NCA Activity:

Sandy Pensoneau-Conway was named the chair of the Doctoral Education Committee.

Jonny Gray served as planner for the Performance Studies Division.

Craig Engstrom served as planner for the Training & Development Division of NCA.

Thank you to Lindy Wagner for organizing people to person the NCA grad student open house and departmental reception. Kudos also to Nil Bardhan, Craig Engstrom and Jonny Gray for being faculty reps at the grad open house.

Special thank you to Dianah McGreehan, Darren Valenta, Bolton Morales, Alex Lockwood, Mick Brewer, Jake Beck, Colin Whitworth, and Alex Davenport for serving as reps at the open house as well as the SIU reception at NCA.

Congrats to Jake Beck, Mick Brewer, Alex Lockwood, and Darren Valenta, all of whom presented on top paper panels. Jake was awarded top paper in the Performance Studies Division while Mick was awarded top paper in the International and Intercultural Communication Division (pictured right).

Shelby Swafford was awarded a student travel grant through the Women’s Caucus.

Colin Whitworth was also awarded a student travel grant through the LGBTQ Caucus.

NCA Presentations:

A.B. performed Taking the Edge Off.

Nil Bardhan and Craig Engstrom presented their coauthored paper “The Role of Leadership in Diversity and Inclusion in the U.S. Public Relations Industry.”

Jake Beck facilitated a Foucault-themed escape room in addition to presenting his top paper “At the Intersection of Performance Studies and Game Studies.”

Mick Brewer presented his top paper “On Transcultural Aesthetics: Sapeurs Playing the Postcolonial System through Playing with Fashion.”

Important Dates*

• 12/10-14: Final Exams
• 12/12: Fall Graduates Recognition Ceremony
• 12/12: CMST Holiday Potluck
• 12/14: Academic Excellence Ceremony
• 12/15: Commencement
• 12/15-1/14: Winter Break
• 12/19: Final Grades Due

*For more information on these and other events, please refer to the “Important Dates” list distributed by Darren Valenta on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.
Give kudos and celebrate!

If you’d like to submit something for next month’s K&C newsletter, please email Darren Valenta at darren.valenta@siu.edu.

Please feel free to contribute (for yourself or on someone else’s behalf) publications, conference presentations, special events and community service, awards, grants, appointments/new jobs (academic and beyond), thesis/prelim/dissertation progress, and anything else you want to celebrate!

Thank you to all of those who participated this month!

NCA Presentations (continued):

**Alex Davenport** presented his paper “Entangling Objects: A Literature Review of Object Oriented Ontology and Performance Studies.”

**Angela Duggins** presented her Great Idea for Teaching titled “Orality and Accountability: Singing to Cite Sources.”

**Michal Forst** presented his papers “Critical Cosmopolitanism as Training Framework: Extending the Developmental of Intercultural Sensitivity” and “Transgressing and Reifying Whiteness through Leadership Training and Development: A Praxis-Oriented Autoethnography.”

**Jeremy Omori, Tao Zhang, and Ryan Freels** presented their co-authored paper “Reflexivity of Traumatic Memories from WWII: Peace Pedagogy through Dialogic and Relational Tensions.”

**Jeremy** and **Tao** also presented on a panel titled “Microaggressive Play: Morphing Racism Toward Asian/Pacific American Teachers in U.S. American Higher Education.”

**Craig Gingrich-Philbrook** presented on a panel titled “A Soundtable of Performance Pedagogy: Playing with Pedagogies of Sound.” He also presented papers titled “The Arm or the Rod? Responding Reflexively in the Wake of Sara Ahmed” and “Breathing, Watching, and Weeping under Surveillance: Queer Masculinity in the Museum.”

**Jonny Gray** presented on a panel titled “Getting Played: Defending Academic Freedom, Faculty Governance and Other Democratic Ideals.” He also presented a paper titled “What Rattles the Children: Imagination and Theatricality in Celebrating Earth Day by Performing What We’re Losing,” and played a role in *Clue 2018*.

**Alex Lockwood** presented his paper “Transgression: Perspectives on Performing Excess” on the Performance Studies Division’s top paper panel.

**Dianah McGreehan** presented her papers “Case #16-03976: Conversations of a Cold Case Murder Survivor” and “Hanky Panky, Who Wants a Spanky? Performing Kink” as well as her Great Idea for Teaching, “Mediated Culture(s) and Communities.”

**Danette Patton** presented on panels titled “Mapping Black Intersections: The Past, Present, and Future of Black Queer, Trans, and Non-Binary Scholarship” and “Playing with/against Whiteness: Epistemological Reflexivity and Emerging Approaches to Whiteness Studies.”
NCA Presentations (continued):

**Sandy Pensoneau-Conway** presented on panels titled “Playing with Disability in Super Bowl LII’s Televised Commercials” and “Playing Sport and Disability: A Field Trip to the National Ability Center.”

**Shelley Rawlins** presented her papers “Postmodern Subjectivity, Communitas and Immunitas: In Search of Sustainable Meaningfulness and Connection” and “Kellyanne Conway and Postfeminism: ‘The Desert of the Real’.”

**Lauren Schaefer** presented on panels titled “Wementoring: #MeToo-Telling Our Stories and Victories” and “Playing with Different Approaches to Studying Sexual Harassment in Higher Education.” She also presented her paper “Women in Academia: A Predominantly White Institution.”

**Patrick Seick** presented his paper “Rosa Maria Hernandez and Travel Across Space: A Theoretical Overview of the Nation-State and Disability.”

**Shelby Swafford** presented on a panel called “Blurring the Body and the Page: The Theory, Style, and Practice of Autoethnography.” She also presented her paper “Feminist Living, Surviving, Making a Mess: A Killjoy Manifesto.”

**Satoshi Toyosaki** presented on panels titled “Everyday Wear and Tear: The Academia on the Body and Soul in Marginalized Communities” and “Ambiguity at Play: Asian/Asian American Identities within and Against the Black/White/Brown Racial Paradigm of U.S. Academia.” He also presented his paper “Identity Politics at Play: Identity Politics in Global Peace Education from Japan.”

**Emily Vajjala** presented her paper “It’s Time to Get Radical. Radical! A Refocusing of Radical Feminist Foundations.”

**Darren Valenta** presented his paper “Late-Night Social Activism: Charged Humor and the Absence of Marginalized Perspectives” in addition to the paper he presented on the Performance Studies Division top paper panel titled “Finding Comedy in Postcolonialism: Comedic Performance as Resistance to Colonialism.”

**Colin Whitworth** performed his one-person show *Bless Our Hearts: An Oral History of the Queer South* in addition to his papers “Body Conversations: Re/Em/Bodied Performances in Queer Oral History” and “Why I Can’t Meet Your Friends: An Autoethnography of Transferability and the Closet.”

**Yusaku Yajima** presented his paper “Liminal Narratives of Non-Native English Speaking Scholars in U.S. Higher Education: Denaturalizing the Historical Legacy of English Hegemony.”

• Congratulations to Colin Whitworth, Michael Forst, Alex Davenport, Zach Moss, and Mick Brewer on publishing the latest issue of *Kaleidoscope: A Journal of Qualitative Communication Research*. If you’d like to read the wonderful graduate student scholarship featured, go to: https://opensiuc.lib.siu.edu/kaleidoscope/

• Next semester, the Marion Kleinau Theatre will feature shows by graduate students Devin Collins, Alex Lockwood, and Colin Whitworth. To read more about these shows please visit the Kleinau’s website at: https://cola.siu.edu/communicationstudies/kleinau/current-season.php
To all those who contributed to, appeared in, or read Kudos & Celebrations this semester, I want to say thank you. The Communication Studies department had a busy and productive semester, and I have greatly enjoyed the opportunity to share all of our accomplishments with you these last few months.

Kudos & Celebrations will be back next semester, so make sure to save up all the wonderful things you do over the break to add to our next issue!

Stay safe and warm, enjoy some much-needed rest, and have a wonderful break.

-Darren Valenta

Recent Publications:


**Darren Valenta** also published an article in *Kaleidoscope* titled “Comedy Makes me Cry: Seeing Myself in Mediated Disclosures of Mental Illness.”


**Randy** also published “Eco, Pierce, and the Pragmatic Theory of Signs” in *European Journal of Pragmatism and American Philosophy*. [https://journals.openedition.org/ejpap/1112#text](https://journals.openedition.org/ejpap/1112#text)

**Craig Engstrom** published “Practicing Invention and Style: Writing a Persuasive Resume Profile Summary (Like a Wikipedia Entry)” in the most recent edition of *Communication Teacher*.

In the Kleinau:

Congratulations to **Liz Newman** on a successful run of her show, *Things To Be Hateful For!*

**Congratulations and Thank Yous:**

**Anna Wilcoxen, Shelby Swafford, Mick Brewer, and Darren Valenta** were recently selected as Associate Editors of *Kaleidoscope*. They will join Editor **Alex Davenport** to work on this year’s issue.

**Randy Auxier** was a candidate in a state-wide election. Congrats on making it through the campaign!

**Congrats to Bryan Crow** for being honored as a Delegate of the Word at Church of the Good Shepherd.