

African Communication Studies Division, ACSD
National Communication Division (NCA)
June 29, 2024

Summary

African communication studies has been a long-existing area of focus for several scholars in communication studies. However, we are fragmented in the various subfields of the discipline with no permanent home. The fragmentation underscores the numerous pieces of African communication scholarship in NCA journals such as the Journal of Intercultural and International Communication, Review of Communication, Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies, and Journal of Applied Communication Research. Besides the many publications, the NCA annual convention persistently features several panels on African communication research that generates a sizable number of interested participants. Additionally, every year since 2019, some scholars have organized African communication studies panels hosted either by the Black Caucus or the African American Communication and Culture Division. Such panels bring together numerous African scholars across the country to discuss the current state, challenges and opportunities of doing African communication research. During the conference, panelists have derided the lack of an intellectual space dedicated to the study of communication on the African continent; the difficulty of finding a space to network with other African scholars, and the lack of mentorship for graduate students and early career scholars. The complications associated with the inability of these scholars to find stable research communities that facilitate constructive feedback, manuscript acceptances, potential collaborations, and networking ultimately deprives them of critical academic perspectives, which are crucial factors that can influence individuals' decisions to attend NCA events, including the annual convention. The proposed African Communication Studies Division is uniquely positioned to contribute to NCA's strategic priorities, social justice, and internationalization efforts. In this regard, it is imperative that we create a division that can support the intellectual vigor of African communication studies as it grows and expands in the discipline.

The proposed African Communication Studies Division is distinct from NCA's existing divisions and interest groups. Some divisions have touch points with issues that address the African continent and could be places of co-sponsorship and collaboration (e.g. International and Intercultural Studies Division, Black Caucus, African American Communication and Culture Division, Health Communication, Spiritual Communication, Ethnography, Interpersonal, Family, Critical and Cultural Studies, etc.), but no divisions are exclusively devoted to African Communication scholarship. We do not anticipate this division will detract from existing ones. Rather, the new division would provide the opportunity for current NCA members to explore topical, methodological, decolonial and theoretical questions related to the African continent. Relevantly, it would offer a home for would-be NCA members who focus on African communication studies. That is, current NCA members may add a division to their membership, and an African Communication Studies Division may very well bring scholars to NCA conferences, as members, who have previously not been able to find a research home within the association.

Scholarship on African communication has national, regional, and culturally contextual nuances/dynamics. They all converge on the epistemological relevance associated with Africa's

geopolitical positions and colonial histories. These differentiating and converging factors profoundly influence the kinds of topics and issues that tend to be taken up and sent to NCA conferences and journals. However, NCA divisions often lump all African communication studies together as one in their evaluations, making it challenging for manuscripts that focus on the African continent to receive efficient feedback that takes into consideration the nuances (cultural, methodological and theoretical), diversity and shared colonial histories of the continent. These assumed similarities between NCA divisions regarding African communication scholarship have prompted rejections in the past, forcing some scholars who could make meaningful impacts on the discipline to submit their manuscripts to conventions such as the African Studies Association Conferences.

Considering the limited options of divisions that understand the nuance and dynamics of African communication scholarship, the tendency for redundancy and duplication of research are heightened. This situation arises due to the absence of comprehensive coverage in NCA schedules on African communication scholarship, potentially leading to researchers unknowingly duplicating existing work that has yet to be widely shared at conferences. This can also be exacerbated by the perceived lack of community for knowledge sharing, collaboration, and interaction. Consequently, African communication scholars who believe they have few opportunities for support and growth may feel marginalized.

We believe a division focused on communication topics in the diverse African continent is timely and relevant. Also, we believe it will highlight the interconnections rather than diminish the relevance of existing divisions and interest groups. Ultimately, current NCA members might expand their membership by joining this new division, and the African Communication Studies Division will attract scholars to NCA conferences as members who have previously struggled to find a scholarly community within the association. Such a division can help further NCA's commitment to inclusivity and centralize and advance the study of communication topics on and about the African continent.

NCA's bylaws indicate that each division will represent a major communication specialization – African communication scholarship certainly qualifies. The division's mission is to provide an academic center to those conducting research and teaching about the African continent; a new African Communication Studies Division will highlight the value of scholarship in this region and cultivate more academic interest, inclusive of all methodologies and epistemologies. We hope that an African Communication Studies Division can be established in time to sponsor and/or panel papers at the 2025 NCA convention. This proposal seeks support from the members of the National Communication Association for a newly proposed African Communication Studies Division.

Strategic Priorities Relevant to the Proposal

Goal 1 -Create conditions to support and empower members

Goal 2 -Promote communication's value

Goal 3 -Embrace and enact inclusion, diversity, equity, and access

Goal 4 -Cultivate a thriving and responsive organization

Goal 1 -Create conditions to support and empower members:

As the flagship national communication association, the NCA is excellently positioned to establish the first division dedicated to research in African Communication. Establishing an African Communication Studies Division will foster the growth and development of scholars at NCA who need help finding the right resources as well as opportunities to reach their full potential. As Asante and Hanchey (2022) identified, African communication research “can challenge the discipline to reconsider how the “self” is conceptualized by not clinging to the Western dichotomy of the ‘self’ and ‘other.’” They further argue that it can decolonize the discipline by highlighting the weaknesses of broadly applied frameworks. We aim to empower members to embrace African epistemologies without inhibitions or fear of being misunderstood or misconstrued. All these will be accomplished following NCA’s institutional guidelines, ensuring transparency, and prioritizing integrity and accountability amongst members.

Goal 2 -Promote communication’s value:

The proposed division's principal goal is to promote African communication studies, which has generated considerable interest and discourses in the discipline (e.g., Communication Research’s special issue on theorizing communication studies from African perspectives). We aim to do a lot of outreach and awareness in the academic and media circles by developing more special issues that highlight the uniqueness of African communication, establishing panels that bring together scholars working in the area to share valuable insights into conducting African communication research annually at NCA and highlight the division’s leadership, goals, members as well as initiative in social media spaces. The division will generate conversations around the uniqueness and dynamism of African communication studies to enhance understanding and avoid colonialist generalizations as well as stereotypical clustering of research in this area. We also intend to engage in dialogues with academic policymakers on African communication studies, publish quarterly newsletters highlighting the significant milestones of the division, establish an NCA journal to provide a US-based outlet for scholars to contribute to the praxis of the division, and engage opinion leaders about the division’s relevance.

Goal 3 -Embrace and enact inclusion, diversity, equity, and access:

The African Communication Studies Division will ensure that inclusion, diversity, equity, and access are key foci of the division. Voices of scholars within and outside of Africa who have hitherto been marginalized culturally, pedagogically, and epistemologically will be given the space to express and develop their scholarship. Specifically, scholars’ racial, ethnic, sexual, gender, religious, ability, and economic identity, the division will provide a safe space for them to engage in meaningful discourses. Practically, the proposed division has already created spaces for marginalized people within the African continent. For instance, LGBTQ Africans who are marginalized in their respective countries have found an intellectual space at NCA to meet and advance queer African studies. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) will be open to accommodate societal dynamics. These include:

- a. Social Justice – Our scholarship and activities are relevant with those of groups outside the communication discipline, such as Latin American studies, Indigenous studies, Ethnic studies, African American studies, and African studies. The goal of decolonizing communication

studies is far from over. African communication research is analogous to anti-racial work, as it provides non-western and, often, non-white perspectives to academic inquiry. This is not the division's principal only goal but an essential step for developing the visions and expanding the communication field..

b. Conference Support and Access – We aim to support the participation of early career scholars and students who tend to encounter challenges in NCA attendance. The division will accomplish this by providing virtual presentation options and funding support for presenters who experience such barriers. In addition to maintaining the division, we will also establish virtual communities on Facebook and Instagram to expand outreach and community support beyond physical/geographical obstacles.

c. Support of Graduate Students and Early Career Scholars—We are committed to nurturing and supporting new generations of scholars in African communication studies and will consistently demonstrate this promise. Several senior scholars in African communication already serve as mentors to graduate students and early career scholars with no institutionalized forms of recognition. For instance, some of them provide research ideas, teaching and scholarship resources, and editing services to support budding scholars. The proposed division will create the institutional backing for the recognition of such important academic labor. We currently have a writing group that serves as a space for participants to dedicate some time for writing and also receive feedback. Furthermore, we plan to institute a summer mentorship institute for African communication scholars.

d. Mentorship, including peer-to-peer mentorship—Our outreach initiatives have established relationships in divisions/caucuses such as the Black Caucus, Intercultural Communication, Organizational Communication, LGBTQ Studies Division, etc. Given the geographic specificity of African communication studies, the division is open to collaborating with other NCA divisions to maintain a robust mentorship initiative across divisions.

e. Cultivate Inclusive Leadership - The proposed division will center around representation, accountability, mentorship, and decision-making. The African Communication Studies Division will strive for leaders whose identities and roles reflect groups represented in the African community and bring diverse perspectives to both their leadership and mentorship role. The division will ensure elected leaders uphold and promote NCA's diversity and inclusion goals. In addition, we will create mentorship opportunities for emerging leaders in the division. The division will also prioritize an inclusive decision-making process, ensuring that the perspectives of all stakeholders are heard and respected.

Goal 4 -Cultivate a thriving and responsive organization

The African Communication Studies Division will draw members from across all 50 U.S. states and NCA in its membership drive. The division's Facebook group has members from various

communication sub-fields and external disciplines, such as anthropology, political science, cultural studies, and African studies. This shows that the African Communication Studies Division promises to draw scholars from diverse fields for collaborative studies, which can generate their interest in attending NCA. We have a WhatsApp page with over 200 members across various institutions in the United States. We plan to engage more in media on topics related to African Communication Studies.

Financial Implications

Our proposed group is seeking an initial budget of \$500 to recognize the Top Papers in our division. Our web presence would move onto the NCA website, while our current website will remain an affiliated but separate space for resources and communication with interdisciplinary death scholars. Any remaining budget would be used to host NCA pedagogy workshops and inclusive Community Time events, open to any interested NCA members, regardless of their field of study or level of experience.

- Top Student Paper -\$100
- Top Paper -\$100
- Pedagogy Workshop -\$100 (paid to presenters)
- Community Time Event -\$50 (for materials)

Recommendation

There is no devoted space for African scholars within Communication conferences, whether regional or international. This absence underscores the need for a dedicated space where African Communication research can be represented, recognized, and nurtured. Acknowledging this gap and the necessity for connection within our discipline, we propose the establishment of a new division to unite scholarly work within and outside the discipline and also draw more African scholars to communication studies within and outside the United States. .

Therefore, we request the support of the Executive Committee and Legislative Assembly to create an African Communication Studies Division.

Motion

To endorse the African Communication Studies Division and forward it to the Legislative Assembly for final approval.

Background/History

In their analysis of research about Africa and by African scholars in 18 major communication-related journals, Miller et al (2013) found that “Africa is currently on the radar of communication scholars in one major topic area: health communication.” Over half of the articles published about Africa in the 18 journals that they coded were about health. Only one

essay focused on the environment, even though environmental risks continue to be a challenging issue in several African countries. It is not entirely surprising that the majority of the research about Africa is related to health communication—particularly HIV-AIDS, STIs, and other infectious diseases. While these studies have produced important findings, they also highlight a problematic gaze towards African contexts where the continent is frequently approached as a problem to be fixed. The available research on international and global communication offers a rather scant view of how communication is theorized and practiced on the African continent. Very little is known about the views and perspectives of communication practitioners and scholars focusing on Africa. The nations on the African continent vary significantly, and it is important to consider how communication practices and uses may differ based on a country or a sub-region to help build a scholarly agenda for future inquiries.

There have been efforts by several African communication scholars to challenge and revise the problematic view of Africa as always a problem to be fixed by emphasizing how African knowledge systems can expand and decolonize communication theory (e.g., see., Asante, 2023; Cruz, 2022; Hanchey, 2023; Langmia, 2021; Pindi, 2020; Chirindo, 2016). The social, political, cultural, and economic diversity found in Africa widely impacts the way communication may be researched and practiced on the continent. Often, communication phenomena on the continent are studied using Western philosophical traditions, which do not reflect Africa's socio-economic, political, and cultural contexts. Further, most African work is scattered across disciplines and NCA units, such as the Intercultural and International Communication Division, Public Relations Division, and Health Communication, highlighting the fragmentation of ideas and the need to build a community of peers. For example, at the 2021 NCA annual convention in Seattle, work focusing on the African continent was presented through 10 NCA divisions and caucuses, and at the 2022 NCA annual convention, such work was spread among 12 NCA divisions and caucuses (See Exhibits 1 & 2).

Since 1996, African scholars such as Bala Musa and Eddah Mutua have been mobilizing to create a division whose sole focus will be on African communication studies. However, they experienced several challenges. One primarily being the rejection of African communication studies panels from divisions. The rejections often stem from reviewers questioning whether African communication research fits these divisions well and a general lack of understanding of the cultural context. More recently, the Black Caucus and Intercultural Communication divisions have hosted numerous panels that center on the African scholars' experiences and scholarship. These well-attended panels have become the space for discussions and deliberations on how to develop a dedicated space for African communication scholarship. The outcome of these panel discussions is the proposed African communication studies division.

Exhibits/Supporting Materials

- Exhibit 1 – Examples of papers/panels focusing on African communication studies presented at previous NCA conventions.
- Exhibit 2 – Current Pre-Division Work and Work-in-Progress.
- Exhibit 3 – Original Petition Signers for a new NCA African Communication Studies Division
- Exhibit 4 – NCA Divisions that Support the creation of an African Communication Studies Division.

NCA is already host to African Communication Studies scholarship. A search through previous schedules on African papers and panels uncovered:

- 25 papers or panels in 2023
- 28 papers or panels in 2022
- 18 papers or panels in 2021
- 21 papers or panels in 2020
- 21 papers or panels in 2019

These papers and panels were found in a variety of divisions such as (See exhibits below)

Exhibit 1: Examples of papers and panels about the African continent or contain the name of an African country:

- Community Radio as a Tool for Community Development: A study of Kakaki Ondo 100.1 FM, Ondo, Ondo State, Nigeria (2023).
- Communicatively Constructing Health and Healing: Cultural and Behavioral Determinants of Prostate Cancer Screening among Ghanaian Men in the United States (2023).
- Unpacking the Performance of Witchcraft in Gambaga witch camp, Ghana: Cultural Beliefs and Power Dynamics (2023).
- Re-negotiating self-identity: Exploring the role of motherhood-indicative labels in Nigerian constructing mother's identity and well-being Management (2023).
- A Strategy for Empowering African Women: Development of a Communication intervention that Builds Socio-Emotional Capacity (2023).
- Building a shared future between China and Africa: A framing analysis of CRI's Podcast News China Africa Talk (2023).
- Freedom For Feminist's Voices in Ghana: Digital Platform Use by Feminist and Gender Equity Nongovernmental Organizations in Ghana (2023).
- Social Media Users' Reactions Towards Presidential Posts: A Comparative Analysis of Ghana and America (2023).
- #QueerGhanaianlivesMatter: Ghanaian LGBTQ+ community #Hashtag activism and the discourse of resistance and social inclusion (2023).

- Demystifying discourse of power: A rhetorical analysis of sentiment on the anti-LGBT+ bill among Ghanaian parliamentarians (2023).
- Struggle Against Struggle: Queer Africans Document Conflicting Feminist Solidarities (2023).
- Tumeishafika: Queering Quantum Mechanics through African Temporalities (2023).
- Telemedicine in Sub-Saharan Africa During COVID-19: Opportunities and Implications for Healthcare Equity (2023).
- Menstrual Hygiene information seeking among adolescents in Ghana (2023).
- Narratives of otherness from the standpoint of former African women refugees resettled in the United States (2023).
- Coping with Practice Shock: Nigerian Graduate transitioning to the industry (2023).
- Freedom for Black Women: How Do Nigerian Women Construct Their Domestic Violence Experiences? (2023).
- #CommunicationTheorySoWestern: Conceptualizing Communication Theory as Freedom through Centering Afrocentric Schools of Thought in Scholarship about Black Communicative Experiences (2023).
- We Didn't Just Escape a Place: A Culture-Centered Approach to the Coping Strategies of African Refugees Living in the U.S. During COVID-19 (2023).
- Vaccine communication and reception in a rural Ghanaian community (2023).
- "Men get the Say": Experiences of Nigerian Survivors of Sexual Violence' (2023).
- Conspiracies and Fraud in the 2022 Kenyan Elections (2023)
- Technological Capital in Africa: Discussing the Issues of Access and Adoption of Technology to Improve Health Care (2023).
- Teaching while Black/African: A Collaborative Interrogation of Race and Pedagogy - *Top Competitive Student Paper Award* (2023).
- Renewing and Transforming African/ist Communication in Communication Studies (2023).
- Challenging Place-Based Beliefs in Ghana and Nigeria: Examining Mental Health Digital Discourses to Reframe Advocacy (2022)
- Stop Galamsey Now!: News Framing and Advocacy for Social Change related to SmallScale Gold Mining (Galamsey) in Ghana (2022)

- Perceptions on Infertility and Status Disclosure: What are Ghanaians Saying? (2022)
- Early COVID-19 home case management knowledge and efficacies: Comparing Ghanaian and US respondents (2022)
- Memes as Anti-Corruption Media Text: A Descriptive Study of Selected Memes in the Ghanaian Media (2022)
- Representation, Identity, and the commodification of the 'Most Beautiful': An analysis of Beauty Pageantry in Ghana (2022)
- Twitter Usage and its effects on Feminist activities in Ghana (2022)
- Assessing the Role of Ghanaian Public Relations Practitioners in Corporate Social Responsibility Initiatives of Transnational Corporations in Ghana (2022)
- Investigating How Activist CEOs are Driving Positive Change by Honoring People, and promoting Liberation through Advocacy, and pursuing Community and Environmental Ideals in Ghana (2022)
- Anti-blackness in organizational communication theorizing: A case for African feminist anti-blackness theories (2022).
- Acceptance and Use of mobile health insurance payment platform in Africa: Evaluating current and future prospects of M-TIBA mobile health wallet in Kenya (2022).
- Dis-placed: Narrative, Performance and Liminal Identity across African Diasporas (2022).
- Honoring PLACE: African Discourses of Renewal and Transformation (2022).
- "An Ubuntu-based approach to COVID-19 communication in South Africa (2022).
- The 'Bowl You Just Can't Fill': A Content Analysis of Media Coverage and Compassion Fatigue Towards Africa (2022).
- Critiquing Colonialism in African Communication Studies (2022).
- Revisiting the way we watch war stories: African feminism on film (2022).
- Towards Epistemic Freedom in African Communication Theorizing (2022).
- Art, Tattoos, Coloured Hair and Anklets: Reading the Bodies of Contemporary Ghanaian Women Rhetorically and Sartorial Subversions (2022).
- Honoring African Knowledge Forms: Resilience and the Communicative Dynamics of Informal Sector Organizing (2022).
- Jollof Moments: Portrayals of Repatriated African Women's Identity Renegotiation, and Belongingness in An African City (2022).
- Toward Epistemic Freedom in the Study of Communication in/about/and "the Environment" in Africa (2022).
- "We Bring Home the Roots": Black Women Travel Influencers, Digital Culture Bearing, and African Internationalism in Instagram (2022).
- A Parallel Public: the UNIA's 'Africa for the Africans' campaign (2022)
- Repositioning the 1619 Project (and CRT) through the 1471 European Invasion of Africa: A Challenge to the Rhetorical Legacies of Euro-American International Imperial Order (2022)
- Forms of Uncertainties Faced by Couples Struggling with Infertility in Ghana (2022)
- Deconstructing Feminisms, LGBTQI+ Activisms and Generational Tensions in Ghana (2022)

- Diversity and identity: Navigating African Teaching Assistants' cultural experiences in the US Classroom (2022).
- Multimodality, ideology, and portrayal of power by an African Vice President on Twitter (2021).
- Renewal and Transformation of the Global PR Agenda: Public Relations Practice and Research in Africa (2021)
- Renewing and Transforming African/ist Communication in Communication Studies (2021).
- Experiences of Powerlessness as a Catalyst for Leader Emergence Following Resettlement: An Ethnography of Middle Eastern and North African Women (2021).
- Transformative health practices: Traditional postpartum doula care practices among immigrant West African mothers in the United States (2021).
- Exploring the material and discursive practices of power and the culture of the African Immigrant Church (2021).
- A rhetorical criticism of South African television news reports on the criminal justice system (2021).
- The Fascist Ordering of Africa (2021).
- Metaphors in music as a means of persuasion: A rhetorical analysis of the vocal and non-vocal elements of South African struggle songs (2021).
- Static and Liquid Organizing in Colonial and Postcolonial Perspective: An African Feminist Read (2021).
- Contemporary African Rhetoric: Methods, Theories, and Practices of Subject Making and Statecraft (2021).
- Reconciling Reconciliation: The Promise of South Africa's Rhetoric of Truth and Reconciliation (2021).
- Diasporic Identification and Africa as Symbol: Transforming Image texts on Black Travel Websites into Racial Performances (2021).
- Media Representation of the Experiences of Trafficked Women in Ghana: Exploring Narratives of Transformation (2021).
- Media Portrayal of Infertility: A Narrative analysis of Nigerian Movies (2021).
- Are Nigerians in Cameroon perceived as a threat? An Analysis of Cameroonian-Nigerian intergroup attitudes and conflict (2021).
- American Media, American Mind: Media Impact on Nigerians' Social Perception (2021).
- Resistance, Retaliation, and Regeneration in the Times of the Pandemic: Exploring the Lived Experiences of Marginalized Communities in India, Ghana, and Turkey (2021).
- Restoring Communication with the Divine through the African Methodist Episcopal and Ballet Magnificat! dance troupes (2020).
- Is It a New Discourse of Othering? Re-Building a China-Centered Global Power Hierarchy through Saving the "Troubled Africa." (2020).

- Win-Win or Debt-Trap Diplomacy? A Study of Twitter's Public Opinion on Chinese Investment in Africa. (2020).
- Global Communication and Development Alternatives for Sub-Saharan Africa: Perspectives on MDGs, Post-Colonial Policy-Making and Culture Change (2020).
- “I came here for a purpose.” How non-immigrant African Graduate Students deal with imposter syndrome (2020).
- Narrative resilience after apartheid in South Africa: Linking the theory of resilience and relational load (TRRL) and communicated narrative sensemaking (CNSM) theory in a culturally diverse context (2020).
- Crossroads of Privileges and Challenges: U.S. Based African Scholars Negotiating Africanness/Blackness in/through our Universities and the Discipline (2020).
- The Epistemic Discontinuities within and between Intercultural Communication Paradigms: African Communication Perspectives (2020).
- "Nipa Paa": Towards a Decolonial understanding of the "human" and "personhood" in Intercultural communication research (2020).
- Africa’s Epistemic and Postcolonial Challenge for (Environmental) Communication Scholars (2020).
- Interrogating the African woman through centering African feminist understanding of her material reality (2020).
- “Africanfutures” of Development (2020).
- Africa’s Epistemic and Postcolonial Challenge for (Environmental) Communication Scholars (2020)
- Need for a Philosophy of African Communication Revisited (2020)
- Teaching Styles and Rapport Building between Students and Instructors in South Africa (2020).
- WhatsApping the Rainbow Nation: Messenger Applications and the Construction of National Identity in Post-1994 South Africa (2020)
- Generating and Sustaining African Epistemologies: Challenges and Opportunities (2020).
- The struggle for democracy in a neoliberal environment: New colonialism and the challenge of cultural differences in Africa (2020).
- Africa mitigating climate change through renewable energy: Implication for risk communication (2020).
- What is Teamwork? Historicizing Neoliberalism in the Context of Neocolonialism in Africa (2020).

- Effective Communication of Information to the Public During a Global Health Crisis: Content Analysis of Presidential Addresses on the COVID-19 Pandemic in Ghana (2020).
- Health in the African Diaspora: Exploring the Multilayered Experiences Concerning Health Myths, Misunderstandings, and Misinformation (2019).
- Ancestral Ghosts: A spoken-word poetic exploration of Cultural Identity-Communication Experiences and Relationships between Africans and African Americans in the United States (2019).
- Stop Asking about My Due Date-That's Personal Information!: African Immigrants' Pregnancy Experiences in the U.S (2019).
- Apartheid and Legacies of Institutional Racism in South Africa (2019).
- Queer African and African Feminist Coalitional Possibilities and Intersectional Reflections Across Transnational Borders (2019).
- The Birth of South African Cultural Studies (2019).
- The Missing Black, Afrocentricity Theory, and the Healthcare Communication Experiences of African Immigrants in Black Studies Scholarship: A Thematic Literature Review (2019).
- Communities as Assets: Using Positive Communication to Enhance Holistic Well-Being in South African Social Contexts (2019).
- Zamunda and Wakanda: An exploration of American representations of African Women (2019).
- South African Land Reform, Trump, and the Mobilization of Global White Supremacy (2019).
- Making a King: A Transmedia History of Black Panther as Response to Eurocentric Narratives of Africa (2019).
- Surviving Authoritarian Communication in the U.S., Asia, and Africa (2019).
- Nervous Conditions": Colonialism, Gender Trauma and the Bequest of Western Patriarchal Order in Africa (2019).
- From Pooled to Li V Mahob: Cultivating Audiences to Support African Diasporic Narratives (2019).
- The Transportability of Renewal across Crisis Types: Agricultural Biosecurity, PEDv, and African Swine Fever (2019).
- Motives of Using Twitter after The Garissa University Terror Attack in Kenya (2019).

- Do You Chew? A Qualitative Examination of the Perceptions of Kenyan Students Toward Khat (Cathaedulis): A Case of a Large Kenyan University (2019).
- The Portrayal of Peace and War Journalism in the Kenya Westgate Attack (2019).
- Does Perceived Privacy Influence Patient Satisfaction Among College Students? A Comparative Study of Students at a Kenyan University and Those at a Large American Midwestern University (2019).
- Prejudice Towards Muslims: A Study among Young People in Cameroon (2019).
- Chinese immigration to Cameroon: An integrated threat analysis (2019).

Divisions that usually host papers/panels

- Public Relations
- Mass Communication Division
- International and Intercultural Communication Division
- Political Communication Division
- Instructional Development Division
- Public Address Division
- Feminist and Gender Studies
- Rhetorical and Communication Theory Division
- Spiritual Communication Division
- African American Communication and Culture Division
- Argumentation and Forensics Division
- Interpersonal Communication Division
- Black Caucus
- Critical and Cultural Studies Division
- Health Communication Division
- Communication and Sport Division
- Performance Studies Division
- Theatre, Film and New Multi-Media Division
- Experiential Learning in Communication Division
- Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction
- Communication and the Future Division

- Organizational Communication Division
- Asian/Pacific American Caucus
- Asian/Pacific American Communication Studies Division
- Peace and Conflict Communication Division
- Ethnography Division

Exhibit 2 – Current Pre-Division Work and Work-in-Progress:

- An initial database of African Communication scholars in the U.S. was developed in 2016.
- We have established an African Communication Scholars page on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/460744038261062>.
- There are also WhatsApp groups for African, Ghanaian, and Nigerian communication scholars to discuss research as well as pedagogical challenges.
- During past NCA conventions in Seattle, New Orleans, and National Harbor, African communication scholars have convened to discuss forming a division.
- A temporary leadership facilitation group has also been created to guide the efforts in establishing this division.
- Through our grassroots organizing, we have established a network of African Communication scholars who meet bi-annually to discuss research and organizational initiatives.
- We are gathering information and conducting outreach to Communication graduate programs to raise awareness and connect new scholars with established experts in African Communication Studies.

Exhibit 3 - Original Petition Signers for a new NCA African Communication Studies Division:

***Current NCA divisions included under names**

Godfried Asante, Ph.D.

San Diego State University (Critical Intercultural Communication)

Kundai Chirindo, Ph.D.

Lewis & Clark College (Environmental Communication)

Eric Karikari, Ph.D.

Towson University (Organizational Communication, Intercultural Communication)

Nana Kwame Osei Fordjour, Ph.D.

University of Maryland College Park (Political Communication, Public Relations, and Activism)

Gloria Pindi Nziba, Ph.D.

California State University San Marcos (Intercultural Communication, African Feminism, and Auto/ethnography)

Eddah Mutua

Bala A. Musa, Ph.D.

Azusa Pacific University (Journalism, Intercultural)

Prisca Ngondo, Ph.D.

Texas State University (Public Relations)

Jenna Hanchey, Ph.D.

Arizona State University (Organizational Communication, Rhetorical Studies)

Anna Klyueva, Ph.D.

University of Houston, Clear Lake (Public Relations)

Exhibit 4: NCA Divisions that Support the creation of an African Communication Studies Division

- Death and Dying
- International and Intercultural Communication Division
- LGBTQ Division

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Hanchey, J. N. (2023). *The center cannot hold: Decolonial possibility in the collapse of a Tanzanian NGO*. Duke University Press.

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