

COMMUNITY

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION



Associate Chair Message

Professor Robin Jensen

It's hard to believe, but—by the time you read this—our Department will be well into the new 2024-2025 academic year: teaching classes, meeting with research teams and labs, writing any number of scholarly and public articles, and, hopefully, taking some time to meet with our newest students, staff, and faculty members to learn more about them and help them navigate everything that is the University of Utah.

Avery, Kim, and I have so enjoyed getting to see how our community has already, once again, begun fostering rich, purposeful opportunities for excellence in research, teaching, and service. We have among our ranks such incredibly talented, hardworking individuals, but what becomes really clear when we all get together is that the whole of our department is even more powerful than its parts. In that spirit of collaboration and interaction, we invite you to join us for upcoming talks and lectures hosted by the Edna Anderson-Taylor Communication Institute, including the Health & Environmental Justice in Latina/o/x Communities colloquium on Friday September 27th. This gathering will be a great opportunity to come together in our shared goal of listening, communicating, and engaging well for a better social world. We hope to see you there and wish you the very best as we all navigate what is sure to be an exciting Fall semester.



DEPARTMENT NEWS

WELCOME TO A NEW ACADEMIC YEAR

The Department of Communication is proud to be one of the top five Departments at the University of Utah. This year marks the first year since 2020 where enrollment has exceeded 1,000 students. This has, in part, been made possible through our new graduate student cohort and continued partnership with the Utah Asia Campus.

Over the summer, many additions have been made in the building, including two new offices and a gender neutral restroom to accommodate our growing population. This year the Department has also welcomed three new tenure-line faculty members, three new adjunct faculty members, and one new staff member.

We feel the most equipped we ever had to make this year a success. Go Utes!



Dr. Crystal Lumpkins
Associate Professor

Faculty Member Spotlight

Associate Professor, Dr. Crystal Lumpkins was accepted into the Communicating Evolving Cancer Information Ideas Lab this summer on behalf of the National Cancer Institute (NCI).

Dr. Lumpkins was selected due to her significant research at the Huntsman Cancer Institute. Along with eight other interdisciplinary cancer researchers from across the country, she helped create a proposal discussing ways to address cancer uncertainty.

Based on the strong merits of their proposal her team was awarded \$15,000 intended to facilitate further development of research collaborations.

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Graduate Student Spotlight

Kinny Torre—PhD Student

Graduate Student Kinny Torre was awarded the Waterhouse Family Institute (WFI) grant for his research on how CHamorus, the Indigenous people of Guåhan (Guam), are advancing their sovereignty on their island and abroad.

The work he has done on how CHamoru sovereignty movements use language revitalization as a means to enact rhetorical survivance and decolonization is making a significant impact on his community and has been recognized by institutions across the nation. This grant will allow him to further his research on this important matter. He looks forward to using these funds to advance his fieldwork back on the island next summer.



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Emerita Faculty Spotlight

—Dr. Jerilyn McIntyre

Dr. Jerilyn McIntyre joined the University of Utah Department of Communication faculty in 1977, where she taught for 23 years. During her time here she served as the Vice President for Academic Affairs (1990–98) and Interim President (1991 and 1997). She was the first woman to serve in either of those positions. She is the author of numerous monographs, articles, and papers on communication history, journalism ethics, and higher education issues.

In retirement, Dr. McIntyre has focused on a career as a writer and publisher. She has worked in several genres, from personal essays and memoirs, fiction, and humorous stories chronicling the adventures of Harley, a charismatic black cat. Currently in the works is “Four-Leaf Clover,” a story about several families living in the Midwest in World War II and post-war America.

With her husband, author and editor David Smith, she is co-founder of Bristlecone Peak Books.

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New Department Members

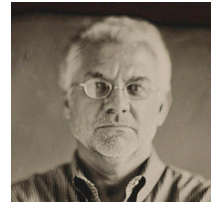
The Department of Communication is thrilled to announce the arrival of eight new members who will work in the Department during the 2024–2025 academic year.

Top row: Staff member Emmy Darling and student intern London Kelley.

Middle row: Adjunct Instructors Dr. Amanda Wilhelm, Dr. Jeremy Freed, and Roger Tuttle

Bottom row: Faculty Members Dr. LaRisa Anderson, Dr. Yang Yi, and Dr. Haoning Xue.

Please extend your warmest welcome to the newest members of our Department!



A message for **Emeriti Faculty**

Calling all Emeriti Faculty members. We'd like to refresh the Emeritus Faculty website page and highlight more of your accomplishments!

If you have an updated picture, a bio, or any projects you'd like to link to, send an email to: emmy.darling@utah.edu.

Upcoming Events



September 25th

Major Expo Fair. [Learn more](#)

September 27th

The Communication Institute presents the: Health & Environmental Justice in Latina/o/x Communities Symposium. [Learn more](#)

October 1st

Learning Abroad Panel. [Learn more](#)

October 8–15th

Fall Break