

April Showers  
bring May-flowers

**CONGRATULATIONS  
GRADUATES!**

Volume  
**7**



# COMMUNITY BUZZ

Department of Communication Studies

Issue  
**6**

# FACULTY Updates

DR. DEL RIO

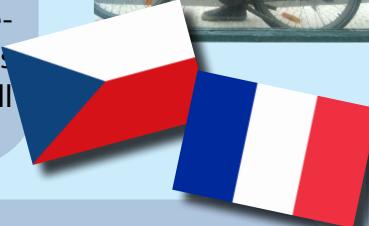


## What are you doing this summer?

I will present a paper that Dr. Moran and I have written at the International Communication Association (ICA) on the Netflix show *One Day At a Time* in Prague at the end of May. I'll need to get to Paris to teach Media & Conflict, and I've decided to ride my bike across Europe, rather than a train or discount airline. We'll see if I can pull it off.



PARIS STUDENTS 2015



## What are you excited for in Paris?

I'm really looking forward to teaching in Paris, as the students and I will consider everything from The Mai 1968 youth uprising to Charlie Hebdo and French motherhood. The coffee is getting better in Paris and the rosé is a nice thing to accompany afternoon conversation.

## And when you get back to the US?

I have two writing projects I hope to complete, and look forward to bike camping in Marin and Sonoma when we get back, and doing some bodysurfing at Ocean Beach.



# CAREERS IN COMMUNICATIONS & MEDIA

PANEL & NETWORKING



Lamda Pi Eta and the Career Development Center hosted a panel and networking event for USD students this past week. USD Communication Studies alumni spoke about their careers, their experiences transitioning into the workplace, and their advice for students.



There was an INCREDIBLE turnout of around 85 students!

amazonstudios

NETFLIX



iHeart  
MEDIA

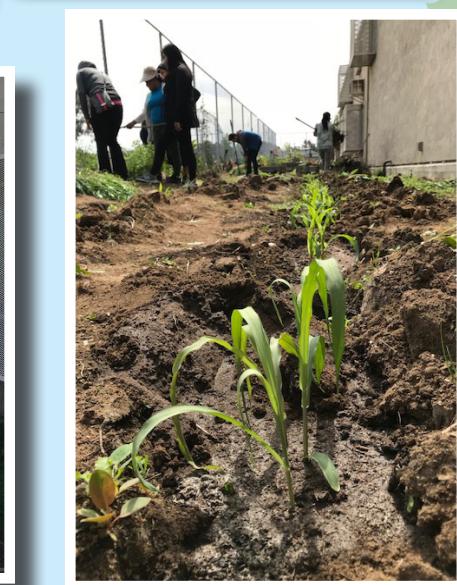
# DR. MERCADO Mixtec Garden Linda Vista

The Communication Studies Department volunteer students have joined Linda Vista Mixtec community representatives for the third consecutive year for planting the Mixtec Garden. This garden is already a very important place for community members and students to gather and exchange knowledge about indigenous agriculture and food systems. Last year the Mixtec community elders turned the garden into an urban milpa. The Milpa is a millenary Mesoamerican way of practicing agriculture by planting diverse crops in a small plot.



Crops like corn, squash, chili peppers, tomatoes and beans are the main yields of a Milpa, along with epazote, quelites, verdolagas, camotes, and other edible and medicinal herbs, making this system diverse, sustainable and good for the soil. Many native communities in the continent have sustained themselves planting milpas, which is also a communal way of practicing diverse agriculture.

Dr. Antonieta Mercado's students Arianna Gonzalez, Lauren Bilcik, Delilah Bishop, Bailey Gillis and Wendy Martinez have been participating in the planting of the garden and collaborating with Mixtec community coordinators Daisy Alonso, Julieta Gonzalez and Margarita Hernandez in creating a shared stories program around the garden. Dr. Kevin Guerrieri, Associate Professor of Spanish and Director of the Latin American Studies Program has also helped Dr. Mercado and her students. The members of the Mixtec community want to preserve this knowledge for the new generations of Mixtec youth who are US born, and for the larger community that have seen their systems of food production affected by migration and displacement.



# LA *Torero Trek*

# CBS SONY KCBS

**ALL NEWS**  
**740 AM | 106.9 FM**



USD student media at CBS headquarters.

USD students took off to Los Angeles to tour CBS, KCBS, and Sony in April. They learned about the broadcast media and entertainment industries. The students got the chance to network with big names in the industries, and learned tips and tricks of pursuing a career in entertainment and broadcast media.



SONY Pictures Studios, featuring the original buzzer stands from Jeopardy!

# LAMDA PI ETA

## NEW INDUCTEES!

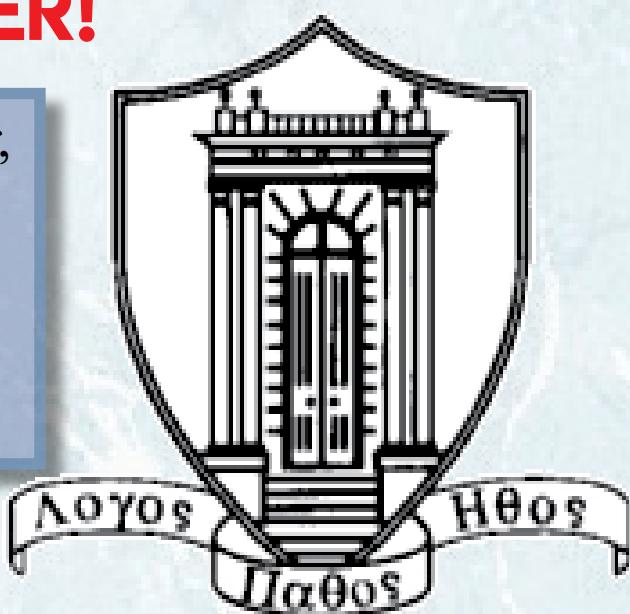


Bix Hirigoyen  
Kaitlyn Kirkegaard  
Taylor Leonard  
Madeline Neubert  
Maggie Phalen  
Brienne Regnault  
Veronica Shelton  
Hunter Smith  
Blake Springer  
Haleigh Stewart  
Abigail Wry  
Melanie Yost

## DR. BOWMAN TAKING OVER!

While Dr. Bond is on sabbatical next year,  
Dr. Bowman will be taking over as the:

**INTERIM FACULTY ADVISOR**  
for the 2018-2019 school year!



# faculty feature: dr. stern

Dr. Stern received USD's Outstanding Undergraduate Research Mentor Award for a senior faculty member in April! The award is given annually to a senior scholar who brings respect and excellence to the practice of mentoring undergraduates in research and scholarly activities, and for demonstrating a longstanding commitment to the development of research scholars. Read more about the award [here](#). Learn more about what her students have to say about their research experience with Dr. Stern below.



Dr. Stern receiving her OURMA award.

"These new members of our community are committed to providing hands-on learning opportunities for our students to explore real-world issues, turning students into scientists and scholars who are dedicated to ethical conduct and compassionate service,"

-Traci Merrill, director of USD's Office of Sponsored Programs.

*I really admired how much trust and faith Dr. Stern had on my research skills and work ethic to the point where she appointed me as a lead to one of the sub-teams in her project. From that opportunity, it was an extremely valuable experience learning how to both conduct qualitative research as well as manage all the data, research participants, my fellow research assistants and so on.*

-Kevin Do '18

*Dr. Stern was an amazing mentor. She guided and supported us, while also trusting our independence. Our research experience together not only taught me more about a field I am interested in, but it also helped me grow as a student, researcher, and adult.*

-Gracie Brumsickle '18

*My research experience with Dr. Stern has not only taught me how to conduct qualitative research step-by-step, but it has also brought to life everything I have learned in my communication classes over the years. I could not be more grateful for the extra time and effort Dr. Stern took to guide me along the way... it has truly made all the difference. I began my research as a true novice with nothing more than textbook knowledge, and I am finishing with a set of new skills and invaluable experience that I can apply to future academic endeavors and even careers.*

-Samantha Mattice '18

# ALUMNI UPDATE: Carrington Novo '17



DEAR TOREROS,

Once you get out of your own way, you'll achieve more and get the most out of life...let me give you some context for this and explain how I came to this fact of life.

My name is Carrington Novo, a proud alum of USD. During my four years here, I was 100% dedicated to becoming the next Giuliana Rancic and ruling the entertainment world as an on-camera host/ producer. This dream of mine led me to USDtv, run by the most BOSS person you'll ever meet, Gina Lew. She molded me into the person I am today. First, Gina opened my eyes to journalism as a whole, and all of the life changing news there is to report outside of Hollywood and the red carpet. Second, she pushed me to learn my craft (beyond being a 'pretty face' on camera)- learn how to film, edit, write, tell compelling and factual stories. Third, she encouraged me to apply for USDtv's Station Manager position, where I learned how to manage people, projects, and more- this experience is what truly shaped me into the professional I am today. After overseeing people, projects, and content creation, I realized that I was capable of so much more than just hosting and producing. I have Gina to thank for this.

As I walked across the stage at graduation to accept my BA degree, I also accepted the fact that we have the power to become so much more than what we box ourselves into. USD, well Gina Lew specifically, gave me the skills to confidently step into the workforce, taking on more than I ever thought I could. I accepted my first job offer with a tech company, managing all of their social media platforms, blog posts, press

releases, and more. I am now moving on to a new company called Rosemont Media, as a Social Media Specialist at the associate level- responsible for the creative content of 50+ clients in the medical industry.

The bottom line is this: you're blessed to be at USD, where the professors provide you with the skills necessary to take on anything an everything. After you graduate, the only thing that will hold you back from taking on the world is yourself. Don't box yourself in, think big and take on opportunities that may scare you a bit because trust me, you will succeed- you are stronger and more capable than you know! You're a student of USD- we can do anything we set our minds to!

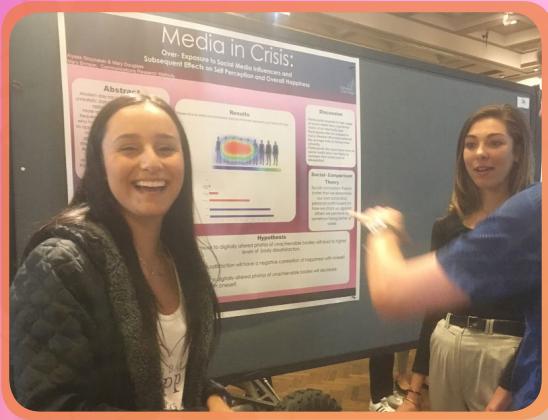
Gina, thank you for being an inspiration and my support----trust me Toreros, if you've taken her class you may be a little frightened at first, but this woman will fight for you- she's a powerhouse with a big heart so get to know her!

With love,

Carrington Novo



# CREATIVE COLLABORATIONS



**MARY DOUGLASS (junior), ALYSSA STRZYKALSKI (senior)**  
The Effects of Over- Exposure to Social Media Influencers  
on Body Dissatisfaction  
and Overall Well Being in Young Females



**ABBY SCHRADER (senior), MICHAEL KNEIFEL (junior)**  
The Effect of Digitally Enhanced Instagram Images on  
Attitudes and Purchasing Habits



**TARYN BEAUFORT (senior), DELILAH BISHOP (junior)**  
Positive Social Influencers? The Effect of Instagram Influencers on Female's Body Dissatisfaction and Perceptions of Reality

## DEPARTMENTAL HONORS RECIPIENTS

JACQUELINE ALMEIDA  
KIRRA BIXBY  
GRACIE BRUMSICKLE  
SHARON CHANG  
KENDALL CICHANOWICZ  
COURTNEY CLARK  
ALESSANDRA COLE  
KEVIN DO

JAMES DOUGLAS  
LINDSAY FITZPATRICK  
NATALIE FOURNIER  
KRISTEN GENGENBACHER  
KAITLYN KIRKEGAARD  
JOSHUA KRACOFF  
SAMANTHA MATTICE  
SHANNON MCVOY

KENDYLL NEVEAU  
SEAN PLUNDEKE  
BENTLEY PORTERFIELD  
TAYLER REVIERE VERNINAS  
JULLISA ROMANI  
ABBY SCHRADER  
ELAINE SELNA  
MELINDA SEVILLA

CARLEEN SYTH  
HANNAH TALPASH  
ROJIN VAFAEIAN  
AUBREY WARD-EL  
KATHERINE WHITEHEAD  
MEAGAN WILKINSON  
ALEXANDRIA YOUNG



EARNED ABOVE A 3.5 GPA IN THE MAJOR!

# **DEPARTMENTAL HONORS AWARDEES**

## **ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD**

LINDSAY FITZPATRICK

KRISTEN GENGENBACHER

SAMANTHA MATTICE

SHANNON MCVOY

MEAGAN WILKINSON

## **AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH OR CREATIVE WORK**

KEVIN DO

MELINDA SEVILLA

## **AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE**

CAITLAN BERTRAM

TAYLER REVIERE VERNINAS

BRINSON

# FACULTY'S SUMMER PLANS ARE

# *blooming!*



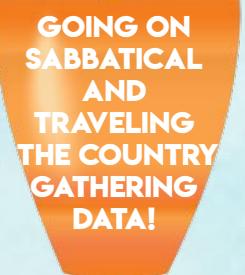
PACE



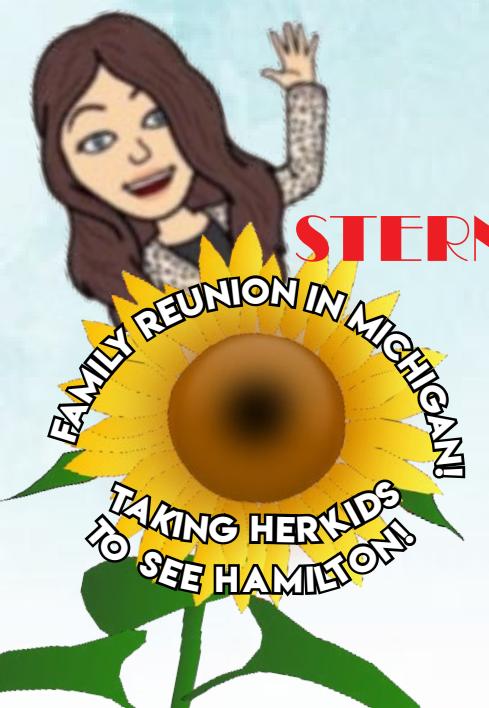
BOWMAN



DRIVING HIS KIDS  
AROUND AND  
TEACHING A  
SUMMER COMM  
COURSE!



STERN

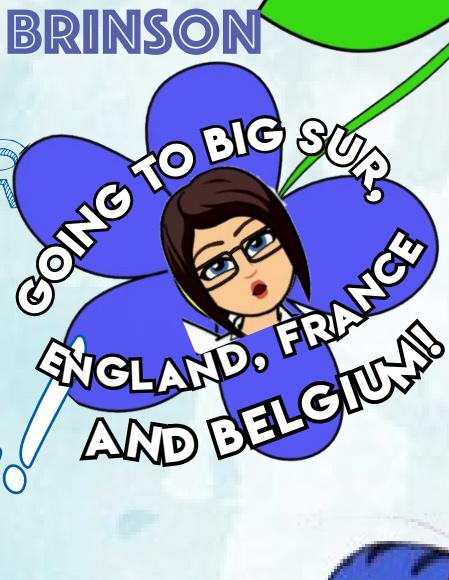


MORAN

Del RIO

PRESENTING IN PRAGUE!

RIDING HIS BIKE FROM  
PRAGUE TO PARIS!



# TO THE CLASS OF 2018 ...

The faculty are both proud and sorrowful at your graduation.

We are proud of your accomplishments and sorry you are leaving us all at the same time. I am sure that your emotions are similarly conflicted. Perhaps that is why many languages, including Hawaiian and Thai, use a singular word for hello and goodbye. I find great symmetry and harmony in the symbolic relationship of those two greetings. Because we say hello we will eventually say goodbye and saying goodbye makes saying hello possible again. Your four years with us have been terrific. You have written interesting and thought provoking papers, labored over speeches and group presentations, studied many hours for many exams, participated in dynamic community engagements and made countless comments in class discussions. And in preparing your exams, grading your speeches and presentations, coordinating the community engagement, and participating in the classroom dialog we have learned from you. You have provided us with new insights, knowledge and wisdom. Put on your caps and gowns with enthusiasm and pride. Leave us and join your future but know that at moments for the rest of your life you will mentally say hello to us again as you remember concepts you first learned in our classes, relationships you established here at USD, and moments of discovery that have shaped your identity. Similarly, we will think of the comments you made in our classes, the times you made us smile, the pride we had in your achievements. As you graduate, we say both goodbye and hello. And we invite you to come see us in person whenever you can.

Congratulations.

**- R. PACE**  
DEPARTMENT CHAIR

*Save the date!*

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**DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMUNICATION STUDIES**

**SENIOR SEND OFF**

**MAY 3  
4:30 - 6 P.M.**

**EL PREZ  
4190 MISSION BLVD.**



# SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

INTERSESSION 2019 - Jan 20 - 29



SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

## COMM 433

American  
Independent Cinema

Dr. Eric Pierson & Dr. Roger Pace

**Application Deadline:**

September 19th, 2018

**Program Cost:**

\$4,670

For More Information  
[sandiego.edu/studyabroad](http://sandiego.edu/studyabroad)

