FALL 2021

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

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GREETINGS:

As an alumna of UNC's Department of Communication, serving as Interim Chair has been a unique privilege even in the midst of a global pandemic. To meet the urgencies of the moment, my colleagues and I have embraced innovation, flexibility, compassion,and care alongside the rigor that good scholarship demands. We have dared to be brave with and for our students, which means that we also have held open a space for our shared vulnerability and growth. I could not be prouder of the ways in which our community has rallied in support of one another, made sacrifices in the service of our collective wellness and success, and worked hard to set and reach new goals. This newsletter invites you to celebrate the important milestones our undergraduate students, graduate students, and faculty members have achieved this year. We end 2021 and begin 2022 with a spirit of gratitude and appreciation. Thank you for being part of our UNC Department of Communication community and for all of the ways that you support our work and amplify our mission. We hope that you will join us in 2022 for Spring performances in our newly renovated, state-of-the-art Black Box theatre in Swain Hall and in our more intimate, new Media Art Space on Franklin Street. Happy holidays! We wish you a joyous and peaceful new year.

Sincerely,

Renée Alexander Craft

UNC DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

CONGRATULATES OUR WINTER GRADUATES!

WINTER COMMENCEMENT DECEMBER 12, 2021

JEFFERY ALAN WATSON
SHEENA SHAUNTE EDMUNDSON
CHELSEA REBECCA GIECK
DANIEL PATRICK MCARTHUR
MARCUS JAMAAL MCKETHAN
JOSEPH LANCELLOTTI
DAWSON PLACE
JANET ALVAREZ AYALA
ANDERSON LEE HENZE
PATRICK ADKINS SENIOR
BRENNAN T CORRALES
JORDAN LATHOR TUCKER
ANDREW LAWRENCE SHAW
COREY THOMAS BALDAUF
EMILY RUTH WHITE
KEVIN THOMAS ZIMMERMAN
KRISTEN LYNN COMPTON
JAHLIL N TAYLOR
JOHN HOMSCHEK
KATHRYN MING WYATT
HALLIE ANNE KLANKE
ALYSSA WEDLEY

JENAI ELIZABETH JOHNSON
CARLOS ALEJANDRO MASSANA
MARIA JULIA MASSANA
CAMERON CHANEY

PH.D. GRADUATES
KEIKO NISHIMURA
MAXIMILIAN GEORG SPIEGEL

UNDERGRADAUTE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

LAMBDA PI ETA FALL 2021 INDUCTEES

Lambda Pi Eta is the official honor society of the National Communication Association (NCA). As a member of the Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS), LPH has over 400 active chapters at four-year colleges and universities worldwide. UNC's Department of Communication is proud to welcome the following students into this prestigious honor society.

New Members 2021-2022:
Amani Bushiri
Katherine Amos
Haleigh Cooper
Madison Blackburn
Spencer Washofsky
Kendall Williams

LPH Officers 2021-2022:
Becca Barnes - President
Sydney Pope - VP
Katherine Amos - Secretary
Madison Blackburn - Treasurer
Kendall Williams - PR Director
Haleigh Cooper - Events Director
John Steele - Alumni Relations Director

Hollywood Internship Program Welcomes New Director (UNC '04)

The UNC Hollywood Internship Program is an industry immersion experience offered by the Department of Communication in the College of Arts and Sciences each summer. The Department is excited to welcome alumna Dayci Brookshire as the program's new Director. Dayci is an established actress and writer in Los Angeles, having worked with numerous high-profile companies including Dreamworks, Warner Brothers and Disney. She can currently be heard on Netflix as Rainbow Thunder in Chico Bon Bon: Monkey with a Tool Belt and as Jessica and Dressy in The Epic Tales of Captain Underpants. She began as a volunteer for the Hollywood Internship Program a decade ago and served as Assistant Director for the last two years. She is passionate about helping students establish critical industry connections and ensuring they secure internships that will fulfill their dreams and help launch their careers.

GRADUATE STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Stephanie Kaczynski

Amrut Mishra

Chandler Classen

Ian Williams

Evan Jones

Joey Richards

Jessica Noe

Chandler Classen premiered his absurdist play, “A Feminist World, 2091 or: How I Learned to Expertly Judge Inadvertent Human Intrusion at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant” on November 11th in UNC’s Media Arts Space.

Evan Jones was invited to present on the “Undermining the Earth? Infrastructural challenges to sustainability" panel at the American Association of Geographers conference in NYC.

Stephanie Kaczynski was awarded a Top Paper Award for the Activism & Social Justice Division of NCA 2021 for her paper "'Sixteen Shots and a Cover-Up!': News Media Discourse of Chicago’s Fight for Police Reform."

Amrut Mishra and **Joey Richards** received a $2,000 award to curate and design a prelude exhibit for Carolina Performing Arts' installation, "Atmospheric Memory."

·**Amrut Mishra** published the article "On Invitation: The Collaborative Promise of Feedback at Carolina Performing Arts," with Meli Kimathi in the online journal ASAP/J's cluster "Public Humanities and the Arts of the Present."

Jessica Noe accepted a position as the book review editor for *Digest: A Journal of Foodways and Culture*.

Joey Richard was interviewed by the Indy Week about their autobiographical one-person show, "Breaking Up with Jesus," which premiered in the Media Arts Space on December 9th.

Ian Williams' essay, "The Practice of Oldhammer: Re-remembering a Past through Craft and Play" was accepted for publication in *Games and Culture*, and his essay "The Scouring of Wellywood: Brand Affiliated Protests in the Wake of the Hobbit Law" was published in *Cultural Politics*.

FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In her roles as Director of Research for the Institute of African American Research's Student Learning to Advance Truth and Equity (SLATE) program, **Renée Alexander Craft** led an undergraduate research initiative that culminated in a two-day symposium, which she curated. Launched in the summer of 2021, the research component of SLATE awarded ten student research fellowships to outstanding undergraduates across a range of disciplines and paired them with faculty research fellows to engage in novel learning opportunities in original and faculty-mentored research.

Michael Acosta was hired to write the screenplay and produce the film "Christmas with Buddy." It's a biopic about a man with CP who had to live through a time before disability legislation was passed. It explores the search for meaning in a disadvantaged world and his relationship with God. Acosta hired five UNC alum to work with him on the project including four departmental Writing for the Screen and Stage alumni.

Lisa Calvente published "Racism is a Public Health Crisis! Black Power in the Covid-19 Pandemic," in a special issue of *Cultural Studies* titled "The Cultural Politics of COVID-19," edited by departmental alumnus Ted Striphas and John Nguyet Erni.

China Medel and **Kumi Silva** both received IAH Faculty Fellowships for this academic year. Professor Medel served as a Fall 2021 Faculty Fellow and Professor Silva will begin her fellowship in Spring 2022.

Howard Craft witnessed the production of four of his plays during the Fall 2021 semester. These included the premiere of "Peace of Clay," co-written by Mike Wiley and produced by Theatre Raleigh, the New York premiere of "Dreaming" produced by La Ma Ma Theatre, the production of his children's musical, "Indigo Blue" by Walltown Theatre in Durham, and a revival of his play "The House of George" by the NCCU theatre department.

In an article titled, "Go Into The Story," Scott Myers interviewed **Dana Coen** about his award-winning screenplay "Sleeping Upright," ageism, his television career, and the Writing for the Screen and Stage Program. Coen also produced and served as the artistic director for the eleventh annual Long Story Shorts Play Festival, which ran for three performances on October 29th and 30th in Swain Studio 6 on UNC's campus. The festival included eight short plays written by Writing for the Screen and Stage students and were presented to audiences in the renovated space.

Sarah Dempsey published "Racialized and Gendered Constructions of the 'Ideal Server': Contesting Historical Occupational Discourses of Restaurant Service," which appeared in the October issue of *Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems*. She also co-wrote "Resistant Transparency and Nonprofit Labor: Challenging Precarity in the Art + Museum Wage Transparency Campaign," with Carolin Südkamp, which was published in Communication Quarterly and "Forum: The Foundations and Future of NPVO Communication Scholarship," with Atouba, Koschmann, Kramer, McAllum, McNamee, and Peterson, which appeared in *Management Communication Quarterly*.

FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Julia Haslett's award-winning feature-length film *PUSHED UP THE MOUNTAIN* was screened at seven distinguished national and international film festivals in 2021 with upcoming 2022 screenings scheduled for the Colorado Environmental Film Festival in Golden, CO and Alpi Giulie Cinema in Trieste, Italy. The film was recently acquired for distribution by GOOD DOCS, a prominent educational distributor based in LA.

Alice Marwick won the 2021 Phillip and Ruth Hettleman Prize for Artistic and Scholarly Achievement, UNC-CH. In addition, she co-wrote "Critical Disinformation Studies: History, Power, and Politics" with Rachel Kuo, which was published in the *Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) Misinformation Review*, and co-wrote a popular press article with Daniel Kreiss and Francesca Tripodi titled, "The Anti–Critical Race Theory Movement Will Profoundly Affect Public Education," which was published in *Scientific American*.

Steve May led a study abroad course on Global Work during the summer of 2021 in Copenhagen, Denmark. Students learned about the cultural dimensions of work and met with representatives from a range of corporations, NGOs, government agencies, and social ventures. He also published two essays: "Organizational communication and corporate social responsibility: Critical perspectives and reflections on the public good," which appears in the *Handbook of communication and corporate social responsibility*, and "Organizational ethics and corporate social responsibility," which appears in the *Oxford research encyclopedia of communication*.

Throughout 2021, **Joseph Megel** worked closely with the Department's Technical Director, Will Bosley to refurbish the Black Box theatre in Swain and establish the Department's new classroom/smaller performance space in the Media Art Space on Franklin Street. He then managed the first Performance Studies season of student/faculty work in two years in these two spaces, including directing Chandler Classen's A Feminist World in November, and Joseph Richards' Breaking Up with Jesus in December, with more to come in 2022. This is also Megel's 14th year serving as the artistic director for UNC's Process Series.

Torin Monahan was awarded a 3-year National Science Foundation grant of $641,048 to study university hiring practices for dual-career academics. This project will produce a scorecard of the dual-career-friendly status of all research-intensive universities in the US. Prof. Jill A. Fisher, in UNC's Department of Social Medicine, is a Co-PI on this project. In addition, Monahan co-wrote "Transit's Downward Spiral: Assessing the Social-justice Implications of Ridehailing Platforms and COVID-19 for Public Transportation in the US" with Caroline G. Lamb, which will appear in *Cities* in 2022.

Michael Palm contributed a chapter to a book titled Assembly Codes: The Logistics of Media, edited by Matthew Hockenberry, Nicole Starosielski, and Suan Zieger, published by Duke University Press in September 2021. His chapter is titled "Carry That Weight: The Costs of Delivery and the Ecology of Vinyl Records' Revival." Palm also served as a faculty mentor with the Summer 2021 Moore Undergraduate Research Apprentice Program (MURAP).

FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Former Department of Communication Chair **Patricia Parker** began her tenure as the Ruel W. Tyson Distinguished Professor of Humanities and Director of the Institute for the Arts and Huminites (IAH) in Fall 2021. She also continues to co-chair the University's Commission on History, Race, and a Way Forward with Professor of History James Leloudis.

Tony Perucci was awarded a 2021-22 Short-Term Research Fellowship at the New York Public Library for the completion of his book *On the Horizontal: Mary Overlie and The Viewpoints* (U of Michigan Press, Forthcoming). Perucci published two chapters and three essays in 2021 including, "The Collisions of Reality Friction: Tactics of Structural Ambiguity in Christoph Schlingensief's Bitte Liebt Österreich," which appeared in *Performing Arousal: Precarious Bodies and Frames of Representation* edited by Yana Meerzon and Julia Listengarten, "The Six Viewpoints and the Art of Waiting (to Become Art)," which appeared in *Affective Movements, Methods and Pedagogies* edited by Anne Harris and Stacy Holman Jones, and "The Actor as Observer-Participant: Mary Overlie, Six Viewpoints, Three Memories," which appeared in *Performance Research*.

Aaron Shapiro wrote an essay entitled "Platform Urbanism in a Pandemic: Dark Stores, Ghost Kitchens and the Logistical–Urban Frontier" which will be published in the *Journal of Consumer Culture* in 2022. His book, *Design, Control, Predict: Logistical Governance in the Smart City* was reviewed in Information, Communication & Society, the Journal of Urban Design, the Journal of Urban Affairs, and the International Journal of Urban & Regional Research. Shapiro is currently working on a chapter on predictive policing technologies for a forthcoming volume that amplifies his contribution to 2021 invited workshop on "AI Urbanism."

In addition to her Spring 2022 IAH Faculty Fellowships, **Kumi Silva** published "Covid-19 and the mundane practices of privilege" in *Cultural Studies*. Her 2021 conference presentations include, "Ordinary Nativism(s): Invasive Species and the Politics of Containment" which she delivered in June as part of the 2021 Presidential Keynote Plenary at the cultural Cultural Studies Association Annual Conference and "Pastoral Dreams/Racist Realities: Race, Space, and the fictions of reconciliation," which she presented in November at the National Communication Association. Silva also served as a faculty mentor with the Summer 2021 Moore Undergraduate Research Apprentice Program (MURAP).

Learn From A Legend

Since returning to Chapel Hill in 2020, sports and news broadcasting legend **Jim Lampley** (UNC '71) has generously allowed UNC students to benefit from the experiences and perspectives he gleaned from his illustrious career. For the second year, Lampley is teaching Comm 490, Evolution of Storytelling in American Electronic News Media assisted by graduate student, **Kevin Pabst.** The course examines the events and dynamics of the past 100 years in the development of news programming on radio, television, and digital media, looking for the ways in which news storytelling was altered or influenced by technological progress, institutional changes, personnel factors, economic forces, and politics.

ANTI-RACISM

From "Liquid a Place" by Torkwase Dyson

During the 2021-2022 Academic year, Department of Communication faculty taught fourteen courses as part of the Institute of African American Research's Student Learning to Advance Truth and Equity's (SLATE) coursework component. SLATE courses engage undergraduates in a critical understanding of race, racism, and racial equity, especially as they concern African Americans. The program provides students with novel learning opportunities in research, coursework, and community-led experiences.

COMM 089: COMMUNICATION, CULTURE, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE
Faculty: M. Palm
Spring 2022

COMM 140: INTRODUCTION TO MEDIA HISTORY/ THEORY/ CRITICISM
Faculty: D. Monje
Fall 2021 and Spring 2022

COMM 260: INTRODUCTION TO PERFORMANCE AND SOCIAL CHANGE
Faculty: L. Calvente
Fall 2021

COMM 318: CULTURAL DIVERSITY
Faculty: L. Calvente
Spring 2022

AAAD 334: AFRICAN AMERICAN THEATRE
Faculty: H. Craft
Semester: Fall 2021 and Spring 2022

COMM 345: GENDER AND FILM
Faculty: C. Medel
Spring 2022

COMM 524: FEMINISM(S), COMMUNICATION, AND CULTURE
Faculty: K. Silva
Fall 2021

COMM 576: MAKING AND MANIPULATING RACE IN US CONTEXTS
Faculty: E. Watts
Fall 2021

COMM 622: ENVIRONMENTAL FILMING
Faculty: J. Haslett
Fall 2021

COMM 635: DOCUMENTARY PRODUCTION
Faculty: J. Haslett
Fall 2021

COMM 650: CULTURAL POLITICS OF GLOBAL MEDIA ECONOMIES
Faculty: M. Palm
Fall 2021

COMM 665: PERFORMANCE, POLITICS, AND CULTURE
Faculty: R. Alexander Craft and J. Megel
Fall 2021

SPRING 2022 EVENTS

An Evening of New Work:
A showcase of UNC student works-in-process
February 11-12 at 7:30pm
At Swain Hall Black Box Theatre

Malcolm and Alex: A new work-in-process
By Howard L. Craft
UNC Piller Professor of the Practice
A new play exploring the professional relationship between Alex Haley and Malcolm X in the writing of The Autobiography of Malcolm X.
February 18-19 at 7:30pm
At Swain Hall Black Box Theatre

Beyond the Roots
By Imani Williams
Department of Communication and Journalism and Mass Communication Double Major
A solo performance that explores the reality of growing up while black in America through the eyes of a young girl living in the suburbs of Atlanta.
March 4-7
108 E. Franklin

Rollover
By Dr. Laura Moore
Prof. of Earth, Marine and Environmental Science
A play that explores the effects of climate change on one coastal community.
March 24-25 at 7:30pm
At Swain Hall Black Box Theatre

Cascade
By Jim Grimsley
A world premiere full production of a futuristic play about global warming by UNC alum Jim Grimsley co-produced with StreetSigns Center for Literature and Performance.
April 7-24 at 7:30pm
At Swain Hall Black Box Theatre

Her Story: Journey into the Musical Worlds of Women Composers
Presented by Dr. Clara Yang
UNC Pianist and Associate Professor of Music
and Violinist Dr. Sunmi Chang
Original Composition by Dr. Liliya Ugay
April 23-24 at 7:30pm
Kenan Rehearsal Hall

Lambda Pi Eta Induction Ceremony
April 22 from 12:00-1:00 p.m.
Pleasant's Family Room, Wilson Library

Departmental Awards Ceremony
April 22 from 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Pleasant's Family Room, Wilson Library

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FACEBOOK:UNCCOMMUNICATIONSTUDIES

PAY IT FORWARD

Thank you for investing in our department's ability to extend meaningful experiences for our undergraduate and graduate students beyond the classroom. Your tax-deductible contributions help us achieve our vision of creating citizen-scholars capable of building a better North Carolina and world. As you reflect on the opportunities that were meaningful to you as a student, we invite you to continue to "pay it forward" to elevate the next generation of critical thnkers, world leaders, visionaries, and change agents.

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