

Volume
5

COMMUNITY

Issue
8

Department of Communication Studies

Graduation Edition



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When the Jacaranda Trees Bloom

Each May the Jacaranda trees on campus bloom and drop their blossoms like a purple throw rug on the grass below. It is both beautiful and sentimental for me as I realize that another school year is finishing and another class is graduating. I want to congratulate the seniors. Graduating from any college is an honor but graduating from a really good university like USD is a privilege. It has required much work and effort and you should be proud of your accomplishment. But it is also sad for me. Each time a senior class graduates they take a little piece of our department with them. We will miss you. You have contributed to our department in meaningful and important ways. We have enjoyed our relationship with you and hope that relationship continues after graduation. We know that you are well prepared to succeed and wish you a lifetime of joy and fulfillment. And each time you see a Jacaranda tree bloom, remember that we are thinking of you and your contributions to our department. Thank you and good luck.

—Dr. Roger Pace, Chair, Communication Studies



Faculty Updates

Professor Brian Hu was recently interviewed by the San Diego Union Tribune for his role as artistic director of Pacific Arts Movement, a San Diego-based nonprofit that's best known as the presenter of the annual Asian Film Festival. Check out the full article [here](#).



Our own Department Chair, Dr. Pace, was presented with the Davies Award, which focuses on teaching excellence within the College of Arts and Sciences. Teaching excellence is seen through the commitment to the values of a liberal arts education, the demanding intellectual presence in the classroom; the accessibility to students, the impact on student lives beyond the classroom experience, and the contributions to the growth of colleagues. Congratulations Dr. Pace for all of your hard work and dedication to your students!



Olivia Gonzalez was selected as a SURE recipient, and Dr. Stern will serve as her mentor for Summer 2016. She was also selected to be a McNair Scholar. She and Olivia Corea presented their joint project on teenagers' negotiations of digital identities at Creative Collaborations.

Professor Bridges is being honored for her work founding Capability Ranch Activities & Events Center For Special Needs Youth & Young Adults by the Palos Verdes Independence Day Celebration Committee, and presented with their annual 2016 Kenneth T. Norris Jr. "Heritage of Freedom Award", bestowed each year to an individual who has made a significant national contribution to freedom. She will be inducted as this year's honoree and keynote speaking during their celebrations on July 4th.



Kevin Do, a current junior, was also selected to be a McNair Scholar, and will be working with Dr. Chung!

This summer Dr. Stern will finish up some articles she plans to publish and spend time with her kids at the beach and camping. She will be heading into a one year sabbatical beginning in August through Sept. 2017. She's looking forward to having more time to continue her research examining teenagers' identity work in digitally mediated spaces.



Student Updates

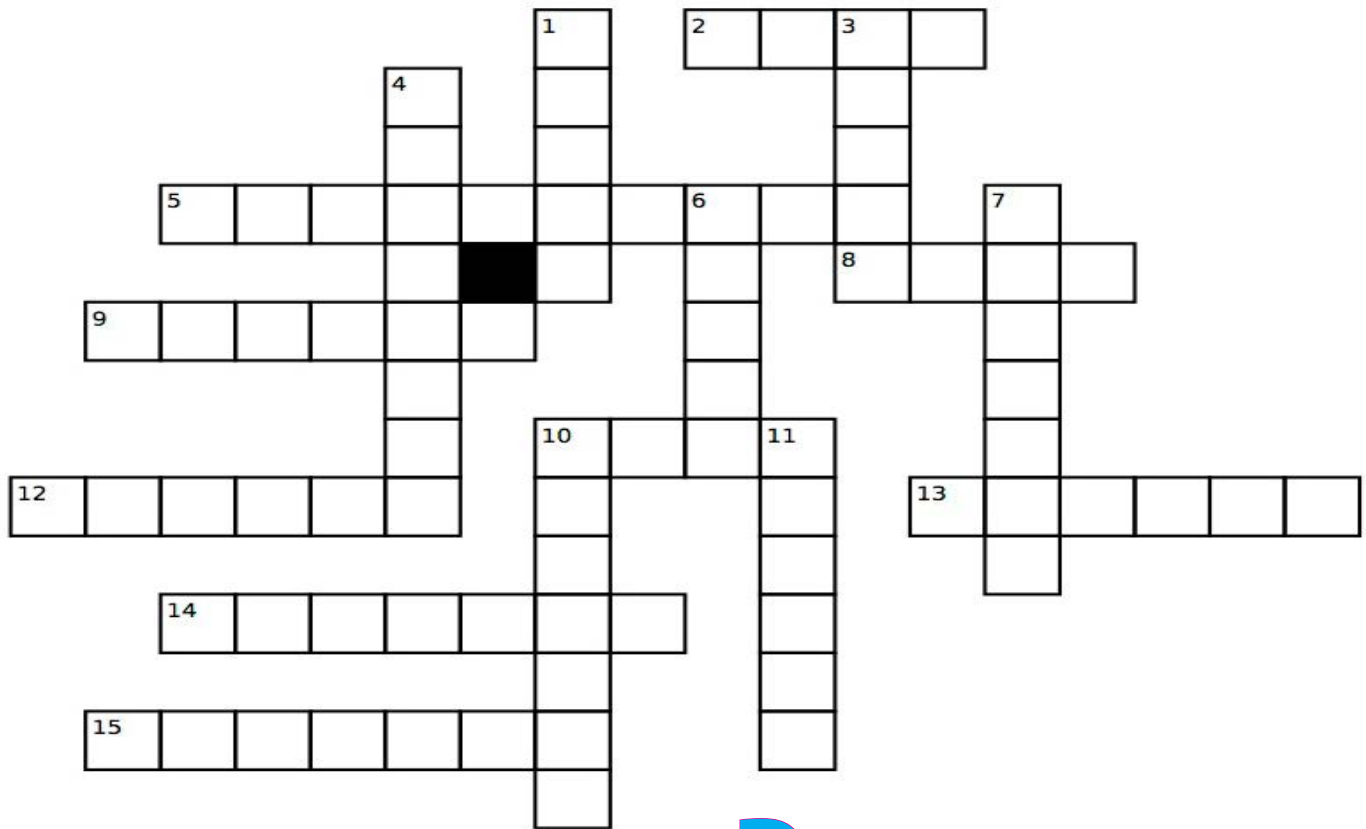
Congratulations to the students who presented their research at the International Binacom Conference held at SDSU. In addition, to undergraduate research presentations, members of USD student media shared their work and learned from students in the border region. The research presentations included:

- Margaret Driscoll, Samantha Smith, and Rita Taylor "The Story of the Nation: Spanish America its Authors and Omissions"
- Olivia Gonzalez, "Breadsticks: Food For Thought – The Value of Treating Memes as Media Production"
- Ivy Guild, "Impact of low/high context miscommunication in computermediated communication"
- Savanna Griffis, "Historical Genre Critique: American Sniper"
- Vanessa Hernández, "The War on Media: Lessons learned from Iraq War"
- Jessica Noe, "The Cultural Element: Indigenous Community Stories"
- Mauro Ramirez, "Does the Eagle Fly Freer than the Crane? Analyzing Freedom of the Press in China"
- Annalysa Vasquez, "Community Stories for Social Justice: Indigenous Migrant Testimonies"



The Binational Association brings together Communication professors and students from the U.S. and Mexico border region. Motivated by the importance of engaging in communication across borders, the association creates opportunities for professors, graduate and undergraduate students to interact. The association believes that a deeper understanding of the process of communication will result from these interactions. The mission of BINACOM is to facilitate ethical communication and erase the stereotypes associated with the border. Learn more at: <http://www.binacom.org/>

What's on the SUMMER BUCKET LIST for our faculty?



Across

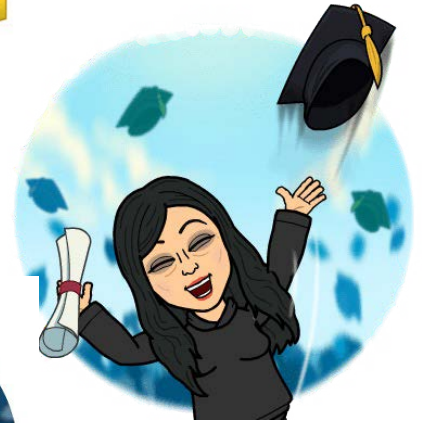
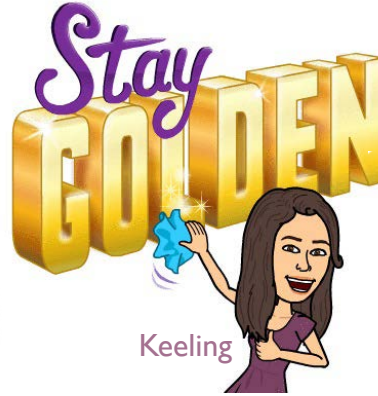
2. Travel to Alaska and try the fresh crab and salmon
5. Learn how to trailer our large horses or have them trailer us!
8. Eat shaved ice from Matsumotos with all the toppings--red beans, ice cream, and mochi
9. Once a week take my dog to the beach
10. Spend time in a traditional ryokan in Tokyo, eating and sleeping on the floor
12. Swim in the iridescent blue lagoon at night in Jamaica
13. Run, and not trip, in the Seattle Half Marathon
14. Go to Sista Louisa's church of the living room and ping pong emporium in Atlanta and eat a big meal
15. Finally go to Guatemala

Down

1. Try my first Zumba class
3. Hang out at Yellowstone and Mt Rushmore
4. Root for the Red Sox with my kids at Petco Park
6. Plan a special trip alone with each of my three kids
7. Compose original music and play it on my guitar
10. Finish building my house in Julian so I can eat some pies
11. Do some bike camping up and down the Pacific Coast

Answers on next page

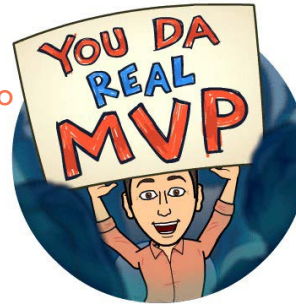
ConGRADulations from the COMM Department!



Lew

Bowman

Ghio

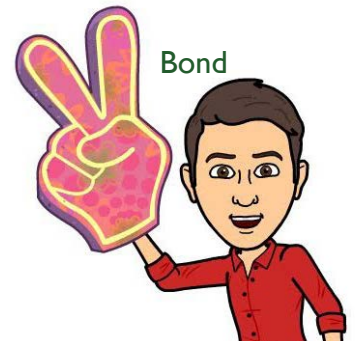


Lew

Williamson



Pace



Across: 2. Pace; 5. Williamson; 8. Ghio; 9. Tullis; 10. Bond; 12. Huston; 13. Bowman; 14. Keeling; 15. Mercado

Down: 1. Moran; 3. Chung; 4. Sullivan; 6. Stern; 7. Pierson; 10. Brinson; 11. Del Rio

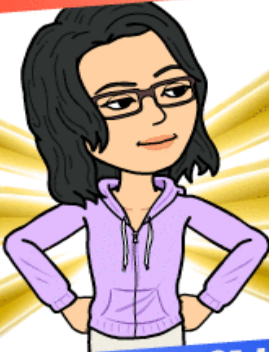
Happy Trails for 2016!

BRAVO



James

MISSION

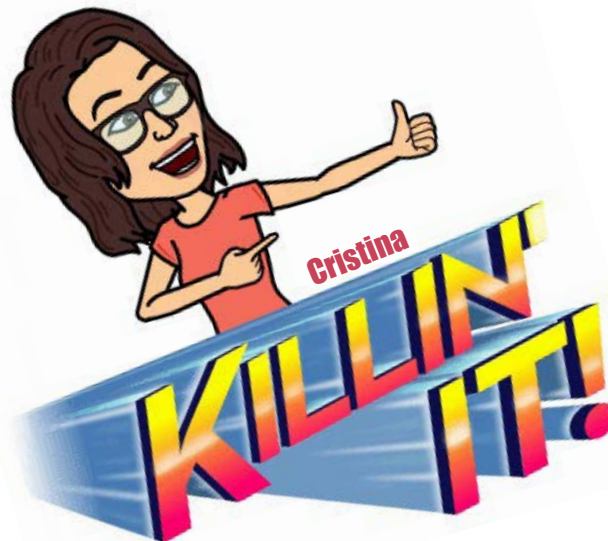


ACCOMPLISHED

Chung



Maddie



Cristina