Chair’s Corner

As Spring approaches and the end of the semester looks like it’s coming fast, you may be thinking about your summer plans. If you are a continuing student, you may be interested in taking classes either on campus or abroad. This summer the department is offering a total of five classes. The three on the USD campus include: Interviewing & Negotiating, Sports & Media, and Film & Cultural Politics. In Europe, we are offering British Cultural Studies and Intercultural Communication. Students often enjoy the intensive summer schedule and eagerly focus their attention on one exciting course!

If more coursework is not in your summer plans, maybe you are searching for a summer job or internship. You can participate in the summer internship program through the department by contacting Prof. Ghio (gg-hio@sandiego.edu). To be eligible to register for Comm 498 Internship you must be a Communication major or minor, have a minimum of 75 units completed and have passed Comm 300. Note that no more than 3 units of Internship can be applied to the major. Please refer to the website for more information: http://www.sandiego.edu/cas/commstudies/internships/

Please contact your advisor with any questions related to your summer academic plans. If you are planning on taking a class at another institution, file your “Petition for Transfer of Credit” before you leave campus to ensure the course will satisfy a specific requirement.

Summer is a great time to experience new things and relax, but make sure to plan ahead!

Department Announcements

New Faculty Member - Fall 2013

The Communication Studies department welcomes a new full-time faculty member in Fall 2013. Dr. Diane Keeling earned her Ph.D. at the University of Colorado at Boulder where she also received a certificate in Women and Gender Studies. She is committed to undergraduate teaching from a liberal arts perspective and aims to create an inclusive classroom. Dr. Keeling specializes in rhetorical theory and criticism. Examples of her research include analyzing the rhetorical qualities of films such as Lost in Translation and Traffic. She will be teaching Public Speaking and Rhetorical Theory in the Fall.

New Journalism Mentoring Program

The Department of Communication Studies is launching a journalism mentoring program. Working with Price Charities, a non-profit organization focused on community building, five high school students will benefit from forging a relationship with USD students and faculty. Each high school will write two stories for publication in the City Heights Life community newspaper. USD students will guide them through the journalism writing process offering advice on story telling, interviewing, and of course editing. Prof. del Río will supervise the program.
Dr. Sullivan Awarded Keck Faculty Fellowship Grant

Dr. Sullivan has been awarded a Keck Faculty Fellowship research grant for 2013-2014. The grant, administered by USD's Office of Undergraduate Research, helps to fund a project begun by Dr. Sullivan and three Communication Studies students: seniors Hannah Dixon and Michelle Ellis, and Aeron Hall, who will continue on the project in summer and fall. The research project explores how reality programming in the U.S. provides meaningful discourse about gender that, in the face of actual and symbolic challenges to traditional gender distinctions, reinscribes heteronormativity.

The research will focus on how popular reality series provide narratives by which viewers, and especially fans of such shows, negotiate their own gender identity at a time when normative conceptions of gender are in great flux. This research seeks to integrate fanship studies of masculine identity in reality mixed martial arts programming with research on the construction of femininity in female-address reality programming to more fully investigate the interaction of textual meaning and audience reception. The student investigators themselves are interested in critical analysis and original research in this area, each having pursued analyses of popular representations of feminine identity in a postfeminist era.

This is the second Keck Faculty Fellowship grant award within Communication Studies. Dr. Jonathan Bowman and student Connor Sullivan were Keck recipients in 2012 for their study, “Relational Attributions and Dual-Tasking: A Theory-Driven Approach.”

Dr. Bond Wins ICA Top Dissertation Award

The Children, Adolescents, and Media Division of the International Communication Association has awarded the 2013 Top Dissertation Award to Bradley J. Bond for his dissertation, “Sexuality in the Media and Emotional Well-Being Among Lesbian, Gay, & Bisexual Adolescents.” The award recognizes a scholar who conducted dissertation research of the highest scholarly caliber within the last two years that also has the potential to make an impact in the communication studies sub-discipline examining the role of media in the socialization of children and adolescents. The international award will be presented to Dr. Bond at the International Communication Association annual conference in London, June 2013.

Dr. Mercado to Present Paper at ICA Post-Conference

Dr. Antonieta Mercado will be presenting a paper at the International Communication Association Post-Conference in June 2013 at the Hilton Metropole in London, England. The post-conference topic: “Bridging the Quantitative-Qualitative Divide in Comparative Communication Research: Heading towards Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA).” Dr. Mercado’s paper is entitled: “Complex Engagements: Explaining Communication Practices of Mexican Immigrants in the US through Multiple Methodologies.”

PLAN AHEAD FOR PARIS 2014:

Are you interested in studying abroad in Paris in 2014? Plan to take COMM 494: L’Amour et Les Amis: Love and Friendship in Modern France. This class will be taught by Dr. Bowman, and features: Hands-on Experiential Learning as well as Field trips to museums, cafes, parks and other cultural sites. In this class, discover how and why we communicate within our friendships, romantic relationships, and our families. This upper-division course fulfills an elective requirement for all majors, and a COMM requirement for all COMM Majors. If you have any additional questions, please contact Dr. Bowman: bowman@sandiego.edu
Upcoming Events

Border Film Week – Trans Border Institute
*Monday, March 4th - Friday, March 8th*
Kroc School for Peace and Justice & Hahn University Center
The best in border related cinema. It will showcase documentary and fiction films offering attendees a broad vision of border culture. http://www.sandiego.edu/peacestudies/tbi/news/events/eventlist.php?_focus=43709

Animation’s Rise in Illustrating Childhood - Karissa Valencia, ’13 Senior & McNair Scholar
*Wednesday, April 10th, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.*
DeGheri Alumni Center
Presentation of film history, television, and childhood, question the stigma of mediocrity in the animation medium, and explore the changing meaning of childhood and family.

*A Question of Habit* – a film by Mike Whalen & Bren Ortega Murphy
*Wednesday, April 10th, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.*
Warren Auditorium, Mother Rosalie Hill Hall
Filmmaker Mike Whalen will give a talk on the documentary film “A Question of Habit,” that examines the depiction of Catholic nuns in contemporary U.S. popular culture.

A Lecture – UCSD Professor: Dr. Dan Hallin
*Thursday, April 11th, 12:15 p.m. – 2 p.m.*
Manchester Conference Room
Dr. Hallin will discuss his extensive research background regarding political communication and the role of the news media in democratic politics.

Spring Initiation – Lambda Pi Eta
*Tuesday, April 16th, 12:15 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.*
SOLES Executive Classroom (lunch provided)
Guest speaker Teresa Warren, PR professional, expert in professional service marketing & founder/president of TW2 Marketing, Inc.
For more information, contact Dr. Bowman: bowman@sandiego.edu

Job Opportunity for Graduating Seniors

Nielsen Media Research has an exciting opportunity. They are hiring for the July 2013 class that will be located in our San Diego office. This full-time position is a great opportunity to join the Segmentation & Local Market Solutions team within Nielsen as a Client Support Manager.

We are looking for well-rounded, college graduates who possess the following qualities:

- Graduating in May 2013 with a B.S./B.A. degree in business administration, marketing, marketing research, GIS, or related field
- Strong record of academic achievement (minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA)

For additional information and to submit your resume and cover letter (which should include reasons why you are interested in the program) please visit: http://sites.nielsen.com/careers/ (Job number 1204577).