Passion leads to homeland security

When Karinda Washington (MA-Communication ’10) was growing up in Detroit, she thought she would work in the field of medicine. But one rotation in an OB-GYN’s office made her rethink her plans. “It struck a chord in me that I want to take care of people … but I want to take care of people who are alive,” she said.

So Washington immediately changed course. That new path would lead to the nation’s capital and a position with the Department of Homeland Security.

Last year, Washington became the first permanent chief of staff of the DHS Office of Partnership and Engagement. The office coordinates DHS’s outreach efforts with critical stakeholders nationwide — including state, local, tribal and territorial governments; elected officials; law enforcement; the private sector; and academia — to ensure a unified approach to external engagement.

Washington’s graduate professor and adviser, Donyale Padgett, Ph.D., gave her the impetus to apply for a position at the agency. Padgett, she says, urged students to identify a dream job and go for it. When Padgett recommended that Washington check out positions with the federal government, Washington took the challenge and applied for an external affairs position within DHS’s Private Sector Office.

“I read the position description and said, ‘This is so me,’ but I also thought, ‘I’ll never get this job,’” Washington said. Obviously, she was wrong. She joined the department in 2011.

In 2015, Washington received the DHS Innovator of the Year Award for implementing the department’s Loaned Executive Program and for creating Exemplar, the department’s training-with-industry pilot program.

The Loaned Executive Program allows DHS to bring in executives and subject-matter experts from for-profit private sector entities to assist the agency in tackling some of its most challenging issues. Washington now regularly consults with other federal agencies on how to establish their own versions of the programs.

Numerous awards were bestowed upon Department of Communication faculty and students in 2018. Alicia Nails, lecturer and director of the Journalism Institute for Media Diversity, was named 2018 National Association of Black Journalists Educator of the Year. Nails was honored to be recognized by the NABJ, saying her award is a testament to the amazing students and alumni of the Wayne State journalism program.

Two department faculty members received Wayne State’s 2018 President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching: Shelly Najor, Ph.D., senior lecturer and director of the undergraduate public relations program, and Kelly Young, Ph.D., associate professor of communication and director of forensics. Young also received the 2018 John T. Warren Mentorship Award from the Central States Communication Association.

In August, the department awarded Jaclyn Gaule the

SEE COMMUNICATION HONORS ON PAGE 7
I have collected much over the years, and chose to take it with me when I moved from Denton to Austin to Fort Collins to Windsor to Cleveland, and finally to Detroit. As I prepared to move into my current office, I sifted through boxes of teaching files, coursework (my own), research and memorabilia, reflecting on everything that has taken place since I began my academic journey 23 years ago.

Now, I am nearly overwhelmed by all the changes ahead as I continue my first year as chair. Thankfully, I have students, faculty and staff to keep me grounded, excited and ready for what lies ahead. This year’s newsletter explains why I have such optimism for the future.

First, it is clear we have an amazing faculty. They have won awards for their teaching and research (Page 1), earned prestigious speaking invitations from universities around the world (Page 9), and published cutting-edge research in books and journals (Pages 9-12). They have also inspired countless undergraduate and graduate students to achieve their goals. I have heard from a number of alumni recently and am excited to share their successes (Pages 14-15).

Second, we have dynamic programs and opportunities to help students succeed. Our forensics and debate program just celebrated its 100th year (Page 8). The department welcomed many acclaimed professionals, including filmmakers Stanley Nelson and Roger Nygard (Page 8), and scholars Kirt Wilson (Page 6) and Bonnie Dow (Page 8). Our undergraduate students continue to shine, earning internships and opportunities (Pages 8 and 13). And our graduate students have worked on faculty-led research teams, becoming researchers in their own right (Page 13).

Third, we have a great history of leadership. Dean Matt Seeger, Ph.D., broke new ground this year on the long-awaited Hilberry-Gateway project (Page 3) and earned a National Science Foundation grant (Page 7). Professor Emerita Lee Wilkins, Ph.D., who retired in April, leaves a lasting legacy thanks to the faculty she hired and initiatives she started while serving as chair. But the legacy that looms largest is that of Ed Pappas, who died in July. He was a beloved chair, professor, teacher, scholar and mentor to countless individuals over the years (Page 6). He will be dearly missed.

It remains to be seen how the upcoming changes will unfold. My plan is to be ready for what lies ahead so we can continue to thrive in an ever-changing environment. We are in the process of creating a five-year departmental vision and strategic plan. And we are reviewing our structure, policies and procedures to make sure we can fulfill the new plan. With the help and support of our alumni, faculty and staff, I am certain we will succeed in the months ahead.

— Kat Maguire

PRODUCED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

DEPARTMENT CHAIR: Katheryn C. Maguire
EDITOR/DESIGNER: Sheila Young Tomkowiak
CONTRIBUTORS: Allison Elam, Ellen Chamberlain

ABOUT US
The Department of Communication is part of Wayne State’s College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts. With approximately 630 undergraduate majors and 150 graduate students, the department is diverse and dynamic, featuring programs in communication studies, media arts and studies, film, journalism, public relations and dispute resolution.

Our students experience the benefit of a world-class education in a real-world context. The department comprises 30 tenure and tenure-track faculty and 35 part-time faculty with strong backgrounds in both scholarly and professional approaches to communication.

A FAREWELL TO LEE WILKINS
Professor Emerita Lee Wilkins, Ph.D., retired as chair of the Department of Communication in June. Wilkins, one of the top media ethicists in the field, served as chair from 2013-18. Prior to coming to Wayne State, Wilkins was a Curator’s Teaching Professor at the School of Journalism, University of Missouri; a faculty member at the University of Colorado, Boulder; and a newspaper editor and reporter. The department celebrated her retirement with an on-campus party in April and a reception in Washington, D.C., during the annual meeting of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. Wilkins is enjoying retirement with her husband, David, and visiting grandchildren in Oregon.
A groundbreaking performance arts complex

Construction of a new performing arts center at Wayne State is underway. Ground has been broken on a $65 million complex for theater, music, dance and arts-related events.

The Board of Governors voted unanimously in February to issue $55 million in bonds for the Gateway Performance Complex, with the balance funded by private gifts, including generous support from Gretchen Valade, a Carhartt heiress, philanthropist and chair of the Detroit Jazz Festival Foundation.

As part of the complex, the historic Hilberry Theatre will be renovated to become the Gretchen Valade Jazz Center, a high-caliber venue for music and dance performances. The 200-seat facility will offer ample room for patrons, donors, parents and community members. The renovated space also will enable the dance program to feature master classes and lectures.

“This space will allow us to create synergy between our nationally recognized theater, dance and music programs,” Dean Matthew Seeger said. “It will also allow us to promote Detroit’s legacy in the performing arts — including jazz. In addition to creating our home for the 21st century; the Hilberry complex will further solidify Wayne State’s role as an artistic leader and serve as a magnet for our committed audiences and patrons.”

The new complex, located on Cass at Forest adjacent to the Hilberry Theatre, will include:

- Three new, state-of-the-art theaters — the Gretchen Valade Jazz Center, a proscenium and a studio theater.
- New educational production space for students to hone their skills in performance, design and management.
- A modern café.
- A patron lounge.

“The immense talent of our students and faculty, at last, will have the arts facilities to match,” President M. Roy Wilson said. “The Hilberry Complex will make Wayne State a true destination for culture and the arts, which supports our goals to provide leadership in the revitalization of Detroit as well as meaningful and mutually beneficial interactions with our community. I can’t wait for opening night.” •

The Gateway Performance Complex will enhance the growing and vibrant area just south of Wayne State’s main campus.
The College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts honored five alumni and former students at its 39th Annual Arts Achievement Awards celebration in April. The honorees were recognized for their dedication to and advocacy for the arts and communication, and for achievements in their respective fields.

► Career Achievement Award: Communication
Sarah Ryley is the first communication graduate to win a Pulitzer Prize, the 2017 journalism prize for public service. In conjunction with ProPublica and the New York Daily News, where she was a reporter at the time, she exposed the New York Police Department’s abuse of eviction rules to force hundreds of mostly poor minorities from their homes and businesses over alleged criminal activities. The series led to the passage of 13 laws, a class-action lawsuit and a city investigation.

Her data-driven reporting at the Daily News also resulted in sweeping reforms to the NYPD’s Broken Windows policing tactics, including the decriminalization of several minor offenses that put hundreds of thousands of mostly black and Hispanic people through the criminal justice system each year. She currently works as an investigative reporter for The Trace, a national nonprofit journalism outlet that reports on American gun violence.

► Career Achievement Award: Art and Art History
Michael Luchs is one of Detroit’s most celebrated contemporary artists. In 2017, Luchs’ work was featured in a solo exhibition at the Simone DeSousa Gallery, in Midtown Detroit, and was included in the infamous “Kick Out the Jams: Detroit’s Cass Corridor, 1963-1977” exhibition at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Luchs continues to produce paintings and sculptures that are as relevant today as the work that cemented his reputation in the 1960s.

His work is part of collections at several institutions, including the Detroit Institute of Arts, Wayne State University James Duffy Collection, University of Michigan Museum of Art, and Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum, as well as several private collections throughout the United States.

► Career Achievement Award: Music
Michael Krajewski is a much sought-after conductor of symphonic pops, known for his entertaining programs and clever humor. He is the music director of The Philly Pops and principal pops conductor of the Atlanta and Jacksonville symphonies. As a guest conductor, Krajewski has performed...
Howard Hertz is an entertainment lawyer and lead attorney for Hertz Schram’s Entertainment Practice Group. Since 1976, he has represented numerous artists and entities in the entertainment field, including Eminem, Jack White, George Clinton, Sippie Wallace, Marilyn Manson, The Romantics, The Bass Brothers, The GO, Mike Posner, Original 1265 Recordings, the Marshall Mathers Foundation, Warner Tamerlane and Atlantic Records. Hertz is a 2004 recipient of the John Hensel Award for significant contributions to the arts community and has been recognized by “Best Lawyers in America” and “Super Lawyers.”

Entertainment lawyer
Howard Hertz has represented notable artists since 1976.

Career Achievement Award: Theatre
David Calhoun has been a house manager for the Nederlander Producing Company of America for 22 years, currently managing the David T. Nederlander Theatre on Broadway. He also is a third-term president of the Association of Press Agents and Managers IATSE Local 18032. Calhoun’s first job was as the box office treasurer for the Manhattan Theatre Club. He worked as an assistant to the general manager assisting on the Broadway transfers of The House of Blue Leaves, Sarafina and Speed the Plow. He has managed more than 15 shows on tour and on Broadway.

David Calhoun has managed more than 15 shows on tour and on Broadway over the last 22 years.

Conductor Michael Krajewski is known for his entertaining pops programs and clever humor.

nationally with the San Francisco, Baltimore, Detroit, Indianapolis, Seattle, Dallas, St. Louis, Pittsburgh and National symphonies, among others. He has worked internationally with several Canadian symphonies, the Ulster Orchestra in Ireland, the Hong Kong Philharmonic, the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra, the Iceland Symphony Orchestra and Spain’s Bilbao Symphony Orchestra.

CFPCA Arts Advocacy Award
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Edward J. Pappas (1931-2018) spent more than 30 years as a professor and administrator at Wayne State. During his tenure, he inspired students and motivated faculty to pursue excellence, and took the basic communication course to a new level.

Pappas joined the Wayne State faculty in December 1963 after distinguished service as a teacher and debate coach at Detroit’s Pershing High School. He became chair of the Department of Communication in 1973. Under his leadership, the department accelerated its growth and visibility, eventually becoming a nationally recognized center for communication research and teaching.

“Ed Pappas was the best boss, the best mentor and especially the best friend one could have,” said Vicki Dallas, academic services officer. “During his long tenure as chair he not only championed and cared about students, but he also championed and cared about the faculty and staff in the department.”

After serving as chair, Pappas rejoined the faculty in 1990 as a full-time professor until he retired as professor emeritus in 2001. He continued to teach part time from 2002 through 2017. His specialty was communication education.

Don Ritzenhein, Pappas’ close friend and former graduate student, said, “Ed taught as he said others should teach — with grace, kindness, encouragement, openness, insight and his ever-present warm sense of humor. Plus, he rarely shared information without making it a quiz first.”

An avid baseball fan, Pappas lectured broadly on the sport’s history — especially about his beloved Detroit Tigers — to public and academic audiences alike. Although Pappas was a die-hard Tigers’ fan, one of his sons lives in Boston; whenever the Red Sox came to town, he enjoyed sharing his loyalties with his son’s hometown team. Pappas co-authored the book They Tasted Glory: Among the Missing at the Baseball Hall of Fame (1998) with Professor Wil A. Linkugel of the University of Kansas.

Pappas also served as president of the Michigan Speech Association (later Michigan Association of Speech Communication) in 1973-74 and was president of the Central States Communication Association in 1985-86.

“Everyone who knew Ed benefited from his warmth, openness and relentless optimism,” Dean Matt Seeger said. “He was among the most supportive and helpful people I have ever worked with, and he helped define the Wayne State culture as one that prioritized the success of students from all backgrounds.”

In tribute, Wayne State has established the Eunice and Edward J. Pappas Endowed Scholarship for Excellence in Communication. The university, along with the Detroit Urban Debate League and the Michigan Interscholastic Forensic Association, also honors Pappas each fall by hosting the Edward J. Pappas Memorial Invitational High School Debate Tournament.

Bernard L. Brock Memorial Lecture covers public discourse

Renowned scholars from across the country come to Wayne State annually for the Bernard L. Brock Memorial Lecture, in honor of Professor Bernie Brock, Ph.D., who taught at Wayne State for more than 35 years. This year’s event, organized by Assistant Professor Anita Mixon, Ph.D., featured Kirt Wilson, Ph.D., director of graduate studies and associate professor of rhetoric and political communication at Pennsylvania State University. During the public lecture, Wilson explored two forms of discourse: the public conflict between President Donald Trump and protesting NFL players, and the cultural rhetoric of mainstream films including The Help (2011), Selma (2014) and Loving (2016). He also met with undergraduate students and spoke with graduate students who benefited from his mentoring.
A Wayne State University research team has been awarded a four-year, $1.57 million grant from the National Science Foundation for its project “Water and Health Infrastructure Resilience and Learning.”

The award is part of a multi-institutional $2 million collaborative project funded under the NSF’s Critical Resilient Interdependent Infrastructure Systems and Processes program and will include researchers from the University of Michigan and the University of North Carolina.

The project — led by Dean Matthew Seeger, Ph.D., and Shawn McElmurry, Ph.D., associate professor of civil and environmental engineering — will examine the relationship between drinking water and public health systems. It will provide insights into how those systems interact, with a focus on crisis events. The team also will explore how public health systems learn about and adapt to changes and how the public engages with those systems.

“This project builds on previous work conducted in Wayne County and Flint, Michigan,” Seeger said. “We learned a great deal about how water systems function under stress and how communities respond. This grant will allow us to extend that understanding.”

In addition to studying interaction between public health systems, the project will assess how different kinds of disruptions — from routine challenges to large-scale disasters — shape the community’s relationship with water systems. It also aims to understand how closely related interdependent systems such as water and public health can help enhance resilience.

“It’s a very exciting project,” Seeger said. “My personal work is in disaster and crisis communication, and one of the things that’s really frustrating is that we see a lot of disasters and crises repeat themselves. We make the same mistakes over and over again, and there’s not much understanding of how we learn from crises and disasters as we should. Part of this project is to see how these can be learning events and can change organizations and behavior so we don’t make these same mistakes again.”

Team wins National Science Foundation grant

by Da’Stanza Murphy

Department Highlights

Elizabeth G. Youngjohn Teaching Award for Graduate Students and gave Colleen Ezzeddine, Ph.D., the Jeanne Findlater Award for Excellence in Adjunct Teaching. Professor Katheryn Maguire, Ph.D., received the Graduate Student Association Mentorship Award, and Associate Professor Kelly Donnellan received the first Inspire Award for Teaching Excellence.

Several faculty members were recognized for research. Assistant Professor Rahul Mitra, Ph.D., won the 2018 Linda L. Putnam Early Career Scholar Award from the Organizational Communication Division of the International Communication Association. The Society of Professors of Education Book Award went to Brandon Hensley, Ph.D., for The Neoliberal Agenda and the Student Debt Crisis in U.S. Higher Education. And Assistant Professor Elizabeth Stoycheff, Ph.D., and Rahul Mitra each received the department’s 2018 Bernard Brock Award for Outstanding Scholarship/Creative Activity.

Students also received research honors. Assistant Professor Michael Fuhlthorpe’s research team of Tabitha Lynn Cassidy, Erika Thubris, Darryl Frazier, Scott Burgess and Keena Neal was recognized with an honorable mention for the Wally Eberhard Award for Outstanding Paper in Media & War at the 2018 American Journalism Historians Association annual convention in Salt Lake City. Ashleigh Day won the department’s Graduate Student Research Award.

Finally, Associate Professor Hayg Oshagan, Ph.D., won Corp! magazine’s “Michigan’s Salute to Diversity Award — The Art of Inclusion” in September. Jamie Cobb and Jake Nickell each received the Graduate Student Service Award, making this a year to remember for department recognition.
**Allesee Master Class and Lecture:** Every year, noted professionals in film and production fill the Bob Allison (Allesee) Endowed Chair in Media. In Winter 2018, the department welcomed Stanley Nelson, a MacArthur Fellow and one of the foremost chroniclers of the African American experience, to lead the Allesee Lectures in Media class. His films combine compelling narratives with deeply researched historical detail, shining light on both familiar and under-explored aspects of the American past. More than 250 people enjoyed a screening of his film *Jonestown: The Life and Death of the People Temple* at the Detroit Film Theatre in March.

In Fall 2018, filmmaker Roger Nygard, famous for the *Trekkies* documentary about obsessive sci-fi fans, came to campus to teach students about creativity and how successful writers, directors, editors and producers succeed in Hollywood. Nygard has edited feature films such as *Black or White* and has directed television shows including *The Office*, *The Bernie Mac Show* and *Zeke and Luther*. His latest documentary, *The Truth About Marriage*, had its premiere at Wayne State.

**Summer Doctoral Seminar:** Bonnie Dow, Ph.D., dean of humanities at Vanderbilt University, was the guest scholar at this year’s Summer Doctoral Seminar, organized by Assistant Professor Kelly Jakes, Ph.D. Thirteen students attended the seminar, studying the narratives that feminist scholars have produced over the past 50 years and reflecting on what has been covered and what has been left out. Ph.D. students from around the country are competitively selected to attend the annual event to learn from leaders in the field.

**PRSSA:** Wayne State’s chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America presented a workshop, “How to Make Your Chapter Warrior Strong,” at the national conference in Austin, Texas. In April, the chapter presented its Alumni Achievement Award to Ray Day, former vice president of global communications at Ford and now chief communications officer at IBM. And in October, the chapter held its first Sweat for PRSSA 5K race, which students hope to make an annual event.

**Forensics and Debate:** The Wayne State speech and debate teams had a great 2017-18 season. Under the direction of Forensics Director Kelly Young, Ph.D., and Debate Director Ron Stevenson, Ph.D., the forensics team won 155 individual and 17 team awards. Graduating senior and now graduate assistant coach Kevin Mardirosian won two national championships in after-dinner speaking. Seniors Alex Azzopardi, Shannon Flory and John Burklow also finished strong at the NFA National Championship and the AFA National IE Tournament, where the team placed 20th overall, the highest finish in its history. It was a fitting year for the program, which turned 100 in 2018. The centennial was marked with a reunion attended by more than 60 alumni and guests.

The debate team also enjoyed great success, earning three CEDA National Debate Scholars awards for outstanding academic performance by an active debater and 11 elimination debate appearances, including a championship finish by senior Jamie Kornosky and a semifinals appearance by seniors Katrail Davis and Jennifer Anton.

**Broadcast Journalism:** MetroArts Detroit, a program produced with Wayne State student crew for Detroit Public Television, has entered its seventh season. The show features musical guests, fine artists, and people in fashion, dance, film, comedy and improv. Journalism Area Head Kim Piper-Aiken, Ph.D., serves as producer and faculty adviser.
Stine Eckert

PUBLICATIONS
• Eckert S, “Fluid Public Clusters in Western Democracies: Political Women Bloggers in the United States, United Kingdom, Germany and Switzerland,” in Blue Book of Media and Gender, 2017.
• Eckert S, “Fighting Online Abuse Shouldn’t Be Up to the Victims,” The Conversation, 2017.

GRANTS
• 2018 WSU College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts Summer Research Grant, project on backlash to #metoo movement.

HONORS AND AWARDS
• 2018 Top Faculty Paper Award,

In the news
Assistant Professor Stine Eckert made the news twice this past year. In November 2017, she was interviewed about net neutrality by Stephen Henderson for WDET’s radio program Detroit Today. A few months later, she was interviewed by Jennifer Gerson Uffalussy for an article in Yahoo LifeStyle on portrayals of Kim Yo Jung and Ivanka Trump in U.S. news media.

Michael Fuhlhage

PUBLICATIONS

Wayne State scholars present research at home and abroad

Communication faculty and students have been on the road in 2018 discussing their innovative research with audiences worldwide.

Assistant Professor Stine Eckert, Ph.D., was a keynote speaker at the 2018 German Communication Association, Media, Public Sphere & Gender Division annual conference. “I got to meet all the colleges that I always read about in publications that I never got to speak to … and got to know them not just through their publications but through personal interaction,” Eckert said.

Seoul, South Korea, welcomed Professor Loraleigh Keashly, Ph.D., to present her research, “When Bullying Comes to Campus: Understanding and Addressing Academic Harassment,” on a panel at the Human Rights Center. “It’s really garnered a lot of attention and it’s meaningful to people,” Keashly said of her work. “There is value in research beyond our own scholarly reputations … that can have real meaning, impact and value to people in terms of translating it into practice.”

Associate Professor Pradeep Sopory, Ph.D., presented a four-week intensive course on health communication campaigns at the Department of Health, Behavior and Society at Jimma University in Ethiopia. “The Ph.D. students were smart, dedicated and highly motivated, and it was a pleasure teaching them,” Sopory said.

Several faculty and students traveled to Prague, Czech Republic, to present at the International Communication Association’s annual meeting. Graduate students Sydney Wallace, Holly Purcell, Ashleigh Day, Jade Metzger, Annisa Rochadiat, Kelsey Husnick and Scott Mitchell discussed topics such as substance abuse, rape culture, the Flint water crisis, non-monogamy, Muslim identity, reality television and material memories. Professor Emerita Lee Wilkins, Ph.D.; Associate Professor Stephanie Tong, Ph.D.; Assistant Professor Rosie Jahng, Ph.D.; and Assistant Professor Elizabeth Stoycheff, Ph.D., were on hand to discuss their research.

A little closer to home, Stoycheff received an invitation to present on the Freedom of Expression in an Age of Surveillance panel at Columbia University in New York, and several department members attended the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication meeting in Washington, D.C. Eckert presented two papers at the meeting, one with graduate student Savannah Coco and another with Jade Metzger. Similarly, Stoycheff presented with Anissa Rochadiat on U.S. Muslim identity, while Clara Martucci, Scott Burgess and Stoycheff presented their paper on online suppression technologies.

Finally, in November, several faculty and students will present at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association in Salt Lake City. Faculty members Tong, Rahul Mitra, Katheryn Maguire, Kelly Jakes and Julie Novak, along with several MA and doctoral students, will be talking about topics such as artificial intelligence and cancer screening, water access narratives, transnational family maintenance, Jubilee singers, crisis communication, jihadi John, human-animal relationships, serial arguments and the Flint water crisis.
Brandon Hensley

PUBLICATIONS


HONORS AND AWARDS

- Society of Professors of Education 2018 Faculty Creative/research Grant Award for the project “Networks: Improving Student Learning Outcomes for Communication Assessment.”
- National Association of Teachers of English 2018 Writer in Residence for the project “Crisis in U.S. Higher Education.”

Rosie Jahng

PUBLICATIONS


GRANTS

- 2018 Faculty Creative/Research Award by WSU College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts for a project that examines journalists’ understanding of fake news and authentication processes of information on social media.

Kelly Jakes

PUBLICATIONS


AWARDS

- Resident Scholar, Humanities Center, WSU, 2017-18.
- Harriet Dowdell Bantz, Sandra
HONORS AND AWARDS
• 2018 Graduate Student Association Mentorship Award, Wayne State.

Rahul Mitra
PUBLICATIONS

GRANTS
• 2018 Dean’s Creative/Research Grant, WSU College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts, “Organizing/Communicating for Urban Sustainability: The Detroit Entrepreneurial Ecosystem.” $5,000.

New appointment
Assistant Professor Elizabeth Stoycheff was elected as head (or president) of the Communication Theory & Methodological Division at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication in August. This division has the oldest and most rigorous reputation among the divisions of AEJMC, making her election an unusual honor for an assistant professor.

Petronio and Charles R.
Bantz Faculty Research Award, WSU Department of Communication, 2017.

Loraleigh Keashly
PUBLICATIONS
• Keashly L, “Bullying in Seniors’ Communities: What’s Identity Got to Do With It?” in The Routledge Handbook of Communication and Bullying, Routledge, forthcoming.

Katheryn Maguire
PUBLICATIONS

Matt Seeger
PUBLICATIONS
Mini grants
Assistant Professor Rahul Mitra earned a mini grant to work with the Broadening Experiences in Scientific Training (BEST) Grant Program at WSU, and the Detroit Revitalization Fellows to create training and learning connections with local organizations for Detroit’s rebirth.
He also obtained a mini grant from WSU’s Graduate School, funded by the National Institutes of Health’s BEST program to organize two workshops for Ph.D. students and postdocs universitywide, focused on nonacademic careers. One was an interactive panel discussion and résumé-writing workshop for more than 60 interdisciplinary attendees, and the second was a three-day workshop teaching 16 participants how to use their graduate school skills in urban resilience efforts.

New faculty, staff
The Department of Communication welcomed a new lecturer this year: Jasmine Rivera, MFA. An award-winning director, writer and producer, Rivera features Detroit-related themes in her work: Nain Rouge (2011), American Prophet (2016), and Belle Isle Elegy (forthcoming).
The department also welcomed Cleo Moody, Ph.D., as a graduate adviser. Her duties include advising newly admitted master’s students, assisting with recruitment and retention efforts, and developing best practices, policies and procedures to support the graduate program.

Stephanie Tong
PUBLICATIONS
• Tong ST, Corriero EF, Matheny RG, Hancock JT, “Online Daters’ Willingness to Use Recommender Technology for Mate Selection Decisions,” in InTRIS ’18: Joint Workshop on Interfaces and Human Decision Making for Recommender Systems, in press.

Kelly Young
PUBLICATIONS

HONORS AND AWARDS
• 2018 WSU President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching.
• 2018 Central States Communication Association John T. Warren Mentorship Award.
SCOTT BURGESS, doctoral student, has co-authored publications with Elizabeth Stoycheff and Clara Martucci as well as a case study in the ethics textbook *Media Ethics, Issues and Cases*, written by Lee Wilkins. Burgess was also a key contributor to the second-place paper “Spinning Toward Secession: The Interplay of Editorial Bellicosity & Exchange News in Press Before the American Civil War,” which was presented at the American Journalism Historians Association meeting in October 2018.

ERECENIA FRIDAY, master’s student, is completing an internship in the Fall 2018 semester with Ford Community Corps, receiving funding for a project looking at the impact of service learning on nonprofit organizations.

JADE METZGER (ABD) won a competitive spot in the NextGEN Humanities Internship program. She received funding that allowed her to work with community partners Michigan Education Justice Coalition and the Walter P. Reuther Library developing two teaching ideas from materials at the Reuther.

DANIELS GUSTAVO NAVARRO, master’s student in media arts, has been invited to the University of Brasilia in Brazil to present his thesis project, “Music as Resistance: Tribe Records and a Changing American City” (Kelly Donnellan, adviser).

WILLIAM NOWLING, doctoral student, will present his paper, “Government Communication in the Flint, Michigan, Drinking Water Disaster: Sense-Making and Computer-Mediated Communication in Official Responses to Rising Risk Indicators” (with Matt Seeger), during a panel discussion in the Applied Communication Division of the National Communication Association meeting.

2017-18 Ph.D. recipients
- Minu Basnet (Bryan McCann and Kelly Young, co-advisers)
- Anna Maria Flores (Pradeep Sopory, adviser)
- Josh Guitar (Patricia McCormick, adviser)
- Craig Hennigan (Kelly Young, adviser)
- Scott Mitchell (Kelly Young, adviser)
- Lukas Pelliccio (Katheryn Maguire, adviser)
- Sherri Ter Molen (Katheryn Maguire, adviser)
- Kunto Wibowo (Lee Wilkins, adviser)

Research teams produce papers, receive grants

Several research teams have formed in the department over the past four years.
- Researchers from the Social Media and Relational Technology (SMART) Labs directed by Associate Professor Stephanie Tong, Ph.D., explore how people use the internet and mobile technology to develop, maintain and dissolve personal relationships in modern-day society. The SMART Labs team has students from several disciplines and collaborates with research teams across the country. The lab has produced eight peer-reviewed articles, 13 conference papers and four book chapters. It has been supported by grants from the Wayne State Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program, Central States Communication Association and National Science Foundation.
- Directed by Assistant Professor Rahul Mitra, Ph.D., the Resilient Institutions and Sustainable Environments (RISE) Lab allows researchers to study how communicative practices enable resilience and sustainability in a variety of organizations, including for-profit companies, nonprofits, religious organizations, purpose-driven consultancies, government agencies and institutions of higher education. The team researches how the social, environmental, economic and cultural dimensions of sustainability intersect in both old and new ways, shaping policy at the macro level and interpersonal sense-making at the micro level. Researchers have produced journal articles, a book chapter and five conference presentations. Currently, the lab has seven master’s and Ph.D. students working on four projects.
- Directed by Assistant Professor Kai Xu, ABD, and Patricia Luks, the China in Perspective Lab explores issues of the Chinese political environment in mainland China. The lab has produced several peer-reviewed journal articles, a book chapter and a book, with a focus on the political environment in China in Perspective. The lab has produced several peer-reviewed journal articles, a book chapter and a book, with a focus on the political environment in mainland China. The lab has produced several peer-reviewed journal articles, a book chapter and a book.

KAI XU (ABD) has published commentaries on mainland China’s political environment in *China in Perspective*, a publication of the Princeton China Initiative, and in *Citizen in Power*, a major platform calling for human rights.
1970s
Chris Allen (BA ’76) was named by Crain’s Detroit Business as a co-winner in the administrator category for its 2018 Health Care Hero feature.

1980s
Daniel J. Loepp (BA ’82, MA ’86) is the president and CEO of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. He was awarded a Doctorate of Humane Letters, honoris causa, at the 2014 commencement ceremonies.
Timothy Sellnow (Ph.D. ’87) is a professor of strategic communication and graduate director in the Nicholson School of Communication and Media at the University of Central Florida.
Deanna Sellnow (Ph.D. ’87) is a professor of strategic communication and is chairing the Communication Department in the Nicholson School of Communication and Media at the University of Central Florida.
Ted Coutilish (BA ’87) was named vice chancellor, marketing and community relations, at Oakland Community College.

1990s
Jerome Vaughn (MA ’91), a WDET news director and host, was inducted into the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame in 2018.

2000s
Rana Elmir (BA ’04) was named one of Crain’s Detroit Business’ “40 Under 40.”
Katherine Lavelle (Ph.D. ’06) is the director of the Public Speaking Center and an associate professor at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse (tenured/promoted in Summer 2018). She teaches in the public communication and advocacy emphasis area.
Kimberly Joy Chandler (Ph.D. ’07) completed more than a decade of service to Xavier University of Louisiana, where she was an associate professor of communication studies and affiliate faculty of women and gender studies. She is completing a graduate degree in clinical mental health from Bradley University and is CEO and principal consultant at Chandler Education Solutions LLC.

2010s
Debbie James (Ph.D. ’11) is an associate professor of media studies, and chair of the Center of Community Media, Governors State University.
Nick Romerhausen (Ph.D. ’11) is an associate professor, an introductory course director and the director of the Equality Research Center at Eastern Michigan University.
Christopher Gullen (MA ’08, Ph.D. ’12) is an assistant professor of

Journalism Alumnus of the Year
Bowdarya Tweh (BA ’08), spot news editor at The Wall Street Journal, was named 2018 Journalism Alumnus of the Year. A graduate of the Journalism Institute for Media Diversity, Tweh wrote for The South End when he was at Wayne and held multiple internships, earning the national Chips Quinn scholarship, which included an internship at the Detroit Free Press. He earned an MBA from Miami University (Ohio) in 2015 while reporting for the Cincinnati Enquirer and moved to The Wall Street Journal last year as interactive news writer. He was promoted to editor within months.

Madame Curie sculpture donated to Polish Room
Steven T. Plochocki (BA-Journalism ’73) and Linda Plochocki generously commissioned and donated a bronze sculpture of Madame Marie (Sklodowska) Curie to Manoogian Hall’s Polish Room, which features Polish heritage and works of art reflecting Polish culture. The sculpture, by Evelyn Bachorski-Bowman (MA ’81, MFA ’83), is the room’s first piece to celebrate a great Polish woman.

From left: Susan Burns, development and alumni affairs; Steve Plochocki; Linda Plochocki; Evelyn Bachorski-Bowman, sculptor; Matthew Seeger, dean; and Keith Whitfield, provost.
communication at Westfield State University in Massachusetts.

Robb Lauzon (MA ’13) earned a Ph.D. from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 2018 and is now an assistant professor at County College of Morris.

Kris Paal (Ph.D. ’13) is an assistant professor of Communication Studies at Longwood University in Virginia.

Jehoon Jeon (Ph.D. ’14) is an assistant professor at Eastern Connecticut State University.

Lindsey Jara (BA ’14) is an account manager on the Chevy and GMC accounts, handling all programmatic media buying and planning on behalf of GM for Amnet, the Dentsu Aegis Network agency.

Ryan Stouffer (Ph.D. ’15) is an assistant professor of communication studies at Longwood University.

Sadaf Siddiqui-Ali (Ph.D. ’15) is an associate professor and area head of digital media, cinema and journalism at Eastern Michigan University.

Amna Alam Husain (MA ’15) is teaching as an adjunct faculty member at Wayne State University and Oakland Community College.

Ben Corona (BA ’15) is a 2018 Kresge Artist Fellow in Film and Music.

Eliot Dolgin (BA ’15) is a marketing communications specialist at Barton Malow Company in Detroit.

Adam Cooper (BA ’15) is working for Fiat Chrysler as a unit leader.

Talya Slaw (BA ’15) is a second-year Ph.D. student at the University of Kansas.

BrieAnn Bell (BA ’16) is the new Grandmont Rosedale Development Corp. Grand River Work-Place manager.

Simone Norton Brennan (MA ’04, Ph.D. ’16) is a learning skills specialist at Wayne State School of Medicine.

Daria La Fave (Ph.D. ’16) works as a lead speech instructor at Keiser University, and part time as a team lead and a communication adjunct at Southern New Hampshire University.

Renata Kołodziej-Smith (Ph.D. ’16) is a lecturer at the Nicholson School of Communication at the University of Central Florida.

Christiana Lumaj (BA ’16) became a fellow in the Ford “30 Under 30” program.

Janine Kenner (BA ’16) is currently a master’s student at the University of Miami studying music business and entertainment industries. Previously, she was a post-close auditor at Quicken Loans.

Juan Liu (Ph.D. ’17) is an assistant professor at Columbus State University. Previously, she was a visiting assistant professor at Cleveland State University.

Nathan Stewart (Ph.D. ’17) has been an assistant professor of communication and program head at Lakeland University since Fall 2017. He is also faculty adviser to the student government association and the Mirror (campus newspaper), and continues to farm with his family in Central Illinois.

Stephanie Wideman (Ph.D. ’17) is an assistant professor and director of the forensics speech and debate team at the University of Indianapolis.

Jared Hoehing (BA ’17) is a producer at KSAT-TV in San Antonio.

Angelica Mickens (BA ’17) is the territory manager for a youth sports league and is currently enrolled at Wayne State in the sports administration graduate program.

Wilco Cain (BA ’17) is a college adviser with the AdviseMI program of the Michigan College Action Network, serving at Niles High School in Southwest Michigan. Before joining MCAN she worked with AmeriCorps VISTA, recruiting families into the 21st Century Scholars program and helping them complete scholarship requirements.

Lauren Lukity (BA ’17) is a talent acquisition specialist at Allegis Global Solutions in Troy, Michigan.

Haley Barnes (BA ’17) is a new business development project coordinator and marketing specialist for Magna Seating in Novi, Michigan.

Alaquah Hawkins (BA ’17) is the director of sales and marketing for the hospitality company Group 10 in Farmington Hills, Michigan. She is pursuing a master’s in marketing at Walsh College.

Kunto Adi Wibowo (Ph.D. ’18) is a tenure-track lecturer at Universitas Padjadjaran, Jatinangor, in Indonesia. He is also a pollster in Jakarta, Indonesia (Lembaga Survei KedaKopi).

Scott Mitchell (Ph.D. ’18) is an assistant professor of communication and media studies at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

Craig Hennigan (Ph.D. ’18) is assistant director of forensics at Truman State University.

Minu Basnet (Ph.D. ’18) is a lecturer at Colorado State University-Pueblo. Prior to that, she was a visiting assistant professor at Marist College.


Danielle Kaminski (Ph.D. ’18) is the community development manager at the American Cancer Society in Southfield, Michigan.

Alexandra Leroux (BA ’18) is an MMJ/reporter with KLTV 7 in Tyler, Texas.
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Annual Summer Doctoral Seminar

With the changing media landscapes, feminist communication and media scholars are using a critical theoretical lens to examine a plethora of new problems, platforms, and questions. This seminar will focus on transgressive feminisms. Steiner will discuss and analyze old and new representations in media (self-representations and media representations) and social media affordances, emphasizing opportunities for critiquing and resisting misogyny and backlash.

June 4-6, 2019

No registration fee. Attendees also receive: Paid travel, Paid lodging, Paid meals Contact Stine Eckert at stine.eckert@wayne.edu.