

Fall 2019 Grad Newsletter



A MESSAGE FROM THE GRADUATE DIRECTOR

It's long been a dream of mine to be the graduate director of the Department of Communication. This beginning-of-the-year newsletter was initiated by my predecessor, Dr. Jennifer Kam, to help graduate students prepare for the coming year and assist faculty in supporting our graduate students. The newsletter guides graduate students about important events, resources, and beneficial opportunities.

This issue of the Grad Newsletter (3rd ed.) introduces our 2019 cohort of graduate students, summarizes the Departmental and Campus resources for graduate students, touts our recent world ranking, and offers a detailed timeline of this upcoming academic year that includes key dates for grad-related events and deadlines.

I wish everyone a wonderful 2019-2020 academic year.

—Dr. Karen K. Myers, myers@comm.ucsb.edu

 **UC SANTA BARBARA** DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

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Welcome, 2019 Grad Cohort!

This past year, we recruited another group of stellar graduate students. Our new students bring unique perspectives to communication with wide-ranging experiences and academic interests. Let's get to know our 2019 grad cohort and welcome its members to the department and community.



YIBEI CHEN

Hello! I earned my MA at Fudan University, BA at Wuhan University, both in Communication. During 2014-2015, I worked at Tencent Corp. as an Operation Editor, which inspired me to look deeply into how media impacts individual behavior as well as how the brain deals with messages. Also, my research interests include moral psychology and computational methods. I am obsessed with numbers and codes! Living in China for more than twenty years, I am now looking forward to the brand new world in Santa Barbara!

ALLISON MAZUR

I received both my BA and MA in Communication from Michigan State University. My research interests are housed in interpersonal communication, with a focus on how interpersonal relationships can play a preventative or supportive role for those experiencing gender-based violence. Outside of academics, I enjoy going to concerts and museums, and trying different workout classes. Most days you will probably find me at the beach!



NANCY MOLINA-ROGERS

I received my BA in Global Studies and Spanish from UC Santa Barbara and most recently earned an MA in Communication Studies from California State University, Northridge. For the past three years, I have worked as a communication instructor and a research assistant. As a graduate student, I am most interested in exploring how portrayals of women on television impact perceptions of identity in children, adolescences, and adults. When I am not learning, I enjoy a good television show/movie, developing my cooking skills, and spending quality time with family and friends

Welcome, 2019 Grad Cohort!

NITZAN NAVICK

I received my BA in Psychology from California State University, Channel Islands (CSUCI) in May of 2018. My research interests include team processes, virtual teamwork, and the effects of subjective states on computer-mediated collaboration. During my year off from school I have been working as a grant coordinator at CSUCI, overseeing two HSI Title V sub-awards that aim to serve underrepresented students in higher education. I am very passionate about supporting students and I hope to be a mentor to undergraduates at UCSB. I also enjoy rock climbing, traveling, and binge watching sci-fi TV shows in my free time!



CHRISTOPHER OTMAR

I received my BA in Communication and Political Science from California Lutheran University and my MA in Communication from San Diego State University. I previously worked at SAGE Publishing and taught public speaking at SDSU. I am interested in studying conflict and forgiveness communication, especially nonverbal behavior within interpersonal relationships. In my free time, I enjoy going to museums, listening to podcasts, and wine tasting.



UC SANTA BARBARA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

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LI QI

I received my BA in Journalism from Zhejiang University and an MA in Journalism and Communication from Tsinghua University, both in China. My research interests focus on how message-relevant emotions affect individuals' information processing, attitude formation and behavioral intentions. In my free time, I enjoy traveling, cooking and watching movies.



LAYNE RUSSELL

I was born and raised in Texas. I received my B.A. in public relations and M.A. in mass communication from Texas Tech University. My research has revolved around examining the brain's response to a variety of media content but has most recently examined political messaging that promotes extreme viewpoints. When not in the lab, I enjoy reading, binge watching tv, and going to concerts.



Photo by Jenn Suh

Congrats to our Recent PhDs!

Congratulations to our impressive graduate students for earning their PhDs and securing career positions. We are excited to recognize their accomplishments. Please feel free to reach out to our graduate alumni.

Dr. Quinten Bernhold

Dr. Kathryn Harrison

Dr. Benjamin Smith

Dr. David Stamps

Dr. Nicole Zamanzadeh

Our recent graduates have been hired at:



THE UNIVERSITY OF
TENNESSEE
KNOXVILLE



CALIFORNIA STATE
UNIVERSITY
E A S T B A Y

LSU

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

Campus Career Support & Professional Development



FALL
2019

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Use Your Resume to Get Noticed | Oct 8, 1:30-2:30p

Thinking on Your Feet: Improv Skills for Interviewing | Oct 24, 10a-12p

Internship Fellowship Information Session | Nov 19, 10:30-11:30a

FUNDING & FINANCES

Finding Funding Workshops | Oct 11 & 30, 1-2p

Financial Literacy: Budgeting Basics Workshop | Nov 14, 12-1p

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Finding Funding for International Grad Students | Oct 9, 11a-12:30p

Communication Skills: Big Tips for Small Talk | Oct 24, 1:30-3:30p

International Teaching Assistant Lunch Discussion | Nov 5, 12-1p

International Grad Student Appreciation Reception | Nov 19, 4-6p

CAMPUS CONNECTIONS

Wellness Welcome | Oct 4, 11a-1p

Lunch & Learn | Oct 11 & Nov 8, 12-1p

Interdisciplinary @ UCSB: Panel Discussion & Mixer | Nov 6, 2-5p



For complete event details go to: gradpost.ucsb.edu/events

Department Professional Development Series for 2019-2020

Based on last year's faculty and graduate student feedback, we will offer professional development talks/workshops with these guidelines:

We host one information panel per quarter this academic year. GSACC officers will facilitate the information panels, so they can tailor the information panel to meet the graduate students' needs.

In addition, we expect to have another job search this year which will require time from faculty and graduate students; these too, are outstanding opportunities for our graduate students to learn about the job searches in academia.

2019-2020 Topics

Consulting

Communication PhDs are in demand to speak to and work with businesses, non-profits and community organizations. Regardless of your area of research, you can make consulting a career, part-time or occasional gig. Learn how—Friday, October 4 at 3:00pm in SSMS 1009.

PhD Emphases

Come learn about PhD Emphases & Certificate programs that can enhance your knowledge and CV. Friday, November 1 at 3:30pm in SSMS 1009.

Topics under consideration for winter and spring quarters: job talks, what to expect when interviewing, how to make the most out of conferences, how to select a journal for your manuscript, and how to manage stress in grad school and beyond.

Note: If you have ideas for Informational panels, please e-mail your ideas to the GSACC All-Grad Representative, Avi McClelland-Cohen (amcclellandcohen@ucsb.edu) and Graduate Director, Dr. Karen Myers (myers@comm.ucsb.edu). Your ideas are welcomed and appreciated. ■

Campus Writing Assistance

Improve and Become a More Productive Writer!

Incoming students/2nd year graduate students (must meet citizenship requirements):

NSF GRFP Success Series

Over 90% of UCSB's 2019 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) winners attended last year's Success Series. This series features six sessions to walk students through the entire GRFP application process and help ensure that they are writing strong applications. For a full listing of the events and when they will be held, please visit gradpost.ucsb.edu/writing/grfp.

All graduate students:

Graduate Writer's Room

The Graduate Writer's Room is a quiet space located in the Student Resource Building's Conference Room (SRB 1103). On Monday & Wednesdays 1-4 and Tuesdays & Thursdays 9-12, graduate students can work on their writing in peace—complete with all the coffee and snacks they need! Arrive and leave as you need. This service is great for any student looking for a space to write without distractions.

Writing Consultations

Students may request a one-on-one writing consultation with the university's Graduate Writing Specialist. Writing can be in any stage of development, from any discipline, and belong to any context. To schedule an appointment, please send an e-mail to robby.nadler@graddiv.ucsb.edu. Please note that this is not a proofreading/editing service.

Editors for hire

The Graduate Division now posts a list of editors for hire. This is a third-party service to connect students with potential editors: we do not officially endorse the quality or services of anyone on this list, nor do we receive compensation of any kind for business that transpires through this list. Information about editing experiences, rates, and contact information can be found at <http://www.gradpost.ucsb.edu/writing/editing-resource-list>.

Writing Support Services

Besides being an academic mode of communication, writing is a form of social and personal interaction. For example, when we write, we expose ourselves to critique—something most of us dislike. And sometimes these external factors generate concerns serious enough to affect our ability to write. To schedule an appointment, please send an email to robby.nadler@graddiv.ucsb.edu.

Grad Support: Meet the Graduate Committee

2019-2020 Graduate Committee



DR. JENNIFER GIBBS,
DR. AMY GONZALES,
DR. SCOTT REID,
DR. MIRIAM METZGER,
DR. KAREN MYERS
(GRADUATE DIRECTOR),
DR. JOE WALTHER
TRICIA TAYLOR, EX OFFICIO

Grad Support: Tricia Taylor

Tricia is the Graduate Program Advisor (GPA), the staff member who works with the Graduate Director to ensure students are receiving clear and timely advising on administrative processes. As examples, she keeps track of grad students' progress in the program (fulfilling course requirements and milestones), hires TAs and Associates, and acts as a liaison with the Graduate Division and other graduate student resources on campus.



Grad Support: Meet the Staff

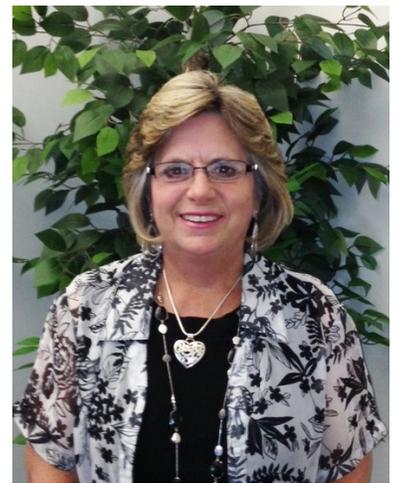


TANIA DUNSON ~ BUSINESS OFFICER

As Business Officer, Tania is responsible for the administrative management of the Department. She works with Tricia on the summer TA assignments.

MICHELLE FREDRICH ~ FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

As the Financial Assistant for the Department, you can turn to Michelle for questions about Department supplies. She also approves expenditures and reimbursements. Like Tania, Michelle also has keys to the Department offices.



MANDY CZARNECK ~ ACADEMIC PERSONNEL & OFFICE COORDINATOR

Mandy provides administrative support for recruitment, appointment, and advancement for faculty and academic appointees, and also works with faculty to collect materials for their merit reviews and promotions. Additionally, Mandy processes payroll for both faculty and graduate students, manages course evaluations and places textbook orders.

Grad Support: Grad TA Coordinator

DR. DOLLY MULLIN ~ GRAD TA COORDINATOR

As the Grad TA Coordinator, Dolly provides pedagogical leadership and support to graduate students. Each quarter, she has the challenging task of working through graduate students' busy schedules and assigning them as teaching assistants (TAs) to our undergraduate courses. Dolly also teaches COMM 500 every fall quarter, which offers graduate students tools to develop their pedagogical skills. She works closely with many of our graduate students who TA the introductory communication courses that she also teaches. Dolly also is a long-standing member of the Awards Committee and often manages the Schoell Award for Excellence in Teaching. ■



FRANCESCA PALERMINO ~ SR. UNDERGRADUATE ADVISOR

Francesca advises undergraduates in the pre- and Communication major. She also maintains a list of TA office hours, and provides add codes to undergrad research assistants for course credit. When your undergrads have advising, DSP, or add/waitlist questions, send them to the Undergraduate Advising Office.

BERNICE DOMINGUEZ ~ UNDERGRADUATE ADVISOR

Berenice is a recent graduate from our Department and now advises undergraduates in the Pre-Communication and Communication majors.



Graduate Diversity Advocate



Each academic department on the UCSB campus selects a faculty member to serve as their Graduate Diversity Advocate. We are pleased to announce that **Dr. Amy Gonzales** will serve in this role to “take the lead on outreach, recruitment, and the support of graduate students from underserved populations” within the department.

Students who have questions, concerns or suggestions related to diversity, equity and inclusion are encouraged to contact Dr. Amy Gonzales at gonzales@comm.ucsb.edu.

Diversity Equity & Inclusion

In Spring 2019, the Department established the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Working Group. The overarching purpose of the DEI is to promote and ensure diversity, that all Department members are treated equitably, and that they feel able to participate in its activities. The working group was established with three graduate students (Matt Giles, Avi McClelland-Cohen, Stephenson Whitestone) and three faculty representatives (Dr. Amy Gonzales, Dr. Dana Mastro, Dr. Andy Merolla), all selected by graduate students.

Important Dates for the Academic Year

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

(9:00 AM—3:30 PM)

**FALL DEPARTMENT ORIENTATION
FOR THE 2019 GRAD COHORT**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

(12:00 PM—3:00 PM)

DEPARTMENT **WELCOME BACK
POTLUCK** AT GOLETA BEACH
(BUDDIES WILL INTRODUCE THE
NEW GRAD STUDENTS)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19

(3:30 PM)

**BRADAC LECTURE
RECEPTION FOLLOWING**

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1

(3:30 PM)

LEARN ABOUT THE PHD
EMPHASES & CERTIFICATE
PROGRAM

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

CLASSES BEGIN

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

(3:00 PM)

CONSULTING CAREER WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

(4:00-8:00PM)

**GRADUATE STUDENT-ALUMNI
COUNCIL EVENT
MOSHER ALUMNI HOUSE**

NOVEMBER 14-17

**NATIONAL COMMUNICATION
ASSOCIATION CONVENTION**

BALTIMORE, MD

Important Dates for the Academic Year

FEBRUARY 27-29

GRADUATE OPEN HOUSE!

AROUND FRIDAY, MARCH 6

(3:30 PM)

**LAMBDA PI ETA LECTURE,
RECEPTION TO FOLLOW**

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

(4:00 PM)

DEPARTMENT'S **CONTINUING
FELLOWSHIP NOMINATIONS** ARE
DUE TO THE GRADUATE DIVISION

FRIDAY, MAY 1

(12:00 PM)

GRAD STUDENTS MUST SUBMIT
ALL REQUESTED **ANNUAL REVIEW**
MATERIALS TO TRICIA

MONDAY, MARCH 2 (3:00 PM)

**McCUNE DISSERTATION
FELLOWSHIP APPLICATIONS** ARE
DUE (SUBMIT TO TRICIA)

MONDAY, MARCH 2 (3:00 PM)

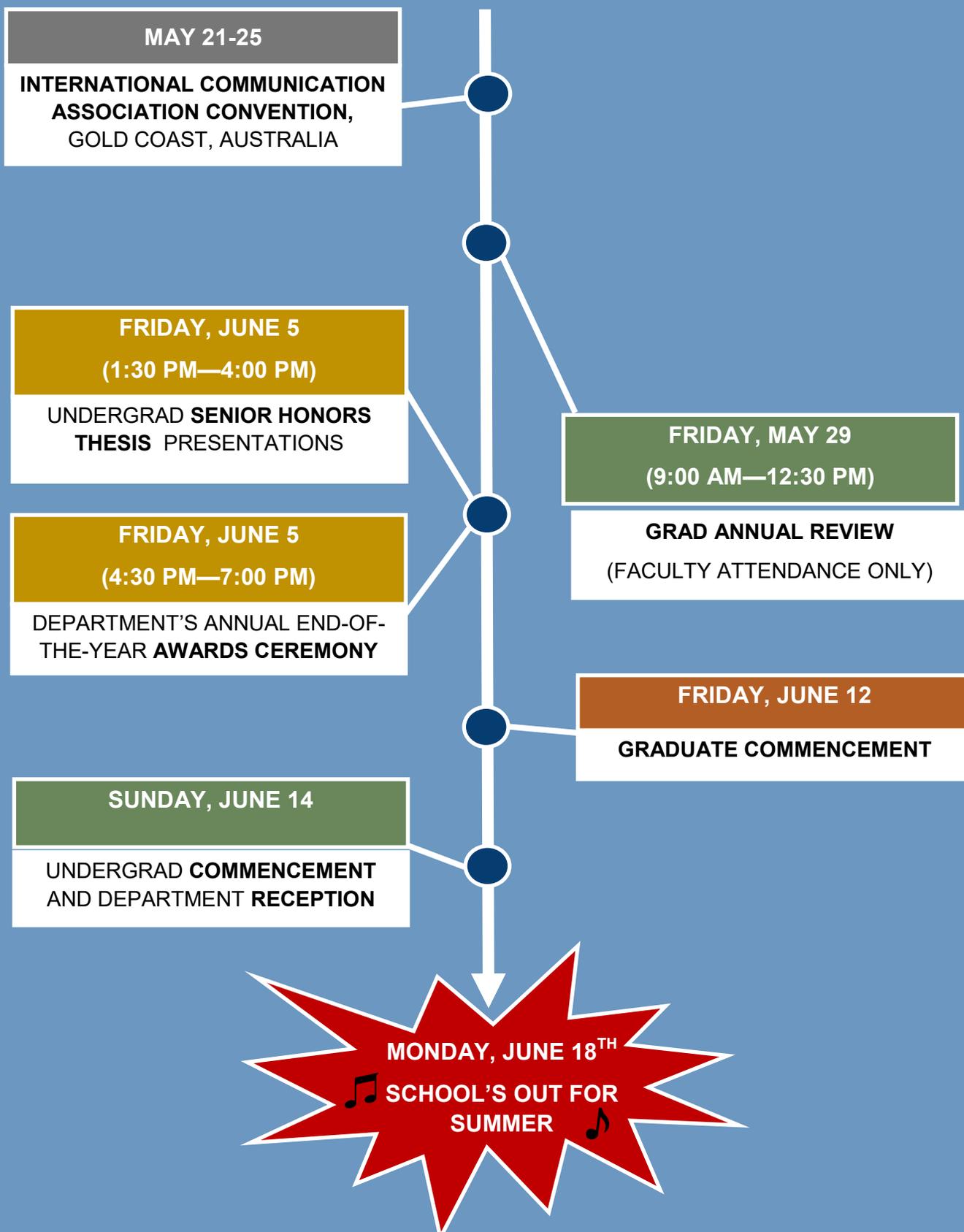
NOMINATIONS FOR THE GRAD DIVI-
SION'S **CONTINUING FELLOWSHIPS**
ARE DUE (SUBMIT TO TRICIA)

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

(4:00 PM)

NOMINATIONS FOR DEPARTMENT
GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS
ARE DUE TO THE AWARDS CHAIR

Important Dates for the Academic Year



UCSB Department of Communication Ranked 5th in the World

In its Academic Ranking of World Universities 2019 global ranking by academic subjects, the prestigious Shanghai Ranking places UC Santa Barbara at #5 in the field of Communication. UC Santa Barbara is the only California institution in the top 20 for Communication, rising from #8 in 2018 and #13 in 2017.

The Department of Communication was founded in 1985 when Professors James Bradac, Anthony Mulac, and John Wiemann separated from the Department of Speech and Hearing to establish a Communication Studies Program. When the PhD program was approved in 1990, there were nine full time faculty in Communication. Presently there are 22 full time ladder or senate faculty members, 2 emeriti faculty, 5 non-senate faculty, and 10 affiliated faculty from political science, sociology, technology management, and brain and psychological sciences. For a detailed timeline and history, see <http://www.comm.ucsb.edu/about/history>

Ladder Faculty

Tamara Afifi, Professor

Walid Afifi, Professor

Norah Dunbar, Professor

Andrew Flanagin, Professor

Jennifer Gibbs, Professor

Howie Giles, Distinguished Research Professor

Amy Gonzales, Assistant Professor

Jennifer Kam, Associate Professor

Young Ji Kim, Assistant Professor

Dan Lane, Assistant Professor

Dan Linz, Professor

Dana Mastio, Professor

Miriam Metzger, Professor

Andy Merolla, Associate Professor

Karen Myers, Professor

Robin Nabi, Professor

W. James Potter, Professor

Linda Putnam, Distinguished Research Professor

Scott Reid, Professor

Ronald E. Rice, Distinguished Professor

Cynthia Stohl, Distinguished Professor

Michael Stohl, Professor

Joseph Walther, Distinguished Professor

René Weber, Professor

