

COMMUNITY

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

A NOTE FROM SUHI CHOI

During the spring break, I enjoyed a book, *Why Fish Don't Exist*, an astute writer's self-reflexive reckoning of an (in)famous taxonomist's work and life. The book points to a paradox that haunts our symbolic world: one who tries to name a world ultimately illuminates the notion that the world is not namable. This also reminded me of people I have invited to our department's upcoming forum - local refugees from Afghanistan, Uganda, and Sudan. Refugees are the taxonomists of human affairs. When they communicate their stories, refugees try to bring names, meanings, and orders to comprehend the incomprehensible. Like taxonomists, they thus run into a communicative quandary in that their words defy their impulse to portray human affairs as chaotic as they have experienced. Their struggle demands our attention.

In early April, our department and the Utah Refugee Workforce Services collectively will host a forum to learn about challenges that local refugees have faced in their storytelling. How do refugees navigate audience expectation, a hegemonic narrative (gratitude), and the limited means of representation? How can we become co-witnesses who empathetically participate in the process of storytelling instead of voyeuristically consuming sensationalized stories? Please bring your inquisitive minds to the forum, meet our refugee panelists, enjoy Swahili Cousin from a refugee-owned local restaurant, and help us identify actionable items for communicating refugee stories that we can apply in our classrooms, workplace, neighborhood, and beyond. I look forward to seeing you at the refugee forum which will take place at 3 pm in our new Communication Institute room (LNCO 2910) on April 10th.

John R. Park Debate Society Earns Four International Championships in Japan

The John R. Park Debate Society competed in the International Forensics Association's 33rd Annual Tournament & Conference on March 13-14, 2023 in Tokyo, Japan. The six students competing at the tournament appeared in 11 elimination rounds, winning four events and placing 3rd overall at the tournament, outperforming Vanderbilt University, Oregon State University, the United States Air Force Academy, the University of Alabama, and Point Loma Nazarene University, among the 29 programs in attendance.



Danielle Endres and Jessie Chaplain awarded Fall 2022 Wilkes Center Seed Grant

Professor Danielle Endres and Graduate Student Jessie Chaplain received a \$18,800 grant from the Wilkes Center for Climate Science and Policy at the University of Utah. This grant will support research about how climate policy is developed through United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations. Endres and Chaplain will conduct fieldwork at the 2023 Conference of Parties 28 (COP 28) in Dubai, UAE and the intersession meeting in Bonn, Germany to better understand the role of climate justice advocacy. This collaborative project will support Chaplain's doctoral dissertation research on climate justice advocacy and Endres' ongoing research on energy democracy.

"This project seeks to better understand and amplify how climate justice activists communicate their front-line knowledges and lived experiences as foundational to climate justice solutions and policy within the UNFCCC," said Chaplain.



Mark Bergstrom awarded WSCA Lifetime Achievement Award



Associate Professor Mark Bergstrom was recently awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Western States Communication Association. The WSCA Distinguished Service Award is the highest honor bestowed by the Western States Communication Association. The award recognizes a deserving member who has made significant and long-standing contributions to WSCA and the communication field.

NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS

MALCOLM X AWARD OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

Awarded by the University of Utah



Rachel Griffin

The Malcolm X Award of Social Justice is for individuals who have fought for justice in terms of the distribution of equal access, opportunities, and privileges within our campus and the greater community and whose body of academic work (e.g., articles, books, creative works) and life promote or exemplify the area of social justice in modern life.

Author Interview: 'Science and Ethics of 'Curing' Misinformation' *with Isabelle Freiling*

Dr. Isabelle Freiling joins Ethics Talk to discuss her article, coauthored with Nicole M. Krause and Dr. Dietram A. Scheufele: "Science and Ethics of 'Curing' Misinformation."



LISTEN HERE

EVENTS



30

Equitable Journalism: Charting a Path to Better News 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Many believe that the best way for journalism to improve its diminished trust among the public is for the profession to become more diverse, equitable, and inclusive. Journalists and journalism researchers increasingly argue that news organizations need to do a better job telling the stories about marginalized groups, specifically by more deliberately pursuing reporting for those communities rather than about those communities. This day-long event will tackle the question: What needs to change so that newsrooms and their audiences become more diverse and aligned? Through a series of conversations between leading scholars and stakeholders, this event will offer a comprehensive look at the challenges and opportunities when it comes to journalism's troubled past and its hopefully brighter future. People are welcome to drop in throughout the day! Check out the program and RSVP here.

Equitable Journalism:
CHARTING A PATH TO BETTER NEWS

Many believe that the best way for journalism to improve its diminished trust among the public is for the profession to become more diverse, equitable, and inclusive. Journalists and journalism researchers increasingly argue that news organizations need to do a better job telling the stories about marginalized groups, specifically by more deliberately pursuing reporting for those communities rather than about those communities. This day-long event will tackle the question: What needs to change so that newsrooms and their audiences become more diverse and aligned? Through a series of conversations between leading scholars and stakeholders, this event will offer a comprehensive look at the challenges and opportunities when it comes to journalism's troubled past and its hopefully brighter future.

DANIELLE K. BROWN
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

MARCIE YOUNG CANCIO
AMPLIFY UTAH

ELAINE CLARK
KUER

LEANDRA H. HERNANDEZ
UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY

RACHEL R. MOURÃO
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

GREGORY PERREAU
APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY

DANYELLE WHITE
SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

MARCH 30, 2023
COMMUNICATION INSTITUTE
LNCO RM 2400
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

REGISTER HERE

<https://trnna.glu/DP9AtvM66aR4ZDE>

6

Colloquium: Research and Teaching Tools for ChatGPT and Generative AI 4 - 5:30 PM

If you have been wondering how to use Chat GPT and other Generative AI tools in your research and in the classroom, you will want to be sure to come to this session for Department of Communication faculty, graduate students, staff, and undergraduate students. While seating will be limited to the number of seats in the Reading Room, come with ideas, questions, and an interest in enhancing research and teaching.

Colloquium:
Research and Teaching Tools for ChatGPT and Generative AI

ALLYSON MOWER
Librarian, Marriott Library

THOMAS TJ FERRILL
Assistant Head of Creative Spaces, Marriott Library

If you have been wondering how to use Chat GPT and other Generative AI tools in your research and in the classroom, you will want to be sure to come to this session for Department of Communication faculty, graduate students, staff, and undergraduate students. While seating will be limited to the number of seats in the Reading Room, come with ideas, questions, and an interest in enhancing research and teaching.

APRIL 6
READING ROOM
(LNCO 2120)
4-5:30 PM

7

The Anti-Racism Reading Group 1 PM

The anti-racism reading group will be meeting twice this semester to read and discuss Kazu Haga's *Healing Resistance: A Radically Different Response to Harm*. This is a book that links anti-racism work with the practice of nonviolence.

EVENTS



10

Refugee Forum: Communicating Utah Refugee Stories 3 - 4:30 PM

The Department of Communication and the Utah Refugee Workforce Services collectively explore the notion that storytelling necessitates both reflexive narrators and empathic audiences. More than 60,000 refugees are currently living in Utah, contributing to the most vibrant diversities in our local communities. They have brought their distinctive culture, languages, life experiences, and stories to share with us. How do refugees communicate their stories? How do they navigate audience expectation, a hegemonic narrative (gratitude), and the limited means of representation? How can we as fellow community members share the burden of communicating eh incommunicable? How can we become co-witnesses who empathetically participate in the process of storytelling instead of voyeuristically consuming sensationalized stories? How can we create a reflexive storytelling platform where we become more attentive to “how is told” as opposed to “what is told” and thus imagine “what it might have been” as opposed to “what it was?” With the refugee panelists, we aim at identifying actionable items for communicating refugee stories that we can apply to our classrooms, workplace, neighborhood, and beyond.

The poster for the Refugee Forum event features a background image of a person's face. At the top, it lists the 'COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES' and 'DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION'. The title 'Refugee Forum' is prominently displayed in a large, serif font, with the subtitle 'COMMUNICATING UTAH REFUGEE STORIES' below it. The main text describes the event's focus on storytelling and communication. It includes the date 'APRIL 10, 2023' and time 'COMMUNICATION INSTITUTE LINC 2910 3-4:30 PM'. A section titled 'FEATURED PANELISTS' lists three individuals with their photos and brief biographies: ATEM ALEU, DESANGE KUENHIRA, and AHMAD NAWEED SHIRZAD. Logos for 'EDNA ANDERSON-TAYLOR' and 'WORKFORCE SERVICES' are at the bottom.

12

Stewart Udall: The Politics of Beauty 12-2 PM

Please join us on April 12th from 12-2 PM for an in-person screening of John De Graaf's documentary: STEWART UDALL: THE POLITICS OF BEAUTY. The new 78-minute documentary celebrates the life and legacy of former Interior Secretary Stewart L. Udall. The film screening will be followed by Q&A with the filmmaker. This event is co-sponsored by the Stegner Center, Department of Communication, Environmental Humanities Program, Sustainability Office, and Taft-Nicolson Center. Please register.

28

End of Year Communication Celebration 6-8 PM

Food trucks, games, graduate awards, and more!

Us Upfront

Jake Nelson

On a perfect weekend, you can find me:

eating pastries from Tulie with our toddler and 8-month-old and taking them for (very short) hikes in Millcreek Canyon.

Most memorable college class I took:

Creative nonfiction. If I weren't an academic, I'd be a creative writer.

Fictional character I'm most like:

Calvin from *Calvin & Hobbes*

Last book I finished:

No One is Talking About This
by Patricia Lockwood



Last movie I saw:

Tár

If I'm at a concert, it's...

hopefully got seats.

I hope that my students

Continue to be curious, thoughtful and engaged as they've been so far.

