WHAT'S INSIDE

- FACULTY PROFILES
- 3RD ANNUAL PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION
- RESEARCH HIGHLIGHT
- COMM SOCIETY SUCCESS STORY
- TODAY SHOW FEATURE

THE COMMUNICATOR
Brought to you by members of
The Communication Society
Supported by the Communication Department

The Communication Society is an undergraduate student-led organization. Through workshops, field trips, fundraising, alumni networking, and guest speakers, the Communication Society offers educational and extracurricular opportunities to students interested in the Communication field.
A message from the Spring 2016 Communication Society President, Cara McAteer:

The 2016 spring semester is coming to a close, and I am proud to say it has been another year of great accomplishment and growth for the UConn Communication Society. Members of our organization have worked diligently to produce the fourth edition of this newsletter, and we are so proud to show their great work year after year. I would like to thank you for taking the time to read about our updates, new faculty, student editorials, and all the happenings of the Communication Society.

The Communication Society is very grateful for the abundance of resources available to use here at UConn. To show our appreciation we have given you a collection of faculty profiles, academic achievements, student-run productions, and alumni features. As I write this letter in last semester of my involvement in the Communication society, I wish all the best to the present and future Communication students as they continue on their scholastic and career endeavours. I look forward to seeing all you are able to accomplish and achieve in this organization and beyond!

Enjoy,

Cara McAteer ‘16
Cara.McAteer@uconn.edu
Communication Society President

Dear readers,

Welcome to the fourth annual edition of The Communicator. It has been another busy year for the Communication department, and inside this year’s edition you will get a chance to read the stories from this past year as told by our own Communication Society students!

I am proud to say that the Communication Society has firmly cemented its role in the Department and University over the past 5 years. We hosted our third annual Public Speaking Competition in April, and this edition of the newsletter is now the fourth consecutive issue since starting the publication in 2012. These traditions have begun to play a major role in providing our students with valuable learning experiences.

Traditions are also an important part of any successful group or organization. This year’s graduating seniors remind me of the progress our group has made during their four years and their presence will certainly be missed. However, traditions are also a great reminder that we must keep moving forward, and I look forward to working with a new group of students in the fall as our organization continues to grow and develop.

As another academic year comes to a close, I would like to welcome all of our graduating seniors into our growing group of alumni. I would also like to welcome all of our existing alumni to connect with us in the coming months. We would love to hear from each of our former students and hopefully welcome them back to campus in the near future! I hope all of our readers enjoy this year’s newsletter and have a wonderful summer!

GO HUSKIES!
Rory McGloin, Ph.D. ‘11
rory.mcgloin@uconn.edu
Communication Society Faculty Advisor
This has been a great year in the Communication Department! We’ve continued to grow – Sharde Davis will be joining the Comm Department as an Assistant Professor in the Fall, teaching Small Group Communication. Thomas Meade and Anne Borsai will be Assistant Professors in-Residence. Rory McGloun and Stephen Stifano were promoted this year – congratulations to them! Joel Nebres has done a bang-up job in his first year as an academic advisor. Of course, the rest of our staff are wonderful, too. And Paul Jalbert is retiring after nearly 30 years of teaching at the Stamford Regional Campus.

Four graduate students have finished their PhDs (Kyle Hull, Tao Ma, Yerina Ranjit, Yi Wang), and one (Adam Rainear) is a new MA sticking around for his PhD. We have added new courses, including Professional Communication and a Digital Media Production sequence. We are working to have closer relationships with our alumni. Please check out the interesting faculty research in this newsletter to see what your favorite professors have been up to!

It’s also been a banner year for communication issues in the news. The political communication surrounding the presidential election is unique, raising questions about the future of political discourse, mainstream media’s responsibilities, and the impact of social media by and about the candidates. As a nation we continue to struggle with issues around race, gender, and religion, including acceptable language, identities and rights, harassment and violence, immigration, job opportunities, and pay inequities. Finally, the social media coverage of the UConn “Mac and Cheese kid” was, well, interesting. There certainly were many opportunities to use lenses of communication theories to make sense of it all!

Leslie Snyder, Ph.D.
leslie.snyder@uconn.edu
Professor and Interim Department Head
Jose Nebres

Canada native Jose “Joel” Nebres is the newest academic advisor to join the Communication Department’s full-time professional staff this fall. Early in his career, Joel earned a Bachelors degree in Microbiology with a minor in English from the University of Toronto. He also pursued his interest in art and literature by completing a second major in Christianity, Art, and Letters. After college, he pursued a career in the pharmaceutical industry, first as a chemist, and then as a Quality Assurance Specialist. He later changed industries, to work as QA Manager for a nuclear fuel manufacturer.

After several years in the workforce, Joel made the decision to pursue graduate study at McGill University in Montreal, earning a Master of Arts degree in English. He enjoyed graduate study so much that he decided in 2006 to pursue a PhD in English here at UConn, specializing in late-medieval writing. About six years ago, Joel began working in the summer as a registration advisor during freshmen orientation and decided to apply for a full-time advising position when one became available last year.

Having had many careers has reassured him that anything is possible. Joel observes that soon we will live in a world where a single career path is no longer the norm. As an advisor, Joel brings this kind of broad vision to advising students. He sees himself, on the one hand, as a facilitator who helps students complete the requirements of their degree and advises them on academic matters; but, more importantly, he also considers himself as a mentor who shares his many years of academic and professional experience to help students map out their own personal and professional paths. His favorite thing about his job is helping students overcome the challenges and obstacles that every student is bound to face.

When he is not working, Joel loves to travel and try new foods. His favorite places are Spain, England, and Italy. South America is on his bucket list. His favorite thing about Storrs is that it is rural but easily accessible to both New York City and Boston—where there are amazing restaurants and places to indulge his food cravings. His plans for the future include continuing to work in higher education, both teaching and advising students.
Faculty Profiles

David Atkin: Atkin coauthored a top paper on QOL perceptions that was selected for ICA’s 2015 theme book. He also published articles with doctoral advisees in Computers in Human Behavior (CIHB) on uses of online dating sites and another on “cyberchondria” in online searches. Atkin also penned an article on Diffusion Theory in emerging media research for Mass Comm & Society. He published an article with doctoral advisees on social networking (SNS) influences on political expression (JOBEM) and fan reactionary behaviors (T&I). His work on digital divides and uses of the Internet for health information appeared in CIHB. Atkin is completing an IDEA grant with Miles Radin on the effect of differential signage on recycling behavior.

Saraswathi Bellur: This past year, Bellur co-authored an article (Communication Research), which explicates the concept of user engagement. The authors suggest a measurement and a structural model for empirically capturing process of user engagement with interactive media. Additional publications looked at how autonomy and control contribute to greater game enjoyment (Computers in Human Behavior), and how game players’ virtual-direct experience affect real-world, brand-related outcomes (Journal of Promotion Management). Bellur also supervised a graduate student project, which was submitted to NCA. Currently, Bellur is analyzing datasets exploring the role of multitasking on learning outcomes, and the effect of perceived interactivity in mhealth apps.

Ross Buck: Professor Buck was awarded two grants from the National Science Foundation and the DOD/Air Force Office of Scientific Research as a Co-Investigator. Buck worked alongside Primary Investigator Mohammed Khan from Computer Science and Engineering on emotion and risk communication. Buck’s publications and presentations will be in the journal Computers in Human Behavior and at the Society for Affective Science meeting held in Chicago.

Amanda Denes: This past year, Denes continued to research the role of post sex communication (PSC) in relationships and published papers exploring PSC and testosterone and proposing a model linking “pillow talk” to relationship satisfaction. Denes also presented these papers at regional and national conferences, and participated in a podcast and magazine interviews. In March, Denes received the Early Career Excellence in Teaching Award from the UConn Chapter of the American Association of University Professors. Lastly, this spring Denes is giving a 3-part seminar for the Emerging Leaders Society of the United Way of Northeastern Connecticut about gender communication and social diversity.

Mark Hamilton: Hamilton is on sabbatical this year at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand. He has been traveling within the country on field trips with students and been giving presentations at universities in Southeast Asia. He presented twice at the Cross Cultural Communication Conference in Bangkok and will be presenting two papers at the International Communication Association conference in Japan in early June and two papers at the International Conference on Language and Social Psychology conference in Bangkok in late June. He published a wildly popular article on how astrology may be an accurate indicator of personality because of chronobiology effects, along with several articles on research methodology.

Anne Oeldorf-Hirsch: This year, Professor Oeldorf-Hirsch has been working on an NSF-funded interdisciplinary project with colleagues in STEM fields here at UConn to assess effective science communication through new venues such as social media. She has a forthcoming publication on the technology-driven motivations for online photo sharing and this June will be presenting research on the credibility of news on Twitter at the annual International Communication Association conference in Fukuoka, Japan. She has also become involved with the Connecticut Science Center with a public lecture about social media in their Beyond the Podium series, and as a judge for their hackathons.

Kirstie Farrar: Dr. Farrar continued her work on violent video games this past year, including an examination of violent game play and gun controller use as predictors of past physical aggression and attitudes towards gun control. Some of her work was presented at the National Communication Association conference in Las Vegas, NV. In addition, Dr. Farrar just wrapped up data collection on a content analysis of sassy and disrespectful talk in tweens’ favorite television programs. Dr. Farrar also proposed and taught a new course, 4035W, and worked with multiple graduate students and undergraduate research assistants.
Ken Lachlan: This year, Lachlan became Editor-in-Chief of Communication Studies, the flagship journal of the Central States Communication Association. He also published numerous journals, including Computers in Human Behavior, Communication Studies, Communication Quarterly, and Journal of Risk Research, and presented his work at the annual meetings of the National Communication Association and international Communication Association. He also gave an invited presentation at the annual International Crisis and Risk Communication Conference in Orlando, Florida. His current projects include investigating the effectiveness of social robotics in delivering risk messages.

Carolyn A. Lin: Dr. Lin published five peer-reviewed journal articles, addressing the effects of tobacco, stimulant and antidepressant use, as well as access to health information online, in addition to theorizing technology adoption research and explaining podcast technology adoption factors. She published a book chapter discussing the influence of social media on marketing communication and presented six competitively selected conference papers. Furthermore, she developed two mobile phone applications; one that targets healthy eating and active living, the other on storm hazard preparedness and mitigation. She also received external research funding from a federal agency and a non-profit organization.

Rory McGloin: Over the course of the 2015-2016 year, Dr. McGloin published articles in multiple journals, including Computers in Human Behavior and the International Journal of Health Communication. He has continued his research on immersive gaming by investigating the effects of exer-game bicycles that combined the fitness experience of an exercise bike with the features and characteristics of a video game. McGloin continues to serve his department as the Director of Undergraduate Studies. He also continues to serve as the advisor to the Communication Society and hosted UConn’s third annual public speaking competition in April.

Kristine Nowak: Professor Nowak spent the 2015-2016 academic year on sabbatical. In the fall, she met with colleagues and gave presentations at Stanford University, University of California at Santa Cruz, and San Diego State University, and managed a trip to Disneyland and Las Vegas. In addition, she spent the early spring as a visiting associate professor at the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. She conducted a project that gave University of Connecticut students the experience of ocean acidification from the perspective of a coral reef using head mounted displays. She is also conducting research on the effects of online images and avatars and is looking forward to teaching computer mediated communication in the fall of 2016.

Diana Rios: Professor Rios will stand election for a third term as president of the UConn chapter of AAUP. This is historic as a third consecutive term has not been done before. Her research teams have been successfully conducting content and fan-based studies on gender, sexuality, violence and HBO’s Game of Thrones. The team has presented in Florida and Washington State and will present in Barcelona, Spain in July 2016. She also has a separate team focusing on education and cross-cultural issues. They will present "La Comunidad Intelectual" research in Washington DC in June and Barcelona, Spain in July 2016.

Stephen Stifano: Building on his work as an independent filmmaker and graphic designer, Professor Stifano has worked hard to create the department's three new production-focused courses, including COMM 2100 (Professional Communication), COMM 2940 (Fundamentals of Digital Production), and COMM 4940 (Digital Video Production). All three will focus on developing students' abilities to create professional-caliber content for diverse audiences - a critical skill in today's job market. Beginning this summer, each course will be offered during the 2016-2017 academic year. Professor Stifano will also present his work to develop these courses as part of a pedagogy panel on film and new multimedia at NCA 2016.

Profiles Collected by: Grace Gagnon
UConn-AAUP presented Amanda Denes, Assistant Professor in Communication, with this year’s Teaching Excellence: Early Career award at the State Capital on Monday, March 28th. Denes has been recognized for her research titled *Engaging Pillow Talk: The Challenges of Studying Communication after Sexual Activity*. Now Denes is being recognized for her incredible performance teaching Interpersonal Communication.

To her students, Denes encourages them to view themselves as a work in progress. Her advice is to always look for opportunities to improve yourself and make positive changes.

Denes began teaching because it allows her to stay connected with students. She said you lose touch with the world sitting in an office working on research, but teaching allows her to stay in touch with what’s relevant. Denes loves teaching solely because it allows her to engage in academic conversations with young people.

Being a professor has taught Denes to appreciate the opportunity to learn new things. Through her interactions with students, Denes is learning even more. The stories and ideas that come from students often give Denes her lines of research. Denes said her greatest accomplishment while teaching at UConn has been winning this award.

She said she spends a lot of time teaching and researching so being recognized for her hard work means a lot. Denes feels deserving of this award because she is passionate about teaching. She is enthusiastic about interpersonal communication and is happy that her passion shows.
Q: What made you decide to double major in Communication and Psychology?
A: I always knew I wanted to study Psychology, as I’ve been fascinated by human nature and how we do what we do. This has led me to study why we think and feel as a reaction to ourselves and the environment. However, coming into UConn, I knew I wanted to double major in something. My first semester freshman year, I took Communication 1000 and was completely hooked. It seemed like the perfect accompaniment to my psychology degree and haven’t looked back since.

Q: What are your career plans after graduation in May?
A: Directly after graduation I will be substitute teaching for the summer in my town district. I have also been accepted to a couple of Clinical Psychology PhD programs, so I am very excited to get started on my graduate degree this fall!

Q: How would you describe your dream career?
A: My dream career would be a balance between research and practice in the field of Clinical Psychology. In detail, I hope to be able to practice as a licensed psychologist, working with adolescents and adults so that they may reach their fullest potential. As well as practicing clinical work, I hope to be able to continue to academically research better and more efficient methods of therapy, as well as investigate the causes and symptoms of mental disorders.

Q: What has been your proudest moment at UConn?
A: My proudest moment at UConn was the day I accepted a bid from Pi Beta Phi fraternity. Pi Phi has given me the support to seek out leadership positions within our community and to excel in academics. I have found some of my closest friends through Pi Phi and it is has done so much to make this university feel like home.

Q: Do you have any advice for undergraduate Communication students?
A: I would say that if you have any interest whatsoever in media, make sure to take Comm 1300! Also, plan your courses out for the four years so that you can truly tailor this major to fit you. Communication is such a diverse field that you can do so much with, and I highly suggest utilizing the course catalog and advising appointments to understand what works for you.

Article by: Grace Gagnon
Rory McGloin, who has previously researched the effects of video games, is now taking his research to the next level by using fitness devices to combine the immersive nature of video games with the experience of riding an exercise bicycle.

“I have researched video games and their effects for the last several years, and I wanted the opportunity to use my previous findings and acquired knowledge in the field to be applied to a context that had the opportunity to influence people in a positive way,” McGloin said.

He is in the beginning stages of his research in which he will test the established video game theory to determine if we can predict performance and fitness-related outcomes. In an interview with a student, Nicholas Shigo, Rory McGloin said he is using exercise bicycles with virtual trails and games programmed into them, and fitness tracking applications to better prescribe an individualized workout regimen.

McGloin said the bicycles are being tested in two primary ways. First, the bikes are being conceptualized as video game controllers. They will feature moving handlebars and gears that allow the user to shift the bike into the correct gear given the terrain and elevation they are riding on the screen. From this, McGloin said he wants to determine how users respond to highly realistic features and whether or not the perceived naturalness of the bike accounts for variance in the perceived enjoyment of the experience. The second way the bikes are being tested are by examining the physical outputs related to the user’s ride. McGloin said he is looking to see what the most important predictors are for users who have higher and lower physical outputs.

In this new area of research, McGloin hopes to find that his previously tested video game theories are applicable to these exer-gaming devices. He also said that he hopes to identify the factors that have the greatest influence on performance, and then design programs that allow people to maximize their workouts.

McGloin said that anytime you start a new line of research or use new materials, it takes time to learn how users will interact with the new materials. “It is always a fun challenge to design a study that has external validity but also still maintains control over the important factors you are investigating,” McGloin said.

In particular, McGloin spent a lot of time planning the bike rides, determining the length of the course, how long it would take for users to warm up and other variables that needed to be considered.

“The goal is to analyze the data we obtain as quickly as possible and then write our results into a report which we will aim to have published in a top journal to share with other researchers in this field. We will also use the data to inform the design of our future studies,” McGloin said.

The study will conclude in spring 2016, but McGloin hopes to run another data collection in the fall of 2016.
Grad Student Spotlight:
Kimberly Embacher

What are you currently studying at UConn?
I am currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Communication with a concentration in Health Communication.

How do you decide what to conduct research on?
I try to conduct all of my research on topics that I am interested in! If you’re not interested in your research, it is easy to lose steam. That’s why most of my research is centered around exercise motivation and female body image—because those are two topics that I find interesting and personally relevant.

What aspect of your research has surprised or excited you the most?
Dr. Rory McGloin and I are currently collecting data using a stationary fitness bike with an interactive virtual reality screen. It was fun doing some “test runs” on the bike, and I am really excited to see what the outcomes of the study will be! Participants seem to be really getting into it.

What do you hope to gain from your research?
I think that matching the workout style to a person’s personality could work wonders for their motivation, and I’m hoping that my research will confirm this. I would also love to find an effective way to get females to focus less on working out for appearance-related reasons and focus more on working out because of its physical and mental health benefits!

What advice do you have for current communication majors?
Pay attention in your classes! There are many useful concepts that you will learn in Comm classes at UConn, and there are many theories that you will find yourself remembering when you notice them happening in the “real world”. It’s cool to have that kind of knowledge.

What are the best/worst things about being a TA?
Best things: I really enjoy being in front of a classroom, challenging myself to figure out the best way to get my students to understand and relate to the concepts that I am teaching them.
Worst things: So busy, all of the time. Right now, I’m running data analyses, lesson prepping, and responding to emails on my laptop while crammed in a packed car on an 8 hour trip back from western Pennsylvania because I can’t afford to let this time go to waste! But at the end of the day, I have never regretted my decision to go to grad school.

---

Article by: Emilia Wielogorski
Executive Board Members
President - Cara McAteer
Vice President - Brittney Austin
Secretary - Grace Gagnon
Treasurer - Jenelle Bartone
Public Relations Chair - Shannon Wood
Event Chair - Emilia Wielogorski
Brooke Hirsheimer is a recent UConn graduate most recognized for her role as President of the Communication Society. Brooke was an original team member of the first public speaking competition and the first issue of The Communicator. With a degree in Communication and Latin American Studies, Brooke graduated a semester early to begin an internship in New York City at an advertising agency called Grey. Starting in her freshman year, Brooke was highly involved with the Communication Society, where she helped to coordinate two successful public speaking competitions and organize various field trips, and was a key leader in the development of The Communicator. During her time at UConn, Brooke also studied abroad in Ireland in the summer of 2015 where she interned at a public relations firm, Rachel Dalton Communications. She considers her experience abroad as “hands-down one of the most impactful experiences of my undergraduate career.” At her current internship in the Big Apple, she works in a fast-paced environment and highly creative atmosphere where she pulls celebrities and cutting-edge technologies into various campaigns.
Not many college juniors can say they’ve published stories for NBC’s Today Show, unless you’re Chloe Vincente ’17 (CLAS). Each weekend, Vincente trades in daytime football games and nights out with friends to chase her dreams in New York City. The Communication and Journalism double major wakes up at 3:45am on Saturday mornings (and 4:45am on Sundays) to start her day at the Today Show. But for a student whose career goal is to thrive in the news industry, Vincente couldn’t ask to spend her weekend any other way.

“I had always grown up watching the Today Show with my mom,” she said. “Being a part of the Today Show is a dream for me.”

As a sophomore, Vincente got involved with UConn’s campus radio station WHUS, and its television channel UCTV, to try her hand at news broadcasting. It was through these organizations that she made invaluable connections with communication students. Fellow WHUS member Alyssa Davanzo ’15 (CLAS) recommended her for an internship with the Maury Show on NBC. Vincente got the internship, where she proved her talent and sound work ethic. Her success at the Maury Show propelled her to an intern position on the weekend edition of Today.

Just like the news industry itself, being a part of the Today Show has been filled with surprises. New to the realm of digital and print media, Vincente was given the chance to publish her own stories for Today’s online lifestyle edition. The lifestyle editor told Vincente if a story idea was intriguing enough, she might publish it. Vincente eagerly welcomed the challenge.

“I emailed (the editor) every day with any news I saw relating to lifestyle and health,” she said. A few story ideas later, she struck gold. An Australian fitness trend – “crunning” (running on all fours) – had gone viral, and Vincente was there to cover it. The story, which appeared on the lifestyle section of Today’s website, was her first piece published in print and on the web.

Since writing for print and online is different than broadcast writing, Vincente says she’s had to adapt to the less conversational style. Writing for the web also comes with its own set of challenges – each headline must contain specific keywords to make it appear as frequently as possible when performing web searches, a concept called “search engine optimization”. Yet Vincente adapted and discovered a love for print and digital media. Especially when it comes to lifestyle topics, an area she has been passionate about for years.

“I’ve always been interested in health, wellness, and fitness, so this has been a good way to combine two of my passions into one thing,” she said.

Her favorite story is the second one she published about a California pageant contestant who had lost a friend to cystic fibrosis. Although she was ready to retire from pageants, she kept competing to raise money for cystic fibrosis research. The story turned out to be a powerful one, and the pageant contestant was someone with whom Vincente connected.

“That’s my favorite part of communication,” she said. “I love having that human-to-human connection and getting to talk to people.”

As for the Today Show, Vincente recently got to feel like a star, anchoring a mock broadcast on-set, reading stories she wrote herself. She’s met most of the program’s anchors, too. While she loves them all, she admits she’s got a soft spot for weatherman Al Roker. “Al Roker is the nicest guy ever. He’s so friendly and always so positive,” Vincente said. “He’s just as fun and bubbly in person as he is on TV,” she said.
Top 5 Communication Careers

Public Relations Specialist. A public relations specialist is responsible for the public relations initiatives within a company. They work to create, manage, and implement PR campaigns along with the goal of enriching a company’s position within the public eye. At times, they may also maintain close relationships with the media. An entry level public relations specialist can expect to make between $43,000 and $57,000 in Connecticut, while someone with 4 to 6 years of experience can make $69,000 to $89,000.

Personnel Recruiter. A personnel recruiter is responsible for establishing and maintaining relations with hiring managers to stay ahead of current and future hiring and business needs. They will interview applicants to obtain information regarding their work history, training, education, and job skills and then place those individuals with open jobs. An entry level personnel recruiter can expect to make between $50,000 and $65,000 in Connecticut, while someone with 4 to 6 years of experience can make $71,000 to $90,000.

Copywriter. A copywriter is responsible for brainstorming, creating, and transforming ideas into words for articles, advertisements, publications, and pamphlets. They will write for television commercials, radio, Internet content, jingles, websites, etc. An entry level copywriter can expect to make between $43,000 and $54,000 in Connecticut, while someone with more experience can expect to earn somewhere between $66,000 and $83,000.

Market Research Analyst. A market research analyst is responsible for performing market research to determine how people perceive products and services. He or she helps the company understand exactly what types of products people want or need, which aids the company in what they should produce. An entry level market research analyst can expect to make between $51,000 and $65,000, while a professional with 4 to 6 years experience will make somewhere between $76,000 and $97,000.

Human Resources Generalist. A human resources generalist managed the day-to-day operations in the HR office. They manage the administration of human resource policies, procedures, and programs including departmental development, employee relations, training and development, benefits, compensation, organization development, and employment. An entry level human resources generalist can expect to make $47,000 to $60,000, and someone with 4 to 6 years experience can make between $72,000 and $93,000.

A degree in Communication can be used in a wide variety of careers. It is important for recent graduates to focus on their passion and interests to find a career area post-graduation. Students and recent graduates can visit UConn’s Center for Career Development for career counseling as well as assistance with creating a résumé and cover letter.
COMMUNICATION BY THE NUMBERS

STATES AND COUNTRIES REPRESENTED BY THE MAJOR

Canada: 1
Denmark: 1
China: 4
Costa Rica: 1

[Map showing states and regions with numbers indicating representation]
Facebook groups have changed the way in which students interact at UConn. Students check Facebook on a daily basis whether they are relaxing, in class, or studying. Facebook’s biggest impact at UConn is group pages, which include the Buy or Sell and Official Class pages. Before students even reach campus, they can make friends, learn about sanctioned events, and buy furniture for their new dorm room or apartment through these pages.

Students learn about clubs and organizations, fundraisers, parties, and sports, all on group pages. Facebook makes it easier to communicate information about events to a large group. For example, UConn’s Buy or Sell group has over 26,000 members who are all interested in anything from sober rides to basketball tickets. Simply put, it has become an outlet for students to share information.

Article by: Cameron MacKay
On April 4th, 2016 the Communication Society hosted its 3rd Annual Public Speaking Competition. Despite the unexpected snowfall, there was a great audience turnout, and the show was an overall success. Hosts Professor Rory McGloin and Professor Amanda Denes shared the stage with five student contestants chosen to showcase their public speaking abilities.

The theme of this year’s competition was Media and Politics. The panelists selected to judge the contestants’ ability to reflect on upon the timely topic included Jenn Bernstein and David Kiner who both hold expertise in the area of politics. Bernstein is a political reporter for Fox61 in Hartford and Kiner is currently serving his second term representing Connecticut’s 59th district of Enfield and East Windsor. The third judge on the panel was UConn alumni Bob Pasquella, who we were honored to have fly out from Chicago just for the competition.
The five contestants of the show were Max Leopold, Bianca D’Agostino, Edward Pankowski, Elizabeth Turner, and returning champion Jessica Kirchner. Each contestant analyzed media and politics through three speaking rounds. They each gave a prepared speech before responding to a judge’s question. The final round was an impromptu speech where the contestants were given another question and had ten minutes to prepare their final speech. After three incredible rounds of flawless, intriguing speeches, Jessica Kirchner was named UConn’s best public speaker for the second year in a row. Jessica’s eloquence and confidence aided in the judges’ decision to award her first place.

The Communication Society is very proud to provide a platform for the UConn’s strongest public speakers to display their talent. There is no doubt that this tradition will be kept alive for years to come.

Article by: Callie Lanning
FACULTY PROFILES

HEY ALUMNI!
DO YOU HAVE ANY JOB POSTINGS?

WANT TO RECEIVE THE COMMUNICATOR IN THE MAIL?

WANT TO SUBMIT CONTENT TO A FUTURE EDITION?

EMAIL US AT uccommsociety@gmail.com

What We’ve Been Up To

- Field to trip The Meredith Vieira Show in NYC
- Field trip to the Adventure Park in Storrs
- Faculty and student volleyball game
- Workshops with the Center for Career Development
- Hosted the Third Annual Public Speaking Competition

ATTENTION UNDERGRADS!
INTERESTED IN COMMUNICATION?

WANT TO JOIN THE COMMUNICATION SOCIETY?

GO TO THE INVOLVEMENT FAIR
Wednesday, September 7th, 2016 – 2pm-7pm on Fairfield Way

Finished the newsletter and want more? Check out our social media pages!

YOU: UConnCommSociety @UCCommSociety

MEET OUR EDITING TEAM!

Grace Gagnon
Sophomore
grace.gagnon@uconn.edu

Abi Robinson
Sophomore
abigail.robinson@uconn.edu

Lorraine Carlucci
Junior
lorraine.carlucci@uconn.edu

Emilia Wielogorski
Sophomore
emilia.wielogorski@uconn.edu

Callie Lanning
Junior
callie.lanning@uconn.edu

INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING THE COMMUNICATION PROGRAM?

VISIT: clas.uconn.edu/giving

Wednesday, September 7th, 2016 – 2pm-7pm on Fairfield Way

What We’ve Been Up To

- Field to trip The Meredith Vieira Show in NYC
- Field trip to the Adventure Park in Storrs
- Faculty and student volleyball game
- Workshops with the Center for Career Development
- Hosted the Third Annual Public Speaking Competition

ATTENTION UNDERGRADS!
INTERESTED IN COMMUNICATION?

WANT TO JOIN THE COMMUNICATION SOCIETY?

GO TO THE INVOLVEMENT FAIR
Wednesday, September 7th, 2016 – 2pm-7pm on Fairfield Way

Finished the newsletter and want more? Check out our social media pages!

YOU: UConnCommSociety @UCCommSociety

MEET OUR EDITING TEAM!

Grace Gagnon
Sophomore
grace.gagnon@uconn.edu

Abi Robinson
Sophomore
abigail.robinson@uconn.edu

Lorraine Carlucci
Junior
lorraine.carlucci@uconn.edu

Emilia Wielogorski
Sophomore
emilia.wielogorski@uconn.edu

Callie Lanning
Junior
callie.lanning@uconn.edu

INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING THE COMMUNICATION PROGRAM?

VISIT: clas.uconn.edu/giving

Wednesday, September 7th, 2016 – 2pm-7pm on Fairfield Way

What We’ve Been Up To

- Field to trip The Meredith Vieira Show in NYC
- Field trip to the Adventure Park in Storrs
- Faculty and student volleyball game
- Workshops with the Center for Career Development
- Hosted the Third Annual Public Speaking Competition

ATTENTION UNDERGRADS!
INTERESTED IN COMMUNICATION?

WANT TO JOIN THE COMMUNICATION SOCIETY?

GO TO THE INVOLVEMENT FAIR
Wednesday, September 7th, 2016 – 2pm-7pm on Fairfield Way

Finished the newsletter and want more? Check out our social media pages!

YOU: UConnCommSociety @UCCommSociety

MEET OUR EDITING TEAM!

Grace Gagnon
Sophomore
grace.gagnon@uconn.edu

Abi Robinson
Sophomore
abigail.robinson@uconn.edu

Lorraine Carlucci
Junior
lorraine.carlucci@uconn.edu

Emilia Wielogorski
Sophomore
emilia.wielogorski@uconn.edu

Callie Lanning
Junior
callie.lanning@uconn.edu

INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING THE COMMUNICATION PROGRAM?

VISIT: clas.uconn.edu/giving

Wednesday, September 7th, 2016 – 2pm-7pm on Fairfield Way

What We’ve Been Up To

- Field to trip The Meredith Vieira Show in NYC
- Field trip to the Adventure Park in Storrs
- Faculty and student volleyball game
- Workshops with the Center for Career Development
- Hosted the Third Annual Public Speaking Competition

ATTENTION UNDERGRADS!
INTERESTED IN COMMUNICATION?

WANT TO JOIN THE COMMUNICATION SOCIETY?

GO TO THE INVOLVEMENT FAIR
Wednesday, September 7th, 2016 – 2pm-7pm on Fairfield Way

Finished the newsletter and want more? Check out our social media pages!

YOU: UConnCommSociety @UCCommSociety

MEET OUR EDITING TEAM!

Grace Gagnon
Sophomore
grace.gagnon@uconn.edu

Abi Robinson
Sophomore
abigail.robinson@uconn.edu

Lorraine Carlucci
Junior
lorraine.carlucci@uconn.edu

Emilia Wielogorski
Sophomore
emilia.wielogorski@uconn.edu

Callie Lanning
Junior
callie.lanning@uconn.edu

INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING THE COMMUNICATION PROGRAM?

VISIT: clas.uconn.edu/giving

Wednesday, September 7th, 2016 – 2pm-7pm on Fairfield Way

What We’ve Been Up To

- Field to trip The Meredith Vieira Show in NYC
- Field trip to the Adventure Park in Storrs
- Faculty and student volleyball game
- Workshops with the Center for Career Development
- Hosted the Third Annual Public Speaking Competition

ATTENTION UNDERGRADS!
INTERESTED IN COMMUNICATION?

WANT TO JOIN THE COMMUNICATION SOCIETY?

GO TO THE INVOLVEMENT FAIR
Wednesday, September 7th, 2016 – 2pm-7pm on Fairfield Way

Finished the newsletter and want more? Check out our social media pages!

YOU: UConnCommSociety @UCCommSociety