

## 2020 Annual Conference

### Navigating Privilege

Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender

43rd Annual Conference

Sept. 30-Oct. 4, 2020

Norfolk, Virginia

Sponsored by Ball State University and Christopher Newport University

Submissions open March 1, 2020 and close June 1.

To navigate means to direct, aim, or plan a route. For almost half a decade, OSCLG has challenged gender scholars and the communication discipline to invite new, more fluid ways of knowing and being. For this year's conference we are interested in how communication helps us navigate and challenge the intersections of vulnerability and privilege, of precarity and security, of pain and joy, of critique and celebration. We invite proposals that illuminate how marginalized communities navigate within spaces and places that privilege particular bodies more than others. How can we as an academic community that crosses disciplinary boundaries direct attention to the meaning of privilege? In what ways do language and communication provide opportunities for disrupting privilege? How do communication and language confine us within particular privileges of intersectional gender norms? What tools do communication and language provide to navigate the margins of privilege? What privileges have historically bound our discipline? How can scholarship, pedagogy, and mentorship provide safe pathways through precarious institutional terrains?

OSCLG is faced with a unique opportunity to showcase the rich scholarship and activism about gender and its intersections within the communication discipline, which is reckoning with its own systemic oppression that has historically privileged binaristic, masculine, Western ways of knowing (and working), heteronormativity, whiteness, and able-bodiedness, among other markers of privilege. We strongly encourage proposals rooted in citational politics that cross these normative boundaries. Academia is a privileged space, yet increasingly under threat. How do we channel this privilege in our scholarship? In our classrooms? Language about gender by public officials and others with privilege is overwhelmingly divisive and binary. How can we turn that privilege on its head to explore empowering possibilities that privilege affords? We look forward to navigating these topics with you in the seaport city of Norfolk, Virginia, in a place where navigation is central.

We invite submissions of papers, extended abstracts, panel sessions, roundtable discussion, and performances that address any aspect of communication, language, and gender, and especially those based in advocacy, activism, and social justice around issues of privilege, vulnerability, immigration, citizenship, non-binary communities, and de-centering whiteness and other privileged identities. We ask that individuals not exceed being included on more

than two submissions. All submissions are due June 1, 2020, with decisions about acceptance expected by July 15. Submissions can be made at [www.osclg.org](http://www.osclg.org). Please send any submission questions via email to Kathy Denker at [kjdenker@bsu.edu](mailto:kjdenker@bsu.edu) or Danielle Stern at [danielle.stern@cnu.edu](mailto:danielle.stern@cnu.edu).

Please look for an additional call for the Undergraduate Portion of the OSCLG conference. Michaela D. E. Meyer is coordinating the inaugural OSCLG Undergraduate Research Conference. Please contact her via email at [mmeyer@cnu.edu](mailto:mmeyer@cnu.edu) with any questions.

Hotel: Sheraton Norfolk Waterside

777 Waterside Drive  
Norfolk, VA 23510  
(757) 622-6664

Guest room rate: \$159 per night plus taxes/fees

Please book by Sept. 2, 2020 to secure your room at the conference block rate.