



# COMMunity BUZZ

News for the Department of Communication  
Studies

**November 8, 2011 – Volume 1, Number 3**

**FROM THE CHAIR'S DESK** - As we head into the final stretch before the end of the semester, I hope you have had some time to really enjoy the opportunities available to you. Across campus, there are great speakers, interesting films, and opportunities for service... now is the time to take advantage of them!



One of the things I have to do now since becoming chair is to advocate for Communication faculty and students. Sometimes

I have to "prove" that students are learning and teachers are teaching...seems simple, but in fact "assessment" is tricky. I wish I could just tell people that our students are well prepared and are getting a great education. I know this because in the Children & Media class, students are proving this every Monday. We are having great discussions where students make connections from many of the classes they've previously taken. They are able to explain how theories and concepts relate to the topic at hand. I know our students are mastering our curriculum and I am proud of the men and women who graduate with a Communication Studies degree.

## EVENTS

### Advances in Communication Research

Join Dr. Roger Pace for a presentation on his current research project: "Dueling with cell phones: Impact of mobile phones on communication in a wired society." On Thursday December 1 at 1:00 p.m. in the IPJ Theater.

Student research posters will be available for viewing during the appetizer mixer between 12:30 – 1:00 p.m. in the Rotunda.

**Are you interested in a career in the  
Entertainment Industry?**



USD Parent Relations is sponsoring a panel on Thursday November 17, between 12 – 2:00 p.m., in IPJ rooms A & B. COMM major Emma Sulman's ('12) father is a panelist who will discuss his work as a manager for Jimmy Buffet. Dr. Pace will moderate the panel!

## DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stayed connected to department information! "Like" us on Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/pages/USD-Communication-Studies/113467242031130>

### New Faculty to join the department in Fall 2012

The department is in the process of searching for two new faculty members who will join us in Fall 2012. You may hear a lecture from the candidates or even be asked to spend some time answering questions. We are excited to bring talented faculty to the department.

### Our Interns are the best!

Lindsay Yuen, Special Events Coordinator for Scripps Health Foundation, and herself a former intern in communication studies, says that the interns from USD surpass those from any other school in professionalism and experience, and looks forward to continuing to work with our students.

## COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Special course in Spring 2012!

COMM 494, Special Topics: Photojournalism will be taught as a special 6 week – 3 unit course. It will meet from January 26 to March 1 on T/Th from 2:30-6:00 p.m. The theme of the course will be “The Slow Burn – Documentary Storytelling in the New Age” with Professor Jon Lowenstein. He has worked as a professional photographer for ten years. He specializes in long-term, in-depth projects that confront the realms of power, poverty, and violence. For more about Lowenstein visit [www.jonlowenstein.com](http://www.jonlowenstein.com).

### Join Dr. Moran in Paris in June!



### Comm 480: French Media & Culture

From a global perspective, the topics addressed in the course will include the history of the development of contemporary media systems in France as well as European Union and French legal policies related to audiovisual importation/exportation, distribution and exhibition. We will study the rise of cable and satellite systems as a challenge to domestic terrestrial television. Students will also learn about French journalism with a focus on the power of the AFP in a global context. The final portion of the course will focus on French cinema as a cultural form. Infused throughout the course will be discussions related to the perceived threat on “traditional” French culture posed by foreign media.

### COMM 492 USDtv

Interested in television production and broadcast journalism? Join USDtv, the ONLY cable station on campus! We meet weekly on Tuesdays at 1:30pm in IPJ 219! Students of all majors and interests are welcome! Can also be taken for 1, 2, or 3 units of COMM 492 credit!

Check us out: [facebook.com/usdtv](https://www.facebook.com/usdtv) or [vimeo.com/usdtv](https://www.vimeo.com/usdtv)

## COMM 496 Research Practicum

### Callie Gallagher Enjoys the Research Experience:

One of the most rewarding things about USD’s tight knit community are the opportunities that we, as students, have to develop unique, personal relationships with our professors. As an introvert, it took until my junior year and the declaration of a Communication Studies major to realize just what an incredible opportunity this is. Getting involved with Lambda Pi Eta, USD’s communication honors society has been an incredible experience in networking with both peers and professors. This fall, however, I have been given an even greater opportunity to learn from and work under Dr. Susannah Stern as a research assistant. Dr. Stern’s current research aims to shed light on the types of self-portrayals that young adults provide online and the effects that these experiences have. Though my experience as a research assistant for Dr. Stern is far from over, I am thrilled to say that what I have learned thus far about our current media environment and how it is navigated, as well as conducting ethical research, has given me more practical, valuable knowledge than I could have ever imagined. I have also been given the chance to further work with and get to know a professor, which to me, is one of the most influential opportunities USD can offer.

## NATIONAL COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION

Did you know that the National Communication Association meets every November to facilitate the opportunity for Communication professors from around the country to share cutting edge research? According to its mission statement NCA “advances communication as the discipline that studies all forms, modes, media and consequences of communication through humanistic, social scientific and aesthetic inquiry.” To find out more about the national organization’s services go to: [www.natcom.org](http://www.natcom.org).

## FACULTY ANNOUNCEMENTS

November 4<sup>th</sup> 2011, Professor Susannah Stern was flown to American University in Washington DC to participate in a two-day meeting focused on online food marketing to teens, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The meeting brought together top researchers from around the country on adolescents, marketing and new media to address a concern that, despite the rapid growth of digital food marketing targeting young people, there has been very little academic research to assess its impact, and even less focused on adolescents. As a participant at the meeting, Dr. Stern will work with an interdisciplinary network of researchers to collaborate on future research.