

OCA Conference Call for Papers, Panels, Workshops, Posters, and GIFTS

A letter from the conference coordinator....

The 76th annual Ohio Communication Association will be held on October 5th and 6th at Kent State University. The theme for this year's conference is **"Ventures in Communication: Technology, Innovation, and Diffusion."** The conference theme is one that encourages opportunities for engagement in thought-provoking, meaningful, scholarly discussions, as well as, networking with colleagues from our state and neighboring states.

As your conference coordinator, I encourage ALL of you to participate in what is going to be our best conference ever! During my tenure as a member of OCA I have seen this organization grow tremendously. In 2010, I served as your conference host at Clark State where I worked with your OCA board to provide an outstanding, comfortable, easy to use facility. Currently, as your conference coordinator for the 2011 and 2012 conferences, it is my personal goal to create the best we have seen in OCA...so far!

As we prepare proposals for this conference, consider what you have to offer, what you teach, where you excel in research, and what you want to learn. We want to see what you have to offer! There are a variety of opportunities from presenting your research, participating in a panel discussion, fostering a hands-on workshop, preparing a poster of your recent work, or developing a classroom activity to have highlighted in our GIFTS session.

If your school would like to have table to highlight your **graduate school**, please send me an email to reserve a table! We would love to have as many graduate schools represented as possible.

We are always looking for **sponsors** for our conference and you can help! If you know of a business, a publisher, or if your college would like to sponsor a part of the conference, please contact me as soon as possible. Sponsors are always needed!

Submissions are encouraged in the following areas:

- Debut presentations by faculty and students
- G.I.F.T.S. (Great Ideas for Teaching Speech [or anything in COM])
- Demonstrations of innovative instructional methods
- Teaching or research challenges
- Program assessment and issues of accreditation
- Statewide issues or concerns for the discipline
- Further developing OCA to meet the needs of its constituents
- Specific university, private college, community college, or high school issues or concerns
- Workshops for undergraduate or graduate success in the discipline
- Hands-on workshops on topics relating to research or to specific topic areas (technology in the classroom, the basic course, developing critical thinking, the at-risk student, etc.)

If you have any questions, please contact me at colemanm@clarkstate.edu or call me at 937-328-3849. We are looking forward to a great conference! See you in Kent!

Michelle B. Coleman

The 2012 OCA Conference Call...

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS 5:00 P.M., SATURDAY, May 5, 2012

All submissions must be emailed in rich text format, MS word, or as a PDF file to Michelle B. Coleman, OCA Conference Coordinator, at colemanm@clarkstate.edu.

Upon receipt, the individual who emails the submission will be informed that the email was received. If you have not received confirmation of your submission by Wednesday, May 9, 2012, please email Michelle Coleman to check on the status.

Notification of acceptance or denial of your proposal will be emailed to the individual who sent the original submission by Saturday, June 9, 2012.

Below are guidelines for papers submissions, panel submissions, workshop submissions, poster submissions, and GIFTS submissions.

**Guidelines
PAPER SUBMISSIONS**

Submissions of completed papers should include:

1. A cover page that includes the following details:
 - a. Title of the paper.
 - b. Author's university affiliation.
 - c. Mailing address, telephone number, e-mail address.
 - d. Noted as "Debut" if the author has not presented previously at a state, regional, or national conference/convention.
 - e. Noted "Undergraduate Student" if the author is an undergraduate or "Graduate Student" if the author is a graduate student.
 - f. Statement of professional responsibility on the second page below the abstract:
 - i. "In submitting the attached paper, I/We recognize that this submission is considered a professional responsibility. I/We agree to present this paper if it is accepted and programmed. I/We further recognize that all who attend and present at OCA's annual conference must register and pay required fees."
2. A second page containing an abstract, not to exceed 150 words.
3. A copy of the completed paper.
4. OCA will judge undergraduate and graduate papers for a monetary award; these awards will be presented at the awards ceremony.

Guidelines
PANEL SUBMISSIONS

Submissions of completed panels/workshops should include:

1. A cover page that includes the following details:
 - a. Title of the panel.
 - b. A complete list of all participants with appropriate contact information (name, institutional affiliation, mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone number).
 - c. Contact information for the chair and respondent. It is encouraged for all panels to have a chair and a respondent. If you need assistance with either, please ask your OCA board members.
 - d. Statement of professional responsibility on the second page below the abstract:
 - i. "In submitting the attached panel proposal, I/We recognize that this submission is considered a professional responsibility. I/We agree to present the proposed panel if it is accepted and programmed. I/We further recognize that all who attend and present at OCA's annual conference must register and pay required fees."
2. On the second page, a rationale and description of the panel. This description will be used in the conference program, if your panel is accepted. The rationale needs to be descriptive enough that the review committee has a clear understanding of the following:
 - a. The goals for the session,
 - b. The rationale regarding why there is a need for the session and how it suitable for inclusion in the program,
 - c. The outcomes for the session, what you want participants to leave with at the conclusion of the session.
3. On the third page, each participant should include a brief paragraph regarding how s/he will contribute to the panel discussion, including any specific research that will be referenced.
4. Finally, a description of your audio-visual needs for the session.

Guidelines
WORKSHOP SUBMISSIONS

Submissions of completed panels/workshops should include:

1. A cover page that includes the following details:
 - a. Title of the workshop.
 - b. A complete list of the facilitators for the workshop with appropriate contact information (name, institutional affiliation, mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone number).
 - c. Statement of professional responsibility on the second page below the abstract:
 - i. "In submitting the attached workshop proposal, I/We recognize that this submission is considered a professional responsibility. I/We agree to

present the proposed workshop if it is accepted and programmed. I/We further recognize that all who attend and present at OCA's annual conference must register and pay required fees."

2. On the second page, a rationale, description, and a lesson plan of the workshop. This description will be used in the conference program, if your workshop is accepted. The rationale needs to be descriptive enough that the review committee has a clear understanding of the following:
 - a. The goals for the session;
 - b. The rationale regarding why there is a need for the session and how it suitable for inclusion in the program;
 - c. The outcomes for the session, what you want participants to leave with at the conclusion of the session.
3. On the third page, a description of any specific materials participants will receive. If there is a textbook linked to this session, please provide details.
4. A description of your audio-visual needs for the session.

Guidelines POSTER SUBMISSIONS

What is a poster session?

A poster presentation is an excellent way for early scholars to exhibit their research and gain valuable feedback from peers and senior scholars. Instead of presenting works through a paper presentation, the project is displayed on poster board (with images and text). Conference attendees look at the posters while the presenters have the opportunity to answer questions and further explain their projects. The OCA Poster Session includes a judged competition where the top undergraduate and graduate posters are awarded a cash prize at the conference lunch/business meeting.

What type of project can I submit for a poster session?

Many posters display a research project including the objective of the project, the methods, results, and conclusions. However, a variety of projects can also be displayed through a poster. For example, one can display a class project that applied a theory to a social movement, film, speech, or television show; a review of literature pertaining to a particular phenomenon; or a service-learning project that resulted in interesting conclusions.

How do I submit a poster session for consideration?

Poster Submissions should include:

1. Title page including the project title, author's name, institution, contact email and phone number, and the heading, "poster submission."
2. 250-500 word abstract explaining the project/research to be exhibited on the poster, which may be used in the conference program.
3. Poster submission should also include a plan for how the project will be visually displayed.

If I get accepted to present at the conference, what should I include in the poster?

Expectations of the Poster Presentation:

1. The presenter will bring a stand-alone poster (tri-fold poster boards work best)
2. Tables will be provided to exhibit the poster, but there is no guarantee that there will be available wall space on which to tape the poster.
3. The poster should include a clear title with the research question/hypothesis/or object prominently displayed.
4. If outside references are used in the project, the works cited should be included in the poster.
5. The poster should display research methods or the steps conducted in executing the project.
6. The poster should display conclusions and/or insights resulting from the project.

Guidelines GIFTS SUBMISSIONS

What is a GIFTS session?

“GIFTS” stands for Great Ideas for Teaching Speech (though we encourage submissions from all areas in the field of communication). Master teachers, first-year graduate teaching associates, and those in between, are encouraged to share their class-tested tools.

What type of project can I submit for a GIFTS session?

Activities, assignments, projects, games, simulations, or assessment techniques will address a specific communication theory, concept, skill, or learning objective.

How do I submit a GIFTS session for consideration?

GIFTS Submissions should include:

1. Title page including the project title, author’s name, institution, contact email and phone number, and the heading, “GIFTS submission.”
2. 250-500 word abstract explaining the project, which may be used in the conference program.
3. A copy of the actually assignment.