



Call for Papers

COMMUNICATION (OF) CHOICE AND CONSEQUENCE:

A 70TH ANNIVERSARY REFLECTION ON THE NEW YORK STATE OF COMMUNICATION ETHICS

New York State Communication Association
70th Annual Conference

October 19-21, 2012

Honors Haven Resort & Spa, Ellenville, NY

The study and practice of communication contains an inherently ethical dimension; choices we make in our communication have consequences, as do the ways we communicate about and reflect on these choices. This year's conference theme is inspired by the significant changes in communication contexts over the past 70 years, and how new media conduct, change and complicate our decision-making in communication. In particular, this theme considers such questions as: what are the ethical implications of our communication choices? What consequences arise from our modes of representation? Whose communication choices are privileged? Whose are marginalized? How are interpersonal relationships and group dynamics fostered and maintained through our communication choices?

These questions (and more) pose challenges to communication ethics and call for serious reflection on what it means to communicate with integrity. New York State seems a particularly fitting place to consider such questions, as it is the home of both major communications industries and renowned colleges and universities training the next generation of scholars and professionals.

This year's keynote program speaks to the complexity of communication choices and consequences across interpersonal, mediated and public communication contexts:

Friday, October 19: **Dr. THOMAS COOPER**
Professor of Visual and Media Arts,
Emerson College

Dr. Cooper showcases an overview of some of the highlights in the history of media ethics research and key conclave. His "overview of overviews" will lead to an examination of the epistemology and ecology of an important overview topic in the field – media saturation. Just as Thoreau went to Walden to gain a perspective on the environment of his day, Dr. Cooper conducted a "media fast" to examine the media environment of the 1980s and has been taking his classes on such fasts and related media diets ever since, as discussed in his new book *Fast Media/Media Fast*. Inspired by McLuhan's insight that one does not learn the true impact of a medium until it is subtracted from society, Dr. Cooper compares media saturated societies such as the U.S. with no media (e.g. the Amish) and "low media" (e.g. the Rapa Nui) zones to gain a better overview of our own media, society, and some resulting ethical issues.



Saturday, October 20: **Dr. JOHN SHOTTER**
Emeritus Professor of Communication,
University of New Hampshire

Dr. Shotter works internationally as an organizational consultant and doctoral examiner. His books include *Social Accountability and Selfhood* (Blackwell, 1984), *Conversational Realities: The Construction of Life Through Language* (Sage, 1993), and most recently, *Getting It: Witness-Thinking and the Dialogical...in Practice* (Hampton, 2011). In addition to authoring numerous journal articles, book chapters, and conference papers, Dr. Shotter continues to travel, write and present extensively. His ongoing research interest is in the social conditions conducive to people having a voice in the development of participatory democracies and civil societies.



Panel proposals, posters, roundtables, and completed papers are invited for submission. Work related to the conference theme is encouraged, as well as scholarship addressing a wide range of communication topics from a variety of theoretical and methodological approaches. Creative presentation formats are also supported.

Undergraduate and graduate submissions are welcome and will be considered for student paper awards.

Submission Guidelines:

- **For completed papers** of no more than 25 pages, please send identifying information (title page, author, affiliation, contact information) in a separate document. Papers should include a running head with abbreviated title. Student submissions should indicate "undergraduate" or "graduate" along with abbreviated title in the running head.
- **For all other presentation formats**, please include title, lead contact or panel chair, participants/authors, affiliations, contact information, and a description of the panel, presentation or poster. For each paper in a panel proposal, please include title, author(s), and abstracts of no more than 250 words.
- **A statement of professional responsibility** should be included on the cover or title page of the submission: "In submitting the attached proposal/paper, I/we agree to present the panel at the 2012 NYSCA conference if it is accepted. I/We further recognize that all who attend and present at NYSCA's annual meeting must register and pay the required fees."

All submissions should be emailed to Prof. Cheryl Casey,
ccasey@hamilton.edu, by June 1, 2012