About the Contributors

Steven Gibson is an author of books, chapters, and monographs on violence, conflict, and cognitive studies. Gibson’s research has been located in studies of conflict resolution within multi-ethnic national polities. Additionally, his published research into machine representation of human communication is cross-discipline between communication research and computer science.

Agnes Lucy Lando obtained her PhD in Social Communication from The Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, in 2008. Dr. Lando is a Senior Lecturer at a number communication academic/professional bodies in and outside Africa. She teaches BA, MA and PhD Communication programs, supervises Dissertations; and serves in the Ethics Committee of the University. She has published in communication Ethics, Higher Education in Africa, the idea of a Catholic University in the 21st century, The Critical Role of Crisis Communication Plan, Rumours on Social Media, and the subtle Kenya 2013 Post-Election Violence. She won the 2013 George Gerbner Excellence Award. Lando is an Associate Professor of Communication and Media Studies at Daystar University, Kenya. She is also the Deputy Head of Communication Department, and also serves in the Ethics Committee of the University. Touched by the plight of postgraduate students dropping out of university due to financial challenges, Prof. Lando, in March 2013, founded Master Communicators Welfare Association (MCWA). The first scholarship was awarded on 14th March 2014.

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Darla Anderson (M.A., California State University, Northridge, and J.D. University of San Diego School of Law) teaches communication courses at CSUN and Oxnard College.

Benjamin Brojakowski is a third year doctoral student at Bowling Green State University. He researches all things related to social media, but his specific interests change based on current events, new technology, and interesting ways activists use these tools to promote their messages. Despite having interests that change as frequently as Twitter’s trending topics, issues of race, ethnic conflict, and social justice in digital spaces remain a key focus of Ben’s work. His interest in these areas has led to multiple opportunities to present and share his research. His work has been presented at the Ohio Communication Association conference (OCA), Mid-Atlantic Popular and American Culture conference (MAPACA), the National Communication Association conference (NCA), the International Association For Media and Communication Researchers conference (IAMCR), and others. In addition to research, Ben has worked as an instructor, teaching assistant, and guest lecturer at Bowling Green State University. He has taught
several sections of Introduction to Public Speaking and has also worked as a teaching assistant for Global Telecommunications Systems, Media Effects, and Communication Research Methods. In the 2015–2016 academic year he will work as both a teaching assistant and primary instructor of Communication Theory.

**Z. Hall** is an independent communication scholar specializing in rhetoric. Her interests include visual rhetoric, culture, art, race, identity, media studies, film, digital rhetoric, and intersections of these. She also blogs about rhetoric, art, and culture at: 360degreesz.blogspot.com.

**Jennifer Heusel** is assistant professor of communication in the Department of Communication, Language and Literature at Coker College. Her research, teaching, and service engage theories of rhetoric, economics, and cultural studies. Her perspective is informed by her multidisciplinary training in the humanities including Rhetoric, Art History, and African American and African Diaspora Studies.

**Susan M. Kilonzo** is a Senior Lecturer in the department of Religion, Theology & Philosophy at Maseno University, Kenya. Her area of specialization is sociology of religion and community development. She is a multidisciplinary researcher in the fields of religion and peace-building, religion and development, youth studies and HIV/AIDS in Africa. Among other peer reviewed journals, her work appears in Journal of Theology, Religion & Philosophy, Africa Media Review, Journal of Peacebuilding and Development, Journal of Conflict Transformation & Security and several edited book volumes. Dr. Kilonzo has presented at international and regional conferences in several countries in North America, Europe, Asia and Africa.

**Julianna Kirschner** is a Ph.D. doctoral candidate in the Cultural Studies program at Claremont Graduate University. Her research interests include the dynamic between place and space, and the ways they influence our communication and cultural understandings.

**Samuel Kochomay** is a PhD (Communication) Student at Moi University and a Lecturer in the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication at Mount Kenya University. He has co-authored “Sport for Peace: opportunities and challenges” in the current issues in contemporary comparative physical education and sport (Ch5) (Gitau & Kochomay, 2013), and The Diffusion of Agricultural Innovations: The Effectiveness of Communication Channels used in the Improved Pigeonpea Varieties in Makueni County, Kenya (Gathecha, Bowen, Silim & Kochomay, 2012). His areas of research interest are, Communication-conflict/conflict interventions nexus and Development communication.

**Zach B. Massey** is a Masters’ student in the Department of Communication at the University of Oklahoma. His research interests include the intercultural communication, interethnic communication, international and interethnic conflict, and peace building.

**Bala A. Musa** (Ph.D., Regent University) is Professor of Communication Studies at Azusa Pacific University. He is recipient of the Clifford G. Christians Ethics Research Award. He holds a Ph.D., M.S., and B.A., in Mass Communication; an M.A. in Management; a Certificate in Special Election Observation Training from the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Center; and an Advanced Certificate in Human Resources Management. His research interests include communication and conflict, media
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ethics, social media, and international communication, among others. In addition to articles in scholarly journals, Musa is series editor of Communication, Society and Change Series; author of Framing Genocide: Media, Diplomacy and Conflict; and co-editor of From Twitter to Tahrir Square: Ethics in Social and New Media Communication; and Communication in an Era of Global Conflicts: Principles and Strategies for 21st Century Africa. Lanham, MD: University Press of America, among others. He is Fellow of the Multi-Ethnic Leadership Institute, and the National Media Ethics Colloquium. He serves on the editorial board of several publications, and the trustee board of several organizations. Musa enjoys traveling, reading, and volunteering for community organizations.

Eddah Mbula Mutua is Professor of Communication Studies at St. Cloud State University, Minnesota. She teaches in the area of intercultural communication. Her research focuses on peace communication in post-conflict societies in Eastern Africa with a special interest in the role of women in post-genocide Rwanda and grassroots peacemaking initiatives in Kenya. In the U.S., her areas of research include East African refugee and host communities’ interactions in Central Minnesota, Africans and African-Americans relations, and critical service-learning as a pedagogical practice in peace education. Her work in peace communication and education has received national and international recognition. She coordinates a nationally recognized award-winning service-learning project that brings together university and high school students in Central Minnesota, U.S and Kajiado, Kenya to dialogue about peaceful co-existence in diverse communities and a global world. Her publications appear in Qualitative Inquiry, Africa Media Review, African Yearbook of Rhetoric, Women & Language, Text and Performance Quarterly and several edited intercultural books.

Charles C. Okigbo is professor of communication at North Dakota State University where he teaches courses in communication analysis, strategic communication research, and advertising/public relations. He holds master’s degrees from Ohio University, University of Leicester, and Harvard University. His doctorates in Journalism and Educational Leadership are from Southern Illinois University. He had taught full or part-time at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka; University of Lagos; University of Nairobi; and University of North Dakota.

Chad Painter’s research focuses on the areas of mass media ethics, history, new media, and diversity studies. His dissertation examined a 50-year history of the alternative press, and how that normative role of the alternative press evolved from the 1960s underground press to the online alternative press today. In addition, he has researched the role of the underground G.I. press during the Vietnam War, how non-traditional news sources such as The Daily Show hold traditional news organizations accountable to the public, ethical issues relating to aggregating websites such as the Huffington Post, and the impact of television series such as The Wire and Sports Night on viewer perceptions of journalists. He is a member of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, and the International Communication Association. His professional experience includes writing and editing for the Columbus, Ohio, alternative newsweekly The Other Paper, and corporate communications for JPMorgan Chase.

Randall G. Rogan is Professor of Communication and Senior Associate Dean of The College at Wake Forest University. Rogan’s research program is forensic discourse analysis of crisis negotiations and author identification. He is recognized as an international expert and researcher in crisis negotia-
tion. Of particular noteworthiness, his analysis of written documents was central in the investigation and arrest of the Unabomber. Additionally, his research focuses on the communication-based analysis of terrorism, with particular attention on the discourse of jihadism, its foundational jurisprudence, and the ideology for jihad against democracy.

Seif Sekalala is a doctoral candidate (ABD) in the department of communication at Drexel University, Philadelphia. His main areas of research interest are intercultural communication (Rwandan former refugee & genocide survivor narratives and discourses), political communication (polarized political discourses in the USA), and health communication (illness narratives).

Sonia Jawaid Shaikh is a doctoral student at Annenberg School of Communication and Journalism, University of Southern California.

George A. Stairs is an M.A. International Affairs: Conflict Analysis and Conflict Resolution candidate at Carleton University’s Norman Paterson School of International Affairs. Originally from Ship Harbour, Nova Scotia, he has been a student at Carleton University in Ottawa for the past six years, having taken his undergraduate studies there as well. He writes on international security and conflict issues for the student-run website iaffairscanada.ca.

Bobbi Van Gilder is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Communication at the University of Oklahoma. Bobbi Van Gilder’s M.A. was granted at California State University, Long Beach, 2012. Her research interests include intercultural communication, co-cultural communication, intergroup prejudices and stereotypes, identity management and identity negotiation.

Erin Willis started her career in public relations in Chicago, working at an agency and then transitioning to corporate communication, managing internal communication and the organization’s brand. She also founded a regional magazine for a timeshare company that promoted travel and local tourism. Willis is the head of the public relations concentration and manages the department’s internship program. Willis maintains an active research agenda, having papers published in Health Communication, Health Informatics, Journal of Health Psychology, Newspaper Research Journal, and others. Her research focuses on health communication, new media, and computer-mediated communication.