

Feb. 2026



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE

SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION  
STUDIES

# KUDOS AND CELEBRATIONS

## Nailing It!

Dr. Sakshi Bhati won Top Paper Award at the Central States Communication Association in the Strategic and Applied Communication Division this year for her paper "Minding the Gap: Regulatory Imperatives, Government Public Information, and the U.S. Aging Population."

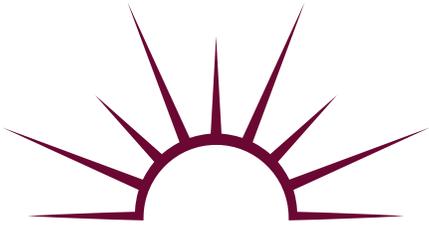
Irene Lutterodt and Dr. Sandy Pensoneau-Conway co-facilitated a 2-part class, "Understanding Diversity," for the Southern Illinois Learning in Retirement group.

Casey Weaver is hosted a graduated student game night at her house to celebrate the new semester and encourage graduate students to prioritize their mental health and community.

Dr. Dustin Greenwalt edited a special issue of The Project of the Rhetoric of Inquiry (POROI) vol. 20, no. 1: "Method/ology in the Rhetoric of Science, Technology, and Medicine." The special issue is available here: <https://pubs.lib.uiowa.edu/poroi/>.

## In the Spotlight

The Kleinau Theatre hosted Dr. Anjuliet Woodruffe and Dr. Marquese McFerguson on February 21, for their performance of Live and In Color. Written and Performed by Woodruffe and McFerguson, Live and in Color is a collaborative poetry performance, staged for the first time at the Contemporary Arts Center in Cincinnati, Ohio in 2024. Live and in Color's name is inspired by a privet hedge on the campus of the University of Cincinnati that is labeled, "LIVE." The poet/performers used the hedge as a muse to write about what it has meant to live as Black wo/men and academics over the last 5 years.



# On the Horizon

## **Work/Shoot**

**Written and Performed by Mario Sanders**

**Co-Directed with Dr. T Brown**

The world of professional wrestling is one that blurs the lines between fiction (the “work”) and reality (the “shoot”). While the work and shoot elements of professional wrestling are often conceived as antithetical to one another, they can be better understood as working in tandem. This performance utilizes both work and shoot elements to discuss masculinity and grief, while simultaneously using autoethnographic reflections on masculinity and grief to illuminate aspects of professional wrestling.

## **Saints, Witches, and Madwomen**

**Written and Performed by Dr. Christina L. Ivey**

**Directed by: Dr. Shelby Swafford**

A historiography of women’s behaviors that were societally described as odd, problematic, and dangerous, this performance traces the historical connection between women labeled as “saints,” “witches,” and “madwomen” while exploring the darker areas of family communication. Weaving story, poetry, theory, and history, this autoethnographic performance examines Ivey’s relationship with their mother. Mature Themes

**Speaker’s Forum auditions** will be held March 17 and 19 from 5:00-7:30 p.m. in room 2005 of the Communications building. This semester’s theme is “Redefining Success: The Landscape of Happiness.” Finalists can win a \$350 scholarship. Auditions are open to undergraduate students who can schedule their audition by emailing [cmst.aicc@siu.edu](mailto:cmst.aicc@siu.edu).

**Dr. Eric. Jenkins**, Professor in the School of Communication, Film, and Media Studies at the University of Cincinnati, will give a talk on “How Virtual Media Generated Actual Extremism” and his upcoming book called *Mode Switch: Digital Capitalism >> Fascist Affect*. The talk will be held Friday, March 20 at 3:30 p.m. at the Kleinau Theatre.