



The COMMunity Buzz

News for the Department of Communication Studies



Chair's Corner

Many students who will graduate in Spring 2014 are already thinking about life after USD. Some of you are submitting your graduate school applications and others are preparing for your job search. No matter your path, planning ahead will help you in the end!

Preparing to enter the work force can be scary and you may be asking yourself, "What am I prepared to do?" Well, as a Communication Studies major, you are prepared for anything! You have been trained to be a critical thinker, work in teams, problem solve, and to be an effective and ethical communicator. You understand the way in which public opinion is impacted by media and you know how to put together a powerful media message. You are qualified. Now, you just have to find a job.

As you complete your Spring semester, take advantage of the networking opportunities that USD has to offer. Pay attention to the announcements from career services and talk to faculty about where USD students are working. Now is the time to tell family and friends you are graduating and are looking for a career.

Prepare your resume and have someone look it over. Write a generic cover letter that can be edited for each job opening. Solicit letters of recommendations from faculty who can speak to your qualifications. Ask faculty if they are willing to be a reference and gather their contact information. Then, have fun. Enjoy the last semester of College.

If you are applying to graduate school and need

letters of recommendation, be sure to give faculty plenty of time to complete the task. Send your personal statement and be sure that the faculty member knows why you want to attend graduate or law school. Remind the faculty member the specific information from the course(s) that inspired you to further your education so that they can include those details into the letter. The more information you provide, the better the letter.

Faculty are here to help you navigate your post-graduate path. Take advantage of the fact that you attend a University where you actually get to foster personal relationships with the faculty!

Department Announcements

Faculty Search

The Department of Communication Studies is conducting a national search for a professor who studies Rhetorical Theory and Criticism. The faculty member will teach Public Speaking, Rhetorical Theory and other courses within their expertise. Don't worry though. Dr. Williamson is not going anywhere; we are adding to this area. Your class may be selected to provide feedback on teaching during the search process!

Course Added for Spring 2013

Looking for an upper division Communication course? A third section of Communication Criticism, Comm 336, has been added for Spring 2013. This course is required for all majors.



Steve Atkinson, KGTC/Channel 10 anchor, will be guest speaking in Professor Gina Lew's **8:00 and 9:00 a.m.** sections of Introduction to Media Writing on Wednesday, **December 5, 2012. Camino Hall 110.** All are welcome.



Lambda Pi Eta New Member Initiation

Speaker: Dr. Bradley Bond, Communication Studies
Open to the entire campus community. Dinner Served.

Wednesday, December 5, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.
UC Forum C

Congratulations Fall 2012 initiates!

- Nicklos Bristol • Ivana Hawley • Bianca Cruz •
- Edward Cruz • Ryan O'Carroll • Karissa Valencia •
- Blake Freedman • Andrew James • Cassidy Corcoran •
- Monique Rico • Shannon White • Georgia David •
- Connor Sullivan • Katherine Pfost •

Presentation: Adolescents & Media: Representation and Self-Presentation

Dr. Susannah Stern will discuss the evolution of her research on how teenagers are portrayed in traditional media and how teens portray themselves in digital media at the Lambda Pi Eta sponsored research colloquium.

Undergraduate students participating in research projects will also exhibit poster presentations showcasing their findings. Lunch provided.

Thursday, December 6, 2012, KIPJ Theater

Undergraduate Research Funding Opportunities

In Fall 2011, the Office of Undergraduate Research was created to help students and faculty take advantage of funding opportunities. The Communication department encourages students who are planning a career that utilizes research (i.e. advertising, marketing, strategic communication, media ratings) to participate in an undergraduate research project. If you are interested in engaging in undergraduate research, talk with your faculty advisor and visit the website below for details:

<http://www.sandiego.edu/ugresearch/>.

USDtv will be hosting its **4th Annual Short Film Festival** on **Wednesday May 10, 2012!** All students are welcome to submit a short film in any genre. Top films will receive prizes! Films must be no longer than 20 minutes. **Submission Deadline: Friday May 5, 2012** in the Communication Studies Department (Camino 126). For more information email us usdtvstaff@gmail.com

Dr. Antonieta Mercado participated in the **Third Bi-national Conference on Border Issues: Beyond Divide and Rule: Alternative Regionalisms and Struggles for Community** in Tijuana on November 30, 2012. She delivered a paper entitled: "Subtractive or Cosmopolitan Citizenship? Transnational Indigenous Communication in the Twenty-First Century"

<http://conferenciaborder.blogspot.com>

Communicate in Europe! Application Deadline: December 14, 2012

COMM 475: Intercultural Communication

Paris, France

May 31 – June 27, 2013

Professor: Dr. Carole Huston

The city of Paris will offer multiple opportunities to explore cultural expressions in varying forms from fine art and music to urban street youth pop culture. Students daily experiences will constitute formal and informal field trips, whether they are forays into café culture or observational studies on the differences in stranger behavior and the use of urban/suburban space.

COMM 494: British Cultural Studies

London, England

June 27 – July 20, 2013

Professor: Dr. Esteban del Rio

This course, an upper division special-topics elective counting toward the Communication Studies major and minor, will dive deep into the theory, history, and contemporary cultural relevance of British cultural studies. Students will examine the conjunctural studies from the 1970s and follow the trajectory of cultural studies as it collided with feminism, questions of difference, and claims to postmodernism.

Digital Storymakers Award Contest

The Pearson Foundation and digital publisher, Atavist, have announced the details of the first annual Digital Storymakers Award -- an award that recognizes excellence in original student nonfiction narrative that blends, text, photo, video, interactive maps and other rich media features. The award is open to high school, college and graduate students, including those studying journalism, graphic arts, writing, photography and documentary video/film who create a nonfiction, multimedia narrative. Nine Grand Prizes will be awarded to three high school, three undergraduate and three graduate students, in addition 27 finalists will be chosen. The Grand Prize winners will receive a \$5,000 cash award and publication in a special edition of Digital Storymakers Award App. Grand Prize winners will also be invited to take part in a digital storytelling workshop given by Atavist editors and guest authors.

Submissions will be accepted from January 1 through April 15th, 2013. Links to more information follow:

<http://blog.pearsonfoundation.org/>
<http://www.digitalstorymakersaward.org/>



Meet Kyle Proctor

Hey everybody. My name is Kyle Proctor I'm a freshman and I'm currently a work-study employee in the communication studies office. I'm undecided on what I want to major in so this job is great because I get to meet different professors and learn more about the communication studies major to help with my decision. I'm here almost every weekday so come in if you need help with anything or have questions and I'll do the best I can to help. Have a fun semester everyone. Peace.

KCET "Truly CA" Season 9

Truly CA: Our State, Our Stories is a TV series airing feature-length documentaries every month on Sundays at 6:00 p.m., a new time slot where KQED will highlight independent works. Truly CA is looking for well-crafted stories featuring compelling characters -- stories that are provocative, passionate, and unforgettable. Not only do we want well-told stories, we're interested in well-made films -- works that are both thought-provoking and eye-opening. Truly CA films must be about California in

some way -- not just taking place in California. The films must also be primarily shot in California, and preferably made by California's talented, independent, documentary filmmakers.

Entries must arrive at KQED by Friday, January 11, 2013 at 5pm -- this is not a postmark deadline. Get more information and download the application at:

<http://www.kqed.org/arts/programs/trulyca/entries.jsp>

Alumni Announcements

Congratulations to Leslie Reyes ('09), who graduated from Southwestern Law School and was the Co-President of the Latino Law Student Association! She successfully passed the California bar exam and is now a Juris Doctor.

Tyler Gatlin ('10) moves up to coach North Dallas



Story and photo courtesy of <http://www.hometeamsonline.com>

"Vandals have hired Tyler Gatlin to succeed the David Zimmerman as head coach. Gatlin was an Assistant Coach with the team last season, after spending the 2010-11 season as General Manager of the cross town rivals Dallas Impact. He helped North Dallas reach the semi-finals of the ABA playoffs last season. Zimmerman, after 2 seasons with the Vandals, is now the new Head Coach/Athletic Director at the Yavneh Academy in North Dallas. Zimmerman was 23-8 during his tenure, had two playoff appearances, and one division championship. Coach Gatlin has an excellent basketball mind and great knowledge of the game. Recently, Tyler moved up to assistant coach with the Texas Legends."

"Last season as an assistant coach, Tyler helped North Dallas to a record of 12- 1 (W-L). He was also an integral part of our deep run through the playoffs to the ABA's Final Four. After one full season, Tyler assumes the head coaching duties for the team this upcoming season. Gatlin's fast rise through the coaching ranks is a testament of his hard work with the team as well as in the sport of basketball. His knowledge of the game and dedication to success will be a great fit for the Vandal's organization, as we look to continue our winning ways along with our pursuit of excellence."