Welcome to the new semester and 2015-16 academic year!

We enter the academic year with a record number of majors in Communication Studies—approaching 1100—and are serving the entire University with the highest number of General Education classes ever scheduled. Our graduate program continues to be strong with a smart and creative cadre of students and dedicated teaching associates.

It is a great pleasure to announce our outstanding new tenure-track faculty, lecturers and teaching associates who are joining our community this year. They are:

**PAVITHRA PRASAD, Ph.D.**

Pavithra Prasad joins the department of Communication Studies as an Assistant Professor of Intercultural Communication. She holds a Ph.D. in Performance Studies from Northwestern University. Her interdisciplinary research engages ethnographic methodology, critical race theory, and postcolonial studies to focus on the political economy of nightlife and subcultures in contemporary South Asia. Her work on electronic dance music and tourism has appeared in *Text and Performance Quarterly, Ecumenica* and *Critical Arts*.

She is currently working on a book manuscript that traces a social history of globalization in India, with attention to club cultures ranging from colonial gymkhanas, post-liberalization nightclubs, to contemporary electronica festivals. Pavi is a performer as well as a scholar – her creative work showcases research driven solo performances that explore queer identity, the postcolonial imagination, and “racial drag.”

**JINAH KIM, Ph.D.**

Jinah Kim’s teaching, research, and activism focus on the dynamic history and culture of exchange between Asia and the Americas. In her first book, *Postcolonial Grief and the Afterlives of the Pacific Wars in the Americas* (under contract with Duke), she explores the legacies of U.S. militarism in the Pacific Arena. This year she will offer graduate and undergraduate courses in Intercultural Communications and Popular Cultural Studies. Jinah received her Ph.D. in Cultural Studies from UCSD. She is happy to return to Southern California, with her partner Peter and two sons, after living in Chicago for 8 years.
MELISSA BROUGH, Ph.D.

Melissa Brough’s work focuses on the relationships between communication technologies, participation, and social change. Her teaching emphasizes critical, cross-cultural, and historical perspectives on communication and media technologies as they relate to questions of social justice. Her dissertation on youth engagement and participatory public culture in the digital age was supported by a Fulbright grant, and received top dissertation awards from both the International Communication Association and the National Communication Association. Dr. Brough completed her Ph.D. in Communication at the University of Southern California in 2014 and will be joining us in spring 2016.

NEW LECTURERS

- Jennifer Berry
  M.F.A., San Francisco State University

- Brianna Broady
  M.A., California State University, Northridge

- Anasheh Gharabighi
  M.A., California State University, Northridge

- Leon Hilton
  Ph.D., New York University

- Sergio Juárez
  ABD, University of Denver

- Nina Kotelyan
  M.A., California State University, Northridge

- Michelle Menjivar
  M.A., California State University, Northridge

- Dina Nucuum
  M.A., California State University, Northridge

- Christopher Ruh
  M.A., California State University, Northridge

- Jim Senti
  M.F.A., Harvard University

- Matthew Ward
  M.A., California State University, Northridge

RETURNING LECTURERS

- Andrew Long
  Ph.D., City University of New York

- Polly Robinson
  Ed.D., California State University, Northridge

- Justin Weiss
  ABD, Pacifica Graduate Institute
NEW & RETURNING TEACHING ASSOCIATES

- William Boos
- Hannah Carter
- Tiffany Chen
- Taylor Dawson
- Ashley Furrell
- Sarah Hemmert
- Jessica Kwack
- Robert Lebeda
- Casey Mills
- Daniel Roberts
- Nancy Molina Rogers
- Nora Sepulveda
- Chelsea Turner
- Angelica Valiton

UPCOMING EVENTS

Writing Series
Every Tuesday beginning September 15 to Tuesday, October 6 at 2:00 p.m.
Location: Manzanita Hall 214

This 4-part funded series provides an opportunity for academic and creative writers to develop new material and workshop their writings-in-progress. Each participant will have an opportunity to workshop their works-in-progress and receive substantive feedback from their colleagues based on a "Rhetorics of Inquiry" model of interdisciplinary exchange. Participants will engage each other's work from their own disciplinary locations, generating productive new insights into modes of inquiry and knowledge production. Participants will receive a $100 stipend for attending all four days. Space is limited so don't delay! RSVP at facdev@csun.edu.

Led by Dr. Aimee Carrillo Rowe, Communication Studies.

“A Moodle Workshop: Simplifying Life”
September 16, 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
November 3, 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Location: Manzanita Hall 214

Moodle is an open source platform that CSUN makes available for students and faculty. Keeping up with student grades, assignments, tests and discussions are all contained in one environment. This short workshop is designed to help you learn the Moodle platform quickly and efficiently. Learn how to activate your course, transfer files from course to course, and create exams and assignments. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Dr. Sakile K. Camara at sakile.camara@csun.edu or Dr. Katheryn Sorrells at katheryn.sorrells@csun.edu.
For New Faculty: Overview of Grant Opportunities
September 21, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
September 22, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Location: Cielo 439 (Sierra Hall)

Learn about the various on-campus funding opportunities to research within the first year or two upon arriving at CSUN. While, this event is intended for newly hired faculty, all are welcome. To RSVP, email facdev@csun.edu.

“Strategies for Reducing Plagiarism & Increasing Awareness”
September 23, 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
October 15, 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Location: Manzanita Hall 214

We often expect students to understand how to write ethically (without plagiarizing someone else’s work). The truth is that plagiarism is very confusing and is defined differently by professors, students and administrators. Join Dr. Sakile K. Camara to discuss how to end misunderstandings about plagiarism, CSUN’s policy and expectations, how to predict the behavior, and solutions & best practices when handling instances of plagiarism. To RSVP, email sakile.camara@csun.edu.

Unconscious Bias in the Workplace
September 17, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Location: The Colleagues Room

CSUN has embarked on a University wide effort to diversity the faculty. With that comes an inherent challenge that may hamper this effort. The culprit? Unconscious bias. In this workshop CSUN faculty will explore how and where these biases might show up and determine how to minimize and ultimately eliminate the impact of unconscious bias.

For more information, please contact Marcella.deveaux@csun.edu or aimee.carillo@csun.edu.

Intersectionalities and Identities in Communication: Exploring Theoretical, Political, and Pedagogical Possibilities
October 6, 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Location: Manzanita Hall 214

As a powerful framework for understanding, examining, and analyzing identity in a multitude of contexts, intersectionality has become an important interdisciplinary tool in the social sciences and humanities in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. In the communication discipline, intersectionality has been widely adopted by scholars in culture and communication, performance studies, sexualities and communication, media studies, and gender and communication, among others. Although intersectionality appears to be ubiquitous in these areas of inquiry, I contend that its theoretical and political potential has not been fully realized. In this presentation, I discuss how communication scholars and practitioners have generally approached intersectionality in their work and explore how they can further enhance the potential theoretical, political, and pedagogical possibilities of this powerful framework.

Led by Dr. Gust A. Yep from San Francisco State University.

Book Conversation and Reception:
Globalizing Intercultural Communication: A Reader
October 6, 4:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.
Location: Aronstam Library

Students, faculty, and staff are invited to participate in a roundtable discussion with co-editor, Dr. Kathryn Sorrells, and contributing authors Amer Ahmed, Dr. Melissa Curtin, Dr. Antonieta Mercado, Dr. Sheena Malhotra, and Dr. Gust Yep. The new book, Globalizing Intercultural Communication: A Reader introduces students to the dynamic, interconnected and complex nature of intercultural relations in the world today communication using empirical case studies and personal narratives.
“Writing, Procrastination, and Resistance: How to Identify Your Writing Blocks and Move Through Them.”
October 22, 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Location: Oviatt Library Presentation Room

Please join Dr. Kerry Rockquemore, President and CEO of the National Center for Faculty Development on October 22nd from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Oviatt Library Presentation Room. She will conduct an innovative workshop for tenure-track faculty entitled, “Writing, Procrastination, and Resistance: How to Identify Your Writing Blocks and Move Through Them.”

Dr. Rockquemore is a sought-after speaker who provides workshops for new and tenured faculty at colleges across the United States. The event is co-sponsored by the Office of the Provost, Office of Faculty Affairs, Faculty Development, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, College of Education, College of Engineering and Computer Science, Office of Research and Graduate Studies, the RGS Distinguished Visiting Speakers Program and Africana Studies, with small donations from Chicano Studies and Gender and Women’s Studies.

Please be sure to mark your calendar and RSVP to facdev@csun.edu, as this event will reach capacity very quickly. Continental breakfast will be served.

HEALTH & WELLBEING

OASIS WELLNESS CENTER

Grand Opening: Thursday, September 17
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

The Oasis is a welcoming destination where CSUN students can find relaxation and serenity amid the rush and activity of campus life. Come celebrate the grand opening with fun events including a Farmers Market, Craft Corner (Zen Garden and Sugar Scrub), live world music and refreshments. Join us at the Oasis ribbon cutting ceremony, tour the new facility and check out the Wellness Resource Fair to enter the raffle for a chance to win awesome prizes!

Faculty & Staff Benefits

Acupuncture: A licensed acupuncturist provides traditional Asian medicine. Appointments are available to faculty and staff for $49. The no-show charge is $20.

Massage Therapy: A 50-minute table massage is available with a licensed massage therapist $49 for faculty and staff. The no-show charge is $20.

THANK YOU AND HAVE A WONDERFUL SEMESTER

ANNOUNCEMENT

Performance Ensemble: Creatives for Social Justice has been invited to collaborate with the community organization RUTH Youth Build. The ensemble will perform their piece Intersections: A Social Justice Tour for the youth on September 17, 2015. Over the course of the semester, Performance Ensemble will then lead the youth through the generative performance creation process so they too can share their stories. The process will culminate in a full stage production on CSUN’s campus and in the community. Be on the look out for the performance date. We hope to see you there.