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From the President

In January, ABC members were warmly welcomed in person at the Europe, Africa and Middle East Regional Conference in Naples, Italy. Thanks to EAME RVP **Ursula Lutzky**, and program chair, **Walter Giordano**, for

inspiring sessions on business and organizational communication. We reconnected with EAME colleagues, colleagues from other ABC regions and met new colleagues.

On 10 February, the Eastern U.S. Midwestern U.S. and Canada Regions hosted a panel of ABC experts on technology and chat AI, titled "Chat about ChatGPT". Almost 100 attendees from around the world learned tips on assignment development, teaching tools, syllabus wording and gained resources for using ChatGPT. Many thanks to panel moderator, **Valerie Creelman**, Canada Region RVP, and the highly knowledgeable and interesting panelists recruited and led by **Amy Newman** (Cornell), **Abram Anders** (Iowa State), **Lance Cummings** (North Carolina), **Christy McDowell** (Cornell), and **Rita Owens** (Boston College). Thanks also to **Liane Czirjak** and Suffolk University's Sawyer Business School for their role as meeting planner and Zoom host. Stay tuned for their next collaborative event in this three-part series on technology.

In February, ABC members were welcomed in person at the Western Regional Conference in Laie, Hawai'i by Western

RVP **Jolanta Aritz**. Conference organizers, **Ann Springer** and **Scott Springer**, coordinated a wide selection of research and experiential presentations and roundtables presented by colleagues from several ABC regions.

In March, ABC members were welcomed in Houston, Texas at the Southwestern U.S. Conference hosted by the Federation of Business Disciples (FBD) Conference. **Lucia Sigmar**, Southwestern RVP, and **Ashley Hall**, Program Chair, ensured that ABC colleagues experienced research papers/position papers/case studies related to a variety of areas in business communication.

Also in January, the ABC Board welcomed two new Directors, **Christina McDowell** (Cornell) and **Leslie Ramos Salazar** (West Texas A&M).

Please mark your calendars for the ABC 88th Annual International Conference in Denver, Colorado. The in-person conference takes place Wednesday 25 October to Saturday 28 October 2023. The virtual conference takes place Wednesday 18 October to Friday 20 October. Calls are out for paper proposals and committee panels. Conference co-chairs **Nancy Mahon** and **Leslie Seawright**, are planning a program of stimulating presentations and social events.

Looking forward to seeing you online, in person or both!

Judith Ainsworth

In Memoriam: Dr. Randy Waller



Dr. Randy Waller, Professor of Business at Baylor University, passed away on March 11 at age 74. Randy and his family were familiar faces at our annual conferences and the Southwest US conferences. He published scholarly articles in IJBC.

Randy's many ABC friends and colleagues may like to express condolences on his memorial page [HERE](#).

Memorials may be made to the [THRU Project](#) in San Antonio, Texas.



Interim Executive Director's Message

Dear Fellow ABC Members,

For many people, the spring season is a time to make fresh plans and start new projects. Pursuits can include planning a summer vacation, laying out a new garden bed or renewing an outside physical activity that went dormant over the winter months. I invite you to also think about ways to engage with and support ABC with

your springtime energy.

Please read below for information about our upcoming 2023 ABC Annual International Conference. It is purposely designed to take advantage of the strengths both in-person and virtual formats offer. There is still time to submit a session proposal before the April 3 deadline.

I challenge you to forward the proposal and conference information to at least two colleagues who are not currently ABC members. It may be someone at your home institution or another location. Perhaps a fellow conference attendee you met recently who has an interest in business communication. I promise to also contact at least two potential new ABC members and encourage them to submit a proposal and attend our 2023 Conference. The vibrancy and sustainability of associations like ours depend on new members joining our community.

Additionally, we are looking for sponsors to support our annual conference. Would your textbook publisher be interested in sponsoring an information table? A breakfast or break? Perhaps you and several fellow ABC members would like to sponsor a breakfast or break in exchange for an opportunity to promote your text or other book or simply as a way to give back to ABC? Do you have an idea for a new award you would like to sponsor? Let's brainstorm and discuss your proposals! Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with your questions and sponsorship ideas (krybka@illinois.edu).

Warm wishes,
Kathryn

Annual International Conference

Dear colleagues,

We are thrilled to announce the Association for Business Communication's 88th Annual International Conference, taking place virtually from October 18-20 and onsite in Denver, Colorado from October 25-28. This year's conference theme is "Reaching New Heights: The Future of Business Communication," and we are excited to connect with scholars and practitioners from around the world to share innovative research, best pedagogical practices, communication-in-action, and consulting ideas.

The conference offers 12 tracks covering a broad range of topics: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Ethics and Social Responsibility, Executive Education and Graduate Studies, Innovative Instructional Methods, Intercultural and Global Communication, Interpersonal Communication, Rhetoric and Composition, Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, Social Media and Virtual Communication, Visualization of Data and Information, and, of course, the Future of Business Communication. We invite you to submit proposals and share your expertise as we explore the changing landscape of business communication.

In addition to the exciting program, we know you will enjoy the conference location. Denver offers a unique blend of urban sophistication and outdoor adventure, making it an ideal location for exploring new ideas and connecting with colleagues. Denver's picturesque beauty, coupled with its central location, make it an easy and fantastic meeting place for attendees from around the world.

Proposal submissions are due **April 3** and you can find submission guidelines and submit your proposal on the [ABC Conference page](#). If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact conference co-chairs Nancy Mahon and Leslie Seawright at ABCconference@businesscommunication.org.

We look forward to seeing you at the 88th Annual International Conference as we shape the future of business communication and reach new heights together.

Best regards,
Nancy and Leslie
Conference Co-Chairs



Regional News

The ABC Regional Conference for the region **Europe, Africa and Middle East** took place in Naples, Italy, from January 12-14 this year. It was the first in-person conference in this region since 2018, after the Vienna University of Economics and Business organized a successful online conference in August 2021. We were extremely excited to meet our fellow ABC members again and spent three inspiring days in Naples.

The ABC Naples conference was a joyful celebration of business communication. With over 130 participants from twenty different countries, it was a truly international event. While the majority of participants came from our own region, we were also joined by colleagues from the United States, Canada, India, Japan and Hong Kong. Together, we enjoyed three days filled with many inspiring presentations, colleagues networking in a meeting room, chatting over coffee and Italian pastries, and engaging in discussions about organizational communication, teaching, corporate social responsibility, and intercultural communication - just to name a few of the many topics represented at this conference.

A big thank you to **Walter Giordano** for the great organization of this memorable event. We had a fantastic venue at the seaside, overlooking Castel dell'Ovo, with stunning views of the island of Capri and the world-famous Bay of Naples. Traditional Italian food and a one-day guided tour, a dive into the historical heart of the city, added a cultural touch to the event.

We cherish the motivation and inspiration we received during the ABC Naples conference and the special community feeling that we were able to experience. These three days in Naples underlined once more the beauty of ABC: an organization that welcomes new members with open arms and oozes a sense of belonging and support.



Regional News

The 2023 Western Region Conference was held on the beautiful North Shore of Oahu, Hawaii, at Brigham Young University—Hawaii, the most diverse undergraduate college campus in the United States. The conference included interactive experiential learning sessions as well as roundtable discussions and research presentations.

Over 50 participants from 17 universities across 12 different states, and Japan, came together to learn from colleagues in a diverse, cultural setting. The conference organizers, **Ann and Scott Springer**, curated a program that was both educational and entertaining and was well-received by all in attendance.

The opening reception of the conference featured three cultural performances from BYU-Hawaii students from Mongolia, Kiribati, and Fiji. The conference concluded with an afternoon and evening at the nearby Polynesian Cultural Center where participants learned about several countries in Oceania and enjoy an authentic luau dinner.

The conference also allowed attendees to interact with a half dozen BYU-Hawaii students at a poster presentation session. The student research focused on integrated marketing communication plans designed to improve graduation rates of female students.

Professional growth and cultural understanding were two of the biggest takeaways from the 2023 Western Region Conference. All members left with lasting memories and newfound knowledge of business communication to utilize moving forward.

The next Western Region Conference will take place in March 2024 in Tucson, Arizona.



Regional News

Want to know more about how to use ChatGPT?

On February 10, the Eastern U.S., Midwestern U.S., and Canada Regions hosted a panel of ABC colleagues who are experts on technology and chat AI, titled "Chat about ChatGPT".

The session was a great success! Almost 100 attendees learned many tips and gained resources for using ChatGPT. Tips include assignment development, teaching tools, syllabus wording and more.

Thank you to our ABC colleagues who presented!

The panel was expertly moderated by **Valerie Creelman**, ABC Regional Vice President for Canada. Our highly knowledgeable and interesting panelists were recruited and led by **Amy Newman** (ABC & Cornell). The panelists were **Abram Anders** (Iowa State University), **Lance Cummings** (University of North Carolina), **Christy McDowell** (Cornell), and **Rita Owens** (Boston College). Thank you also to Suffolk University's Sawyer Business School for its role as meeting planner and Zoom host.

To access the recording of this highly informative 1-hour meeting:

Log in to ABC > Resources tab > Teaching and Learning and find the video access



On Sunday, 08 January 2023, at the annual MLA Convention in San Francisco, California, the ABC's MLA Liaison Committee held its guaranteed panel on *Representations of Business and Professional Communication in Popular Culture*.

Marcy Orwig presented on "Building the Case for Hard-Boiled Female Detectives: Business Reports and the Character of K. Millhone," which she co-authored with **Paula Lentz** (both are from the University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire), **Jason Maxwell** (University at Buffalo, State University of New York), then discussed "The Ethnographic Impulses of *Mad Men*." Finally, **Mica Hilson** (American University of Armenia) shared his work on "*Better off Ted* and Professional Communication in the Evil Corporate World. All three presentations were excellent!

Regional News

ABC-SWUS 2023 Conference News and Awards

Each year the ABC-SWUS Conference is held in conjunction with nine other business disciplines under an umbrella organization called The Federation of Business Disciplines.

This year's western-themed conference was held March 9-10, 2023, at the Hyatt Regency in Houston, Texas. Program Chair **Ashley Hall** (Stephen F. Austin State University) provided members with a stimulating line-up of presentations, capably assisted by the officer team of President **Lindsay Clark** (Sam Houston State University), Secretary/Treasurer **Matari Jones Gunter** (Texas State University), Historian **Ashton Mouton** (Sam Houston State University), and Proceedings Editor **Seth Frei** (Texas State University).



ABC-SWUS was also honored to have in attendance ABC International's Interim Executive Director **Dr. Kathryn Rybka** and Past Presidents **Pete Cardon**, **Marci Robles**, **Gerry Hynes**, **Marsha Bayless**, and **Lamar Reinsch**.

ABC-SWUS members were recognized for their excellence in teaching and research at the conference. **Lamar Reinsch** won the Federation of Business Disciplines' Outstanding Educator Award (Lubbock Christian University), and **Kayla Sapkota** (University of Arkansas-Beebe) walked away with the ABC-SWUS Outstanding Teacher Award. Co-authors **Carol Wright** and **Lucia Sigmar** (Stephen F. Austin State University) received the Federation of Business Disciplines' Distinguished Paper Award for ABC-SWUS.

Conference attendees also enjoyed full breakfasts provided by ABC-SWUS, door prizes, and outings to the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and the Museum of Fine Arts.



IJBC News



The International Journal of Business Communication is very proud of all of our stakeholders, especially our authors. Recently, one of our authors, **Dr. Elizabeth Eger**, was honored with a prestigious award for an IJBC article. Below is part of the official post from Texas State University. The two other awards noted in the media post were career awards from the National Communication Association.

Elizabeth K. Eger, assistant professor in the Department of Communication Studies at Texas State University, has been honored with three national awards for her work.

Eger has received the 2022 Anita Taylor Outstanding Published Article Award from the Organization for the Study of Communication, Language and Gender (OSCLG). The award recognizes Eger's article, "Co-constructing organizational identity and culture with those we serve: An ethnography of a transgender nonprofit organization communicating family identity and identification," published in the *International Journal of Business Communication*. OSCLG provides a forum for professional discussion, presentation of research and demonstration of creative projects in the areas of communication, language and gender.

The International Journal of Business Communication is inviting papers for a Special Issue on Qualitative Methods in Business Communication Research. This volume aims to highlight the value of qualitative research by focusing on novel methodological principles and showing the variety of approaches undertaken by qualitative researchers.

Qualitative research methods focus on the *qualities* of the material being researched, opening up new areas of inquiry by identifying, describing, and contextualizing meaningful elements of the data. Qualitative research can show aspects of business communication that are largely overlooked, encourage theory building, and lend itself to novel, emerging, interdisciplinary, and creative methods.

Submit a preliminary extended abstract of 500-800 words (excluding references) by **May 8** to the Guest Editors, **Stephen Carradini**, **Mathew Gillings**, and **Sky Marsen** [HERE](#). Replies will be sent by June 27th. Full papers of approximately 8,000 words are due by October 16th. The special issue is expected to be published in 2025. Please send any questions to Stephen Carradini at stephen.carradini@asu.edu



Member News & Highlights



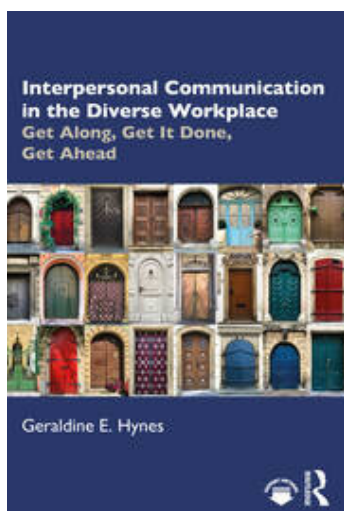
Judith Ainsworth was awarded the 2023 Team-Based Learning Collaborative Best Paper Award for Research for her paper: "Team-Based Learning in Professional Writing Courses for Accounting Graduates: Positive Impacts on Student Engagement, Accountability and Satisfaction" in *Accounting Education: An International Journal*. The award was recognized at the TBLC 2023 Annual Meeting held March 11-14, 2023 in Orlando, Florida.

Judith also recorded a video blog "Improving Teamwork in Online Class Environments" with Lauren Vicker and Timothy Franz for their blog series "Making Team Projects Work: An Online Resource for High School and College Educators." Tim and Lauren are members of the TBLC Marketing Committee along with Judith.

Stay Connected with ABC

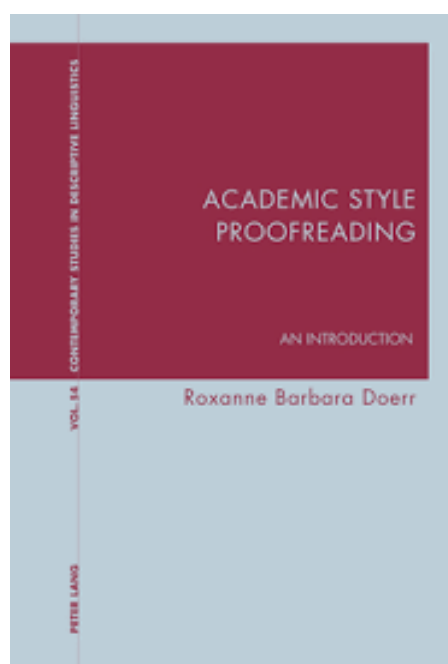
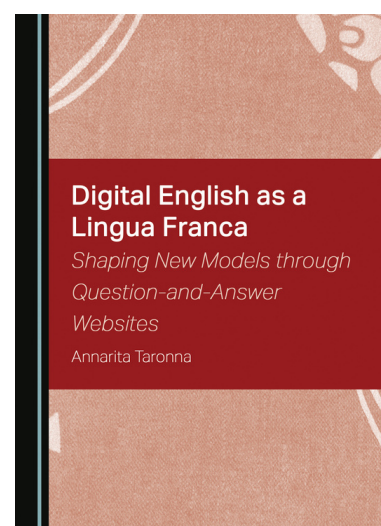


Book & Publication Highlights



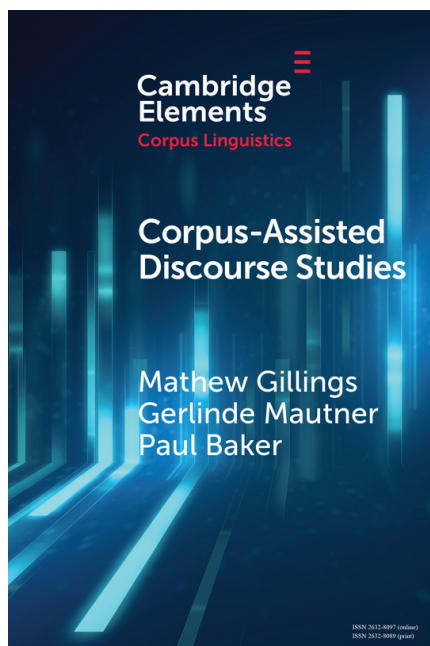
Geraldine Hynes recently published the following book which offers concise, practical strategies for daily communication in a global business. View the flyer and discount code [HERE](#)

Annarita Taronna recently published *Digital English as a Lingua Franca: Shaping New Models Through Question-and-Answer Websites*. By adopting sentiment analysis in order to recognize the positive or negative semantic orientation of texts and their emotional style, the book demonstrates that the aesthetics of such informal texts written using Digital English as a Lingua Franca (DELF) is influenced by how we associate emotions and opinions with certain linguistic aspects, such as specific words or syntactic patterns, and how we can classify linguistic expressions according to the type of opinion that they convey. Learn more [HERE](#).



Roxanne Barbara Doerr recently published the following. This volume seeks to unpack the concept of academic style proofreading and its components through a multifaceted analysis including methodologies such as terminology, corpus stylistics and error analysis. This is intended to define the purpose and intricacies of this new aspect of academic writing and present common errors in academic style, as well as possible proofreading solutions, in economics and the humanities. Learn more [HERE](#)

Book & Publication Highlights



We are pleased to share the news that “Corpus-Assisted Discourse Studies”, a new Cambridge Element written by **Mathew Gillings**, **Gerlinde Mautner**, and **Paul Baker**, has just been released! The book offers an introduction to the method, drawing upon examples from recent scholarship, and offers a guide on how to get started with analysis. The method is increasingly being used to analyze large datasets of business discourse, and we hope it is therefore of interest to members. It’s free to download until 4 April, and will be available in paperback from the end of May! Learn more [HERE](#).

Apoorva Bharadwaj and **Nimruji Jammulamadaka** recently published an article titled, "Politics of Colonialism in Intercultural Communication: Case of Indian Managers" in the *International Journal of Cross Cultural Management*. The objective of the study is to analyze the communicative experiences of Indian managers with other culture interactants from a geopolitical perspective of colonialism.

Find more information [HERE](#)

"The language of the court" by **James Archibald** in the *Handbook Research Handbook on Jurilinguistics* has been published.

This chapter examines the relationship between language and courts of justice. The discussion is set against a backdrop of fundamental texts which underscore the need for those appearing before courts to understand the proceedings, evidence and witnesses and conversely for these same persons to be understood by the courts. This involved judges and all officers of the court from both procedural and deontological perspectives. Various jurisdictional contexts are discussed with an emphasis on plurilingual, multicultural and plurijural settings. Examples are mainly drawn from Canada since it represents concomitant jurisdictions having these characteristics. Overlapping languages and jurisdictions represent a significant challenge in the equitable administration of justice. This overriding issue informs the discussion of problems encountered in similar contexts including conflicts, confusion and competing jurisdictions. Notwithstanding the discordant nature which often affects access to justice, harmonization is presented as a means to protect fundamental language rights.



Got News?

**Submit *anytime* online right
HERE**

News can include but is not limited
to: awards, publications, research
studies, and projects

