



North Carolina State University's  
Technical Communication Association presents

## **SpeedCon 2022**

### **Communication Professionals: Past, Present, & Future**

**Date:** April 9, 2022 | **Time:** 10am - 4pm

**Location:** Hybrid (Zoom & Tompkins Hall at NC State University)

## **Call for Presenters**

The Technical Communication Association (TCA) of North Carolina State University is excited to announce its annual knowledge exchange gathering – SpeedCon. Started in 2011 by students and faculty of the M.S. in Technical Communication at NC State, SpeedCon brings together technical communication students and professionals from the Triangle area and beyond by providing a vibrant platform to share knowledge and build networks. To comply with state officials' recommendations concerning large social gatherings and to keep everyone safe, this will be the first hybrid SpeedCon!

TCA represents students of technical communication at NC State. We promote discussion about the latest trends in the field and achieve active collaboration between students and local industry. TCA is a registered non-profit organization under North Carolina state law. We welcome graduate and undergraduate students, as well as everyone interested in technical communication. Our members come from diverse backgrounds. They bring a variety of skill sets, international exposure, intercultural experience, and research interests to the organization. We have a strong network of alumni who are making their mark in technical communication across the USA and beyond.

Please follow SpeedCon updates and share your experience via the social media hashtag #SpeedCon2022.

# SpeedCon 2022

## Communication Professionals: Past, Present, & Future

Date: April 9, 2022 | Time: 10am - 4pm

### Audience

SpeedCon's primary audience includes graduate students of the M.S. in Technical Communication and professionals from the Triangle area. Students from various other disciplines are welcome to attend.

### Event Format

SpeedCon 2022 will be hosted in a hybrid format. Presenters will have the option to attend the event either virtually via Zoom or in person on NC State's campus. Lunch will be provided for in-person attendees.

All attendees will be required to abide by [NC State COVID-19 protocols](#) on the date of the conference. Should circumstances necessitate the conference be moved to an entirely virtual format, presenters will be provided with advanced notice.

### Presentation Format

There are two types of presentations: SpeedTalks and Workshops. Please note that the TCA cannot offer speaker fees. Presentations should align with the [SpeedCon 2022 theme](#).

#### 1. SpeedTalks

SpeedTalks are no more than 10 minutes long, with an additional five minutes for Q&A. Topic ideas may include trends in the industry, tips that audience members can apply in their current job or field of study, or your recent research or projects.

#### 2. Workshops

Workshops occur in blocks of 45 minutes. A formal slideshow is optional, but we'll need to see a plan or timeline for your workshop in advance. Your workshop can be an intensive discussion on a topic or a hands-on session about how to accomplish a particular activity.

Please contact us if you would like to discuss alternative presentation formats (e.g. panel).

### Areas of Focus

The following are some topic areas covered in past conferences, though we will consider all topics related to a **specific job title and/or professional task or function** within technical communication. We invite you to propose an idea on one of these topics or another topic you believe could be of interest to tech comm professionals!

- Artificial Intelligence
- Content management
- Data visualization
- Digital marketing
- DITA, XML, HTML, CSS
- Grant writing
- Graphic design
- Information design
- Instructional design
- Medical writing
- Public relations
- Science writing
- SEO writing
- Technical documentation
- Technical editing
- Technical translation
- Usability testing
- User experience
- User research
- Virtual reality

## Theme – Communication Professionals: Past, Present, & Future

This year's conference focuses on specific roles and responsibilities in the past, present, and future of technical communication – examining the unique workplace applications of the diverse technical skills within the field. While technical communication professionals are qualified for a wide variety of jobs, we often concentrate on only a narrow range of the vast opportunities available. The goal is to explore the range of positions available to tech comm professionals as well as the tools, technologies, and technical skill sets that support key job functions. We encourage speakers to focus their presentations around the past, present, and future of tech comm roles and take into consideration the following theme discussion guidelines:

### **PAST: Formative Experiences & Pathways**

- What is your professional and academic background?
- How did you get to your current position and/or place in the field?
- What did your career pathway look like?

### **PRESENT: Current Roles & Responsibilities**

- What is your current position in the tech comm field?
- What are your job responsibilities and tasks?
- What skills, tools, and technologies do you use in your current role, and how do you use them to support and accomplish job functions?

### **FUTURE: Emerging Tools, Positions, & Practices**

- How do you think your current role will continue to evolve?
- What new tools, technologies, and practices are emerging in your role, and how will they impact the future of your position?
- What positions are needed to accommodate new developments in the field?

## Registration & Submission

Please register and submit your abstracts and bio using this [Google Form](#), which is also found on [www.speedcon.net](http://www.speedcon.net). Your submission will include an abstract for your presentation and a brief professional profile.

### **Abstract**

Submit a **150-300 word abstract** for your presentation. If you are accepted as a workshop presenter, you will need to submit your workshop plan within 15 days from the notification of being accepted as a speaker. You can submit multiple abstracts (one each for a SpeedTalk or a workshop). The planning committee reserves the right to limit the number of presentations to one per speaker if there are too many submissions.

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## Profile

Write a short bio of **no more than 100 words** to provide us with a high-level view of your career and your major accomplishments, which we will include in the conference program. Your bio should include the following:

- Full name, current job title, and organization's name
- Description of your role in the organization and the products/services it provides
- Highlights from your career as it relates to your presentation
- Key civic activities and personal interests
- Degrees, certifications, awards, honors, and authored publications
- LinkedIn profile link (optional)

During the week preceding SpeedCon, the TCA will request submission of slide decks. You may use PowerPoint, Google Slides, or another presentation format. The presentations will either occur in person or via Zoom's share screen function, but we will need a copy of your slides as a backup. Additionally, the TCA would like to upload slides and recordings to [www.speedcon.net](http://www.speedcon.net) for people unable to attend. The slide submission request will ask for your permission.

## Contact

If you have questions about SpeedCon or troubles with registration, please contact [contact-tca@ncsu.edu](mailto:contact-tca@ncsu.edu) or Adrienne Nip (TCA President) at [agnip@ncsu.edu](mailto:agnip@ncsu.edu). Please include "SpeedCon" in the subject line.