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*GSIC Annual Picnic at Circleville Park, State College, PA (August 2015)*

January 2016

Welcome back and happy New Year!

At the beginning of each semester, our office will be sending out a newsletter. We hope that this newsletter keeps graduate students and faculty up to date on the accomplishments of our graduate students, on new and updated policies university and college wide, important dates, etc. This newsletter, in part, includes important information on:

Students' accomplishments throughout 2015

Deadlines from the Graduate School and the college

Ph.D. Open House

The Graduate Exhibition

Lectures sponsored by the College of Communications

Summer 2016 and Fall 2016 graduate course offerings

Grade change policy

Summer tuition waivers

Summer research funding

Updated travel policy

Procedure for scheduling meetings and exams

and more



Although this newsletter provides a lot of important information, it is still imperative for graduate students and faculty to communicate with Laurie and me on policy questions, scheduling meetings and exams, etc.

If there are events, accomplishments, or other information you would like included in upcoming newsletters or information you would like to share throughout the semester, please contact our office.

As you all know, we will be hosting our Ph.D. Open House in February (11-13). Thank you all in advance for making this event a success.



## Spring 2016 Important Dates in the Graduate School



### January

**Wednesday, January 20**

Regular drop—deadline

**Thursday, January 21**

Regular add—deadline at 8:00 a.m.

Late drop begins

**Friday, January 22**

Late registration begins

**Monday, January 25**

Last day for spring graduates to activate the intent to graduate on eLion

### February

**Monday, February 15**

Last day for spring graduates to upload a draft of the doctoral dissertation or master's thesis to the eTD website for format review (Refer to the thesis website: <http://www.gradschool.psu.edu/current-students/etd/>)

**Friday, February 19**

Deadline for Graduate Exhibition entries, 5:00 pm

### March

**Friday, March 4**

Last date for a spring graduate to pass final doctoral defense

**Sunday, March 6—Saturday, March 12**

Spring Break—No classes

**Friday, March 18**

Graduate Exhibition Performance Option, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm, Esber Recital Hall

**Sunday, March 20**

Graduate Exhibition Poster Option and Visual Arts Option, 11:30 am-4:00 pm, Alumni Hall, Heritage Hall, Art Gallery at HUB-Robeson Center

### April

**Monday, April 4**

Last date for a spring graduate to upload final thesis or dissertation to the eTD website

**Friday, April 8**

Late drop—deadline

**Friday, April 29**

Classes end

### May

**Monday, May 2—Friday, May 6**

Final exams

**Sunday, May 8**

Graduate School Fall Commencement Ceremony, Bryce Jordan Center, 6:30 p.m.

## Spring 2016 Important Dates in the College of Communications

### February

**Tuesday, February 2**

Summer Tuition Waiver applications available on College of Communications website

**Thursday, February 11 - Saturday, February 13**

Ph.D. Open House (applicants by invite only)

**Wednesday, February 24**

Graduate Student Town Hall Meeting with Matt McAllister & Betsy Hall, 5:30 pm, James Building  
Pizza will be provided

### March

**Wednesday, March 2**

Summer research information will be sent to graduate students

**Friday, March 4**

Summer Tuition Waiver applications due

**Friday, March 11**

Summer research applications due

## Graduate Exhibition

All degree-seeking graduate students who are currently enrolled in graduate degree programs at Penn State are eligible to participate in the Exhibition. The Performance Option will be held on **Friday, March 18, 2016 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm in Esber Recital Hall**. The Poster Option and Visual Arts Option will be held on **Sunday, March 20 from 11:30 am to 4:00 pm in Alumni Hall, Heritage Hall, and the Art Gallery at the HUB-Robeson Center** (with the event open to the general public from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm). The Visual Arts entries will remain on display in the Art Gallery from March 18 to April 24, 2016. All participants must register online to participate in the Exhibition.

Registration forms and guidelines can be found on The Graduate School's web site at:

<http://gradschool.psu.edu/index.cfm/exhibition/guidelines/>

All entries *must* be submitted online. Applications will be available for online submission until **5:00 pm on Friday, February 19, 2016**.

**IMPORTANT:** In addition to the online registration, an **electronic copy of the application** signed by the student's adviser, program chair or department head must be submitted to:

**L-GRADUATE EXHIBITION@lists.psu.edu**  
**5:00 pm on Friday, February 19, 2016.**

Please let Laurie Porter (Lporter@psu.edu) know if you will be participating in the exhibition.



## Upcoming Lectures

**February 3, 2016**

**Page Center Lecture**

"Tapping the Potential of the U.N. Brand for a Better World."

Jennifer Strapper

7:00 pm

Freeman Auditorium,  
HUB-Robeson Center

**March 16, 2016**

**Oweida Lecture in Journalism Ethics**

David Folkenflik

7:00 pm

Kern Auditorium

**April 4, 2016**

**Spring 2016 Pockrass Lecture**

Christian Sandvig

5:00 pm

Foster Auditorium, Paterno Library

**Detailed information available:**

[comm.psu.edu/news/events/lecture-programs](http://comm.psu.edu/news/events/lecture-programs)

## Journolancing—New Research Blog by Jenna Grzeslo, Snow Dong, and Anne Hoag



<http://journolancing.org>

Visit and help promote Journolancing, <http://journolancing.org>, the research blog Jenna Grzeslo, Snow Dong and Anne Hoag started as an experiment in translational communication and action research. They are sharing early results of their study informally in an

effort to build a co-researcher community made up of international freelance journalists. The idea is to have an ongoing conversation discussing answers to the RQs of the original study, and hopefully, crowdsource new RQs and empirical studies.

## COMM Graduate Course Offerings—Summer 2016 (Registration begins Tues, Feb 2, 2016)

### COMM 597A—Cross-Cultural Strategic Communication

TWR, 12:30 pm – 4:00 pm (Tentative)  
003 Carnegie Bldg. (Tentative)  
George Anghelcev

Most of what we know about the effectiveness of persuasive communication campaigns comes from research with participants from Western cultures. This class will challenge you to think critically about the cross-cultural generalizability (or lack thereof) of theories and practices informed by this knowledge. It will focus on strategic communication, defined broadly as the programmatic use of mediated messages by corporations, brands and other institutions, to alter public beliefs, attitudes and behaviors. We will discuss the role that culturally-induced differences in thinking and feeling have in determining people's responses to persuasive campaign messages. We will

discuss "cultural biases" resulting from variations in tolerance for uncertainty; analytic vs. holistic thinking; viewing one's self as independent or interconnected with others; temporal orientation (toward the past or the future); masculinity and femininity, etc. It will be fun, challenging and hopefully very rewarding, particularly for students interested in advertising, public relations, or international and cross-cultural communication.

### COMM 597B—Ethnography in Communications Research

MWR, 8:30 am – 12:00 pm (Tentative)  
003 Carnegie Bldg. (Tentative)  
Michael Elavsky

This course provides an introduction to ethnography, engaging closely with discussions and debates about

ethnographic theory and method related to research, ethics, and the politics of representation. The ethnographic method utilizes a wide array of approaches and is deployed to obtain a deeper understanding of the behaviors and belief systems of people in a variety of social settings as a means for more acutely conceptualizing the complex social, cultural, and political-economic processes which shape and structure how our realities are defined. This course aims to provide students with an understanding of the theoretical perspectives which underlie this methodological approach and of the techniques for and issues in gathering, analyzing, writing-up, and using ethnographic data as a function of understanding the spectrum of its historical manifestations and evolution (i.e. traditional notions through to postmodern/cyber/interpretive ethnography).

## Summer Tuition Waiver

The Graduate School will provide a summer tuition waiver for graduate students who received funding through an assistantship or fellowship for Fall 2015 and Spring 2016. Applications for the tuition waiver will be available on our website on Tuesday, February 2, 2016.

Students who want to take advantage of the waiver will be asked to submit the proper paperwork to our office by Friday, March 4. Students will need to be in consultation with their adviser (the adviser's signature is required).

Some important notes to consider when applying for the waiver:

- First year Ph.D. students must be registered for credit to receive the summer support mentioned in the offer letter. A summer tuition waiver form must be completed.
- Ph.D. students who plan to take

their oral comprehensive exam or final dissertation defense during the summer must be registered for COMM 610 (research credits). Therefore, the application for the summer tuition waiver must be completed.

- Those who plan to take a directed study (COMM 595) or an independent study (COMM 596) must complete the application for these courses and return it with the tuition waiver form. These forms are available at: ([comm.psu.edu/graduate/documents-and-forms](http://comm.psu.edu/graduate/documents-and-forms)) (Matt McAllister's signature is not required at this time).
- Students cannot register themselves for any 600 level course, COMM 595, or COMM 596. Once our office receives the proper documentation and approval, Laurie will register you

for these courses.

- The tuition waiver does not cover World Campus or any other online course. If a student is planning to take an online course, the student will be responsible to cover the tuition on their own.

Information about the two summer courses the College is offering is included above. The enrollment for these courses must have enrollment of at least five students.

We are allotted a specific amount of funding through the Graduate School. First year Ph.D. students will be given first priority. Students who do not hand in the application by the deadline will not be guaranteed funding.

Please contact Betsy Hall ([brh3@psu.edu](mailto:brh3@psu.edu)) with any questions about the summer tuition waiver.

## COMM Graduate Course Offerings—Fall 2016 (Registration begins Wed., March 23, 2016)

### COMM 501—Proseminar in Mass Communications

Patrick Parsons

Overview of paradigms in mass communications research.

### COMM 502—Pedagogy in Communications

Kevin Hagopian

The purpose of this seminar is to train doctoral students to teach in the communications discipline at the college/university level.

### COMM 506—Introduction to Mass Communications Research

Shyam Sundar

The scientific method; survey of basic concepts of theoretical and empirical research; variety of methodology; criteria for adequate research.

### COMM 515—MA Proseminar in Mass Communications

Michel Haigh

An introduction to graduate studies for MA students in Media Studies and Telecommunications Studies.

### COMM 518—Media Effects

Michael Schmierbach

Advanced study of the effects of media messages and technologies via theories and empirical evidence pertaining to processes of effects.

### COMM 580—Seminar in Telecommunications

Matthew Jackson

Study of the historical and contemporary issues and problems in telecommunications

### COMM 590—Colloquium

Marie Hardin

Continuing seminars which consist of a series of individual lectures by faculty, students, or outside speakers.

### COMM 597B—Advanced Data Analysis in Communications

Mary Beth Oliver

The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to and foundation for SEM contextualized in terms of applied research.

### COMM 597—Cultural Industries

Michael Elavsky

### COMM 597—Social Media Research Seminar

Bu Zhong

By introducing selected theories and concepts used in social media research, this seminar explores the social media impacts on social, political and economic interactions, in particular the social processes in online communities based on social media.



## Restricted Courses in Other Departments

Some courses in other programs have restrictions on who may register online in the course. Both English and Psychology courses for example, are open to advance online registration only to those students in

that major. However, COMM students may take these courses with permission of the professor. The key is to send a note to the relevant faculty member of a course early in the registration process requesting to

take the course. In this note, you should address your relevant background and the justification for you taking the course.

## Registration Requirements

**Students Receiving an Assistantship/Fellowship:** All graduate students who are being paid on an assistantship/fellowship needs to maintain full time registration of 9-12 credits (COMM 590--Colloquium and COMM 602--Supervised Teaching do not count as part of this requirement).

**Ph.D. students who are in ABD (all but dissertation)** status are required to register continuously for each semester from the time of the comprehensive exam through the semester of the final defense (excluding summers).

Important note: If defending during the summer, you will need to be registered.

If you have completed your coursework, but have not passed your comprehensive exam, you will need to be registered for COMM 600 (thesis research). After comprehensive exams, Ph.D. students will be registered for COMM 601 (full time dissertation status). Students are not able to register for 600 level course on their own. You will need to contact Laurie Porter ([lap34@psu.edu](mailto:lap34@psu.edu)) for registration.

If a student wants to register for a COMM 596 (Independent Study) COMM 594 (Directed Study) or COMM 595 (Internship), an application will need to be filled out and signed by your adviser, the faculty member who will be the instructor of record, and provide the bullet points indicated on the application. These forms need to be returned to Betsy Hall for processing.

## Summer Funding

This year, the College of Communications will award funding to support summer projects by full-time doctoral students (on assistantship during the 2016-2017 academic year) who are making good progress toward their degrees. Grants will be for work on directed projects with faculty or on independent projects under the mentorship of a faculty member. Proposals may be for individual or group projects. Proposals for research, professional, or creative projects, aligned with the students' academic objectives, are welcome. It is important to note that the funding will be paid on a bi-weekly basis as wages.

Because of the limited availability of funds, these grants will be limited to \$3,000 or less. First-year students on summer Graham fellowships or other funding from the deans' office may not apply. Also, students who are solo-teaching undergraduate courses or receiving other funding during the summer are not eligible to apply.

These funds may not be used for a credit-earning project, such as those conducted through COMM 594 or COMM 596. Dissertation-related research, however, is allowed.

More information regarding the application for the summer support will be announced in late February.

Below is the information that will be required when applying.

- A brief description (200 words) for the research, professional or creative activity, including the theoretical grounding and methodological approach to the project where appropriate.
- The name of the faculty member who has committed to either directing or mentoring the project and of any student co-authors.
- A timeline for the project. What will be accomplished during the 10-week summer period? What tangible result (e.g., conference paper, literature review and

methods section, short documentary, website) will be produced in the summer months? What is the extended timeline to finish the project if it will go beyond the summer?

- A brief description (duration, level of funding) or other funded summer projects through foundations, grants or centers/labs/institutes inside or outside the College.
- A description of the outcome (e.g., conference paper, journal article) of projects funded in Summer 2016, if applicable.
- A mid-summer progress report and final project (as proposed) will be required. Faculty members named as mentors or as directors will be consulted about proposals.

Question? Email Betsy, [brh3@psu.edu](mailto:brh3@psu.edu).

Decision on funding will be made late March.

## Grading System and Grade Changes

Below is the Graduate School's grading system and grade change policy. It is important to note that any grade change request has to come through our office for approval before being sent to the Graduate School for processing.

### Grading System

A grade is given solely on the basis of the instructor's judgment as to the student's scholarly attainment. The following grading system applies to graduate students: A (EXCELLENT) indicates exceptional achievement; B (GOOD) indicates substantial achievement; C (SATISFACTORY) indicates acceptable but substandard achievement; D (POOR) indicates inadequate achievement and is a failing grade for a graduate student—a course in which a D has been obtained cannot be used to meet graduate degree requirements and will not count toward total credits earned; and F (FAILURE) indicates work unworthy of any credit, and suggests that the student may not be capable of succeeding in graduate study. The grade-point equivalents for the above marks are: A, 4.00; B, 3.00; C, 2.00; D, 1.00; F, 0. A minimum grade-point average of 3.00 for work done at the University is required for all graduate degrees. In Fall 1995 a +/- grading system went into effect that includes A-, B+, B-, and C+. The grade-point equivalents are A-, 3.67; B+, 3.33; B-, 2.67; and C+, 2.33.

In addition to the quality grades listed above, three additional grade designations, DF (deferred), NG (no grade), and R, may appear on a student's transcript. If work is incomplete at the end of a semester because of extenuating circumstances, the instructor may

report DF in place of a grade, which will appear temporarily on the student's record. It is not appropriate to use the DF either casually or routinely to extend a course beyond the end of the semester or to extend a course for a student who has failed so that the individual can do extra work to improve the grade. Required work should be completed and the DF resolved as soon as possible once assigned, but must be resolved (i.e., the course must be completed) no later than 12 weeks after the course end date as noted on the Registrar's Schedule of Courses, unless an extension of a specific duration to a specified date is agreed upon by the instructor and student and approved by the Graduate School that allows for a completion deadline longer than 12 weeks. A memo with a justifying statement and the agreed-upon date must be submitted by the instructor to the Office of Graduate Enrollment Services in order to request an extension. A deferred grade that is not resolved before the end of this period automatically converts to an F and cannot be changed without approval by the Graduate School. A memo with a justifying statement for changing the F grade must be submitted by the instructor to the Office of Graduate Enrollment Services in order to request a DF that has defaulted to an F grade be changed.

If an instructor does not submit a grade (including a quality grade, DF, or R) for a graduate student by the grade-reporting deadline, the designation NG (no grade) appears on the transcript. An NG that is not reconciled within 12 weeks following the posting of the NG automatically becomes an F.

A DF or NG that has converted to an F may not be changed without approval from the Graduate School. Requests for approval must be submitted by the instructor to the Office of Graduate Enrollment Services and include a justification for the change.

It is to be emphasized that no deferred (DF), missing(\*), or no (NG) grades may remain on the record at those times when a student reaches an academic benchmark. Benchmarks include completion of a degree program (e.g., master's completed for a student continuing through for a doctoral degree) and the doctoral candidacy and comprehensive examinations, and final oral examination/final performances. Graduate programs may add additional benchmarks.

It is further noted that there are only three circumstances under which a course grade, once assigned, can be changed: (1) if there was a calculational or recording error on the instructor's part in the original grade assignment (see "Graduate Council policy regarding Corrected Grades for Graduate Students" below); (2) if it is a course for which an R grade has been approved and in which an initial R can be assigned and changed later to a quality grade; (3) if, as discussed above, a DF was assigned and the deadline for course completion has not yet passed.

Pass-Fail (P/F) grading is used exclusively in certain graduate courses where it has been requested by the program and approved in advance by the graduate dean following guidelines established by Graduate Council. A grade of P does not influence the GPA, but an F does.

# Travel Policy Update

Please read carefully. If guidelines are not followed, reimbursements may not be processed. Contact Betsy or Laurie for clarification. Recent changes to the travel policy will be in bold and underline.

Enabling graduate students in the College of Communications to travel to academic conferences contributes both to their professional development and to the visibility of the College. Therefore, to the extent possible, within financial constraints, the College should support graduate student travel.

With budget constraints and a relatively small travel fund, it is imperative that the College allocate its travel resources carefully; this is made all the more important by the size of our graduate program. However, we acknowledge that there are circumstances that may alter the need for travel funds. Generally, it is assumed that students will cover many of their expenses. The College's graduate program travel fund does not support graduate student travel to conduct research; the funds are meant to support the presentation of (refereed) research. These travel guidelines are designed to add a measure of transparency to the disbursement of travel funds, provide information for students that

will be useful for planning their conference participation, and allow flexibility for both the student and the College in the case of exceptional circumstances.

Disbursement of general College funds, for the fiscal year that begins July 1 and ends June 30, will be guided by the following:

Priority for funding will go to:

- Students on assistantship;
- Advanced Ph.D. students (students who have reached candidacy in the program).

Students can generally expect the following maximum disbursements; these totals, of course, are subject to budgetary changes/constraints in the College and are re-evaluated annually:

- Post-Candidacy (2<sup>nd</sup>-year Ph.D. students: \$800
- 3<sup>rd</sup>-year Ph.D. students: \$900
- 4<sup>th</sup>-year Ph.D. students: \$1000

Since the College offers limited funding to each graduate student, it is

important to consult closely with your academic adviser on what conferences are best suited for you.

M.A. students, students who are not on assistantship, and first-year Ph.D. students may apply for funding for specific conference travel. Decisions will be based on the availability of funds.

Any student can apply for additional travel funding (international conferences, for example); however, such requests will be granted on a case-by-case basis in light of the availability of funds and the nature of the conference.

Graduate students will be notified (based on the second bullet point) by mid-July of the amount they will be allocated for the fiscal year. (Travel request forms will no longer be required before the conference.)

**ALL international travel will need to be registered with the Global Programs Travel Registry: [tsn.psu.edu](http://tsn.psu.edu)**

## Reimbursement Procedures

To receive the total amount of funding requested, all receipts need to be submitted within five days of the end of the conference. If this is not possible, please contact the Coordinator of Graduate Education. Reimbursements will be processed within 7-10 days of receiving the request for reimbursement if submitted within the 5 business days of the end of the conference. (Receipts that are submitted after

that may be processed with reimbursements for the next conference for which receipts are submitted.) Graduate students adding personal travel needs to submit what the cost of travel would be round trip from State College of venue of conference within one day prior to and end of conference dates. The College will not reimburse student for personal portion of travel.

**Flight and hotel will need to be booked separately; travel packages will not be reimbursed.**

**Seat upgrades will not be reimbursed for flights less than 4 hours for each leg of the flight. Exceptions can be made for medical reasons, and will need to be submitted to Betsy Hall for dean's approval BEFORE the flight.**

# Travel Policy Update

## Receipt Submission

Receipt submission should comprise: Airfare confirmation (Expedia, Travelocity, etc.). The confirmation should include:

- Total amount including taxes
- Airline (Delta, US Airways, United, etc.)
- Itinerary (time and date of departure and arrival)

If traveling by car, keep track of mileage. University will reimburse for mileage, not gas. Current rate is 56 cents per mile. For those who carpool, the graduate student who's vehicle is being used will be reimbursed (the amount will be divided among those who are carpooling.)

Please keep in mind the 750-mile rule: Generally, flying is less expensive than driving for distances over 750 miles. If a traveler chooses to drive a distance over 750 miles, the difference in cost should be documented (cost of flight, lodging, parking, etc). Without documentation, mileage reimbursement will be limited to 750 miles.

Conference registration with amount paid (original email from the conference or receipt given to attendee at the conference). The University cannot accept a credit card statement or the signed credit card receipt. Please note, the University does not reimburse for membership fees.

## Reimbursement Checklist

- Conference Registration
- Lodging receipt
- Airfare confirmation with itinerary
- Mileage
- Parking receipts
- Other transportation receipts (taxi, bus, etc.)

## Guidelines for Lodging

Lodging expenses must not exceed the single occupancy rate unless two or more employees are staying in the same room. Staff, faculty, or students who are spouses/partners, immediate family members, or of the same sex may be asked to share a room, provided a separate bed/cot is available for each individual in the room.

The University does not expect nor does it condone University staff, faculty or students sharing a bed while on travel sponsored in whole or in part by the University (Spouses/partners are excluded if they so choose). If an individual presents as a gender different from one's birth sex, individuals may not be compelled to

share a room, but may do so if all individuals agree.

Hotel lodging and taxes are reimbursed only. (Internet connection, phone calls or room service – even if on the receipt -- will not be covered.) If sharing a room, it is recommended that individual receipts are secured for each person. If this is not possible, list the names of the people sharing the room on the receipt and the amount each person paid. If one person paid the entire bill, confirmation will be needed from the other students. International lodging will be reimbursed per diem.

Meals will be paid based on per diem (the University lists the amount per day for all the towns and cities in the US and other counties.). First and last day of travel is 75% of meal per diem. If meals are provided by a conference, host or as part of hotel accommodations, then meal per diem will be adjusted to correspond with meals provided.

All reimbursements will be processed through ERS (Employee Reimbursement System). After the receipts are input by staff in the Graduate Office, the student will receive an email from "ConcurSolutions," sent through ERS, indicating that the request is ready for submission.

# Travel Policy Update

## Chain for Reimbursement

The chain for the reimbursement is:

1. Entered by Grad Office staff
2. Graduate Student submits the request through ERS ([www.ers.psu.edu](http://www.ers.psu.edu)). Penn State user ID and password will be needed to log into the system.
3. Associate Dean approves the request

4. Assistant to the Financial Officer approves
5. Financial Officer approves
6. Accounting Office approves

Note: It may take several days after the student submits the report for the reimbursement to be deposited into the student's bank account.

Reimbursements during the summer months run through the same process. The main difference for reimbursement during the summer is any student not receiving wages will need to fill out a "Non-Employee Information Form"  
<https://guru.psu.edu/forms/public/nonempinfoform.pdf>

## Poster Costs

The College will pay for the printing of the poster for conference presentations. Students who will be making poster presentations must contact the Graduate Office on how to proceed with the printing of the poster. Since the College will be covering the costs of the posters, it is expected that the posters will be returned to the College for display on the 2nd floor of James Bldg. If a student does not return the poster for display, the cost of the poster will be deducted from the travel reimbursement requested by the student.

Posters must not be laminated. Laminated posters do not adhere to foam board. If a poster is received that is laminated, the cost of the poster will be deducted from the student's travel allotment.

Upon return from the conference, the poster should be returned to the Graduate Office at the same time handing in receipts for reimbursement.

The College will cover the cost for the poster to be mounted on form core for display in James Building.

The required dimensions for the poster to be mounted are as follows:

- 24x36 inches
- 32x40 inches
- 40x60 inches

**Reimbursement for travel will not be processed until the poster is returned to the graduate office.**

## Graduate Faculty Word Search Puzzle

Can you find the 37 graduate faculty last names hidden in this puzzle?

U H G U G B W S C C H S S O R N H I B Z L O R W V A Q X N G N Q U C Q Q C R N O  
C Q S Y E U R U N O C U J Q Y U L L A H N L I I A E B G K O R D Q M H H E A I O  
B O R T R E E A A H N S H E R M A N U O X O P Y S R C K U T S L A H D K L K D W  
C L T A L S D G M D T N O L I V E R K N S R R K A L S L M Z U K W Y C X A A R O  
H I S U O R P I A K E I O R U Y F R U G J U E D K V E H E W C U C U G S V Y A E  
G R U E O T E R Y C D M L L X F F O S T E N A E Z O Q Y E H H F L A D F S A H V  
J B X J S R L C G L M V G D L A W N G X O N C L E L L R W L G G I R J K K J Y S  
H R M L B H A I G H S A Q D Y Y O W Q T L I R R V Z W T N G I N A E K N Y Q L B  
G T K A A N E H S L J U J K K S A W L F C S I D R A D S M I B H A L M A T U O J  
O I C R E T S I L L A C M O R G K H R C S O I V H I K T F K C G Z T J R X P G Z  
D H W M R T T V F V N N B A R U G I E Y A L X O N Y I R U I N F X C T F N K S R  
L I V H W I W A D Q K A P U B W E Z L R G A E I P N P O R I Z J N M B Z F T G N  
N P S X F O T G F Z S I P N E D M H S Z N B X Y H K G H C J P N Z B Z G F I L N  
W E S T L Y R L W G I P Y G E R O R X N S N P A Y V Y M L Q F Q B A X N P V H D  
Y R O G A X A X A L D O Q N A B O T V K K S Q E R K H H S N I D F Y R N C P E E  
A S J N F S U N Q I K G D X N W T C Z T Q D E Q V J I Y U A Z D B A Y W J R I T  
W D A D Y R O T R N N A S Q O X B B W J Z Y S U B Q Y M F X I Y J B C F Z G V K  
F D N M N V X U H Z F H Q P Q T E A S R K D X Z C N R A A O K T J G E Z G X O B  
T V W B U D R M Y M W N L J F S M X B M S X G L I Q T B D I J K A J M J H M P A  
N R E H A D S G R O D I N O C O L O C I N O L J M X W B O I V S H I L D E D P D

## Graduate Student Meetings & Exams: Fall 2015

### Ph.D. Candidacy Evaluation/ Program Proposal

Arienne Ferchaud  
Jenna Grzeslo  
Azeta Hatef  
Jared LaGroue  
Giuliana Sorce  
Anli Xiao

### Ph.D. Successful Completion of Comprehensive Exam

Erica Bailey  
Cate Buckley  
Enica Castaneda  
Yan Huang  
Chun Yang

### Ph.D. Dissertation Proposal

Enica Castaneda

"#BlackLivesMatter en español"

Jeffrey Masko

"Neoliberal Transformations of Masculinity in  
Cinematic Media- 1970-2015"

Holly Ott

"Engaging Publics: Applying the Situational Theory  
of Publics to Corporate Social Responsibility  
Communication Research."

Mu Wu

"I Text therefore I Am: Message Interactivity  
vs. Message Exchange in Addictive Use of Instant  
Messaging"

### Ph.D. Final Defense of Dissertation

Sangyong Han  
Bo Zhang

## Graduate Student Accomplishments

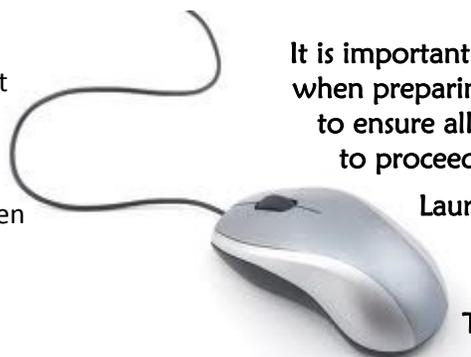
Graduate students are asked to update the College on recent accomplishments.

In 2015, our graduate students had over 50 conference papers and more than 30 publications. It has been a very productive year. We are sure 2016 will be another productive year for all.

Please contact Laurie Porter (Lporter@psu.edu) when you have accomplished the following in 2016:

- Papers published
- Cited/quoted in articles
- Awards received
- Book chapters

Laurie will send out reminders twice a semester.



It is important to meet with Betsy Hall when preparing for meetings & exams to ensure all requirements are met to proceed with your meeting.

Laurie Porter will schedule rooms for all graduate student meetings.

Thank you.

## Graduate Student Job Placement: Fall 2015

**Snow Dong**  
UX Researcher  
Facebook

**T. Frank Waddell**  
Assistant Professor  
College of Journalism and Communication,  
University of Florida