

OCTOBER 9, 2023

COMMUNITY

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

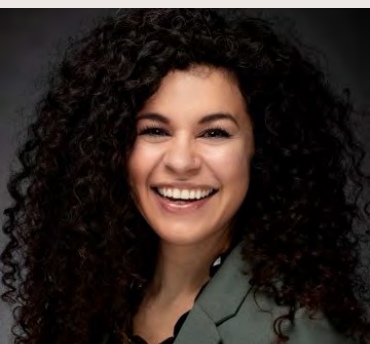
Starbucks might have the Pumpkin Latte market cornered, for better or worse, but we've got the 'Cider Sway'. You might recall two years back when our newsletter first kicked into gear, I used that term with the hopes of invoking a little bit of fall spirit. So here's to the Cider Sway rolling through Salt Lake this week. The leaves have caught fire through Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons, and they bring with them the reminder that much good work is ahead of us this month. With a number of fantastic speaker series and symposia behind us, several more are ahead (triple check those calendars). We'll also have another Comm meet-up (we set a single-tab record at Snowmobile Pizza and had nearly 40 attendees in September; look for an end-of-month activity this go around) and several searches to look forward to on top of huge progress with our UAC Master's Program, continued successes of our debate team, and new imaginations of learning outcomes and requirements for our undergrads. Many cheers to the good work we're all doing for and with one another. Now, enjoy the Cider Sway of October!

Robin Jensen awarded the NCA Golden Anniversary Monograph Award

Dr. Robin E. Jensen has been recognized with the 2023 Golden Anniversary Monograph Award for the article, "Re-envisioning Fertility Science: From J. Marion Sims's Invasive Gynecology to Sophia Kleegman's 'Conservative Surgery' Hermeneutic," published in Quarterly Journal of Speech in 2022. The Golden Anniversary Monograph Award is presented by the National Communication Association to the most outstanding scholarly monograph published during the previous calendar year.



Leandra Hernandez awarded OSCLG Feminist Teacher-Mentor Award and Anita Taylor Award for Outstanding Published Article or Book Chapter



Leandra Hernandez, assistant professor in the Department of Communication, was awarded the Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender Feminist Teacher-Mentor Award and the Anita Taylor Award for Outstanding Published Article or Book Chapter. The latter award was given in recognition of her co-authored article Construyendo conexiones para los niños: Environmental justice, reproductive feminicidio, and coalitional possibility in the borderlands, which was recently published in the journal Health Communication.

University of Utah Researchers Have a Million-dollar Idea to Protect Kids from Air Pollution

A University of Utah team, led by Kerry Kelly, associate professor of chemical engineering in the U's John and Marcia Price College of Engineering, has been researching and developing ways to mitigate and monitor Utah's air quality on a neighborhood level. Now, after winning the million-dollar stage 2 National Science Foundation's (NSF) Civic Innovation Challenge they're set to implement a new tool to help the state cope with air pollution.

This will give decision makers, such as preK-12 administrators and the Utah High School Activities Association, real time, local data that could prevent children's exposure to hazardous levels of particle pollution.

Kerry's collaborators at the U include Heather Holmes, associate professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering, Ross Whitaker, professor in the Kahlert School of Computing, Derek Malia, research assistant professor in the Department of Atmospheric Science, and Sara Yeo, associate professor in the Department of Communication.



CHILDREN AND YA BOOKS

AUTHORED BY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION FACULTY



Crystal Y. Groves-Lumpkins
& Israel B.S. Groves Jr.

EZRA HOBO JUNGLE KING

Ezra Simms prides himself with being the oldest of nine children and the son of a preacher and teacher in Waco, Texas. He stands nearly 6 feet tall, thrives in his community and can outwit and outrun most teenage boys in his town. The family has taken up tenant farming during the 1930s after narrowly escaping a race riot, and like most families, are doing all they can to stay alive during the depression. However, after tragedy befalls his family, Ezra strikes back and he and his cousin Kirmee find themselves on the run, leaving everything that they know behind them. The journey pushes Ezra to new limits and puts his skills to the test. He and his cousin must learn how to ride the rails through Texas and New Mexico and evade the law and burly men who are looking for any reason to throw free riders from the train. Through perseverance and determination to survive, Ezra convinces his cousin of a new life beyond Waco and that the only way forward is to rebuild their lives with the hobos that they meet along the way.

ENCHANTED: TIME AND THE MOUNTAIN

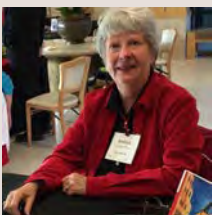
In 1910, Elliott Hansinger, a brilliant but eccentric engineer, builds a machine that accidentally transports his wife and his children, Ben and Lizzy, into another dimension of fluctuating times and realities. In the summer of 2021, Annie and Will Hartley are precocious youngsters who inadvertently enter a time portal that sends them 100 years into the past. There they encounter Elliott and his family and discover that they are all trapped in a mysterious world of animals and nature ruled by the wolf-beast, the crafty creature who uses magic to manipulate the flow and direction of time and protect the sacred space of the mountain.

THE SHADOW OF THE UNSCRATCHABLE

This novella for middle grade readers (ages 8-12) features Harley, an adventurous and charismatic black cat, and Angela, his beloved feline companion. On vacation in Rome, they unwittingly discover and then must end a centuries-old global war between cats and dogs. Mysteries and magical moments abound, but they join forces with Friskie, an affable mutt they encounter in the Roman Forum. They must also enlist the support of a feisty band of feral cats. Above all of the action looms the ghostly figure of Prudens Poochie, a Pomeranian who forecasts a disastrous outcome for dogs and cats worldwide if Harley, Angela and Friskie don't succeed in their mission.

PAWS IN THE PIAZZA

"Back home, I was content to be just an ordinary house cat. I didn't get out much. But it's different here in Venice." How different? Harley quickly finds out after his family arrives in Italy. He takes up with a group of local cats who roam wild in the alleys and neighborhoods of Venice, and meets the mysterious Angela, a beautiful white Angora who steals his heart. Then he becomes embroiled in a fierce and ongoing war between his friends and a rival band of cats, and discovers the magical order that underlies life in the enchanting and historic city that is his new home.



Jerilyn S. McIntyre

CRASH COURSE

COMM 5690 Trust & Social Media
with Isabelle Freiling

In current information environments such as on social media, individuals can encounter so much information that they cannot check the veracity of every piece. When we do not know for sure whether information is correct, we often rely on trust. This can be trust in the source, such as the media, scientists, the platform, or friends and family. It can also be trust in science as an institution, for example. What influences whom or in what we trust? What makes the social media environment so special when we think of trust? And what can be the results of trust?

This undergraduate-level course focuses on what we know from previous research to help answer these questions by defining trust, delineating it from credibility, exploring research on how we make sense of information, looking at trust in a variety of sources, considering characteristics specific to social media environments as compared to traditional media environments, and examining trust in the context of misinformation. The course also explores practical implications of public trust in a social media world, such as journalism, use and potential regulation of microtargeted and algorithmically curated information environments, misinformation spread, etc.

Students will gain the ability to identify characteristics of social media environments as compared to traditional media environments as they are relevant to public trust, consider trust in different sources of information and explain why we trust (or do not trust) specific sources of information, evaluate the practical implications of public trust in a social media world and take different perspectives on issues surrounding public trust in a social media world.

My goal is for students to apply what they learned in this class to real-world examples they notice in their own social media feeds or on the news, engage in discussions with others' who hold different viewpoints and use what they have learned in their future jobs by communicating about the realities of how we all make sense of information on social media.



Pigskins, Politics, and Plato:

An Open Forum with National Football League SVP and former Barack Obama Communications Director Katie Hill



12 - 1 PM
10.30.2023

Hinckley Institute of Politics
Gardner Commons Rm. 2018

Katie Hill is senior vice president of communications at the National Football League, directing global communications strategy and media relations for America's most popular sport. Previously, she was communications director for President Barack Obama from 2017-2021, helping guide President Obama's public profile in his post-presidency, from his public appearances to his political campaigning to the launch of his memoir. She served in the Obama administration from 2014-2017, first as national press secretary at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services before joining the White House as assistant press secretary and spokesperson for a variety of domestic policy areas, including health care, education and veterans. She has also worked on Capitol Hill, on political campaigns, and at a public relations firm. She was named to *Outsports'* "Power 100" list in 2023 and selected as one of *OUT Magazine's* "Out 100" honorees in 2016. A Nashville native, Hill majored in classics (ancient Greek) and minored in art history at the University of Virginia as an Echols Scholar. She lives in Manhattan with her wife, Andrea.



Katie Hill

Former Barack Obama
Communications Director
and Current Senior
Vice-President for the
National Football League