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Ron Aiken

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School of Journalism and Mass Communications

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August 25, 2022

Attn: Kady Bell-Garcia, Managing Editor

International Journal of Communication

Re: Book Review Submission for “Communicating Science in Times of Crisis: COVID-19,” Dan O’Hair, Mary John O’Hair, Eds.

Dr. Bell-Garcia,

Please consider the attached review of the above book for publication in the International Journal of Communication. As a graduate student and professional science communicator on the front lines of the COVID-19 messaging wars (I can think of no term more appropriate), I have taken an intense interest in contemporary thinking and theorizing on this issue.

I believe the critical perspective of a practicing professional in the field has particular value on a collection of 17 broadly themed essays concerned more with successfully attaching the individual authors’ fields of interest to the facts of COVID-19 messaging than evaluating the facts independently and drawing conclusions that may – or may not – tie into public health messaging theories past or present.

I sincerely appreciate your time and your consideration of this work and hope it can find a home in the pages of a journal representing the strongest, most diverse collection of voice of any journal in the field.

Best wishes from the *other* USC,

Ron Aiken