

Danielle Catona, PhD, CHES

Curriculum Vitae

Education

- Ph.D., Health Communication - Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ.
- M.S., Health Promotion - University of Delaware, Newark, DE.
- M.A., Health Communication - The Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA.
- B.A., Communication Studies - The College of New Jersey, Ewing, NJ.

Certifications

- Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) (2018, October). Sponsored by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing.
- Project Management in Development (PMD Pro) (2015, May). Sponsored by APMG International Accrediting Professionals.
- Teaching with Technology Certificate (2012, May). Sponsored by Rutgers University's Center for Teaching Advancement and Assessment Research.

Current Academic Appointment

- **University of Maryland:** Lecturer, School of Public Health, 2022 - present

Prior Public Health Courses Taught

- Foundations of Public Health
- Global Health
- Health Program Planning and Evaluation
- Public Health Research Methods

Prior Communication Courses Taught

- Group Communication
- Health Communication
- Interpersonal Communication
- Interpersonal Health Communication
- Persuasion
- Professional Writing
- Public Speaking
- Research Methods

Teaching Honors and Awards

- George Mason University: 2021 Online Teacher of Distinction (SP21)
- George Mason University: Thank a Teacher Recognition (SP20, SP21)
- George Mason University: Mason Core Award Writing Intensive in Major (FA19, SU20, FA20, SP21, F21)
- George Mason University: Mason Core Award Global Understanding (SU19, SU20)
- Rutgers University: Distinguished Graduate Student Teaching Award (SP14)

Research Honors and Awards

- Erickson Foundation Research Award in Positive Aging, Aging and Public Health Division, American Public Health Association, 2019
- Fellow, Center for Healthy Aging, The National Council of Aging, 2018
- Top Paper Award, Health Communication Division, Eastern Communication Association, 2016
- Dissertation of the Year Award, Communication and Aging Division, National Communication Association, 2015
- Top Paper Award, Health Communication Division, National Communication Association, 2015
- Top Paper Award, Applied Communication Division, National Communication Association, 2015
- Top Paper Award, Communication and Aging Division, National Communication Association, 2011, 2014
- Thesis of the Year Award, Communication and Aging Division, National Communication Association, 2011
- First Place, Social & Behavioral Sciences, Penn State Graduate Exhibition, 2010
- Department of Communication Studies Health Communication Award, The College of New Jersey, 2008
- Stephen A. Smith Award, Lambda Pi Eta Division, National Communication Association, 2007

Selected Research and Grant Experience

- National Council on Aging, Center for Healthy Aging, Arlington, VA, January 2020 - present
 - Serves as external evaluator of technical assistance provided by the National Council on Aging's Falls Prevention and Chronic Disease Self-management Education Resource Centers to Administration for Community Living grant recipients.
 - Develops and administers survey to grant recipients.
 - Facilitates focus groups with grant recipients.
 - Analyzes quantitative and qualitative data obtained and provides recommendations to the National Council on Aging.
- National Council on Aging, Center for Healthy Aging, Arlington, VA, May 2018 - August 2018
 - Provided technical assistance and support to state and community organizations offering evidence-based falls prevention, health promotion, and disease prevention programs funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
 - Assisted with the development and dissemination of resources, including webinars, fact sheets, and toolkits, focused on topics that will help partners expand and sustain evidence-based health promotion programs.
 - Supported Policy/Advocacy staff by conducting an environmental scan and identifying a Health Expert Panel as part of the Social and Behavioral Determinants of Health for Older Adults Initiative.
- Education Development Center, Health and Human Development Division, New York, NY, December 2014 - August 2015
 - *Department of Defense Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program, W81XWH-11-2-0051, entitled "Reducing Barriers to Help Seeking for Mental Health Problems"*
 - Created a systems map of mental health services, supports and policies to provide a context for understanding soldiers' recognition of and responses to specific mental health problems at three large Army posts.
 - Completed qualitative analysis of mental health provider interviews about the impact of stigma and logistical barriers in preventing mental health care use among soldiers.
 - Managed soldier, family member, and mental health provider survey data.
 - Provided recommendations for segment-specific social marketing and educational messages that promote early detection and treatment, with the goal of supporting the psychological well-being and resilience of soldiers.

- *Seniorlink/Caregiver Homes, entitled “Dementia Care and Caregiver Engagement Training”*
 - Assisted with the creation of the Seniorlink Caregiver Engagement Training to develop competency-based training of nurses and care managers in dementia care and to promote the skills and engagement of family caregivers of individuals with dementia.
 - Assisted with development of “train-the-trainer” materials to promote future implementation fidelity and quality.

Articles Published in Peer-Reviewed Journals

- **Catona, D.**, Greene, K., Venetis, M. K., Bontempo, A.C., Buckley de Meritens, A., & Devine, K.A. (2022). Conflicting views during gynecologic cancer care: A comparison of patients' and caregivers' perceptions of burden. *Supportive Care in Cancer*, 30(9), 7755-7762. doi: 10.1007/s00520-022-07185-1
- Lee, L. E., Greene, K., Venetis, M. K., Bontempo, A. C., **Catona, D.**, Buckley de Meritens, A., & Devine, K.A. (2022). Aligned and divergent perceptions of support persons' role in triadic gynecologic cancer communication. *Qualitative Health Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10497323211066868>
- Bontempo, A. C., Greene, K., Venetis, M. K., **Catona, D.**, Checton, M. G., Buckley de Meritens, A., & Devine, K. A. (2020). “We cannot have any negativity”: A secondary analysis of expectancies for the experience of emotion among women with gynecologic cancer. *Journal of Health Psychology*, 1-11. <https://www.doi.org/10.1177/1359105320942863>
- Checton, M. G., Greene, K., Carpenter, A., & **Catona, D.** (2017). Perceptions of health information seeking and partner advocacy in the context of a cardiology office visit: Connections with health outcomes. *Health Communication*, 32, 587-595. doi.org/10.1080/10410236.2016.1144148
- Greene, K., **Catona, D.**, Elek, E., Magsamen-Conrad, K., Banerjee, S. C., Hecht, M. L. (2016). Improving prevention curricula: Lessons learned through formative research on the Youth Message Development Curriculum. *Journal of Health Communication*, 21, 1071-1078. doi: 10.1080/10810730.2016.1222029
- **Catona, D.**, Greene, K., Magsamen-Conrad, K., & Carpenter, A. (2016). Perceived and experienced stigma among people living with HIV: Examining the role of prior stigmatization on reasons for and against future disclosures. *Journal of Applied Communication Research*, 44, 136-155. doi: 10.1080/00909882.2016.1155726
- **Catona, D.**, Greene, K., & Magsamen-Conrad, K. (2015). Perceived benefits and drawbacks of disclosure practices: An analysis of people living with HIV/AIDS' strategies for disclosing HIV status. *Journal of Health Communication*, 20, 1294-1301. doi: 10.1080/10810730.2015.1018640
- Smith, R. A., Hernandez, R., & **Catona, D.** (2014). Investigating initial disclosures and reactions to unexpected, positive HPV diagnosis. *Western Journal of Communication*, 78, 426-440. doi: 10.1080/10570314.2013.786120
- Greene, K., Carpenter, A., **Catona, D.**, & Magsamen-Conrad, K. (2013). The Brief Disclosure Intervention (BDI): Facilitating African Americans' disclosure of HIV. *Journal of Communication*, 63, 138-158. doi: 10.1111/jcom.12010
- Warren, J. R., & **Catona, D.** (2013). Inner-city low-income African American light smokers: Perceptions of cessation counseling. *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*, 24, 1306-1316. doi: 10.1353/hpu.2013.0146

Articles Under Review

- Senger-Mersich, A., Greene, K., Venetis, M. K., Bontempo, A. C., **Catona, D.**, Buckley de Meritens, A., & Devine, K. A. (in review). Gynecologic cancer treatment appointments: Healthcare providers' assessments of the role of support persons.
- Venetis, M. K., Bontempo, A. C., **Catona, D.**, Buckley de Meritens, A., Devine, K., & Greene, K. (in review). "Mom, you're not gonna get a trophy for saying, 'I'm fine.'" Patient and companion dilemmas with companion participation in gynecologic cancer medical interactions.

Book Chapters

- Carpenter, A., Greene, K., Checton, M. G., & **Catona, D.** (2018). Extending the relational turbulence model: Examining uncertainty and interference with cardiology patients. In J. A. Theiss & K. L. Greene (Eds.), *Contemporary studies of relationships, health, and wellness* (pp. 184-199). New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.
- **Catona, D.** (2018). "We have been robbed of the life we planned": Relational turbulence and experiences of Alzheimer's disease in late-life married couples. In J. A. Theiss & K. L. Greene (Eds.), *Contemporary studies of relationships, health, and wellness* (pp. 139-159). New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.
- **Catona, D.**, & Greene, K. (2016). Self-disclosure. In C. R. Berger & M. E. Roloff (Eds.), *International encyclopedia of interpersonal communication*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell.
- Teodoro, R., & **Catona, D.** (2014). The implementation of electronic medical records into existing medical practice. In M. Brann (Ed.), *Contemporary case studies in health communication: Theoretical and applied approaches* (Chapter 21). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.
- Greene, K., & **Catona, D.** (2013). Seeking a last first date: Strategic self-disclosure and self-presentation as persuasion in online dating interactions. In C. Liberman (Ed.), *Casing persuasive communication* (pp. 35-50). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.
- Hipper, T. J., **Catona, D.**, & Nussbaum, J. F. (2010). Transitioning from independence to dependence: Family relational adaptation to Alzheimer's Disease. In M. Miller-Day (Ed.), *Family communication and health transitions: Going through this together* (pp. 351-375). New York, NY: Peter Lang Publishing.

Conference Presentations

- Lee, L. E., Broadbridge, E., Greene, K., Venetis, M. K., Buckley de Meritens, A., **Catona, D.**, & Devine, K. A. (2022, November). *Disclosing patients' cancer-related information: Support persons' involvement in and holding back from sharing cancer-related concerns with oncology providers*. Poster to be presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Broadbridge, E., Greene, K., Venetis, M. K., Lee, L. E., Buckley de Meritens, A., **Catona, D.**, & Devine, K. A. (2022, November). *The influence of perceived provider empathy on disclosure decision making*. Paper to be presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Senger-Mersich, A., Venetis, M. K., Greene, K., **Catona, D.**, Buckley de Meriten, A., & Devine, K. A. (2022, April). Clinicians engaging companions during gynecologic care. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the Kentucky Conference on Health Communication, Lexington, KY.

- Habib, A. S., Polk, T. H., Ashley, J., **Catona, D.**, Ha, J. M., Komwa, M. K., Webb Smith, N. (2021, September). *Strategies for teaching research writing*. Panel presented at the annual Innovations in George Mason University Teaching and Learning Conference, Fairfax, VA.
- Lee, L. E., Greene, K., Venetis, M. K., Bontempo, A. C., **Catona, D.**, Buckley de Meritens, A., & Devine, K. A. (2021, April). *"If I need your help, I'll include you in the conversation": Aligning and diverging perceptions in triadic cancer communication*. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the DC Health Communication Conference, Fairfax, VA.
- Senger-Mersich, A., Greene, K., Venetis, M. K., Bontempo, A. C., **Catona, D.**, Buckley de Meritens, A., & Devine, K. A. (2021, April). *Gynecologic cancer treatment appointments: Healthcare providers' assessments of the role of support persons*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the DC Health Communication Conference, Fairfax, VA.
- **Catona, D.** (2020, November). *Older adults' perceptions of falls and falls prevention: An interview-based study*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America (online due to COVID-19).
- Venetis, M. K., Bontempo, A. C., Checton, M. G., **Catona, D.**, Greene, K., Buckley de Meritens, A., & Devine, K. A. (2020, November). *"Mom, you're not gonna get a trophy for saying, 'I'm fine.'" Patient and companions dilemmas during companion participation in the gynecologic cancer medical interaction*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association (online due to COVID-19).
- **Catona, D.** (2019, November). *"Stay independent as long as you can": An analysis of the social influence strategies used by older adults to promote strength and balance exercise among peers*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, Philadelphia, PA.
 - *Erickson Foundation for Positive Aging Award Recipient for the Aging and Public Health Section*
- **Catona, D.**, Bontempo, A., Checton, M. G., Venetis, M. K., & Greene, K. (2019, November). *Conflicting views during gynecologic cancer care: A comparison of patients' and caregivers' perceptions of burden*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, Philadelphia, PA.
- **Catona, D.** (2018, November). *How to promote strength and balance Exercise: A content analysis of older-adult generated messages*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Boston, MA.
- **Catona, D.**, Greene, K., & Checton, M. G. (2018, November). *Predictors of cardiac information seeking among older adults: The role of cardiac efficacy and perceived illness severity*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Salt Lake City, UT.
- Cameron, K., **Catona, D.**, & Gilchrist, C. (2018, July). *Strategies to address the social and behavioral determinants of health for vulnerable older adults*. Poster presented at the triennial Healthy Aging Summit, Washington, DC.
- **Catona, D.**, & Greene, K. (2017, November). *"Enjoying the here and now": A content analysis of older adult-generated messages to promote strength and balance exercise among peers*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Dallas, TX.
- Checton, M. G., Greene, K., **Catona, D.** (2017, November). *Disclosing health information to my spouse versus my doctor: What's the difference?* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Dallas, TX.

- **Catona, D.** (2017, April). *The use of metaphors in melanoma narratives*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the DC Health Communication Conference, Fairfax, VA.
- Briones, R. L., **Catona, D.**, Gassam, J., & Parrish, C. P. (2017, March). *Teaching without offending: How to deal with controversial topics in the communication classroom*. Panel presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Communication Association, Boston, MA.
- **Catona, D.**, Greene, K., Checton, M. G., & Carpenter, A. (2016, November). *Matters of the heart: An analysis of strategies for disclosing cardiovascular health updates in established romantic relationships*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Philadelphia, PA.
- Briones, R. L., & **Catona, D.** (2016, October). *Unpacking diversity in the higher-ed classroom: Thinking big to make way for a better future*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities, Washington, DC.
- **Catona, D.**, & Greene, K. (2016, April). *Older adult cognitive and interpersonal communicative responses to active involvement interventions about fall prevention*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Communication Association, Baltimore, MD.
 - **Top Paper Award for the ECA Health Communication Division*
- Briones, R. L., **Catona, D.**, Iroegbu, O., & Place, K. R. (2016, April). *[R]evolutionizing dialogue in the communication classroom: [De]constructing diversity from a variety of perspectives*. Panel presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Communication Association, Baltimore, MD.
- **Catona, D.**, & Greene, K. (2015, November). *Fall prevention initiatives: Effects of an active involvement intervention on strength and balance exercise-related attitude, norm, and intention*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Las Vegas, NV.
 - **Top Student Paper Award for the NCA Health Communication Division*
- **Catona, D.**, & Greene, K. (2015, November). *Idea generation and message planning: Older adult cognitive and attitudinal responses to fall prevention interventions*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Las Vegas, NV.
 - **Top Student Paper Award for the NCA Applied Communication Division*
- Checton, M. G., Greene, K., Carpenter, A., & **Catona, D.** (2015, November). *An organizational framework of patients' health information seeking, health information management, and cardiovascular health indicators in the context of a cardiology office visit*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Las Vegas, NV.
- **Catona, D.**, & Greene, K. (2015, June). *Interpersonal communication outcomes of an active involvement fall prevention intervention*. Paper presented at the International Association for Relationship Research Mini-Conference on Relationships, Health, and Wellness, New Brunswick, NJ.
- Carpenter, A., Greene, K., **Catona, D.**, & Checton, M. G. (2015, June). *Extending the relational turbulence model: Examining uncertainty and interference with cardiology patients*. Paper presented at the International Association for Relationship Research Mini-Conference on Relationships, Health, and Wellness, New Brunswick, NJ.
- **Catona, D.** "We have been robbed of the life we planned": *Relational turbulence and experiences of*

Alzheimer's disease. (2014, November). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.

- **Top Student Paper Award for the NCA Communication and Aging Division*

- Amaro, L., **Catona, D.**, Luetjen Keeler, T., & Magsamen-Conrad, K. (2014, November). *The talk of aging: Examining the lives of the oldest living through a communication lens*. Panel presented at the annual conference of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.
- **Catona, D.**, Greene, K., Magsamen-Conrad, K., & Carpenter, A. (2013, November). *Perceived and experienced stigma among people living with HIV/AIDS: Examining the role of HIV stigma on disclosure decision-making*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Washington, DC.
- **Catona, D.**, Greene, K., & Magsamen-Conrad, K. (2013, November). *Disclosure message choices: An analysis of strategies for disclosing HIV+ status*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Washington, DC.
- Carpenter, A., Greene, K., Magsamen-Conrad, K., & **Catona, D.** (2013, November). *Informational support and people living with HIV/AIDS: An application of sensitive interaction systems theory*. Paper presented the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Washington, DC.
- **Catona, D.** (2013, October). *Illness uncertainty, relational uncertainty, and partner interference: A qualitative analysis of Alzheimer's disease caregiver blogs*. Poster presented at the International Association for Relationship Research Mini-Conference and New Scholar's Preconference, Louisville, KY.
- **Catona, D.**, & Teodoro, R. (2013, March). *Across the cancer continuum: An analysis of diagnosis, treatment, and survivorship narratives on YouTube*. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the DC Health Communication Conference, Fairfax, VA.
- Teodoro, R., **Catona, D.**, & Carpenter, A. (2013, March). *Case study: A community-based approach to increasing utilization of nutrition services available to low-income Latina mothers of children*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the DC Health Communication Conference, Fairfax, VA.
- Teodoro, R., & **Catona, D.** (2012, November). *Adopt or die: Electronic medical record adoption in a small family-owned outpatient infusion center*. Poster presented at the annual conference of the National Communication Association, Orlando, FL.
- Greene, K., Elek, E., Magsamen-Conrad, K., Banerjee, S. C., Hecht, M. L., Yanovitzky, I., & **Catona, D.** (2012, November). *Formative research impact on the development of a brief media literacy intervention targeting adolescent alcohol use*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Communication Association, Orlando, FL.
- **Catona, D.** (2012, July). *Relational implications of the provision of support for individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease*. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the International Association for Relationship Research, Chicago, IL.
- **Catona, D.**, Magsamen-Conrad, K., Greene, K., Carpenter, A., & Theiss, J. (2012, July). *The effect of relational uncertainty of a "central" relationship on HIV+ individuals' perceptions of HIV disclosure*. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the International Association for Relationship Research, Chicago, IL.

- Carpenter, A., Magsamen-Conrad, K., Greene, K., & **Catona, D.** (2012, July). *A brief disclosure intervention to increase HIV disclosure efficacy and access to social support*. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the International Association for Relationship Research, Chicago, IL.
- Magsamen-Conrad, K., Greene, K., **Catona, D.**, & Theiss, J. (2012, July). *The effect of healthy relationships on the disclosure process for individuals managing HIV*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Prevention Research, Washington, DC.
- Magsamen-Conrad, K., Greene, K., & **Catona, D.** (2012, May). *Perceptions and effects of a brief HIV disclosure intervention (BDI): Exploring the moderating factors of intervention efficacy*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Prevention Research, Washington, DC.
- Boyraz, M., **Catona, D.**, & Krishnan, A. (2012, May). *Who is retweeted in times of political protest? An analysis of characteristics of top tweeters and top retweeted users during the 2011 Egyptian Revolution*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the International Communication Association, Phoenix, AZ.
- **Catona, D.**, Magsamen-Conrad, K., Greene, K., & Carpenter, A. (2012, April). *The impact of HIV stigma on disclosure efficacy for individuals managing HIV*. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the Kentucky Conference on Health Communication, Lexington, KY.
- **Catona, D.** (2011, November). *Age-adapted speech in an assisted living facility*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Communication Association, New Orleans, LA.
 - **Top Student Paper Award for the NCA Communication and Aging Division*
- Warren, J. R., & **Catona, D.** (2011, November). *Formative research in communication: Contextualizing African American tobacco use and honoring voice*. Panel at the annual conference of the National Communication Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Greene, K., & Magsamen-Conrad, K., **Catona, D.** (2011, November). *Promoting healthy minds and bodies of HIV+ individuals through disclosure and social support: An experiment testing the Brief Disclosure Intervention*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, Washington, DC.
- **Catona, D.** (2009, November). *Communication among residents and caregivers: A qualitative study of intergenerational institutional communication*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.
- Hipper, T. J., & **Catona, D.** (2009, November). *Rural adolescent drug use: Understanding the role of social support as a protective factor*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.
- Smith, R. A., **Catona, D.**, Moore, J., & Priem, J. (2009, November). *Advising label management: Understanding unlabeled confidants encouragement of communication strategies to avoid stigmatization*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.
- Smith, R. A., **Catona, D.**, & Hull, S. (2009, May). *Mixing it up: Investigating engagement in multiple prevention behaviors related to Malaria in Mozambique*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the International Communication Association, Chicago, IL.
- Briones, R., **Catona, D.**, Keefe, B., & Zimbaldi, C. (2008, November). *Nationwide newspaper coverage of childhood obesity: A community structure approach*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Communication Association, San Diego, CA.

- Pollock, J. C., D'Angelo, P., Briones, R., **Catona, D.**, Faust, G., Higgins, M., Keefe, B., & Sauro, D. (2008, April). African coverage of progress and responsibility in fighting AIDS: A cross-national community structure approach. Paper presented at the biennial Kentucky Conference on Health Communication, Lexington, KY.
- Briones, R., **Catona, D.**, & Keefe, B. (2008, April). Bipolar disorder. Paper presented at the annual conference of the New Jersey Communication Association.
- Briones, R., Ricci, D., **Catona, D.**, Keefe, B., Lloyd, M., & Moreno, L. (2007, November). Nationwide newspaper coverage of global warming: A community structure approach. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.
 - *Stephen A. Smith Award*

Professional Memberships

- American Public Health Association
- Gerontological Society of America
- National Communication Association