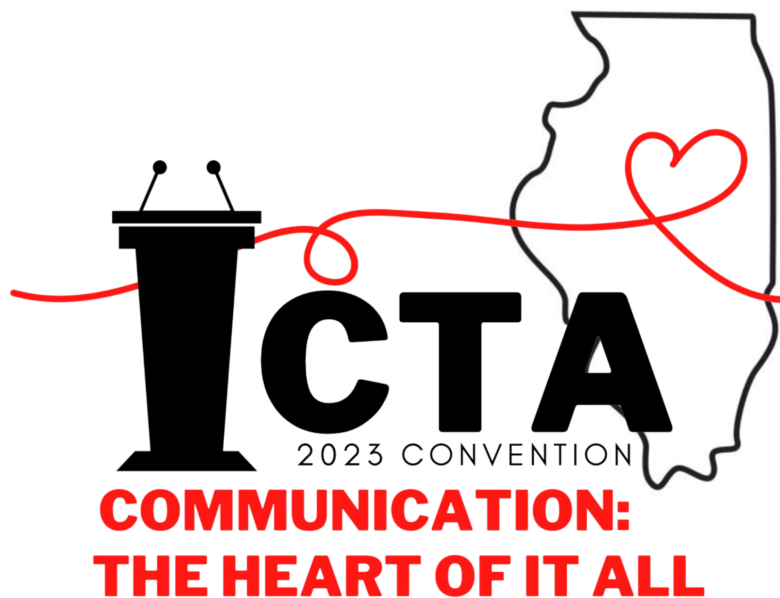


# Convention Sessions-First Look



## Communication Hot Topics

### **\* SPOTLIGHT PANEL \* Heart To Heart: The Pedagogy of Risk**

This three-part seminar will feature Dr. Asif Wilson's "The Six Pillars of Teaching and Learning: Towards Pedagogies of Risk in P-20 Classrooms." Dr. Wilson's research builds upon Paulo Freire's life's work, which includes The Pedagogy of the Oppressed, and introduces a transformative approach to create more liberating classroom environments. Drawing upon ethnographic methods such as interviews and personal reflection, Dr. Wilson identified six key characteristics of teaching and learning, collectively forming the Pedagogy of Risk. This pedagogical framework aims to better support teachers' in creating teaching and learning contexts for their students to critically read and rewrite their worlds. In part one of the seminar, Sunny Serres will host a table-talk discussion and brainstorming session focused on addressing the needs of students. Part two will feature Dr. Wilson's research presentation, providing a comprehensive view of his findings. Finally, part three will offer the opportunity for educators to explore and implement the Pedagogy of Risk in their own classrooms. This last segment will consist of a Q&A and discussion session allowing participants to delve into practical application strategies and share their own experiences.

### **Flames for Advocacy in Secondary Education**

Join colleagues to learn and guide how you can advocate for speech in your high school, your district and your community. We will also collaborate on next steps to promote and expand communication education in Illinois.

## **Stronger Together: Embracing Diversity and Fostering Inclusion**

A panel discussion on empowering faculty representation, equity, and cultivating diverse perspectives in academia for a more vibrant and inclusive educational ecosystem.

## **Defying Expectations and Challenging Our Perspectives: The Heart and Soul of Gen Z**

Generation Z or "Zoomers" are reliant on electronics, suffer more from loneliness and depression, and distrust higher education. This panel discussion explores best practices in teaching Gen Z.

## **Strengthening the Heart of ICTA: Long-Range Planning**

Join ICTA President, Dana Trunnell, and past-presidents Kacy Abeln, Lauren Morgan and Julie Weishar to discuss ICTA's long-range plan and where the organization should be headed in the 21st century.

## **Teaching From the Heart: The Role of Emotional Expression in Classroom Instruction**

As educators, we have long been guided by the principles of neutrality and appropriateness in the classroom, striving to create an environment that remains impartial and objective. In this panel, we aim to shed light on an alternative approach—pushing instructors to employ grief, deception, mourning, and outrage experienced in their lived and learned lives as a catalyst for heartfelt and passionate pedagogical lessons in the classroom.

# **For the Love of Teaching and Coaching**

## **All's Fair in Love and IHSA Speech**

This session will address rule changes in Individual Events, Drama/Group Interp and Debate for the 2023-24 Season. Hot topics and procedural items from the Advisory Meeting and Coaches Roundtables will be discussed. Subjects such as tournament design, event maintenance/changes, hosting and tournament management, state and national trends, and more to be shared. Share your ideas live and offer your recommendations on a coaches' survey!

## **Don't Miss a Beat: The IIFA Fall Meeting**

The Illinois Intercollegiate Forensics Association Fall Coach Meeting will discuss college speech/individual events as well as debate.

## **Sharing the Love: Mentoring New Coaches and New Faculty**

Feeling overwhelmed with your new position as a communication instructor? This session is designed to be a collaboration between new communication faculty, adjuncts, and experienced teachers to share their knowledge and insights about the profession. For anyone new or just starting their journey as a speech and debate coach or a classroom teacher, it can feel daunting. This session is designed to share

materials and insights to help jump start any coach's or teacher's career. This session will begin with a general discussion and then participants will break into smaller interest groups.

**No More Blood, Sweat or Tears:  
Developing Effective Judges For Your Competitive Season**

In a world of background checks and busy schedules, finding speech judges can be difficult. Finding competent judges can seem impossible. This session is designed around finding and training quality judges to give students effective feedback. Let's put an end to "Good Job, Tough Round. 6"!

**Debate:  
At the Heart of Forensics**

At the June 2023 IHSA Board Meeting, the IHSA Board of Directors voted to discontinue the Debate State Championship for the 2023-2024 academic year. Debate is where forensics started, and a state level championship is necessary for existing programs to continue as well as for new programs to flourish. Panelists will discuss strategies for how to start a program in your school as well as provide a comprehensive overview of how to get your school involved with the asynchronous Pro Con Debate Challenge event to help the debate state tournament get 80 schools involved to advocate to the IHSA to reinstate the Debate State Championship moving forward.

**Me Encanta Enseñar:  
Teaching Public Speaking for ESL Students**

With a focus on practical application, this presentation will equip educators with a toolkit of instructional techniques to facilitate the growth and development of non-native English speakers in public speaking. From interactive activities to targeted feedback, participants will learn how to create an inclusive and supportive learning environment, empowering their students to express themselves confidently and articulately in the English language.

**All The World's A Stage:  
Learning from Community Theater**

The Community Players Theatre, a rich all-volunteer organization with 100 continuous seasons, thrives on creativity despite tight timelines and limited budgets. Join us as we explore the engaging power of theater, instilling confidence, teaching valuable communication skills, and bringing captivating productions to life.

**World of Language**

Faculty from Waubensee Community College Communication Mass Communication, Humanities and English departments collaborated to create the film "*A World of Language...Waubensee Style.*" which features 22 Waubensee Community College students and 13 employees sharing examples of language from their second (and sometimes 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>) languages. "English only" speakers share regionalisms, anachronisms, idioms, and gestures which are features of daily language in America, but may not be understood elsewhere in the world. Session attendees will view portions of the film, and panelists will facilitate discussion of the film's production as well as its use in intercultural, interpersonal, and humanities courses.

# **Hot Button Issues**

## **Chat GPT/AI: Heart Healthy, or Heart Attack?**

This discussion panel will delve into the core of Chat GPT, exploring both the positive and negative aspects of the emerging world of content-oriented AI. Expect to get to the heart of the good, the bad, and the ugly of this technology.

## **Relieving the Pressure of the Distracted Student: Strategies for Understanding and Motivating Today's Disengaged Student.**

A panel discussion around the concepts in the book *Distracted* by James Lang including reasons why students are more distracted today than ever before and strategies for getting them engaged in classroom learning. Are our students distracted or are we just not holding their attention?

## **TechTools: The Pulse of the 21st Century Classroom**

In this panel discussion, we will detail different technology tools that can be used by communication teachers to improve their course construction. We will examine these tools in depth and explore how to incorporate them into the curriculum to create a more engaging and interactive learning experience for students. By utilizing these ideas, communication teachers can stay current with the latest trends and techniques in the field and also create a more dynamic and effective classroom environment. Let's delve into the heart of technology that can enhance communication education!

## **Getting to the Heart of Equity Gaps**

In this panel discussion, we will detail different technology tools that can be used by communication teachers to improve their course construction. We will examine these tools in depth and explore how to incorporate them into the curriculum to create a more engaging and interactive learning experience for students. By utilizing these ideas, communication teachers can stay current with the latest trends and techniques in the field and also create a more dynamic and effective classroom environment. Let's delve into the heart of technology that can enhance communication education!

## **Small Teaching: Little Adaptations to Change the Beating Heart of Your Classroom**

James Lang's insightful book, *Small Teaching*, introduced the educational world to the immense impact that small ideas can have in the classroom. It's truly remarkable how a slight modification to our teaching approach can significantly benefit our students. Panelists will be sharing their own small yet effective teaching techniques that have yielded remarkable results.

## **The Road to Recovery Roundtable: One year later, Win, Losses, and Lessons of IAI Online Speech Setting & Audience Requirements**

A roundtable discussion about the IAI collegiate basic speech courses' setting/audience requirements instituted in Fall 2022. Bring your strategies, best practices, pitfalls, and suggestions.

# **Keeping Our Fire Alive**

## **Crushing on Books: A Book Club Where You Don't Have to Read the Book**

Books are remarkable vehicles that can inspire us, terrify us, inform us, entertain us, and allow us to escape. Who we are is so often forged by what we read - it may often influence what we say or write. Our panelists will share the works that have inspired them and hope you'll share a book that has inspired you, too!

## **Home is Where the Heart Is:**

### **Our Family Tree is Ripe for Nurturing Networking**

Whether you're conducting a job search or wanting to advance your career, networking events can be goldmines for uncovering important connections and resources. Join panelists as they discuss the ways we can reach out, follow up and start nurturing these connections to turn them into valuable and mutually beneficial relationships

## **How WE Persevere:**

### **Doing What We Love in the Face of Curricular Challenges**

Across the United States, the education landscape as we know it has faced challenges such as book bans, restrictions on what can or cannot be taught in the classroom, and changes to the DEI landscape. This panel seeks to identify ways we can forge ahead in the face of these demands - without sacrificing our own mental health.

## **Kickstart Our Hearts:**

### **Social Emotional Learning for Educators (Too)**

CASEL (Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning) has learned that schools are more effective at teaching and reinforcing SEL for students when they also cultivate SEL competencies in adults. Successful SEL implementation depends on how well staff work together to foster a positive school community, and model social and emotional competence. This calls on schools to focus on adults' professional growth as educators as well as their own social and emotional learning.

## **Following Our Hearts:**

### **Bringing What We Love Into the Classroom**

We spend so much of our waking life in the classroom with students. Why not share some of our outside interests, hobbies, and activities with them? This panel explores ways to bring our own interests into our lesson plans. Sharing what we love can give our classes a personal touch, foster stronger teacher-student relationships, and allow the instructor to further explore their passions.

**Labours of Love:  
Showcasing Student Work**

When asked, forensics and performing arts instructors often report that their favorite part of the job is nurturing student performance. This performance-oriented panel will showcase student work and feature talkbacks with students about their process.

**Communicating for the Future:  
Tales and Triumphs from Graduate School Students**

Join us for a conversation where graduate students share their latest research and learning experiences. Get an insider's look into cutting-edge projects, innovative methodologies, and exciting findings that are shaping the future of our discipline. Engage with these passionate scholars as they showcase their academic journeys and contribute to the ever-evolving landscape of communication research.