



HEALTH PROFESSIONS

# COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS

CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

## Communication is Central: A Professional Learning Event Series

Presents:

### Making Sense of the World Through Storytelling

Friday, January 24, 2025 ~ 11:00am - 12:00pm EST • FREE Event • Held Virtually

#### Presenters:



**Bruce Farrell** is a former Proposal Director at Plante Moran and APMP board member, was their top speaker for three consecutive years. He also performed in bands. In July 2020, a severe bicycle accident left him in a coma and unable to speak upon waking. This event halted his professional speaking and musical gigs. During recovery, Bruce joined Virtual Connections for Aphasia. Having made significant progress, he now feels prepared present his story to others.

Relevant Financial Disclosures - None. Relevant Nonfinancial Disclosures - Member of Virtual Connections Community.



**Katie Strong Ph.D., CCC-SLP** is an Associate Professor at Central Michigan University's Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders where she leads the Strong Story Lab. Her research explores how clinicians can support people with aphasia rebuild their identity and improve their quality of life by co-constructing stories about who they were, are, and will be. She is a Tavistock Distinguished Aphasia Scholar, an ASHA Fellow, and facilitator for Virtual Connections for Aphasia.

Relevant Financial Disclosures - Katie receives a salary from CMU. Relevant Nonfinancial Disclosures - Volunteer at

#### Course Description:

Stories help us make sense and move forward when life is in chaos such as after brain injury. Bruce and Katie will share evidenced-based methods that feature people with aphasia and their clinicians partnering to use story to support recovery in navigating one's past, present, and future as highlighted through Bruce's story.

#### Learning Outcomes:

1. Describe the relationship between narrative and identity, and how both may be affected by a communication disorder.
2. Identify at least 2 evidence-based methods for incorporating story work into treatment to support persons with brain injury in moving forward with who they are.
3. Describe the importance of therapeutic alliance and relationship in the clinical relationship as they relate to supporting stories with clients. .

#### Agenda:

11:00-11:05 a.m.	Introduction
11:05-1:20 a.m.	Bruce's Story
11:20-11:40 a.m.	Concepts relating to story and identity literature from the literature
11:40-11:55 a.m.	Aphasia This is Our World Storytelling Program with Virtual Connections for Aphasia
11:55-12:00 p.m.	Summary, Q & A

Register Today at: <https://bit.ly/3Am0v2x>

Free Event - (Registration closes on 1/19/2025)

#### Continuing Education:



ASHA CE  
APPROVED PROVIDER

Central Michigan University  
Department of Communication  
Sciences and Disorders

Introductory Level  
0.10 ASHA CEUs