

# Intercultural Connections: Bridging Theory and Practice

*Presented During:* The Presence of Our Practice: Applications of Communication Theory Outside of Academia

**Sponsor: Applied Communication Division**

Thu, 11/20: 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

Palmer House Hilton

Room: Chicago - 5th Floor

As a professor of intercultural communication who has worked with several communities outside of academia to bridge theory and practice, I have been increasingly interested in the disconnect that seems to exist between intercultural academics working in research intensive universities, and intercultural practitioners working 'on the ground', in areas such as intercultural pedagogy and curriculum development, refugee affairs, military adjustment to civilian life, study abroad, hostels and international travel, diplomacy, and international business. For this reason, I have started an organization designed to create connections between intercultural theorists and intercultural practitioners, in the areas of teaching, training, assessment, resource development, grant opportunities, service learning partnerships, and collaborative research opportunities. Focusing specifically on the example of cosmopolitanism and education for global competency, I will offer a two illustrative examples of theory/practice collaboration: working to develop an intercultural curriculum with Chicago Public Schools, and the online literacy program Space2cre8. I will conclude with recommendations for ways of creating collaborative connections that will benefit both university and academic scholars and social justice for community members.

## **Author**

*Miriam S. Sobre-Denton*, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale - [Contact Me](#)