



The COMM Husker

University of Nebraska - Lincoln
Department of Communication Studies Newsletter

FROM THE CHAIR'S CHAIR, DR. DAWN O. BRAITHWAITE



Dear Communication Studies Students, Colleagues & Friends,

Here we are well into spring semester. As always the academic year goes very fast. Here in Communication Studies, we are on the move as always. This is a year of growth. Our undergraduate major continues to grow steadily and our minor is growing even faster. We are looking for the best ways to work with the new

students coming to our program. Our graduate program is strong and our students are growing as scholars and teachers.

We are growing at the same time the state is facing budget issues bringing with it tough choices at the university, including a hiring freeze. This caught us in the midst of faculty searches in the fall. However, given the tremendous support of our Dean, Dr. Joseph Francisco, and administration we started back up and are hiring.

We are delighted to announce that Drs. Kristen Hoerl and Casey Kelly will be joining our faculty as Associate Professors of Rhetoric in the fall. Both of these professors bring a wealth of experience and accomplishment. Our search committee is soliciting applicants for an Assistant Professor of Identity and Difference. Once we complete the process, we will be at 12 full-time faculty members in the fall, which will be the largest we have been in many years.

You'll see lots of good news in this issue about our research, teaching, and service activities. For example, Dr. Jordan Soliz is finishing up his editorship of the *Journal of Family Communication*. We congratulate him on a job well done and thank him for his contributions. Dr. Ron Lee has been serving the campus as a member of the Senate Executive Committee. Especially in challenging times, we are grateful for his leadership. Seven of the Rhetoric and Public Culture doctoral students were accepted to the Midwest Winter Workshop at the University of Iowa, representing us incredibly well. I enjoyed stowing away in the van and spending time with them. There are a number of Interpersonal, Family and Intergroup Communication research teams active right now and we'll be seeing much fruit coming from their projects.

The Speech & Debate team is having another good year and are in preparation for their national tournaments coming up soon. They won their 6th straight Big Ten Tournament at Northwestern. Our new Chancellor, Dr. Ronnie Green, is hosting a dinner for the team in April. We are

(continued on page 2)

Issue 17, Spring 2017

Featured Articles

Click on the story below to go directly to that page


[From the Chair's Chair](#) 1

[Notable News](#) 2

[Community Partnerships](#) 3

[Comm Club](#) 4

[From the Director of Undergraduate Education](#) 5

 [Interview with Undergraduate Alumna, Kelly Luethje](#) 6

[We appreciate your support](#) 7

[Speech & Debate](#) 8

 [Graduate Alumna, Pawlowski](#) 9

[Departmental Accomplishments](#) 10-14

[Alumni Updates](#) 14-15

Newsletter Editors

Kathy Thorne, Alivia Michalski and Dawn O. Braithwaite

(Chair's column continued)

starting to see donations come in for our new Jack Kay fund as we work toward endowing a scholarship for a Speech & Debate student in the future.

Alumni and current students, please keep sending us news on your accomplishments. Follow us on Twitter@CommAtUNL, "like" the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Communication Studies on Facebook, and check out our website: comm.unl.edu. We appreciate your support. "CommHuskers" past and present, you are always part of us and we are proud of you. GO BIG RED!



Dawn O. Braithwaite, Willa Cather Professor and Chair
dbraithwaite@unl.edu, 402 472-2069

NOTABLE NEWS



Dr. Casey Kelly

The department is pleased to announce that Dr. Kristen Hoerl and Dr. Casey Ryan Kelly will be joining our faculty as Associate Professors in Rhetoric and Public Culture, starting August, 2017. Dr. Hoerl (PhD, University of Texas at Austin), and Dr. Kelly (PhD, University of Minnesota) are currently members of the faculty at Butler University in Indianapolis. Welcome Kristen and Casey! As we go to press, we are currently searching for an Assistant Professor in Rhetoric of Identity and Difference.



Dr. Kristin Hoerl

The National Communication Association awarded **Dr. William Seiler** with the Robert J. Kibler Memorial Award for personal and professional qualities and dedication to excellence to the profession.



Dr. William Seiler receiving his Kibler award

Undergraduate Alumna, **Emily Schlichting, (2012)** was named one of Forbes 30 under 30 for the Health Care Industry. Emily is Chief of Staff, Office of Asst. Secretary for Legislation, U. S. Department of Health and Human Services. <http://www.forbes.com/profile/emily-schlichting/>



Emily Schlichting



Katie Brockhage

Katie Brockhage and Amy Martinelli were recognized for their service to students at the UNL Parents Recognition Awards Ceremony on February 3rd. Instructors are chosen for these awards when parents submit postcards of praise for the instructor.



Amy Martinelli



Dr. Kathy Castle

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS: Teaching “Response-able Communication” to 8th Graders

Communication Studies faculty members bring their expertise to our communities in different ways. In an effort to promote interpersonal communication competence in our community, Dr. Kathy Castle partnered with St. Peter’s Catholic school to develop and teach a conflict management curriculum for 8th grade students this past fall. The partnership arose from conversations with the principal of St. Peter’s about the need she perceived for students to develop better conflict management skills. In response to this need, Dr.

Castle adapted a small portion of one of the courses she teaches, COMM 371 Communication in Conflict and Negotiation, to an 8th grade audience. The course curriculum was focused on helping students to recognize that they have choices that impact the way the conflict unfolds and to help them accept responsibility for those choices. Dr. Castle aimed to develop a curriculum that would teach students how to be response-able communicators rather than reactive communicators when navigating conflict. Over the course of 8 weeks this past fall, students learned how to



- Better anticipate and respect different perspectives.
- Identify and manage emotions that drive conflict interaction.
- Make decisions about the best approach to take when managing different conflicts.
- Address concerns in ways that protect one another’s sense of self and the relationship overall.

Through a variety of activities and class discussions, students engaged a new way of thinking about conflict. Student response to the course was *overwhelmingly positive* with most students indicating that they thought the course should be taught all year and that they hoped to have a similar course in high school. Dr. Castle has been invited back to teach the course again next year.

TEACHING WITH TECHNOLOGY



Dr. Kathy Castle received the Association of Business Communication's 2016 Pearson Award for Innovation in Teaching with Technology. This award recognizes innovative uses of technology to enhance learning and engagement in business communication classrooms.

Dr. Castle directs Communication Studies’ 286 course, Business and Professional Communication and also serves as our Chief Advisor and Director of Undergraduate Education.





COMM CLUB HIGHLIGHTS

GRETCHEN BERGQUIST, COMM CLUB ADVISOR

The Communication Studies Club started the 2017-2018 school year off excited for activities focused on building a strong, sustainable infrastructure that will continue to provide majors and minors opportunities to connect classroom conversations with community experiences. This year's executive team consists of: President, Ana Perez-Senic; Vice President/Treasurer, Caitlin Gehner; and Program Planning Officer, Randy Thomas.

As a freshman this year, Ana joined the executive team to help bolster the club's commitment to community service. As president, she is excited to strengthen the club's visibility within the community by developing opportunities for members to become involved with community service projects. This spring, students are excited to work towards building visibility and collecting donations for the *Huskers Helping Huskers Pantry*. Caitlin Gehner is a junior and joined the executive team to gain leadership and event planning experience. Specifically, Caitlin is

committed to developing activities that focus on career development. With Caitlin's goal in mind, the club is creating a series of workshops focused on helping members explore career paths for Communication Studies majors and minors, as well as opportunities to connect with alumni. Randy Thomas is a sophomore and joined the executive team because he would like to see the club established as a continued resource for Communication Studies majors and minors to connect with other students and faculty members while gaining career experience and connecting with community organizations.

This semester, member Stephanie Farquhar is excited to be working with the leadership team and graduate students to host a workshop to help students prepare for the spring career fair. As Stephanie noted, for those students who are interested in getting involved, the club can provide valuable opportunities to develop organizational and planning skills that can bolster students' resumes. The club held its first workshop in February.





FROM DIRECTOR OF UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION DR. KATHY CASTLE

As the Director of Undergraduate Education and Major Advisor, I've spent this past year talking with and getting to know many of you. In that time, one thing has become abundantly clear to me: Communication Studies majors are really an impressive group! I'm constantly amazed at the breadth of experiences and perspectives that our students bring to their classrooms and to this campus. Every day I meet with students who are taking the initiative to get involved on campus or in the community in ways that make a real difference for themselves and for those around them. Many of you are working in interesting internships, volunteering your time in student organizations, taking on leadership roles across campus and in our community, and embracing opportunities to study abroad. All of these experiences enrich your learning experience and help you develop a unique set of skills and perspectives that not only enhance your own personal development but really set you apart as you move into your careers.



I encourage all of you to take advantage of the opportunities that you have as UNL students to make the most of your time here. The work you do in your classes is exceptionally important, and it can be meaningfully complemented by your choice to get involved. For example, we have a student organization for our major, COMM Club, that meets regularly and works together to connect with one another, with the department, with the campus and local community.

Career Services (located in 225 City Union) and our Arts & Sciences Career Coaches (located in 107 Oldfather Hall) are both great resources to help you develop and enhance your resume, identify internship and job opportunities, and prepare for interviews. This is something every student should do early on in their time here at UNL.

Education Abroad, located in 110 Love Library South, can show you ways that you can learn all over the world.

Make the most of this time!

Sincerely,
Dr. Castle

Communication
Studies majors
are really an
impressive group!

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

COMMUNICATION STUDIES ANNUAL
HONORS AND AWARDS RECEPTION

IN HONOR OF STUDENT & FACULTY
ACHIEVEMENTS

SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2017

SOCIAL TIME: 4:30-5:00 PM

AWARDS CEREMONY: 5:00-6:00 PM

NEBRASKA UNION, COLONIAL SUITE

RSVP to Kathy at 402-472-2070 or email
kthorne2@unl.edu

INTERVIEW WITH UNDERGRADUATE ALUMNA KELLY LUETHJE



Kelly Luethje earned her degree in 2000 with a major in Communication Studies and a minor in Business. Relocating to Boston she has worked, furthered her education, and opened her own business. Ms. Luethje is a member of Dean Joseph Francisco's inaugural UNL College of Arts and Sciences Advisory Council.

1. What have you been doing since leaving UNL? Upon graduating I moved to Boston and have been here ever since. Over the next 10 years, I worked in the biotechnology industry as a corporate communications and investor relations professional. In 2005 I went back to school to obtain an MBA from Simmons School of Management in Boston. In 2010 I opted to change careers and began my coursework in financial planning from Boston University. I trained as a para planner for a small firm while also studying for CFP® certification. In 2015 I launched my firm, Willow Planning Group, to provide financial education and guidance to young professionals across the country.

2. Why did you choose a major in Communication Studies? I knew the major would provide a solid foundation. While my career path was undetermined, I knew that building relationships was going to be a key component to anything I chose. It would be a game changer for my confidence and in my leadership skills.

3. We have a focus in the undergraduate program to teach students about three capacities: Advocate, Negotiate, and Relate. How has your communication degree helped you with one or more of these in your life and career? I try to advocate for myself on a daily basis, but also for others—including my clients. I think another way to look at it is through empowerment. We need to empower ourselves and others if we want to make a difference in our careers, our families, and our lives. The art of negotiating can be a skill you are born with, or, as is the case with me, learned over time. You know what you need to do, but that can still be tough. Looking back, I have negotiated with myself many times! I believe that it is powerful to take a step back and remember what is most important to you, and you can both advocate and negotiate well for yourself every time. I try to relate to people, no matter who they are, and to my environment. That's very different than trying to fit in. I try new things and look at the full picture before making decisions. Our worlds get small when we don't open ourselves up to the things around us.

4. What is a favorite memory of your time in Communication Studies at UNL? My favorite memory is the sense that I was able to learn from not only my professors, but my peers. The classes were collaborative and small-group oriented. I really enjoyed that. I do attribute my success at working on teams with this type of "training." Listening and learning from one another shouldn't be taken for granted.

5. In what ways can alumni support our department and students? Alumni can be involved by learning what's happening, by reading the newsletters, checking out the website, and visiting the campus. I think alumni want to be involved but are not sure how to begin. In my case, I moved right after graduation and didn't have much connection with the school for quite some time. But it was only because it was "out of sight and out of mind." When the opportunity arose to be involved, I took it. But I wish I had made that happen much earlier. I think if there is a learning opportunity and ability to give back to the students, not only financially, but via professional development or partnering

(Interview with undergraduate alumna, Kelly Luethje continued)

opportunities between the department and alumni, we should be open and communicative about those ideas.

6. What advice do you have for current undergraduate students in our department? Soak it up. The department has so much to offer and the faculty and staff want to see you succeed, so take it all in. Use your resources. Talk with others about their career paths and how they got started. Use this time to dream a little too. Discover what's most important to you and don't waver on what you value.

WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT!

We are incredibly *grateful* for the many ways our alumni support us. Your financial support helps the students, department, and Speech & Debate program directly. One-time, monthly, yearly, and endowment support are *all* important. Every fall we list donors to our departmental and Speech & Debate funds.



The **Department of Communication Studies Fund** helps us assist undergraduate students work toward careers, bring in visiting scholars and speakers for graduate and undergraduate students and connect with alumni. We have a special goal to endow some undergraduate student scholarships: <https://nufoundation.org/-/unl-college-of-arts-sciences-department-of-communication-studies-fund-01035440>



The **Phyllis Japp Scholars Fund** supports graduate student research and travel. We need your help to continue our commitments to grad students and have some exciting developments in the works: <https://nufoundation.org/-/unl-college-of-arts-sciences-phyllis-japp-student-development-fund-01100710> In the fall we will be announcing a new fund one of our alumni has created to support graduate students.



There are several funds that support our **Speech & Debate program**. Please consider supporting the new Jack Kay Fund to help us reach an endowment and be able to create a scholarship in his name. There is a new "suit fund" to support student expenses associated with competing, for example for visual aids, debate boxes, and professional clothing. Please check the Speech & Debate page for options: <https://nufoundation.org/unl/college-of-arts-sciences/programs/speech-and-debate-program>

Visit the NU Foundation page to set up one-time or recurring support for our students. To discuss endowing gifts or estate giving, contact Victor Martinez vmartinez@nufoundation.org or Dawn O. Braithwaite: dbraithwaite@unl.edu; 402 472-2069. Dawn will be at the Central States Communication Association conference in Minneapolis in mid-March if you'd like to get together. Thanks for all your help!



UNL SPEECH & DEBATE HIGHLIGHTS

DR. AARON DUNCAN, DIRECTOR OF SPEECH & DEBATE

Speech & Debate Team, Six Time Conference Champs, Prepare for Nationals

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Speech & Debate Team became six time champions of the Big Ten with its victory at the Conference Challenge Tournament, at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. UNL led the field with a point total of 212 points, ahead of second-place finisher Northwestern University with 152 points. UNL students captured nine of twelve individual Big Ten Tournament titles. The team's victory was led by senior co-captain Jonathan Baker of Hickman, who was named top individual speaker at the tournament. Baker took individual titles in after-dinner speaking, prose interpretation, and duo interpretation with his partner, junior Mattison Merritt, who also won dramatic interpretation.

The debate team continued their strong push to nationals with a victory at the Border Wars Tournament hosted by Cameron University and Kansas Wesleyan University. The team won top honors in the team division Lincoln Douglas Debate, top overall honors for all forms of debate, and first place in speech and debate combined. Four students advanced to the semi-finals and closed out the tournament—the highlight of the day. The team was led by seniors Jackson Slechta and Zach Hadenfeld.



The speech team is preparing for American Forensics Association's National Individual Events Tournament which takes place in Peoria, Illinois, at Bradley University on April 1st-3rd. The debate team is preparing to compete in the National Forensics Association's National Tournament held April 15-18th on the campus of the University of Eau Claire Wisconsin, in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.



Dr. Allison Bonander

Dr. Allison Bonander will receive the American Forensic Association's Outstanding New Coach Award at this year's national tournament in April. This prestigious award recognizes an outstanding young coach, within their first seven years of coaching, for their contributions as an educator.

FOCUS ON GRADUATE ALUMNA, DR. DONNA PAWLOWSKI



Dr. Donna Pawlowski earned her PhD in 1995. She has been a good friend and supporter of the department, in particular the Phyllis Japp Fund to help graduate students. We are proud of Donna and all she has accomplished.

1. During which years were you a student at UNL? Which degree(s) did you earn at UNL? I started my PhD program in the fall of 1991, and received my doctorate in December, 1995. My emphasis was Interpersonal Communication with secondary areas in Theory and Mass Media and I was a Teaching Assistant for various courses.

2. Why did you choose a degree in Communication Studies? While taking my first Public Speaking Class in 1982, I realized that I enjoyed the classroom setting, publically speaking, and helping other students in the class. This quickly turned into combining my passions with an Education degree in Communication. Continuing that path to teach and pursue a PhD in Communication Studies was never a question. I love working with students and discussing how communication impacts our lives.

3. What brought you to study Communication at UNL? I heard about the program when I was at a convention in my Master's program. I was approached by Diane Badzinski and Bill Seiler to think about coming to UNL. After a site visit, meeting the faculty, and reviewing the quality of the program, I knew UNL was the perfect fit!

4. What have you been doing since leaving UNL? After UNL, I was hired at Creighton University where I stayed for 19 years. I loved my time at Creighton and had the opportunity to direct the faculty development program for service-learning, work with curriculum development, assessment, and honor societies. Due to family obligations, we moved back to Minnesota where I was fortunate to be hired by Bemidji State University in the fall of 2013 to further develop and coordinate their communication program. I became a Professor in 2016. Currently I chair the Curriculum Committee and work with the Leadership program, Gender and Women's Studies program, Center for Professional Development, and Campus Compact civic engagement initiatives. UNL instilled leadership in the discipline and it is our obligation to be agents of change through engagement. I have continued this engagement by being very active in the CTAM-Communication and Theater Association of Minnesota, Central States Communication Association, and the National Communication Association.

5. What is a favorite memory of your time in Communication Studies at UNL? There are so many wonderful memories. I was academically challenged, created long-lasting friendships, and felt truly supported by the faculty. Some of my favorite moments were hanging out with graduate students on the top floor of Oldfather. Many nights were spent with the Dickmeyers and others, entering data into the big computers, ordering pizza, and helping each other analyze statistical outputs.

Other favorites were department gatherings at Bill Seiler's, *It's a Wonderful Life* parties, and going to Diane Badzinski's house (my advisor) and working on my dissertation. She was supportive, encouraging, and would never let you give up.

(interview with graduate alumna, Donna Pawlowski continued)

6. In what ways can alumni support our department and students? I went to UNL because of the networking opportunities that took place while attending conventions. It is critical to be role models and mentors for young scholars, and support their career efforts. One specific way is to support students through the Phyllis Japp Scholars Fund, as well as other scholarship funds. Phyllis was on my dissertation committee and I will never forget her wisdom and advice. UNL was foundational for my academic career and passion for the discipline, I feel blessed to give back to the department and pay it forward for others.

7. What advice do you have for current undergraduate/graduate students in our department? Build great memories and stay in touch with your peers. Every convention I attend I meet new UNL folks, and reconnect with friends and faculty. Hugs are exchanged, memories are shared, and collaborations are made. My experiences at UNL will last a lifetime. Create a passion for learning and use your voices to be communication leaders with and for others.

Department of Communication Studies Faculty Accomplishments

AWARDS

Public Engagement: Matthews, K. & **Palmer-Wackerly, A. L.** (2017, February). Engaging University Students to Address Minority Health Disparities using Civic Engagement Strategies.

ARTICLES/PUBLISHED

Metts, S., Schrodtt, P., & **Braithwaite, D. O.** (in press). Stepchildren's communicative and emotional journey from divorce to remarriage: predictors of stepfamily satisfaction. *Journal of Divorce and Remarriage*.

Braithwaite, D. O. Stephenson Abetz, J., Moore, J., & **Brockhage, K.** (2016). Communication structures of supplemental voluntary kin relationships, *Family Relations*, 65, 616-630.

Suter, E. A., **Kellas, J. K.**, Webb, S. K., & **Allen, J. A.** (2016). A tale of two mommies:(Re) Story-ing family of origin narratives. *Journal of Family Communication*, 1-15.

Koenig Kellas, J. Carr, K., Kranstuber, H., & DiLillo, D. (in press). The communicated perspective-taking rating system and links to well-being in marital conflict. *Personal Relationships*.

Lee, R., & Morin, A. (In press). Barack Obama's response to the "angry black man" race card: A critical analysis of "A more perfect union." In R.

Denton (Ed.), *Political communication: Theory, method and practice*. Lanham, MD: Lexington.

Garden, R., & **Seiler, W.** (in press). Serious illness conversations with doctors: Patients using information obtained from sources other than their doctor, *Health Communication*.

Palmer-Wackerly, A. L., Krieger, J. L., & Rhodes, N. D. (2017). The role of health care provider and partner decisional support in patients' cancer treatment decision-making satisfaction. *Journal of Health Communication*, 22, 10-19

Krieger, J. L., Krok-Schoen, J. L., Dailey, P. M., **Palmer-Wackerly, A. L.**, Schoenberg, N., Paskett, E. D., & Dignan, M. (2016). Distributed cognition in cancer treatment decision-making: An application of the DECIDE decision-making styles typology. *Qualitative Health Research* (early online edition).

BOOKS

Braithwaite, D. O., Suter, E., & Floyd, K. (Eds.). (in press). *Engaging theories in family communication: Multiple perspectives*. (2nd ed.). New York, NY: Routledge. This is the follow-up volume to the Braithwaite & Baxter 2006 book.

Seiler, W., *Communication: Making connections*, 10th ed., Pearson, With Beall, M. & Mazer, J

(continued on page 11)

(Faculty accomplishments continued)

BOOK CHAPTERS

Braithwaite, C.A., and Fegali, E. (2017) Arabs modes of communication," In Young Yun Kim (Ed.), *International encyclopedia of intercultural communication* (IEICC). Indianapolis, IN. Wiley-Blackwell:

Braithwaite, C.A. (2016). Ayseli Hoca: Professor Usluata's contribution to the "Global Classroom," in A.B. Kurultay & B. Sabuncuoglu (Eds.). *Perspectives in Communication Studies: Festschrift in Honor of Prof. Dr. Ayseli Usluata*. Peter Lang GmbH, Internationaler Verlag der Wissenschaften.

Braithwaite, D. O., Foster, E., & Bergen, K. (in press). Social construction. In Braithwaite, D., O., Suter, E., & Floyd, K. (Eds). *Engaging theories in family communication*. (2nd ed.). New York, NY: Routledge.

Duncan, A. & Syrek, A. (2017). Spreading the gospel of forensics and increasing community: Targeting traditional and non-traditional populations for involvement in forensics. In K. Copeland & G.L. Castbeery (eds.). *Competition, community, and educational growth: Contemporary perspectives on competitive speech and debate*. New York: Peter Lang.

Duncan, A., & Carter, J. (2017). The comedic demystification of the political spectacle: The organic intellectualism of Bill Hicks'. In M. R. Meier & C. R. Schmitt (eds.). *Standing up, speaking out: Stand-up comedy and the rhetoric of social change*. New York: Routledge.

Koenig Kellas, J. (in press). Communicated narrative sensemaking theory: Linking storytelling and health.

Krone, K. J., & Turner, P. K. (in press). Metaphors. In C. R. Scott & L. K. Lewis (Eds.), *International Encyclopedia of Organizational Communication*. Hoboken, New Jersey: John Wiley & Sons.

Soliz, J., & Colaner, C. W. Communication accommodation theory and communication theory of identity: Theories of Communication and Identity. In D. O. Braithwaite, E. Suter, & K.

Floyd (Eds.) *Engaging theories in family communication*, 2nd ed. New York: Routledge.

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS

Dr. Aaron Duncan is currently working with the Nebraska Gamblers' Assistance Program on a Public Service Campaign for Youth Gambling to begin airing in summer 2017. He was engaged by the Nebraska Gamblers Assistance Program to help develop a statewide public service campaign aimed at preventing young people from becoming problem gamblers. The campaign will make use of students' ideas and work for his Comm 375 Theory of Persuasion class.

Dr. Chuck Braithwaite (2014-2016). U.S. Studies Peer Review Committee, Fulbright Specialist Program & Institute of International Education's Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES)

Dr. Brigit Talkington contracted with Great River Learning for a Public Speaking product.

Dr. Angela Palmer-Wackerly served on the State Health Improvement Program (SHIP) Depression and Mental Health work group, Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services. **Palmer-Wackerly, A. L.** (2016, October). Supportive Health Communication. Presented to a 10th grade health class, Lexington High School, Lexington, NE. **Palmer-Wackerly, A. L.**, Chaidez, V., Matthews, K., & Anderson-Knott, M. Creating a Common Language between Universities and the Community: Translating Research into Practice and Practice into Research. 2016 Public Health Association Network (PHAN) of Nebraska Conference. **Palmer-Wackerly, A. L.** (Co-facilitator). (2016, June). Navigating the healthcare system: Encouraging strong patient-provider partnerships. Community Advocate Workshop for Community Health Workers. Lincoln Breast Cancer Coalition, Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, Lincoln, NE. **Palmer-Wackerly, A. L.** (2016, July). Using Content to Communicate about Health Differences. Presented to the Minority Health Disparities

(continued on page 12)

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION STUDIES

(faculty accomplishments continued)

GRANTS

Summer Institute 2016: Thinking, Seeing, and Reading for iGeneration Students: Innovative Teaching & Civic Engagement Strategies. The Jackie Gaughan Multicultural Center, UNL. **Palmer-Wackerly, A. L.** (Co-facilitator). (2016, June). Navigating the healthcare system: Encouraging strong patient-provider partnerships. Community Advocate Workshop for Community Health Workers. Lincoln Breast Cancer Coalition, Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department.

Dr. Angela Palmer-Wackerly CoInvestigator, Identifying the interrelationships between social determinants, self-identity, and public health in minority rural communities: Photovoice + Random Spatial Sampling Survey HealthVoiceVision); **Dr. Angela Palmer-Wackerly** Rural Futures Institute Research & Engagement Competitive Award; **Dr. Angela Palmer-Wackerly** Community Health Workers: Building a Workforce to Address Health Disparities Layman Seed Grant; **Dr. Angela Palmer-Wackerly** Infertility Perspective-Taking, Treatment Decision-Making, and Patient Well-Being Research Council Faculty Seed Grant.

Graduate Student Accomplishments

FACULTY POSITIONS

Jamie Downing will be joining the faculty at Georgia College as an Assistant Professor: <http://www.gcsu.edu/campus>

After serving for two years as Resident Assistant Professor at Creighton University, **Raymond Blanton (2015)** has accepted a tenure-track position as Assistant Professor of Communication Arts in the School of Media and Design at the University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio, TX.

Nicole Allen accepted a one year visiting position at St. Lawrence University in Canton New York in the Performance and Communication Arts Department.

PUBLICATIONS

Allen, J., & Moore, J. (2016). Just because they are family doesn't mean you should have relationships with them: Troubling the functional/dysfunctional family binary in estrangement Discourse. *Western Journal of Communication*.

Braithwaite, D. O., Marsh, J. S, Tschampel-Diesing, C., & Leach, M. (In press). Love needs to be exchanged: A diary study of interaction and enactment of the family kinkeeper role. *Western Journal of Communication*.

Braithwaite, D.O., Stephenson Abetz, J., Moore, J. Brockhage, K. (2016). Structures of Supplemental Voluntary Kin Relationships. *Family Relations*.

Duncan, A. M., & Carter, J.S. (2017). The comedic prince: The organic intellectualism of Bill Hicks. In M.R. Meier and C.R. Schmitt (Eds.) *Standing up, speaking out: Stand-up comedy and the rhetoric of social change*. New York, NY: Routledge.

Carter, J.S. (2017). Modal ethos: Scumbag Steve and the establishing of ethos in memetic agents. In M. Folk and S. Apostel (Eds.) *Establishing and Evaluating Digital Ethos and Online Credibility*. Hershey, PA: IGI Global.

Johnson, B., Quinlan, M. M., & **Marsh, J. S.** (2017). Telenursing and nurse-patient communication within Fertility, Inc. *Journal of Holistic Nursing*.

Minnear, M., Sillars, A., & Shuy, K. (in press). Risky business: Disclosures to risk behavior among emerging adults in the digital age. *Communication Reports*.

(continued on page 13)

(graduate student accomplishments continued)

TOP PAPERS

Allen, J, Allen, N., and Moore, J. (PhD 2016)

received a Top Four Paper Award in Interpersonal Communication at the Western States Communication Association for their paper, The communication construction of twintimacy.

Allen, N. (2017) Towards ambience: Argentina's plaza del bicentenario and a reconsideration of empty homogenous time. Top Four Paper in Public Address presented at the WSCA convention in Salt Lake City.

Carter, J. Top Overall Paper, (Kenneth Burke Society), #Barelivesmatter: Identifying as homo sacer in the wake of Ferguson. (NCA 2016) Top Student Paper (Games Studies Division), Gaming the multitude: The attention economics of

crowdsourcing games (NCA 2016) Top Four Paper, (Critical and Cultural Studies Division), Putting Putin on the Ritz: Memes as democratic counter-memory. (NCA 2016)

Everhart, K. (2017) "Communication and Coping with Chronic Pain: Exploring Dyadic, Familial, and Network Support in Association with Relational Satisfaction and Well-Being." Top Student Paper Award, Health Communication, Western States Communication Association, Salt Lake City, UT.

WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

Nicole Allen, Chase Aunspach, Will Cooney, Jamie Downing, Ashley Garcia, & Jennifer Rome had projects accepted to Midwest Winter Workshop at the University of Iowa, January 2017.

Undergraduate Accomplishments

DEAN'S LIST

Alex Emry Foutch
 Andrea Trejo Hernandez
 Angela Faith Lorenz
 Benjamin Richard Leong
 Brandon Thomas Lepard
 Brook Michael Baller
 Caitlin Ashley Gehner
 Christian Mariano Agoncillo
 Cooper Clair Christiancy
 Danielle Leigh Bischoff
 Erin Kiley McCready
 Gabriella Alicia Gonzalez

Haley Guadalupe Maxwell
 Haley Lynne Weakland
 Jerica M Burgess
 Jonathan Troy Baker
 Justice Isabel Forte
 Kah Mun Leong
 Kali Megan Patterson
 Katelyn Mary Workman
 Laura Elizabeth Springer
 Lindsey Wilson Wood
 Madison Marie Morrissette
 Michaela Anne Minton
 Nathaniel John Goltz

Nicholas James Gilbert
 Nicholas Jeffrey Rock
 Randy Keith Thomas
 Regan Danielle Jones
 Ronaldo Mauricio Carcamo
 Sarah Nicole Pogue
 Tate Martin Kollar
 Tayce Michelle Hefner
 Xinyue Wang
 Yu Man Tse
 Zixi Jiang

FALL 2016

(undergraduate accomplishments continued)



December 2016
 Graduating with High Distinction
Caroline Flynn
 Graduating with Distinction
Regan Jones



Communication Studies majors **Cameron Anderson** and **Griffin Mims** will be campus New Student Enrollment Leaders for Summer 2017. They will assist all new students in their transition to the university, including educational opportunities and academic and co-curricular life at UNL: <http://cas.unl.edu/2017-university-orientation-leaders-selected>

Alumni Updates: Personal & Professional Endeavors

Baker, Sara (PhD, 2014), & McKenna-Buchanan, T. "You are on your own': Magnifying co-cultural LGB/TQ microaggressions in the workplace." *Contemporary studies of sexuality & communication: Theoretical and applied perspectives*, was selected by the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Caucus of the Central States Communication Association as one of their recipients for the Article of the Year award.

Tim Borchers (BA, 1991) serves as Vice President for Academic Affairs at Peru State College.

Josh Buchmann (BA, 2012) has been working in the restaurant and hospitality industry since leaving the University. He has experienced continued career growth for a well-known restaurant brand and was recently promoted to Brand Manager. He continues to use the knowledge and skills he gained during his time at UNL.

Olga Idriss Davis (PhD, 1994) Professor Mayo Clinic Research Affiliate Chair, Health Communication Initiative Hugh Downs School of Human Communication Principal Investigator, Health Literacy and Community Engagement Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center (SIRC) Arizona State University Tempe, AZ was promoted to Full Professor in May, 2016 at Arizona State University, The Hugh Downs School of Human Communication.

Diana Bartelli Carlin (PhD, 1985) Retired from Saint Louis University in 2016 with emeritus status. Had a Fulbright Specialist grant to



Dr. Carlin in Myanmar

Myanmar in May 2016 and January/February to teach public speaking and British Parliamentary Debate basics to ESL teachers who are now

including them in their classes.

Conducted workshops with Members of Parliament on communication skills. Was

elected to a three-year term on the Board of Directors of NAFSA: Association of International

Educators. Published chapters on Michelle Obama and Barbara Bush for *Wiley's Companion to First Ladies* book released in June 2016. Published a chapter in *Women in the Academy*. Lectured on the presidential debates at UNL in September 2016. Participated in NGO election projects in the Republic of Georgia and Sri Lanka.



Dr. Carlin in Myanmar

Daniel Cronn-Mills (PhD, 1995) recently signed a contract with Routledge for the second edition of *Understanding communication research methods: A theoretical and practical approach* by Stephen Croucher and Daniel Cronn-Mills.

Christina R. Foust (MA, 2000), Pason, A, & Zittlow, K. *What democracy looks like: The Rhetoric of Social Movements and Counterpublics*, will be published with University of Alabama Press.

(continued on page 15)

(alumni accomplishments continued)

Mary Gill (PhD, 1991) created an interdisciplinary Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership for Buena Vista University Graduate Studies. The program received accreditation in December. The degree is an applied degree open to any student holding a baccalaureate degree and is exclusively online. The degree may be completed within one and a half years through the 8-week online schedule. Gill serves as the program's director.

Ronald E. Hallett (BA, 1999) published a book with Teachers College Press that is designed to help educators better serve youth experiencing homelessness in public schools. https://www.tcpress.com/serving-students-who-are-homeless-9780807758021?page_id=31

Dr. Thomas Hollihan (PhD, 1978) participated in the Third Genron NPO Forum, "The destabilization of international order and the role of civil diplomacy," Tokyo, Japan on 6/7, 2016. He lectured on "Politics and Polarization: Media in the 2016 US Presidential Election," at the American Center, US Embassy in Tokyo, sponsored by the US State Department. Dr. Hollihan and colleague Z. Zhang edited the inaugural issue *Global Media and China* (Sage), on the topic of Media narratives of China's future. He and Kevin Baaske published the 3rd edition of their book, *Arguments and arguing: The products and process of human decision making* (2016).

Michelle M. Maresh-Fuehrer (PhD, 2009) Was selected as inaugural author to receive the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Mary & Jeff Bell Library "Outstanding Author" recognition. 2016. Published a journal article: Maresh-Fuehrer, M. M., & Smith, R. (2016). Social media mapping innovations for crisis prevention, response, and evaluation. *Computers in human behavior (Special Issue: Social Media and the Crisis Lifecycle)*, 54, 620-629. Under contract to author a textbook: Adler, R. B., Elmhorst, J. M., & Maresh-Fuehrer, M. M. *Communicating at work: Strategies for success in business and the professions* (12th ed.). New York, NY: McGraw-Hill. Two textbook chapters in press: De Cillo Ottoni Teixeira, D., & Maresh-Fuehrer, M. M. (in press). Skol's Viva Redondo (Live Round) crisis. In Brunner, B. & Hickerson, C. (Eds.). *Cases in public relations: Translating ethics into action*. Oxford University Press. Maresh-Fuehrer, M. M. (in press). Apple's "bendgate" crisis and the technology-image expectancy gap. In T. Avtgis, D. Rodriguez, & C. Liberman (Eds.). *Casing risk and crisis communication*. Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt Publishing. Appeared on the 10th season of the

KEDT-TV television show, *Challenge*. Highlighted as a public relations professor by asking questions to area high school academic bowl teams. Appointed by the Dean to assist in the development of a Strategic Plan for the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi School of Arts, Media, & Communication/College of Liberal Arts. 2016. Served as President of the Rotary Club of Southside Corpus Christi and received several awards: Gold-Level Presidential Citation (Highest Distinction) from Rotary International (only 5 of 56 presidents in the District received this recognition); District Exemplary Club (only 11 of 56 presidents received this recognition); and Premier Club. Currently serving as the Public Image Chair for Rotary International District 5930.

Megan McKenzie (BA, 2016) working in the Office of Admissions as an Admissions Counselor!

Loren Murfield (PhD, 1994) co-authored *10 Minutes of Insanity* with 1972 Heisman Winner Johnny Rodgers (www.10MinutesOfInsanity.com). Loren left academia in 2003 to write, speak and coach executives to become disruptive leaders creating radical change (www.UnleashTheUltimate.com). Loren and his wife Lisa have taken up running, preparing for their first half marathon.

Kristi Gerding Scholten (PhD, 2003) is Director of Forensics at Ferris State University. She co-authored a chapter for an upcoming book entitled, *Televised Presidential Debates in a Changing Media Environment*. Kristi is currently pursuing research in the area of gaming literacy, and using game-based learning in the classroom. Additionally, she is the mother of twin toddlers.

Charles Soukup (PhD, 2000), Professor, University of Northern Colorado, has published his book, *Exploring-Screen-Culture-via-Apples-Mobile-Devices-Life-through-the-Looking-Glass* (Rowman & Littlefield).

Susanne Williams (BA, 1991) Ph.D. (Wayne State University, 1996) As of fall 2016, Susanne Williams is the head speech coach at Nebraska City High School. She is also an adjunct professor at Peru State College, teaching Organizational Communication. When she isn't teaching or coaching, she continues to create and exhibit her paintings and sculpture. In January, her acrylic painting *West 7th Street* was included in a group exhibition "Artists Choosing Artists" at Lincoln's Burkholder Project.

Department of Communication Studies

Dr. Dawn O. Braithwaite
Willa Cather Professor and Chair
Interpersonal, Family & Intergroup Communication

Dr. Kathy Castle
Director of COMM 286 and Distance Education
Director of Undergraduate Education
Major Advisor

Dr. Aaron Duncan
Assistant Professor of Practice
Director of Speech & Debate
Rhetoric and Public Culture

Dr. Jody Koenig Kellas
Associate Professor
Interpersonal, Family & Intergroup Communication

Dr. Kathleen Krone
Professor
Organizational Communication

Dr. Allison Bonander
Associate Director of Speech & Debate

Dr. Ronald Lee
Professor
Rhetoric and Public Culture

Dr. Angela Palmer-Wackerly
Assistant Professor
Interpersonal, Family & Intergroup Communication

Dr. William J. Seiler
Professor
Instructional Communication

Dr. Jordan Soliz
Associate Professor
Director of Graduate Studies
Interpersonal, Family & Intergroup Communication

Dr. Charles Braithwaite
Research Professor,
Center for Great Plains Studies
Cultural Communication