



Department of **COMMUNICATION** *Clemson® University*

Winter | 2020



*Department Chair Joe
Mazer*

Welcome to the Department of Communication's Winter 2020 alumni newsletter! Everyone in the Department has been working on ways to maximize our ability to educate our students, generate high quality, impactful research and serve the University - in the midst of the COVID-19 global pandemic.

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 stronger we truly can be by applying the lessons learned, the experiences had and the thinking about the future for teaching and learning.

On November 14th, I had the opportunity to represent faculty in the Department of Communication at the College of Behavioral, Social and Health Sciences' graduation ceremony. This ceremony recognized May and August 2020 graduates. The chance to personally recognize all our graduates during commencement is the best part 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 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.



After participating as a member of the President's Leadership Institute last year, Joe was asked by President Clements to serve on the Institute's advisory board this year.

Four new tenure-line faculty joined our department in August 2020 and they have hit the ground running. They teach and research in the areas of sports communication, strategic communication and health communication and are clearly top emerging leaders in the field.

A two-time graduate of Clemson University, **Brandon Boatwright** joins us from the University of Tennessee, where he recently completed his Ph.D. Brandon teaches and conducts research in sports communication, strategic communication and social media and will serve as director of the **Social Media Listening Center**.

Virginia Harrison recently completed her Ph.D. from Penn State University and joins the

department with research and teaching interests in strategic communication and sports communication.

Jordan Morehouse joins the department from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she completed her Ph.D. in mass communication. Her teaching and research interests are in strategic communication, public relations and non-profit organizations.

Alabama native **Skye Wingate** joins us from the University of California, Davis, where she completed her Ph.D. in communication. Skye's teaching and research interests are in health communication, interpersonal communication, and mediated communication. Skye received the 2020 Distinguished Article Award from the National Communication Association's Social Cognition Division. Her article, "Victims' 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 top journals in the discipline.

We also welcomed **Jordan Elling** to the Department of Communication as academic adviser for our undergraduate programs. We are excited to have Jordan on board. She is already making a difference in helping our students navigate issues that are made more challenging by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Greg Cranmer received the 2020 Sue DeWine Book Award from the National Communication Association's Applied Communication Division. His book, "Athletic Coaching: A Communication Perspective", was recently published by Peter Lang.

Will you consider the department in your holiday giving this year? Your gift will have a meaningful impact and can be made easier than ever through a recurring gift. These gifts can be made from a checking or savings account or by using a credit/debit card.

Clemson will send you gift acknowledgements for tax purposes. Start making your gifts by completing a form to authorize automatic drafts from your bank account or your credit/debit card. Be sure to specify that your gift should be directed to the Department of Communication Excellence Fund.

A monthly gift to the department is an ongoing investment in the future of Clemson's communication students. We are incredibly grateful for your generous support.

We hope you enjoy the Winter 2020 issue of our alumni newsletter. If you have questions, concerns, suggestions, 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.

I encourage you to remain engaged with the Department of Communication by following us on Facebook (@ClemsonCOMM), Twitter (@ClemsonCOMM), and Instagram (@clemson_comm). We always enjoy learning about your accomplishments and successes.

Have a happy holiday season, a healthy and prosperous new year and...Go Tigers!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe', written over a large, stylized, handwritten letter 'J' that forms a loop at the bottom.

Joseph P. Mazer, Ph.D.
Professor & Chair



COMMunity Roar

Check out our department blog space for regular updates about our faculty, staff and students written and shaped by our undergraduate intern team. »

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Research Success

Our faculty are achieving national success in their scholarship. Read more about Skye Wingate's nationally recognition and Greg Cranmer's forthcoming book. » [Read More](#)

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