Welcome Back!

WELCOME TO THE NEW SEMESTER AND 2017-18 ACADEMIC YEAR!

We’re already moving into the 5th week! So many storms already survived and more on the horizon. In addition to the divisiveness and uncertainty of the national political climate and the recent destructive weather phenomenon, we’re experiencing a local storm in the CSU system with the mandated Executive Orders 1100 and 1110.

With adversity comes creativity, resourcefulness, and solidarity. Faculty, lecturers, students and staff in Communication Studies are gathering our resources to respond to the challenges we face. This semester, the department is hosting a Lecture and Performance Series: Teaching in These Difficult Times. Additionally, Civil Discourse & Social Change (CDSC) is holding regular TEACH-INs on EO 1100 and EO 1110 on Tuesdays from 6:00-8:00 in the Aronstam Library (240). Resources for teaching in these difficult times as well as resources for our DACA students can be found in this issues of Communiqué.

Let’s look within and to those around us for the wisdom, strategies and moral courage to challenge injustice and uplift our common humanity.

“Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable. Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individual.”

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING

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• NEW FACULTY INTRODUCTIONS: DR. JADE C. HUELL & DR. JOEL LEMUEL
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• FEATURED EVENTS:
  PETIT JEAN PERFORMANCE FESTIVAL
  VAN NUYS ARTS FESTIVAL
  BRITISH NATIONAL DEBATE TEAM TOUR
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LECTURE & PERFORMANCE SERIES

CALENDAR

Sept. 25: Lecture & Performance Series
Sept. 29: Van Nuys Arts Festival
Oct. 4-6th: Hosting the British National Debate Team
Oct. 13 & 14: Petit Jean Festival
Oct. 28: CDSC Social Justice Event
We are excited to welcome and introduce our new tenure track faculty in the Department of Communication Studies.

### Jade Huell, Ph.D.

Dr. Huell joins the Department of Communication Studies as an Assistant Professor with an emphasis on Performance Studies. Her academic work focuses on the intersections of live performance practice, African American Studies, and Memory Studies. Dr. Huell’s holds a BA in Communication, an MA in English, graduate credentials in Women’s Studies and Theatre, and a Ph.D. from Louisiana State University. Prior to joining the Department of Communication Studies at CSUN, she served as Director of the Columbia College Players at Columbia College in South Carolina, Assistant Professor of Arts and Communication Studies, and Director of the Gender and Women’s Studies Program. Fascinated by the complexities of memory and identity, Dr. Huell writes and directs original solo and ensemble performances—her most recent staged performance titled “Light Show” debuted at Columbia College in April 2017. As an inspired artist and scholar, she cultivates community within classroom spaces by placing value on the linkage between visceral understanding, cultural knowledges, and collaborative learning.

### Joel Lemuel, Ph.D.

Dr. Joel Lemuel joins the Department of Communication Studies as an Assistant Professor and Director of Forensics in Fall 2017. Combining his interest in rhetoric with health and medicine, Dr. Lemuel’s research focuses on public controversies over acceptable means of practice pertaining to the assessment, prevention, rehabilitation, and remuneration of disabilities. Prior to his arrival at CSUN, Dr. Lemuel held a Visiting Assistant Professor position at Pepperdine University where he taught courses in rhetorical theory and criticism, communication research methods, intercultural communication and environmental communication. In the classroom, he encourages students to engage in complex arguments surrounding human communication from a social scientific and humanistic vantage points. Dr. Lemuel’s academic record reflects an early involvement with policy debate programs before earning his B.A. in political science and M.A. in Communication Studies from Georgia State University. His passion for debate extends beyond the classroom into practice through his participation in the Urban Debate League nationwide. Dr. Lemuel’s intersectional investigation into the field of communication was enhanced at the University of Southern California’s Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, where he received his Ph.D. in 2016.
New Lecturers

Tiffany Chen
Jannath Ghaznavi
Jenna Lohse
Lawrence Edwards
Casey Mills
Nora Sepulveda

Resources for Teaching in These Difficult Times

ACLU Statement
White Supremacist Violence is Not Free Speech

ACLU Speech on Campus
https://www.aclu.org/other/speech-campus

Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC)
The Alt-Right On Campuses: What Students Need to Know
https://www.splcenter.org/20170810/alt-right-campus-what-students-need-know#alt-right-targeting

SPLC
10 Ways to Fight Hate

Literacy and NCTE
There is No Apolitical Classroom: Resources for Teaching in These Times
http://blogs.ncte.org/index.php/2017/08/there-is-no-apolitical-classroom-resources-for-teaching-in-these-times/

Democracy Now
Ta-Nehisi Coates on Charlottesville, Trump, the Confederacy, Reparations
https://www.democracynow.org/2017/8/15/full_interview_ta_nehisi_coates_on

Democracy Now
Antifa: A Look at the Anti-Fascist Movement Confronting White Supremacy in the Streets
https://www.democracynow.org/2017/8/16/antifa_a_look_at_the_antifascist

Truthout
Trump’s Neo-Nazis and the Rise of Illiberal Democracy

Truthout
Bree Newsome: Charlottesville is the Latest Chapter in a Long U.S. History of White Supremacist Terror
https://www.democracynow.org/2017/8/16/bree_newsome_charlottesville_is_latest_chapter

BuzzFlash at Truthout
The Arc of Justice Does Not Lean Toward a Robert E. Lee Statue

NYT
After Charlottesville Violence, College Campuses Brace for More Clashes

Chronicle of Higher Ed
Charlottesville Violence Sparks New Worries about Safety During Campus Protest
http://www.chronicle.com/article/Charlottesville-Violence/240927?cid=wcontentgrid_hp_2a

New & Returning Teaching Associates

Calvin Abbasi
Jasmine Ashoori
Max Brichta
Michelle Brownlee
Matthew Bruns
Alex Cadena
Ashley Castro
Ambria Dean
Mikaela Fleming
Samantha Garcia
Monique Gevorkian
Brianne Ingram
Joe Martinez
Aimee Newton
Paolo Ochoa
Troi-Jeanette Phillips
Additional Resources: DACA

The following are resources on or around campus that may be useful to students impacted by the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program:

- CSUN Dream Center: Various services addressing the specific needs of undocumented students; USU Building C (http://www.csun.edu/eop/dreamcenter).

- CSUN Student Legal Support Clinic is a free legal clinic prepared to address the unique issues confronting undocumented students. Located on the third floor of the Oviatt Library. (http://library.csun.edu/student-legal-clinic-FAQ)

- Dreams to Be Heard: We are a family advocating for immigrant rights through education, activism, and moral support to empower, liberate, and bring equality to our community. On social media: IG: csun_d2bh // FB: CSUN Dreams To Be Heard // #D2BH #CSUN_D2BH

- CSUN Counseling Services: Provides free short term counseling and support services to students including psychiatric consultation. (https://www.csun.edu/counseling)

- MataCare grants: Small grants for emergency funds for CSUN students, including for the DACA renewal fee. (https://www.csun.edu/financialaid/matacare-emergency-grant)

  More info available at the DREAM Center or meet with Tracy Buenavista at the DREAM Center on Tuesdays/Thursdays 2:00-4:00pm with questions regarding the application and supporting documents required.

- The Minority Male Mentoring (M3) Project on campus specifically focuses on mentoring male Latino and African American students on campus. (http://csun.edu/m3)

- California State University student website (https://www2.calstate.edu/attend/student-services/resources-for-undocumented-students/Pages/default.aspx)

  and Frequently Asked DACA-related Questions (https://www2.calstate.edu/attend/student-services/resources-for-undocumented-students/Pages/faq-daca-update.aspx) include information on financial aid, work eligibility and legal resources.

- Civil Rights & Civic Action website offers political resources for students, staff & faculty (http://libguides.csun.edu/civil-rights-civic-action/home)

- CARECEN works to defend the human and civil rights of Central Americans and all immigrants; offering free DACA renewal services. (http://www.carecen-la.org)

- CSUN Oasis Wellness Center offers meditation, massages, acupuncture, nap pods, and other services meant to help students manage stress and promote wellbeing. (https://www.csun.edu/oasis)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: Aronstam Library

The Richard Aronstam Memorial Library is the main resource center for students in the department of Communication Studies. The library offers access to valuable resources which include Great Speeches videotapes, communication research journals, graduate school information, computers and low-cost printing.

Volunteers are needed to staff the library for student and patron use. Library hours are Monday- Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Undergraduate and graduate students that are available to work 3 hours per week are encouraged to sign up by contacting the Department of Communications at (818) 677-2853.
Upcoming Events
Petit Jean Performance Festival, 2017
October 13th & 14th

In the spirit of “Storytelling,” inspired students and faculty members nationwide make the journey out of the classroom to the picturesque plateau of Petit Jean State Park in Morrilton, Arkansas to participate in the 38th annual Petit Jean Performance Festival. Hosted by University of North Texas’ Performance Studies program, the two-day festival will take place on October 13th and 14th in the scenic mountainscape of the historic state park. This year’s theme, “Stories Matter, Stories and Matter: Devised and Collaborative Performance for Social Justice,” is an investigation into the transformative practice of storytelling through workshops focused on creating scripts, conceptualizing themes, and practicing performance techniques. Dr. Mingé, who has directed Performance Ensemble Creatives for Social Justice for the last ten years, will be the festival leader representing California State University Northridge, alongside Performance Studies professor, Dr. Huell.

Having attended the festival for nearly a decade now in the company of her students from LSU, Northwestern University, and Columbia College in Columbia SC, Dr. Huell shares her thoughts. “Each time I attend the festival, I am amazed by the creativity and the critical performance work that is done in this context. The storytelling theme is of particular interest to me as we are navigating a moment in our cultural landscape where the nature of story is hotly contested. We are asking many necessary questions: What is a story?, What is truth? What kind of stories do we tell ourselves? What type of stories do we tell each other? Whose stories are told over and over? Where do they come from? Who do they belong to? What stories matter? And why?”

Dr. Huell notes that by cultivating a deeper understanding of storytelling, we are inspired to situate stories within larger cultural frameworks that allow us, as performers and spectators, to engage in a creative strategy of resistance. This inspired understanding allows us to explore these very important questions and begin to facilitate discourse and discussion in difficult and divisive times.
Join us at the upcoming Van Nuys Art Festival as we kick off the academic year with some live music, an art book fair, a Craft Beer Garden, a special CSUN art exhibit, silent disco, and a showcase of student performances enacted by CSUN’s Performance Ensemble. The city of Van Nuys is collaborating with the Department of Art and the Department of Communication Studies at CSUN to create a public space for stories related to the cultural and historical use of land in Van Nuys, and the impact on people’s lives.

Performance Ensemble will present work based on interviews with Van Nuys community members, as well as through engagement with festival attendees. Performance Studies professor Dr. Pavi Prasad, who is directing the Performance Ensemble this year, encourages everyone to join the landscape of the performance and contribute textured stories to Performance Ensemble’s generative work. As a compilation of stories of how the land has evolved through the generations, the performance investigates how we use public lands, how public land use changes, who has access to public lands, and who holds the memory of the land.

Dr. Prasad is most excited to see what happens when performers go into public spaces and allow those who witness the performance to join the conversation. “What stories emerge, what people’s concerns are, and that is really unpredictable, to see where people’s heads are about these issues. The uncertainty is very productive and generative to leave openings for things to happen, rather than filling everything with preconceived ideas about what the show is supposed to be or what it’s going to look like. It allows space for that dialogue, so we can see how we can create those openings and leave them open, and invite people to fill those spaces for us.”
The Department of Communication Studies is excited to announce that the British are coming!

CSUN will host the British National Debate team from October 4th to October 6th. This annual affair is sponsored by NCA’s Committee for International Discussion and Debate in promotion of international understanding and exchange through communication practices in discussion and debate. CID Chairman and former Director of Forensics, Dr. John Kephart, shares his excitement with us on hosting the British National Debate team, as well as collaborating with the Los Angeles Metropolitan Debate League: “I love bringing people from outside the department and the university together to see what it is that the department does and what it is that the speech and debate team does through the sustained and critical study of how we make meaning. It shows the possibility of what we do in our discipline.” The LA Metropolitan Debate League takes debate to underserved communities in Los Angeles as a means of helping students discover ways of imagining themselves on college campuses and discovering their own voices. Working alongside current Director of Forensics, Dr. Joel Lemuel, and Professor Robert Loy, Dr. Kephart sheds light on the significance of hosting the British in this particular moment in history, “We plan to incorporate them into the department’s focus on teaching and advocacy in troubled times to see an outside or global perspective on what’s going on in the United States.” CSUN’s longstanding tradition of hosting international debates creates a dialogue that emphasizes the importance of engaging in civil conversation and argument for the production and maintenance of democracy.

**Lecture and Performance Series:**

Teaching in These Difficult and Divisive Times


**Monday, Sept 25, 2-3:15 PM; MZ 240 Aronstam Library**

Dr. John Kephart

The 2016 general election saw an unprecedented spike in the use of online advertising, as well as the emergence of 'fake news' into the cultural lexicon. This transition to an increasingly digital public sphere hasn't eliminated argument in traditional media but has begun to reconfigure the terms on which public arguments are made, contested, and accepted.

Using the 2016 election as a case study, we will consider how the increased use of social media, promulgation of fake news, and utilization of online advertising changes the use of the classic rhetorical concepts of ethos, pathos, and logos in contemporary argument cultures, and what we can do to engage in public argument and social activism amid the challenges these changes present.

September 25, 2-3:15 PM
CSUN’s Civil Disobedience & Social Change initiative presents a series of riveting and timely events this fall on Mass Incarceration, Social Justice and Media Literacy, as well as Environmental Justice. The vision of the campus-wide initiative is to create awareness and understanding of critical social issues while developing capacities for non-violent social action, resistance, and intervention.

Co-director Dr. Aimee Carrillo Rowe sheds light on the relevance of these upcoming events given the current political climate: “There is this sort of multi-racial alliance and solidarity in the rejection of hate. This is an important moment to capture.” CDSC provides a platform and resources to discuss the xenophobia, racism, sexism, homophobia and other “isms” that have been revealed throughout the nation and offers effective ways to respond to and organize to challenge these destructive trends. The initiative combines education, community engagement, and activism for students to gain knowledge and experience to create a more socially just and equitable world.

On Thursday September 21, CDSC hosted an exciting event featuring formerly incarcerated activist and renowned author, Susan Burton, who gave a book reading and signing, followed by a panel discussion on her book, Becoming Ms. Burton. The book explores the oppressive system of policies and practices that fail to crush Burton’s spirit, illustrating her remarkable journey from “tragedy to prison to recovery—and recognition as a leading figure in the national justice reform movement.”

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**Civil Discourse & Social Change 2017-2018**

**Activists & Abolitionists Against Mass Incarceration**

- **Thursday**
  - **9.21.2017**
  - **Time TBA**

**Social Justice By For of People**

- **Friday**
  - **10.20.2017**
  - **8:00am-5:00pm**

**Media Literacy & Environmental Justice**

- **Thursday**
  - **11.9.2017**
  - **4:00pm-7:00pm**

**Immigration**

- **Spring Semester**

**Student Symposium**

- **Tuesday**
  - **5.1.2018**
  - **9:00am-5:00pm**

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We would love to hear more about the projects you are involved with, as well as upcoming events taking place in the community. Please feel free to send an email to Jasmine at jasmine.ashoori.804emy.csun.edu to share your experiences and additional resources!

Special thanks to Dr. Prasad, Dr. Mingé, Dr. Huell, Dr. Kephart, Dr. Sorrells, and Dr. Carrillo Rowe.