Comedies on Individuals' Romantic Ideals"

– Chair & Respondent –

Beth E. Bonnstetter, Adams State University

USRC Awards Ceremony: 12:30 – 1:00 p.m.

Mission Ballroom CD

Graduate Student Workshop: 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

La Jolla

A panel of Graduate Directors & Graduate Program Coordinators from a diverse set of graduate programs and academic institutions offer suggestions and advice for applying to, attending, and succeeding in graduate school.

Dr. Kurt Lindemann, San Diego State University

Dr. Mary Claire Morr Serewicz, University of Denver

Dr. LeiLani Nishime, University of Washington

Dr. Helene A. Shugart, The University of Utah

Graduate Programs Open House: 3:45 – 5:00 p.m.

Pavilion

Thanks to Sage Publications for sponsoring the Graduate Student Workshop and the Graduate Programs Open House