

Department of Communication

Meeting Minutes prepared by Seth Fendley

December 4, 2020 10 AM – 11:30 AM via Zoom

I. Attendance and Minutes

a. Call to Order:

Deanna Sellnow called to order the faculty meeting of the Department of Communication at 10:02 AM on December 4, 2020 on Zoom.

b. Roll Call was completed via the attendee list in Zoom:

Attendance: Deanna Sellnow, Michelle Dusseau, Andrea Scott, Ann Miller, Boyd Lindsley, Bridget Rubenking, Christine Hanlon, David Young, Doug Blemker, Gary LaPage, George Musambira, Harry Weger, James McCafferty, Jamie Vega, Jen Sandoval, Jihyun Kim, Joan McCain, Jonathan Conway, Jorri Bright, Karisa Workman, Keyera Lyn, Lakelyn Taylor, Lindsay, Lindsay Neuberger, Maggie Gravelyn, Mary Myers, Melissa Dodd, Melissa Looney, Michael Strawser, Michelle Dusseau, Nan Yu, pa015839, Rebecca Morales, Regina Francies, Renata Kolodziej-Smith, Rufus Barfield, Sally Hastings, Shari Hodgson, Seth Fendley, Steve Neel, Suzy Prentiss, Timothy Sellnow, Kim Tuorto,

II. Approval of October 16, 2020 Minutes

10:02 - Motion to approve the minutes from previous meeting by Michelle Dusseau, and seconded by Jim McCafferty

III. M.A.D. (Making a Difference and Donation Dollars)

a. Research

- (1) **R. Barfield** hosted a Florida Listening Post themed ‘What is it like to be living in community here in Florida today?’ on November 7, 2020.
- (2) **S. Prentiss** presented synchronously in 5 sessions at the NCA Virtual Conference: a preconference on soft skills in the basic course, a panel discussion about speech anxiety, a panel discussion about the basic course, a panel discussion about sharing stories, and a panel discussion about basic course advocacy across campus.
- (3) **H. Weger** :
 - a. Was interviewed by Jancee Dunn from the New York Times about my research on active listening and relationships.
 - b. Research with Gina Castle (former MA student) on active listening (same as above) was featured in UC Berkeley’s - Greater Good Toolkit for improving relationships.
- (4) **J. Kim**:
 - a. Published:

Song, H., **Kim, J.**, Thao, N. P. H., Lee, K. M., & Park, N. (2020). Virtual reality advertising with brand experiences: The effects of media devices, virtual representation of the self, and self-presence. *International Journal of Advertising*. doi:10.1080/02650487.2020.1834210

b. Presented:

Merrill Jr., K., **Kim, J.**, & Collins, C. (2020, November). *Machines as friends: The role of embodiment and perceived anthropomorphism of AI as a companion*. Paper presented in the Communication and the Future Division at the annual conference of National Communication Association, Indianapolis, IN.

c. Received a Top Paper Award from the Communication and the Future Division at the NCA (November 2020) for a paper written by her and two former NSCM graduate students (Kelly Merrill Jr. & Chad Collins)

d. Research was featured on UCF TODAY. Available at <https://www.ucf.edu/news/ai-teachers-must-be-effective-and-communicate-well-to-be-accepted-new-study-finds/>

(5) **B. Rubenking** presented her research and new book about “binge watching and presence” for International Society for Presence Research (ISPR).

b. **Teaching**

(1) **S. Hodgson:**

- a. Due to the support of Michelle Dusseau, Katie Lentsch (President) and Andrew Bochte (Vice President), the Lambda Pi Eta, twelve new members were inducted formally via ZOOM. Thank you Michelle!!!!
- b. Attended and completed the FCTL Course Innovation Project, “Active Learning with Technology Tools” lead by Christine Hanlon.

2) **S. Prentiss:**

- a. Is a candidate for Vice Chair elect of the Instructional Development Division
- b. Facilitated an interactive Zoom session on Communication Apprehension in a series on Pandemic Pedagogy Spring Preparedness.

c. **Service**

(1) **R. Kolodziej-Smith** reviewed manuscripts for CSCA Communication Education Interest Group 2021 conference.

(2) **Jihyun Kim** co-organized an international conference for the International Society for Presence Research (ISPR). Presenters, panelists, and participants attended this virtual conference from multiple countries.

(3) **M. Dusseau** presented to the college of nursing and was then invited to present for a company that does neonatal work.

d. **Student Success**

(1) **J. Conway** Speech and Debate student Jessica Siles was a part of Legislative Scholars Program.

e. **Other MAD**

(1) **M. Myers** has been hired by Regent University to head the applied Strategic Communication PhD program.

- (2) **S. Prentiss** Started a petition for supporting a new NCA Division. I have attached a word document describing the new division - Communication Anxiety and Apprehension and would welcome support. Here is the link to the petition:
https://utk.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5Bz9HQFwTxXR1lz

I. 10:12 – Chair report & Old Business

- a. Webcourse onboarding – Anything you can share that would be helpful for new hires please send it to Michael Strawser. Michelle Dusseau volunteered to assist if needed.
- b. Comm & Conflict Report – Streamlining courses that can be cross applied due to a lack of professors to teach.
- c. 10:16 - Online Teaching Best Practices Report – Participants Michelle, Shari, Melissa, Suzy, Christine, and Renata. Michael has PDF's on a wiki: https://docs.google.com/document/d/17tWUL4oNaSthDRggR4jQViWsgsMXHY9PQQz5-oFM_2o/edit?usp=sharing if you have things to be added email him. Will probably add this to the new faculty webcourse.
- d. 10:20 – Communication Tracks Report – Participants Michael, Seth, Renata, Jonathan and Andrea. Creating a video to present about tracks to promote in 3003. Changing Generalist track to specialist. Where students would articulate why they chose the classes. Promote more before making any significant changes. Creating a digital portfolio tool that would be available for students to collect when they graduate. Special Topics (4026) would like to survey the faculty on course they would like to teach but may not want to build a brand new class. Would be bringing together classes we need to pull out and an opportunity for someone to teach something once every four semesters. PowerPoint will be sent out after meeting.
- e. 10:30 – Ad Hoc Committee on Course Capacity Suggestions – Sally has sent out questions regarding course caps and what could be taught fully online and synchronous television. Only four responses, if you haven't emailed Sally back about course caps if you could email her what course, what the cap should be, and a rationale for why.
- f. 10:32 – Budget – Money is all in one big pot which is difficult to manage, questions about PD and travel. Money is now allocated for those two things. Tenure and Tenure-Track have up to \$1,000 per, lump of money for instructor and lecturer. Submit those travel requests to Carishma until Jamie is officially hired.

II. 10:34 New Business & Other Reports

- a. 10:34 – AD/PR – Joan McCain - Faculty have been sharing tips etc. Teaching skills classes have been difficult to keep students focused and engaged. Curriculum changes are going through beautifully. Got a new Special Topics class pushed through.

- b.** 10:36 – Human Comm – Harry Weger - Finished the assessment report. Will be streamlining the report, so less data is needed. Will be sending them out soon to ask about gathering information for next time.
- c.** 10:37 – Communication and Conflict – Michael Strawser Nothing to report
- d.** 10:37 – GEP – Christine Hanlon – Used SONA for the very first time. Some tweaks needed but overall, it looks good. Will be released to everyone in the Spring in regards to the research projects. Will be just COM 1000 for now (2,000 students) this will be expanded in the future but right now we are working through some bugs once those are fixed it'll be opened up for more students.
- e.** 10:39 – Master's - Bridget Rubenking – Finishing the 2021-2022 schedule and assigning some advisors. Reach out if you are not getting scheduled classes in the master's program. Want to include everyone who wants to be included.
- f.** PhD – Timothy Sellnow – Working on the schedule, the theory of the proposal vs. reality of enrollment. Thanks to volunteers for the colloquium schedule. The goal is to help students meet as many faculty as possible. If there are people that should be recruited for the program, please send some suggestions to Timothy even if you have sent them to him before.
- g.** 10:44 – Scheduling – Thanks to Michelle and Rebecca for all the work they are doing. Michelle Dusseau – For spring we should be pretty good. There are a few hiccups with expected things like buy-outs. Look at my.ucf for spring and make sure everything is there and let her know right away if there is a problem. For fall the spreadsheet was just approved today so it's probably not approved or showing up right yet. If you don't hear from Michelle no news is good news, if you get an email from her, there will need to be a quick turnaround. In a few weeks they'll start working on the Spring 2022 system and you'll hear from her about that. V-Sync is not an option for fall 2021 or spring 2022. Back to f2f, mixed, or web only.
- h.** 10:47 – Curriculum Alignment – Michael Strawser - Nothing to Report
- i.** 10:48 – Inclusive Culture – Jennifer Sandoval - Nothing to Report
- j.** 10:48 – Alumni Chapter - Jamie Vega – One of our mentors has offered a paid internship to her mentee, the student had not considered the career path so she figured give her a shot. The alumni chapter has started a food drive with Second Harvest. Donating \$10 feed 40 families:
https://www.feedhopenow.org/site/TR/VirtualFoodDrive/General?px=1352701&pg=personal&fr_id=1270
- k.** 10:49 – Speech and Debate – Jonathan Conway – We've won two tournaments since last meeting. We are small, we only have nine, we let everyone on who auditioned and only two stayed. Please send students who you think could be really good. On the debate side we are limited on judges. We will be competing almost every weekend in January and

February. Deanna suggested a colloquium post-meeting in January to train faculty and graduate students on how to judge speech and debate.

- l.** 10:56 – FCTL – Ann Miller – Spring schedule is posted to website. Taking applications now. Would love to hear from everyone. Very interested in examples that are helpful for teaching and learning in these times. If you want to copy Ann when you email Michael that would be great.
- m.** 10:57 – UFF – Jennifer Sandoval – Full book bargaining have begun. Chapter-wide grievance is still on going. 1,000 F2F added to the spring than the fall. It is less, mostly due to logistical concerns, still some ongoing conversation about that. An entirely new grievance team, if you have any issues it's robust with a lot of volunteers with advanced training.
- n.** 11:00 – Intern Pursuit – Lindsay Hudock – Collected data from employers regarding interns through pursuit. So far over 46% found their interns at Intern Pursuit. Data is still coming in but that is down from F2F event, normally about 55% report. Next semester, looking at what it could look like in the Spring. A number of professional chapters of FPRA that included links to intern pursuit on their website. We have created a resource that these association chapters thought were useful.
- o.** 11:03 – NCA Division Addition – Suzy Prentiss – Petitioning for NCA to add Communication Apprehension and Anxiety. The previous division was disbanded about three years ago due to low numbers. Was able to collect the signatures needed to re-start it. Health Comm filled the void at this year's NCA. Currently need 200, right now it's at 130. Currently recruiting. Contact Suzy if you want to sign the petition.

III. 11:06 – For the good of the order

- a.** ICRC – Participants: Deanna, Tim, Robert, Boyd, Han, and Victor.
Bridge Award Winner: Dr. Michael Osterholm was appointed to President-elect Joe Biden's 13-member Transition COVID-19 Advisory Board in November 2020. He is also Regents Professor, McKnight Presidential Endowed Chair in Public Health, the director of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP), Distinguished Teaching Professor in the Division of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health, a professor in the Technological Leadership Institute, College of Science and Engineering, and an adjunct professor in the Medical School, all at the University of Minnesota.

The conference will be online. Is free for faculty, but you need to register.

- b.** Nan Yu - If you want to participate in the UTA program in the spring, please contact me ASAP.
- c.** Seth Fendley – Persuasion and Communication is a Comm and Conflict elective that currently still has 60% availability.
 - i.** Deanna Sellnow – Classes with low enrollment will be merged or not make. Assess the classes you are teaching and see which ones may need an extra push.

ii. Jonathan Conway – How many students do we need to have for a class to make?

iii. Michelle Dusseau – In most cases 20 students are needed

d. Rufus Barfield – Wanted to compliment who is in charge of grad assistants. The level of competence is really good. Has been at UCF 23 years, have been high quality, current GA is Margaret and she has been really good. Currently working on university assessment, want to complement Christine with GEP, it's really tightened up in our program and we can use quality data in the assessment. Looking at things positively, and wished everyone a great 2021.

IV. Adjourn (Next Meeting January, 8th at 10 AM)

a. Deanna motioned to adjourn. Jim moved to adjourn. Michelle Dusseau with the second.