

**Excellence at the Center**  
**The University of Southern Mississippi**  
**April 11-12, 2025**

Friday April 11<sup>th</sup>

11 AM

**Registration Opens – Speaking Center 115 (Room C)**

12 – 12:45 PM

Speaking Center 114 (Room A)

**Introspection During Uncertain Times: A New Application of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs**

*Carl J. Brown, Grand Valley State University*

1 – 1:45 PM

Speaking Center 114 (Room A)

GIFT Session

**Using Storytelling Circles for Connection, Communication, and Confidence**

*Arianna Alsop, Rochester Institute of Technology*

*Samantha Schreiber, Rochester Institute of Technology*

*Kora Lovdahl, Rochester Institute of Technology*

*Adrian Burgos, Rochester Institute of Technology*

*Marissa Hura, Rochester Institute of Technology*

**Elevating Communication Excellence: The Benefits Of Teaching Writing and Speaking Together**

*Jackson Martin, Hampden-Sydney College*

2:00 – 2:45 PM

Speaking Center 114 (Room A)

## **Is It Getting Dark in Here? Shutting Down Dark Communication During Online Coaching Sessions Without Shutting Down the Student**

*Nike Jacob, University of Alaska Fairbanks*

*Charles Thomas, University of Alaska Fairbanks*

*Amy May, University of Alaska Fairbanks*

*Victoria McDermott, University of Alaska Fairbanks*

*Chair: Aileen Gontz, University of Alaska Fairbanks*

Writing Center (Room B)

## **Inclusive Pedagogy and Communication Center Research**

*Laura Stengrim, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*

*Miranda Rouse, Hampden-Sydney College*

*Elizabeth Reeves O'Connor, Rochester Institute of Technology*

*Carl J. Brown, Grand Valley State University*

Speaking Center 115 (Room C)

## **Elevating Communication Across the Curriculum**

Led by: *Amy Gaffney, Hamilton College*

3:00 – 3:45 PM

Speaking Center 114 (Room A)

## **Building an Intens(iv)e Speaking Immersion Opportunity: Workshops and Competitions**

*Amy Gaffney, Hamilton College*

*Del Gonzales, Hamilton College*

*Tinashe Manguwa, Hamilton College*

*Lauren Prins, Hamilton College*

Writing Center (Room B)

## **Communication Center to Instructional Design: Your Next Quest**

*Jenny Southard, University of North Carolina at Greensboro*

*Kayt Stewart, University of North Carolina at Greensboro*

*Kim Cuny, University of North Carolina at Greensboro*

*Chair: Jenny Southard, University of North Carolina at Greensboro*

Speaking Center 117 (Room C)

GIFT Session

**Power Play: Honing Leadership Skills in the Center**

*Brandi Quesenberry, Virginia Tech*

**Anxiety Management Plans**

*Sarah Hinkle, Colorado College*

**Understanding the Student with ADHD**

*Shawn Schooling, Hampden-Sydney College*

4:00 – 5:00 PM

**Speaking Center 114 (Room A)**

**Welcome Remarks and Dinner**

5:00 – 8:00 PM

**Union Room B**

**Networking and Mingling Session**

Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>

9:30 – 10:15 AM

**Speaking Center 114 (Room A)**

**Empowering Leaders of Communication Centers: Voicing Excellence Through the Review and Promotion Process**

*Miranda Rouse, Hampden-Sydney College*

*Debbie Baker, University of North Carolina at Charlotte*

*Carl J. Brown, Grand Valley State University*

*Laura Stengrim, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*

*Elizabeth Reeves O'Connor, Rochester Institute of Technology*

**Writing Center (Room B)**

**Using Speech Competitions to Enhance Communication Center Visibility**

*Elizabeth Reeves O'Connor, Rochester Institute of Technology*

*Arianna Alsop, Rochester Institute of Technology*

*Samantha Schreiber, Rochester Institute of Technology*

*Kora Lovdahl, Rochester Institute of Technology*

*Adrian Burgos, Rochester Institute of Technology*

10:30 – 11:15 AM

## Speaking Center 114 (Room A)

### Paper Panel

#### **Centering Communication in the Center: Identifying Partnerships between Campus Communication Centers and Communities**

*Carl J. Brown, Grand Valley State University*

#### **Communication Centers' Role in Combatting Click-Driven Chaos**

*Andrew D. Barnes, James Madison University*

#### **From Outreach to Action: How Media-Rich Messaging Impacts Communication Center Attendance**

*Shelby Broberg, George Mason University*

*Sachita Pandey, George Mason University*

## Writing Center (Room B)

#### **Fostering Leadership: The Transformative Role of Communication Centers in Consultant Success**

*Amy Arbogast, University of Rochester*

*Laurel Jane Holloman, George Mason University*

*Sachita Pandey, George Mason University*

*Ken Kunkel, Arizona State University*

*Zack Sowder, Virginia Tech University*

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM

Speaking Center

Lunch Sponsored by the University of Illinois Speakers Workshop



**Speakers Workshop**



**Speakers Workshop**

12:30 – 1:15 PM

Speaking Center 114 (Room A)

**From the Basement to the Stage: Increasing Presence and Removing Barriers through Partnerships on Campus**

*Jasper Cao, University of Texas – Dallas*

*Soha Khan, University of Texas – Dallas*

*Jennifer Pai, University of Texas – Dallas*

*Wan Yu Wang, University of Texas – Dallas*

*Chairs: Laura Goldstein & Rica Lelina, University of Texas – Dallas*

Writing Center (Room B)

Student Panel

**From Lab to Lectern: Public Speaking for STEM Student in Our Modern Political World**

*Rue Quick, George Mason University*

**뭐라고 했어요? Bridging the Gap Between Monolingual Consultants and Multilingual Clients**

*Elias Collier, George Mason University*

1:30 – 2:15 PM

Speaking Center 114 (Room A)

**Resisting the Prescriptive Process of Community Building Part III: Surviving and Thriving in the Communication Center with Our Cultural Stories**

*Miranda Rouse, Hampden-Sydney College*

*Catalina Cayetano, Arizona State University*

*Amy May, University of Alaska Fairbanks*

*Kanika Jackson, Towson University*

**Writing Center (Room B)**

**Creating Space for Students, Figuratively: Looking at the Opportunities of Using Cognitive Modification to Address PSA Through a “Green Room” Perspective**

*JaVeon Brigham, University of Alaska Fairbanks*

*Ayleen Gontz, University of Alaska Fairbanks*

*Nike Jacob, University of Alaska Fairbanks*

*Chair: Charles Thomas, University of Alaska Fairbanks*

3:30 – 4:15 PM

**Speaking Center 114 (Room A)**

**Here We Go Again: COMCenter Leadership, Student Support and Maintaining Mental Health during (More) Unprecedented Times**

*Tori McDermott, University of Alaska Fairbanks*

*Amy May, University of Alaska Fairbanks*

*Chair: Nike Jacob, University of Alaska Fairbanks*