Welcome to the Department of Communication's Winter 2020 alumni newsletter. Our news has been exciting as we face the COVID-19 pandemic head-on, requiring research and service to the University — in the midst of the 2020-21 global health crisis.

As in any year, the downtime during the fall semester enabled us to refocus and reenergize for 2020-21. It also provided a necessary pause for reflection, to consider the challenges and opportunities that none of us have seen before. I am incredibly proud of their hard work and accomplishments.

With the Fall 2020 semester in the rearview mirror, we are anticipating a restful holiday season before classes resume in the new year. It seems like lately there is never a dull moment, so with this newsletter we try to convey just a snapshot of the department's recent accomplishments.

Goal Understanding, Uncertainty Reduction, and Perceptions in Cyberbullying: Theoretical Evidence from Three Experiments,” was recently published in the Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication, one of the best parts of what we do in higher education. This is not how any of us expected the academic careers of our newest graduates would conclude. They completed their Clemson journeys in the face of challenges none of us have seen before. I am incredibly proud of their hard work and accomplishments.

A two-time graduate of Clemson and health communication and are clearly top emerging leaders in the field.

For example, the faculty of the Department of Communication joined us on May 13, 2020 to announce that Jordan Elling, the 2020 Department Chair Excellence Fund winner, has accepted the position of Associate Professor of Communication at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

We also welcomed Jordan Elling to the Department of Communication as academic advising for our undergraduate programs. We know Jordan will be an asset to the department and will be a valuable addition to the Clemson team.

Dissertation Title: Digital Exclusion from the National Communication Association (NCNA) Digital divide, the divide in access to and use of the internet and related technology. J.D. completed her 2020 Distinction in Digital Divides Research from the National Communication Association and student, Carlee, completed her 2020 Distinction in Digital Divides Research from the National Communication Association.

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Additionally, Jordan Elling joins us from the University of California, Davis, where she completed her Ph.D. in communication studies. Her research interests are in strategic communication, public relations and organizational communication.

In many ways, the experiences during this crisis have enlightened so many of us in the department and at Clemson to not only how strong we really are, but also how much we value the relationships we have developed.

Thank you for your continued support.

We hope you enjoy the Winter 2020 issue of our alumni newsletter. If you have questions, concerns, or if you just want to chat, please don't hesitate to contact me. We are thrilled about what we are doing and even more excited about our future.

Joseph P. Mazer, Ph.D.
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Please consider making a gift to the department in your giving this giving season. Your gift will have a meaningful impact on our mission to serve our students and the world. Please consider making a gift to the Department of Communication Excellence Fund.

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