



International Association for Intercultural Communication Studies

Intercultural Communication and Collaboration within and across Sociolinguistic Environments

Call for Papers

The 15th International Conference on Cross-Cultural Communication

September 18-20, 2009

Kumamoto Gakuen University, Japan

The continuing globalization of the world brings ever-increasing opportunities to share knowledge and ideas across sociolinguistic boundaries. This is not simply a matter of the world becoming smaller or more alike—on the contrary, recognition and respect of diversity have become prerequisites in face of the need to understand and get along with each other. Moreover, intercultural sensitivity and accommodation are necessary for successful collaboration towards exchange and resolution of global issues.

The importance of effective communication across different environments has long been recognized; however, it is becoming more apparent that the need for enhanced communication skills to share ideas effectively even within the same sociolinguistic environment is posing an ever increasing challenge. This is at least partly due to the relative decrease in face-to-face communication that has become a dangerous side-effect of the bewildering increase in methods of global communication and the speed of change in the environment itself. The challenge of successful cooperation not only across but also within sociolinguistic and cultural boundaries, then, remains in the limelight today.

This year's conference aims to bring together experts in cross-cultural communication studies with a focus on recognition of the changing communicative environment in which we live and work, with the hope that new ideas and opportunities for collaboration will result. As an interdisciplinary conference on human communication across cultures, the suggested paper topics, therefore, cover a wide range of communication related themes. The following are potential paper topics.

- Approaches to intercultural communication study
- Business communication across cultures
- Communication accommodation
- Communication and globalization
- Communication education
- Computer mediated communication
- Conflict and negotiation
- Crisis management
- Cross-cultural adaptation
- Cultural and linguistic diversity
- Cultural identity and globalization
- Digital communication
- Ethnicity and communication
- Group or organizational communication across cultures
- Harmony and diversity
- Health communication across cultures

- Information technology and culture
- Interpersonal/intercultural communication
- Intercultural / global communication competence
- Language and cultural education
- Language and media
- Language and society
- Language attitude
- Language change and language stability
- Language policy
- Media and culture
- Media literacy
- Rhetoric studies
- Risk communication across cultures
- Theory of intercultural communication from different perspectives
- Research methodology in intercultural communication studies
- Translation theory
- Verbal and nonverbal communication across cultures
- Interpersonal communication across cultures

Guidelines for Submission

Categories: Abstracts and panel proposals may be submitted.

- Abstract, 150-200 words in English, including affiliations, email addresses and mailing addresses for all authors. See the sample format of the abstract below.
- Panel proposal reflecting the conference theme may be submitted. All panel proposals should provide a 100-word rationale and 150 word abstract of each panelist's paper, mailing addresses and email addresses of all panelists.

Deadline: Please submit the abstracts and the complete panel proposals online as an MS Word attachment by **May 15, 2009**. Completed paper should be done by the time of the conference. Authors will be informed at the conference where to send the completed paper and when the deadline is for the consideration of being published in one of the two issues of the IAICS journal, *Intercultural Communication Studies*, which will be devoted to conference papers. All submissions will be carefully reviewed.

Conference language: International English

Organizational website:

<http://www2.kumagaku.ac.jp/teacher/~judy/cgi/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=IAICS2009.Homepage>
<http://www.uri.edu/iaics/>

Submission to: Judy Yoneoka and/or Yuko Takeshita at iaics2009@kumagaku.ac.jp

Sample Abstract

The Development and Validation of the Intercultural Sensitivity Scale

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Keywords: Intercultural Sensitivity Scale, reliability, validity, intercultural communication

The present study developed and assessed reliability and validity of a new instrument, the Intercultural Sensitivity Scale (ISS). Based on a review of the literature, 44 items thought to be important for intercultural sensitivity were generated. A sample of 414 college students rated these items and generated a 24-item final version of the instrument which contains five factors. An assessment of concurrent validity from 162 participants indicated that the ISS was significantly correlated with other related scales, including interaction attentiveness, impression rewarding, self-esteem, self-monitoring, and perspective taking. In addition, the predicted validity test from 174 participants showed that individuals with high ISS scores also scored high in intercultural effectiveness and intercultural communication attitude scales. Potential limitations and future direction of the study were discussed as well.