



**Maryland Communication Association**  
**40th Annual Conference**

**Back to the Future:**  
**Rewind, Pause, Fast Forward**

**March 7-8, 2025**  
**Ocean City, Maryland**

**Call for Proposal Deadlines:**

- **January 10, 2025: Faculty & Professionals**
- **January 24, 2025: Students**

In 2025, the Maryland Communication Association (MCA) will hold its 40<sup>th</sup> annual conference. As we celebrate this milestone and reflect on the past, present, and future of communication, our conference theme “**Back to the Future: Rewind, Pause, Fast Forward**” will focus trends, issues, and changes in the field of communication over time. This in-person conference in Ocean City, Maryland, offers a unique opportunity to connect with other communication educators and practitioners, engage in meaningful conversations, and examine the history and future of the field of communication. We invite submissions that address the conference theme as it relates to a variety of areas including education, social media, storytelling, AI (artificial intelligence), mass communication, DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion), and technology.

## **Proposal Types and Formats:**

### **1. MCA Scholarship Presentation (10-15 minutes)**

Individual paper presentations are research-based and explore communication scholarship, theories, and concepts. Your study can break new ground or reconsider an existing argument on communication topics. This submission type is for faculty, staff, and graduate students. We especially seek submissions related to the conference theme.

By January 10, [submit online here](#): your name, organization affiliation, position title, email address, brief biography (not to exceed 100 words), presentation title, and abstract (not to exceed 250 words).

### **2. MCA G.I.F.T.S.**

#### **(Great Ideas for Teaching Students) Presentations (10-15 minutes)**

G.I.F.T.S. must be a classroom-tested activity, assignment, project, or simulation, or a department initiative (such as competitions, festivals, etc.) addressing a communication theory, concept, skill, or learning objective. This submission type is for teachers at any level. We especially seek submissions related to the conference theme.

By January 10, [submit online here](#): your name, organization affiliation, position title, email address, brief biography (not to exceed 100 words), GIFTS title, and project summary (not to exceed 250 words).

### **3. MCA Professional Development Panel (5 minute, followed by Q&A)**

Colleagues in any relevant career area are invited to join an interactive professional development panel to support communication students, recent alumni, and emerging professional success in communication careers. Professionals have 5 minutes to share their career overview and advice. After all panelists have presented, they will answer audience questions. This submission type is for professionals in jobs that routinely use and value applied communication skills.

By January 10, [submit online here](#): your name, organization affiliation, position title, email address, brief biography (not to exceed 100 words), and key career lessons (not to exceed 250 words).

### **4. MCA Student 3-Minute Blitz (3 minutes)**

Three Minute Thesis is a research communication competition which began at The University of Queensland, Australia, in 2008, and has expanded into an international event. The competition challenges students to consolidate their research ideas into an interesting three-minute presentation, which can be understood by a general audience. We will share more details once students are selected. *This submission type is for undergraduate or graduate students.*

By January 24, [submit online here](#): your name, organization affiliation, email address, year in school, major(s) and minor(s), presentation title, and presentation summary (not to exceed 100 words).

## **About Us:**

The Maryland Communication Association is a collective of communication educators, students, and professionals, who are active teachers, trainers, researchers, authors, practitioners, and leaders. Our roots are in the Maryland Communication Cooperative, formed in 1973. Among our accomplishments is our pivotal role in the shaping and adoption of statewide competency standards for Communication courses in General Education programs and our participation to facilitate articulation agreements in Communication in the State of Maryland.

## **Contact Us:**

- Web: <https://www.marylandcommassociation.com/>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MarylandCommAssociation>
- Twitter: <https://x.com/MarylandComm>
- Email: [dphillips@worwic.edu](mailto:dphillips@worwic.edu) or [aoneal-self@worwic.edu](mailto:aoneal-self@worwic.edu)

## **Join Us! [Details online here](#)**

### **Conference Registration**

- Member Early Bird Registration (on or before 1/10/25) - \$70
- Member Registration (after 1/10/25) - \$75
- Nonmember Registration - \$100
- Student Member Early Bird Registration (on or before 1/10/25) - \$35
- Student Member Registration (after 1/10/25) - \$40
- Student Nonmember Registration - \$50

### **Individual Memberships**

- \$30 Full-time Faculty/Staff Member
- \$20 Part-time Faculty/Staff Member
- \$10 Student

### **Institutional Memberships**

- \$100 Institutional Membership
- Membership for 5 people
- Institution's name and logo on conference materials

### **Membership Benefits**

- Access to the Maryland Communication Association affinity group
- Opportunities to network with communication professionals, academics, and practitioners throughout the State of Maryland
- Subscription to the MCA newsletter
- Access to professional development opportunities
- Voting rights
- Opportunities to participate in MCA leadership roles

### **Executive Board:**

- Dr. Dara Phillips & Dr. Amy Oneal-Self, Co-Presidents, Wor-Wic Community College
- Dr. Dara Phillips, Secretary, Wor-Wic Community College
- Dr. Amy Oneal-Self, Treasurer, Wor-Wic Community College
- Dr. Chrys Egan, Immediate Past President, Salisbury University
- Dr. Colin Campbell, Past President, Howard University
- Sherry Tucker, M.A., Past President, Community College of Baltimore County
- Denise Gilmer-Knudson, Past President, College of Southern Maryland