

ACTIVISM & SOCIAL JUSTICE DIVISION

FALL 2021 NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL
COMMUNICATION
ASSOCIATION

RENEWAL & TRANSFORMATION



ABOUT THE DIVISION

The Activism and Social Justice Division promotes scholarship (research and teaching) that explores relationships among communication, activism, and social justice. Activism and social justice scholarship ranges from explorations of researcher-activists and teacher-activists employing their communication resources (e.g., theories, methods, pedagogies, and other practices) in collaboration with community members whose lives are affected by oppression, domination, discrimination, and other sociopolitical struggles due to differences in race, gender, class, sexual orientation, age, ability, religion, and other identity markers, and/or with justice-oriented groups, organizations, and social movements to intervene into and reconstruct unjust discourses in more just ways, to analyses of communication enacted by activist individuals, groups, and/or organizations to promote social justice. The division welcomes conceptual, theoretical, methodological, empirical, and exploratory/experimental work about, and encourages dialogue, discussion, debate, and performance of, communication, activism, and social justice.

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**NOTES FROM THE DIVISION VICE-CHAIR,
BILLIE MURRAY**

First and foremost, my sincerest heartfelt appreciation to all of our division reviewers, chairs, and respondents. It is no exaggeration to say that we can't have a program without all of our division members' hard work. Thank you for the gift of your time and for making my job easy this past year. I have really enjoyed my role as program planner but am happy to pass that task along to Amy Aldridge Sanford and step into my new role as Chair of the Division.

Overall submissions — 38/74 = **51.4%** acceptance rate: I believe this rate of acceptance is due to the fact that we had a lower pool of submissions this year due to continuing concerns related to COVID, as well as some universities' subsequent travel restrictions. But I was glad to be able to accept more papers and panel submissions given our (still) small slot allotment. This year, we were allotted **18** slots by NCA, of which one was used for the business meeting, leaving 17 for content programming. Please keep submitting to our division and attending panels! This is what helps us get more slots based on our membership numbers.

Submissions breakdown: **1/1** Film Session accepted, individual papers were 21 of 43 accepted (**48.8%** acceptance rate), and 10 of 24 student papers accepted (**41.6%** acceptance rate). **Five** panels were created from these papers including: Top Paper Panel (4 papers), Activist Pedagogies and Communities of Practice (4 papers), Exploring Unique Methods and Theories in Activist Scholarship (4 papers), Hashtag and Media Activisms (4 papers), and Explorations in Activist Practice (5 papers). Panel discussions 9 of 21 accepted and paper sessions 7 of 9 accepted.

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Genuine equality means not treating everyone the same, but attending equally to everyone's different needs.”

— Terry Eagleton

TOP PAPERS IN ACTIVISM & SOCIAL JUSTICE

*Sixteen Shots and a
Cover-Up!: News Media
Discourse of Chicago's
Fight for Police Reform*

STEPHANIE KACZYNSKI

*University of North Carolina
at Chapel Hill*

*#YellowPeril Supports
Black Power:
Performing Affective
Memory Work for
Solidarity*

YENA KANG

*University of Massachusetts,
Amherst*

2021 Division Reviewers

Nicole Allen
John Arthos
Meredith M. Bagley
Noorie Baig
Mardia Bishop
Kristen C. Blinne
Erin Brummett
Curtis Chamblee
Jessica Chaplain
Roberta Chevrette
Molly Wiant Cummins
Satarupa Dasgupta
David Deifell
Jason Del Gandio
Jaelyn deMaria
Huiling Ding

Sarah Dweik
Monica Evans
Joshua Guitar
Heidi Hamilton
Nazan Haydari
Mary Beth Held
Jessica Henry
Leandra Hernandez
Niloofar Hooman
Rachel Italiano
Hailee Jefferys
Jessica Ann Johnson
Sergio F. Juárez
Emily T. Loker
Shauna MacDonald
Marina Madden

Angelina Malenda
Sean Maulding
Katie McCollough
Sarah McGhee
Sai Datta Mikkilineni
Juliane Mora
Anjana Mudambi
Nthemba Mutua-Mambo
Sohana Nasrin
Bobbi Otis
Matthew Parnell
Amy Pason
Chad Perry
Meredith L. Pruden
Michele Ramsey
Jess Rauchberg

Alex Rister
Simon Rousset
C. Kyle Rudick
Natalia Rybas
William Saas
Amy Aldridge Sanford
Misty Saribal
Lindsey Sherrill
Jordan Soliz
Meridith Styer
Wei Sun
Samantha Thies
Lindsey J. Thomas
Alessandra Von Burg
Yidong Wang
Katrina (Katie) Webber

NCA 2021 CONVENTION

ACTIVISM AND SOCIAL JUSTICE DIVISION PROGRAM

NATIONAL
COMMUNICATION
ASSOCIATION- 4

ALL DATES AND TIMES ARE PACIFIC STANDARD TIME (PST)

Thursday, November 18

8:00 AM - 9:15 AM PST

The Stories Beneath our Feet: Renewing Critical Engagement with Campus Memory and Activism
Co-sponsor: Rhetorical and Communication Theory Division

ROOM: 203 - SECOND LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM PST

Beyond: Community Media and Social Justice in Philadelphia (Film Session)

ROOM: 203 - SECOND LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM PST

Exploration in Activist Practice

ROOM: 203 - SECOND LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

12:30 PM - 1:45 PM PST

Story-keepers, Truth-seekers, and Justice-speakers: Transforming Inclusion Culture in Pennsylvania Libraries

Co-sponsor: Public Dialogue and Deliberation Division

ROOM: 203 - SECOND LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

12:30 PM - 1:45 PM PST

Transforming the Surveillance Gaze

Co-sponsor: Critical and Cultural Studies Division

ROOM: 303 - THIRD LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

2:00 PM - 3:15 PM PST

Collaborative Performance Approaches for Social Justice (in Classrooms, on Campuses, with Communities)

Co-sponsor: Performance Studies Division

ROOM: 201 - SECOND LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

2:00 PM - 3:15 PM PST

Resistance Under Watch

Co-sponsors: Critical and Cultural Studies Division, Feminist and Gender Studies Division

ROOM: 203 - SECOND LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

3:30 PM - 4:45 PM PST

Transforming Communication Education through Intersectional Approaches Towards Justice

Co-sponsors: Asian/Pacific American Caucus, Black Caucus, La Raza Caucus

ROOM: 214 - SECOND LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

Friday, November 19

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM PST

Multiplicities of Risk in a Time of Multiple Pandemics: Transformation and Renewal of Intersectional Embodied Activisms

Co-sponsor: International and Intercultural Communication Division

ROOM: 203 - SECOND LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM PST

Reading the Riot Act: Performing Representations of Crowd Disorder in Literature, Media, and Personal Narrative

Co-sponsor: Performance Studies Division

ROOM: 201 - SECOND LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM PST

Self-Definition, Feminist Waves, and Activist Memory: Transforming Feminist Activism Moving Forward

Co-sponsor: Feminist and Gender Studies Division

ROOM: 603 - SIXTH LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

12:30 PM - 1:45 PM PST

(Un)Documenting the Border: Renewing Brown Poetics through Jesus Valles' (Un)Documents

Co-sponsors: Ethnography Division, Performance Studies Division

ROOM: 201 - SECOND LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

12:30 PM - 1:45 PM PST

Activism and Social Justice Division Business Meeting

ROOM: 203 - SECOND LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

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ALL DATES AND TIMES ARE PACIFIC STANDARD TIME (PST)

12:30 PM - 1:45 PM PST

Advocating for Change and Inclusivity in an Applied Context

Co-sponsor: Applied Communication Division

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2:00 PM - 3:15 PM PST

Top Papers in Activism and Social Justice

ROOM: 203 - SECOND LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

3:30 PM - 4:45 PM PST

Interrogating Boundaries and Breakthroughs Related to Inclusivity in the Academy: A Discussion on How to Promote Equity, Access, and Fairness for Communication Studies Co-sponsors: Asian/Pacific American Caucus, Black Caucus, Caucus on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Concerns, Disability Issues Caucus, International and Intercultural Communication Division, La Raza Caucus, Women's Caucus

ROOM: 203 - SECOND LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

Saturday, November 20

8:00 AM - 9:15 AM PST

Crip Justice and Activism

Co-sponsor: Disability Issues Caucus

ROOM: 211 - SECOND LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

8:00 AM - 9:15 AM PST

Radical Transformations: Indigenous Methodologies for Disrupting the Settler Colonial Academy

Co-sponsor: Critical and Cultural Studies Division

ROOM: 309 - THIRD LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

8:00 AM - 9:15 AM PST

Renewing Forensics and Transforming Prison Pedagogy

ROOM: 306 - THIRD LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM PST

COVID and Incarcerated Students: What do We do When Our Students Start Dying?

ROOM: 306 - THIRD LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM PST

Transformative Workplace Organizing in Communication and Media Studies

Co-sponsor: Critical and Cultural Studies Division

ROOM: 303 - THIRD LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM PST

Black Lives Matter: At the Crossroads of Sports, Activism, and Discipline

Co-sponsor: Critical and Cultural Studies Division

ROOM: 304 - THIRD LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM PST

Transforming Health Disparities with Communication: Social Justice Through Service-Learning

Co-sponsors: Experiential Learning in Communication Division, Health Communication Division

ROOM: 305 - THIRD LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM PST

Transforming Research into Action: Graduate Student Research in the Activism and Social Justice Division

Co-sponsor: Student Section

ROOM: 306 - THIRD LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

12:30 PM - 1:45 PM PST

When Bargaining for a Parking Pass Becomes a Battle: Transforming Higher Education through Scholar Activism Union Work

Co-sponsor: Critical and Cultural Studies Division

ROOM: 203 - SECOND LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

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ALL DATES AND TIMES ARE PACIFIC STANDARD TIME (PST)

2:00 PM - 3:15 PM PST

Renewing and Transforming Higher Education's
DEI Efforts to be Inclusive of Disability

Co-sponsors: Asian/Pacific American Caucus,
Asian/Pacific American Communication Studies
Division, Disability Issues Caucus, Organizational
Communication Division, Training and
Development Division

ROOM: 211 - SECOND LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

3:30 PM - 4:45 PM PST

Using Communication Activism Pedagogy to
Address Anti-Blackness

Co-sponsor: Black Caucus

ROOM: 203 - SECOND LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

Sunday, November 21

8:00 AM - 9:15 AM PST

Exploring Unique Methods and Theories in
Activism Scholarship

ROOM: 203 - SECOND LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM PST

Activist Pedagogies and Communities of Practice

ROOM: 619 - SIXTH LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM PST

Hashtag and Other Media Activisms

ROOM: 203 - SECOND LEVEL - WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER

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*"WE ARE NOT
TO SIMPLY
BANDAGE THE
WOUNDS OF
VICTIMS
BENEATH THE
WHEELS OF
INJUSTICE,
WE ARE TO
DRIVE A
SPOKE INTO
THE WHEEL
ITSELF."*

*-DIETRICH
BONHOEFFER*

NCA 2021 CONVENTION DIVISION SPOTLIGHTS

ASJD 2021 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Dr. Sahar Khamis
University of Maryland



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AWARD

In recognition of her work as a public intellectual through engagement with community initiatives on interfaith dialogue, human rights, and promoting understanding between cultures and religions.

Dr. Sergio Juárez
California State University Fresno



PEDAGOGY AWARD

In recognition of his contributions to advancing social justice pedagogy at Fresno State University.

Primavera Martinez
California State University Fresno



GRADUATE STUDENT ACTIVIST AWARD

In recognition of her commitment to creating inclusive academic pathways for marginalized students at Fresno State University and to supporting migrants in California's Central Valley.

ACTIVISM & SOCIAL JUSTICE SCHOLARLY INFLUENCE AWARD

The committee did not receive any nominees in this category. We would like to encourage the membership to send in their nominees for this category for consideration next year.

The Activism and Social Justice Scholarly Influence Award honors someone whose scholarship and mentorship have significantly impacted the Activism and Social Justice Division at NCA by recognizing (1) scholarly work that inspires greater understanding of communication, activism, and social justice; (2) scholarly work that attempts to intervene into and reconstruct unjust discourses with more just solutions for action; and (3) mentorship with demonstrated scholarly impact (e.g., advising relevant theses, dissertations, and/or student research groups; editorial duties of collected volumes, book series, journals, and/or journal special issues; creating a new book series or journal that advances the mission of the ASJ Division).

NCA 2021 CONVENTION GRADUATE STUDENT UPDATE

ASJD GRADUATE STUDENT COMMITTEE UPDATE:

The Graduate Student Committee (GSC) of the Activism and Social Justice Division has been busy in 2021! We hosted our inaugural GSC Speaker Series with “Activism and Social Justice Talks” in April and our NCA Prep Workshop for graduate students in November. We invite all graduate students to attend the ASJD Business Meeting with us. On Friday, 11/19 at 11:30 AM PST, meet fellow graduate students at the Juicy Cafe on Level 2 of the convention center. We will walk to the ASJD Business Meeting together at 12:30 PM PST. On Saturday, 11/20 at 11 AM PST, please attend our NCA panel “Transforming Research into Action: Graduate Student Research in the Activism and Social Justice Division.” Finally, we encourage members to participate in our upcoming election for Vice Chair and Communication Coordinator on the GSC leadership team. Voting opens immediately after the NCA Convention with results being announced in early December. Self-nominations include: Dacia Pajé, Pauline Matthey, and Katie Webber for Vice Chair. Communication Coordinator: Emeline Beltran, Leah Dajches, Seth Knievel, Edwin Lee, Rachael Purtell, Misty D Saribal, and Katie Webber.

Email us with any questions at alexrister1@gmail.com
Thank you, Alex Rister (Chair), Sohana Nasrin (Vice-Chair) &
Katie Webber (Communication Coordinator)

ASJD GRADUATE STUDENT ACTIVIST AWARD UPDATE:

We are thrilled to announce that, beginning this year, the Waterhouse Family Institute (WFI) will provide a \$1000 conference travel grant each year to the winner of the Graduate Student Activist Award. Thank you to Bryan Crable and the WFI for supporting our graduate student scholar-activists!

NCA 2021 CONVENTION CLOSING REMARKS FROM THE DIVISION CHAIR

CLOSING NOTES FROM THE DIVISION CHAIR, DAVID PALMER

Dear Activism and Social Justice community,

Serving as your division chair this year has been a great honor and privilege. Given the turbulent state of our culture, the relevance of and need for our activist and social justice scholarship is as profound as ever. Our division members worked relentlessly this year to forge significant justice advocacy projects. I am deeply proud of the work you have done, and of the hard work the division team undertook to help support the division's many projects. The division team, Billy Murray, Pat Parker, Amy Aldridge Sanford, Jasmine Austin and Alex Rister (and her super cool graduate student committee with Katie Webber and Sohana Nasrin) worked diligently and lovingly throughout this trying year to serve the ASJD. I am immensely grateful to them for their efforts, it has been a great privilege to work alongside them.

Congratulations are in order! Please join us in celebrating our team's two newly elected members, Jasmine Austin, our incoming Vice Chair-Elect and Alex Rister, our incoming division Secretary. We are super excited to welcome them to our team in these new roles and are deeply grateful for their willingness to serve.

Please join us at (one or both of) our two business meetings, virtually on Saturday, November 13 at 3:30pm EST (listed in NCA's Convention Central at 12:30pm PST, where the online meeting link is available) and in person in Seattle, Friday, November 19, at 12:30-1:45pm in Room 203, Second Level of the Washington State Convention Center. We will be addressing key items that include: (a) our division's annual awards, (b) our projects this year, (c) officer reports, (d) new business, and other vital topics.

DIVISION LEADERSHIP CONTACTS:

Chair: Dr. David Palmer

David.Palmer@unco.edu

Vice-Chair: Dr. Billie Murray

Billie.murray@villanova.edu

Vice-Chair Elect: Dr. Amy Aldridge Sanford

Amy.Aldridge.Sanford@gmail.com

Secretary: Dr. Jasmine Austin

Jtaustin@txstate.edu

GRADUATE STUDENT COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP CONTACTS:

Chair: Alex Rister

alexrister1@gmail.com

Vice-Chair: Sohana Nasrin

sohana@terpmail.umd.edu

Communication Coordinator: Katie Webber

katrina.webber@uconn.edu

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK: [HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/NCAACTIVISM/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/ncaactivism/)

**NCA WEBSITE:
[HTTPS://WWW.NATCOM.ORG/ACTIVISM-AND-SOCIAL-JUSTICE-DIVISION](https://www.natcom.org/activism-and-social-justice-division)**