

# Positive Communication Skills for Inspiring Unity and Effecting Change



**Date:** Wednesday, May 10, 2023

**Time:** 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. ET

Reception and dinner immediately following for those who registered.

**Location:** Michigan Ross School of Business Tauber Colloquium

**Theme:**

Our annual May Member Forum provides an opportunity for members of the Positive Organizations Consortium to gather, learn together, share ideas, and renew their energy for the work of creating and sustaining thriving work communities. The sessions will be co-facilitated by Julien Mirivel, PhD, from the University of Arkansas and Alex Lyon, PhD, from SUNY Brockport. Julien and Alex will be sharing excerpts and material from their forthcoming book, *Positive Leadership Communication*.

In this year's fully-interactive experience, Julien and Alex will lead a practical model of positive communication you can apply immediately to inspire unity and influence change in your organization. Julien and Alex will draw on research in the fields of communication and leadership, as well as their combined experience consulting and training leaders in communication skills for decades. They will offer concrete practices and strategies to do what feels impossible: to lead effectively, bring unity to your team, and inspire positive change.

**Agenda:**

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|---------------------------|---|
| <b>8:30 – 9:00 a.m.</b>   | <b>Registration and Breakfast</b>   |
| <b>9:00 – 9:30 a.m.</b>   | <b>Welcome, Introductions, and Consortium Member Survey Outcomes</b>  |
| <b>9:30 – 10:45 a.m.</b>  | <b>Session 1: Inviting Connection and the Power of Questions</b><br><br>This session will focus on how to invite dialogue, jumpstart difficult conversations, and use the power of questions to manage small and big moments. |
| <b>10:45 – 11:00 a.m.</b> | <b>Break</b>  |



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- 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Session 2: Build Engagement and Deepen Relationships**
- This session will focus on how to use positive communication to build employee engagement and how to deepen relationships and create high-quality connections.
- 12:15 – 1:15 p.m. Lunch**
- 1:15 – 2:15 p.m. Session 3: The Gift of Positive Communication**
- This session will focus on how to foster a supportive climate and prepare for unpredictable events and crises.
- 2:15 – 3:00 p.m. Activity**
- 3:00 – 3:15 p.m. Break**
- 3:15 – 4:15 p.m. Session 4: Walk the Talk. What do you think?**
- In this final session, you will develop your own communication plan, set goals for improvement, and get ready to “walk the talk.”
- 4:15 – 5:00 p.m. Activity, Reflection and Assessment, and Conclusion**
- 5:00 p.m. Reception and Dinner**
- Alessi Courtyard and Executive Dining