

## Medical Rhetoric CCCC 2023 Roundtable CFP

### Doing Hope in Health and Medicine: Action and Intervention

In the last decade or so, RHM scholars have dedicated significant efforts toward moving from “a fledgling field to a recognized field” (Molloy et al., 2021, p. ii). In a recent *Rhetoric of Health & Medicine* issue introduction marking the start of the journal’s fourth year, the *RHM* editors noted that as “RHM as a field is settling into its role” it will continue to be characterized by “hybridity” and “flux” and “to privilege collaborative problem-solving, lived enactments, and ameliorative impacts” (Molloy et al., 2021, p. v). In light of current pressing problems and global events, questions of “ameliorative impacts” through action and intervention seem more urgent than ever.

CCCC 2023 chair Frankie Condon suggested in the conference CFP that while “we live in a broken world,” there is hope and “hope is action.” The idea of *doing hope* in the context of the ongoing pandemics of COVID and racism and growing political and social tension in the U.S.—as manifested again in early May with the leaked Supreme Court majority opinion draft that would overturn *Roe v. Wade*—points to the need to foreground possibilities for the amelioration of urgent problems via RHM research and teaching. There are many ways to *do hope-as-action* in RHM; for example, by meaningfully collaborating with affected communities, amplifying diverse voices and experiences, enacting care, and/or carrying out justice-oriented work. Thus, **this roundtable seeks proposals for presentations that will report, encourage, and enact the field’s commitments to action and intervention work in RHM.**

### Roundtable Objective

The objective of the roundtable is to foster interactive discussions between and around these issues and among presenters and the audience. To this end, we invite proposals for modified ignite (5-minute) presentations where participants provide an overview of their primary research, teaching, or administrative/professional work-related discussed within the framework of common practices in RHM. Each presenter will be asked to conclude with a question or questions they will pose to the audience to foster discussion. Once all presenters have finished speaking, attendees will break into small groups to discuss the questions/topics presented.

### Prospective Topics

To examine these ideas, individuals are invited to submit proposals for short (5-minute) presentations that will focus on themes and topics such as:

- Why and how is RHM well-situated, in its theories, method/ologies, and ethics to ameliorate, advocate, and intervene in the world? In what ways can we do this work and what’s at stake?
- What commitments serve as the foundation for ameliorative or interventive work in RHM and how are those commitments enacted?
- How, when, and why should RHM intervene in pressing problems in health and medicine? What commitments and ethics can guide us in such work?

- How can we intentionally and meaningfully enact hope-as-action in RHM theory, methodology, advocacy, and/or pedagogy? What constitutes action-oriented RHM work? What theories and practices inform ameliorative or interventive action in RHM?
- What common practices might guide how, when, and why we take up ameliorative or interventive work with, within, and beyond our communities?

### **Submissions**

Please submit **250-word maximum proposals** to dmstambler@asu.edu by **Friday, May 27, 2022**. Submissions from co-authors considered. Queries welcome.

In your proposal, note the following:

- The topic/focus of your proposed presentation
- How you will address the theme of “Doing Hope in Health and Medicine: Action and Intervention” in your presentation
- The final question(s) you will use to engage the audience in a conversation at the end of the presentation

Proposal decisions will be made by June 1, 2022.

References:

Molloy, C., Scott, J.B., & Melonçon, L. (2021). Ruminations on the Long Haul: Harnessing RHM's Hybridity. *Rhetoric of Health & Medicine* 4(1), iii-ix.