



The COMMunity Buzz

University of San Diego

Volume 3, Number 5
February 2014

News for the Department of Communication Studies

Chair's Corner

Welcome back to the Spring 2014 semester! I have to say I had an interesting intersession. Normally I take the time to catch up on research, prepare for classes, and organize department activities for the Spring.



Not this time though...I was selected during the break to serve on a jury and spent two weeks in court. I will not go into details about the case, but what I do want to share is my observations of the importance of communication in that setting.

Public speaking: For everyone involved in a court proceeding effective public speaking skills is a must. Each attorney has the opportunity to offer an opening statement and immediately I began judging their case based on their ability to persuade me. It was important that each speak clearly using language that was appropriate for the audience.

Nonverbal communication: In the court, nonverbal communication was really important when judging the credibility of witnesses and determining who was telling the truth. It also was key as I observed the defendant and the attorneys while people were testifying.

Media influence: Interestingly, during jury selection the prosecutor asked people if they were fans of programs such as *Law & Order* and *CSI*. She

asked if jurors could set aside what they had seen on TV because an actual trial is much slower than it looks on TV. She also wanted to be sure that the jury understood that the way court proceedings are handled on TV are not necessarily realistic.

In the end, I was proud to serve. It is difficult judging someone else's life, but in the end it's an important cornerstone of due process, an important part of our civil rights, and communication was key!

Hey! – have you seen the new MACs in Camino 110? The lab got an upgrade during the intersession and now will serve the department's multi-media needs. If you are a student who needs to edit material outside of your scheduled class time, see James at the front desk. If there is enough demand we can open the classroom for student use.



An Update from Dr. Jonathan Bowman Associate Dean - College of Arts & Sciences



As some of you may know, I recently accepted the position of Associate Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences here at the University of San Diego. I wanted to take this opportunity to talk a little bit about what I'll be doing over the next few years, and how that new position may cause things to look different on campus. And yes, I will *look* different – you might even see me wearing a tie regularly! But, do not fear: my excessive collections of dri-fit polo shirts and sarcastic t-shirts are still getting plenty of wear-and-tear (despite the mockery I receive from many of you.)

The biggest change will be that I am only teaching one class each semester. If you are wondering what I'll be doing with the rest of my time, many of you may be surprised to find that I'll actually be spending more time interacting directly with students and faculty, albeit in a different capacity. One of the great things about being in my new position is the opportunity to work directly with the Preceptorial Program and the Living Learning Communities. I'll be helping to train and support Preceptorial Assistants, who are among the finest students USD has to offer, as they help freshmen and transfer students make the transition to the college experience. I'll also be co-directing the Living-Learning Community program, building and expanding upon our three years of success here at USD. Hopefully I won't see any readers in one of those academic integrity hearings that will now fall under my purview; we take those violations incredibly seriously! Finally, I may interact with many of you around the idea of academic success, as I'll be helping encourage academic support and guidance to those students who find themselves struggling with Academic Probation or Academ-

ic Disqualification; the CAS Dean's Office truly does want to help undergraduate students succeed!

I'm also going to be on campus a whole lot more, and I'm still actively involved in mentoring undergraduate research and encouraging people to consider graduate school in Communication Studies. If you want to make an appointment to talk about academic success, advising help, or vocation, I can be scheduled at 619.260.4545 to meet in person in Founders 114. I look forward to seeing many of you throughout your academic experience, both in and out of the classroom!

Faculty over the Break

- Professor Diane Keeling went on a ski vacation with her partner, Tom. They spent a weekend with family at Heavenly in Lake Tahoe and then two weeks in Bozeman Montana skiing Bridger Bowl. Off the slopes, she submitted an essay on Posthumanism and Rhetoric for consideration with the *Quarterly Journal of Speech*.



- Dr. Susanna Stern: *We spent the holidays enjoying our three small children. We had lots of time to do art projects, hike, read, and enjoy the warm winter weather. Christmas was especially fun...I spent it trying not to cringe as I watched my six year old try to skate board for the first time, taking my three year old on adventures with his new amphibious remote control car, and trying to keep my almost-two-year old from destroying all the gifts and tree ornaments. Witnessing Dr. Williamson get*

married was also a real highlight; we couldn't be happier for him.

- Dr. Bowman spent his winter break going to Washington DC to attend a conference in the freezing snow, and running a bunch of endurance races including two separate half marathons throughout California.



- During the break, Dr. Antonieta Mercado spent some time visiting family in the Bay Area, and thinking about "planned obsolescence" when visiting the Livermore Centennial light bulb (yes, a conventional light bulb that has been working for 112 years!). She also visited her mom and sister in Guadalajara, Mexico and took some strolls around Tlaquepaque, the land of the Mariachi, where she got to visit Dr. Salvador Leetoy and his family. Dr. Leetoy visited



USD during the past Fall semester, and sends his love to students and colleagues at USD and wishes us the best for this year.



- The weather was so hot in San Diego during the break, the Morans spent some time relaxing and enjoying the sunsets at the beach!

New Faculty Publications

- Dr. Bradley Bond has two original research articles appearing in print this month. *Mass Communication and Society* (Vol. 17, Issue 1) will publish his article titled, "Sex and Sexuality in Entertainment Media Popular with Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Adolescents." Dr. Bond's co-authored piece with Kristin Drogos (University of Illinois) titled, "Sex on the Shore: Wishful Identification and Parasocial Relationships as Mediators in the Relationship between *Jersey Shore* Exposure and Emerging Adults' Sexual Attitudes and Behaviors" will appear in *Media Psychology* as part of a special issue on the current state of sex in the media.

- Dr. Charles Goehring has two new co-authored publications: Goehring, C., & Dionisopoulos, G. N. (2013). Identification by antithesis: *The Turner Diaries* as constitutive rhetoric. *Southern Communication Journal*, 78(5), 369-386. Lowrey, L., Renegar, V. R., & Goehring, C. E. (2014). When God gives you AIDS ... Make lemon-AIDS: Ironic persona and perspective by incongruity in Sarah Silverman's *Jesus is Magic*. *Western Journal of Communication*, 78(1), 58-77.

- Dr. Mercado has also published two new articles: Mercado, A. (2013). El Tequio: Social capital, civic advocacy journalism and the construction of a transnational public sphere by Mexican Indigenous migrants in the US. *Journalism: Theory, Practice and Criticism*. Mercado, A. (2013). Subtractive Citizenship and Transnational Indigenous Resistance: Indigenous Mexicans in San Diego. *Journal of Transborder Studies - Research and Practice*, 1.

Some Student Impressions of Winter Intersession

Students from Dr. Leeva Chung's COMM 300 and Dr. David Sullivan's COMM 336 intersession courses have shared some of their thoughts about their classes over the winter break.

- *It is a nice way to reacquaint yourself with school work, especially if you have been abroad. I was on Semester at Sea and I knew that coming back to USD would be a difficult transition...for one I would not be able to spot sea life outside my classroom window, but also I would have to adjust to the heavy course load. These three weeks are definitely intense but ultimately I think they have given me a good foundation to start classes back at USD. Although I do have to say that the negative side of intersession is that you are packing a lot of material into three weeks that would normally take 3 plus months to cover. ~ Ali West*

- *While taking an intersession class was not easy by any means, I would definitely recommend it because it provides a unique and affective learning experience that cannot be obtained in a traditional semester long style of class. ~ Maddie Baker*

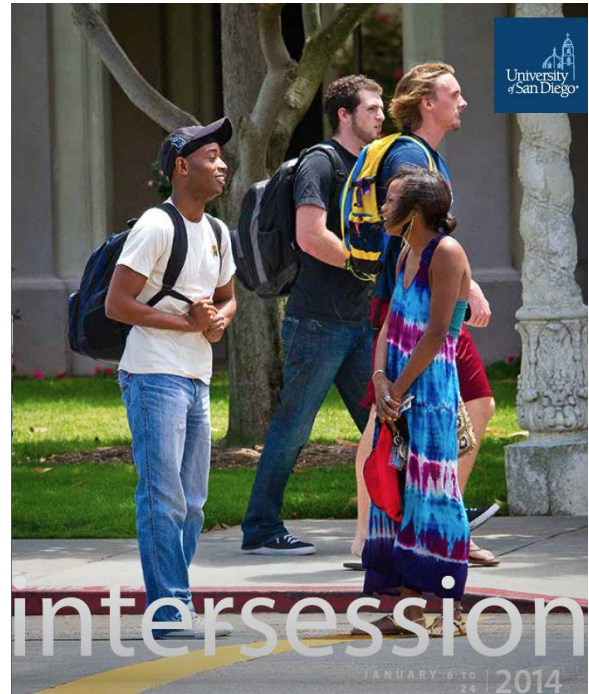
- *Intersession 2014..... possibly the most action packed, mind blowing, fast paced classroom setting I have ever experienced. By taking time off of other classes, your mind is able to drift into whatever subject you choose during the intensive 3 week period. I've learned so much more and challenged myself by focusing on one subject and not having any distractions to take away from that. So, take Intersession. Just do it. ~ Alexis Rinker*

- *I took two classes over the 2014 intersession and I would not recommend this to my worst enemy. The work load was severe...[but] taking a class over intersession proved to be beneficial because the small class size facilitated discussion, I felt better prepared with the material going into tests, and I felt that the teacher was more available to students. ~ Julia Gautho*

- *Taking communication theory in an intersession course was extremely beneficial. The intensive, three-hour a day schedule stretched my thinking and helped me learn more about why people communicate in the way that we do. ~ Sarah Grubbs*

- *This being the first time I have taken intersession, I was overwhelmed by the idea of three-hour*

classes, every day, for fourteen days. Because I was only taking one class at a time, it allowed me to focus all my attention onto a single subject. Tests came up fast, so it was imperative to keep on track with reading to avoid falling behind, but I used this as a motivation tool rather than to think of it as a deterrence. ~ Kaley Halliburton



- *I have struggled being motivated and excited about school lately due to my unsure future; However, I looked forward to every class, all information was fresh and relevant, and I could not help but have fun and participate every time. If given the opportunity I would absolutely do it again. ~ Jimmy Beh*

- *Truthfully, with intersession courses only lasting 3 weeks, much of what is learned is forgotten and not fully retained after a weekly midterm. Despite this, I did enjoy the intersession courses I took and will appreciate the lighter load in the upcoming Spring semester. ~ Elisabeth Letouzic*

- *Intersession was definitely something I recommend if you like a small classroom environment. The material is definitely intensive but everything is so close together that it is easy to process the information as a whole. ~ William*

- *The memories you make in an intersession class carry with you with all your USD memories, it is a special time and place that brings students with whatever reasons together to do one thing: learn. ~ Luke Holler*



MENTORING! OPPORTUNITY!

The department of Communication Studies is partnering with Price Charities to inspire and educate young journalists.

High school students will be selected to participate in the program and each student will be paired with a USD Communication Studies student (mentor) who will guide them through journalistic writing.

Each pair will be responsible for writing 2 feature and/or news stories that are relevant to the community of City Heights for publication in the City Heights Life Community Newspaper.

◆◆◆◆

Mentors are responsible for helping the student identify a newsworthy story, conduct research, and editing their work. USD students are required to attend on campus sessions and be in contact (via email) with the student in between sessions.

◆◆◆◆

To be eligible to participate, mentors will need to have completed Comm. 220 or demonstrate journalism experience.

Mentors will earn 0.5 lower division credit in Communication.

Students will meet with mentors six times during the semester between 3:30-5:00pm on the following Wednesdays:

February 19th

March 5th

March 19th

April 9th

April 23rd

May 7th

Food will be provided for all participants.

Interested students should attend the first meeting on Wednesday, February 19th in Camino 126.

Dr. del Rio will facilitate the program.

Contact Dr. Moran for more information.

Do you have what it takes to be a
MENTOR?



PROJECT CENSORED THE MOVIE

ENDING THE REIGN OF JUNK FOOD NEWS



MOVIE SCREENING

date

FEBRUARY 25, 2014

location

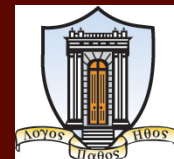
**WARREN THEATRE,
SOLES**

time

6:00-8:30 PM

Project Censored The Movie: Ending the Reign of Junk Food News takes an in depth look at what is wrong with the news media in the US today and highlights the work of 37 year veteran media democracy organization Project Censored (PC) and their commitment to media literacy education as an antidote to top-down, managed news propaganda and censorship. This film, made by former PC Sonoma State University student Doug Hecker and longtime Project supporter Christopher Oscar, features original interviews about PC and media censorship, and features Project founder Dr. Carl Jensen, former director and president of the Media Freedom Foundation Dr. Peter Phillips, current director Prof. Mickey Huff, and associate director Dr. Andy Lee Roth and much, much MORE! The movie will be available after April 12th.

Sponsored by the
Department of
Communication
Studies and
Lambda Pi Eta



BINACOM

COMMUNICATION, INNOVATION, AND SUSTAINABILITY
COMUNICACIÓN, INNOVACIÓN Y SUSTENTABILIDAD

18TH BINATIONAL COMMUNICATION ENCOUNTER ENCUENTRO BINACIONAL DE COMUNICACIÓN

Present and discuss work of Video & Film, Photography, Journalism, Digital Media, and Research with students and faculty from Mexico and the U.S. The conference is open to Communication Studies and Visual Arts students, and will be attended by students from many colleges and universities in San Diego and northern Mexico. Any student can attend, whether presenting or not. The cost to attend is approximately \$30. Dr. Moran and Dr. Mercado will be accompanying the students.

USD student submissions by email to Dr. Moran & Dr. Mercado due by January 27, 2014
Friday, March 7 at 7:00pm Fiesta at Rosarito Beach

MARCH 6-8, 2014
UNIVERSIDAD IBEROAMERICANA, TIJUANA



Contact Dr. Kristin Moran or Dr. Antonieta Mercado for more information.

k Moran@sandiego.edu
antonietamercado@sandiego.edu

WWW.SANDIEGO.EDU/BINACOM

