

APRIL 2021 NEWSLETTER



CALENDAR

*3/27-28/21 Speech and
Debate TIPDA NATIONALS*

*4/11-12 Debate IPDA
Nationals*

*4/28/ Meet Your Professors,
Sip and Chat*

SOCIAL MEDIA:

INSTAGRAM

@MTCOMMSTUDIES

@MTSUDEBATE

@MTSUCOMMSTUDIESCLUB

FACEBOOK

MTSU Comm Studies

TWITTER

@mtcommstudies

FEATURES

- *Meet Dr. Hundley*
- *Lambda Pi Eta*
- *Comm Studies Club*
- *Speech and Debate*
- *Meet our alumni*
- *Flyers*
- *Congratulations*
- *Internships*
- *COVID-19 Vaccines*

Meet Dr. Heather Hundley



Dr. Hundley arrived at MTSU in 2016 after working for 17 years at California State University, San Bernardino. She is a dedicated professor and enjoys working with students. While she has taught numerous undergraduate and graduate courses over the past 2+ decades, she has taught History and Theory of Rhetoric, Senior Seminar, Public Speaking, and oversees the department Internship program at MTSU.

Her research includes examinations of sport, law, media, gender, and critical/cultural studies. She has published in journals such as *Communication Reports*, *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media*, *Journal of Men's Studies*, and *Visual Communication Quarterly*, just to name a few. Equally notable, she has published a total of five books; two are co-edited and three are co-authored. One of the five is a textbook used in universities across the country. When in California, she was awarded the College of Arts & Letters Outstanding Faculty Researcher, which recognizes one professor in the college annually.

For over 25 years, she has been an active member of the National Communication Association and a life member of the Western States Communication Association. She has served both organizations for dozens of years in various elected and appointed roles. This includes being Past President and Immediate Past Executive Director for WSCA. She has also presented her work at the Sports Communication Conference and Visual Communication Conference and served as the Executive Director for the Organization for Research on Women and Communication. Having moved to Tennessee, she joined the Southern States Communication Association as a life member.



In her spare time Dr. Hundley enjoys spending time with her family, friends, and dogs. In fact, she has rescued all the dogs she has had throughout the years. While some come from animal shelters, others were found on the streets. She believes, like potato chips, you can't just have one. She has had up to four dogs at one time but doesn't recommend it for most families. Traveling, hiking, and being outdoors are especially enjoyable for her.

CLUBS

SPEECH AND DEBATE

Interested in joining the fun and developing key public speaking/presentation skills? Join the walk on MTSU Debate team, no prerequisites required. Contact our coach at patrick.richey@mtsu.edu if you're interested!

Instagram: @mtsudebate

The team is in route to close out their season with both TIPDA and singles Nationals. Wish them luck in defending TIPDA #1 in the nation.

- NETWORKING
- RESUME BUILDING
- HEADSHOTS
- PUBLIC SPEAKING
- LEADERSHIP
- PRESENTATION
- CAREER DEVELOPMENT
- COMMUNITY
- INFORMATION
- LINKEDIN

COMMUNICATION STUDIES CLUB

Looking for a club filled to the brim with networking and resume building opportunities? Then the Communication Studies Club is for you! The Comm Studies Club is an organization open to all majors, providing seminars similar to Lambda Pi Eta that answer some of College's most difficult questions. From mock interviews, Career Development, service activities, and more, there's little reason not to at least attend once!

LAMBDA PI ETA

Lambda Pi Eta (LPH) is the National Communication Association's (NCA) official honor society at four-year universities in the nation.

REQUIREMENTS

- Completed 60 semester credit-hours
- Have a minimum overall cumulative GPA of 3.0 • Completed 12 semester credit-hours in Communication Studies
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.25 for all Communication Studies courses
- Currently enrolled as a student in good standing

More information is available at <https://www.mtsu.edu/communication/LPH.php>

If you have all of the requirements except for the number of credits, you can join as a pledge member for only \$5/year.

CLUB CONTACTS

Lambda Pi Eta –

Meredith mec6p@mtmail.mtsu.edu

Dr. Priddis dee.priddis@mtmail.mtsu.edu

Comm Studies Club –

Gabriela(President) glj2r@mtmail.mtsu.edu

SPEECH AND DEBATE –

Patrick.richey@mtmail.mtsu.edu

We asked how our alumni were doing with their Communication degrees...

CJ KIEKENS



My first job after college was grant writing. In general, the critical thinking and problem-solving skills along with the ability to clearly present the information has been an immeasurably valuable asset.

CJ Kiekens, (Organizational Communication, 1999-2020) is currently a project manager for the Chicago Park district.

SHELBY HUGGINS



Shelby Huggins (Sociology Minor, Fall 2020) is currently a Nonprofit Development and Events Manager, Part time Event planning Assistant

Absolutely laid the groundwork for what I could expect in a professional setting.

TARA ROARK



Tara Roak (Organizational, 2012), currently works as a Sourcing Account Specialist for the state of Tennessee

All of the great courses I took within the Organizational Communication major have been extremely beneficial to me in my professional career. I've been able to assess and handle stressful situations that many of my colleagues could not as well as having the ability to build strong and productive relationships throughout any organization I have been a part of.

SIDNEY RAJVONG



(Organizational Minor, 2017) is currently a Client Success Manager

Working in healthcare, communication is key.

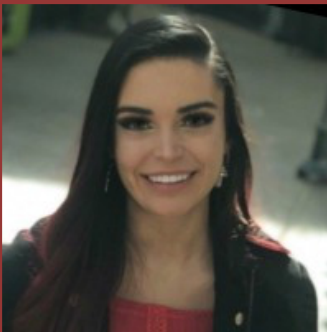
MORGAN MILLER



Morgan Miller (Minor Industrial Organization Psychology, Summer 2018) is currently a Human Resources Director at Chick-Fil-A.

I found ORCO to be the right mix of books and hands-on experience that I needed to truly be ready for the career I wanted as soon as I graduated. ORCO provided a lot of opportunities through assignments and extra curriculars that prompted me to learn the fundamentals, but also forced me to get out to gain real-life experiences before I graduated. If I had any advice to current students, it would be to soak up every assignment that forces you to interact with your community and thank your professors for the work they did to make those assignments possible. Build your communication skills, your confidence, and your professionalism through those experiences rather than waiting until you are trying to apply for that dream job.

MONICA PINORI



Monica Pinori (Organizational Communication, Spring 2019) is a Provider Contracting Specialist.

Communication has helped her professionally.

DONALD ABELS



Donald Abels(Organizational, 1999-2019, Masters Higher Education), currently in Student Affairs(Greek Life) at LSU.

Communication courses at MTSU positioned me for success in more ways than one. As a student affairs professional, I work with a diverse range of organizations and individuals. This requires strong relationship skills allowing me to effectively navigate the complexity of human systems. From classes related to conflict in organizations, communication analysis, or multinational organizations, I have been able to evolve in a field that requires multifaceted approaches to organizational change and leadership.

FLYERS

Now accepting applications for CLA Student Emissary

The CLA Student Emissary Program is a dynamic group of undergraduate student leaders who share their unique experiences of MTSU CLA with prospective students, families, alumni, and community members and promote the college in a variety of ways.

Student Emissaries gain valuable skills, are provided opportunities to network with a strong group of peers, as well as the CLA Dean's office, faculty, and staff, and become more engaged in the MTSU CLA community. Students who fulfill their meeting and event requirements receive a stipend each semester and during the summer.

Interested students can find more information, including the application, on the [CLA Emissary site](#). Applications are due on Monday, April 5.

Are you interested in being a Fulbright Scholar Overseas?

Freshmen to graduate students are encouraged to learn more about the U.S. Student Fulbright Program. MTSU has had 21 students selected in the last eleven years. Interested students can email Laura.Clippard@mtsu.edu with any questions.

Learn More through the ZOOM workshop on Monday, April 12 at 5 pm CST. Registration required:

<https://mtsu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwucuChqTkjHtUokySttwWE7CHOpljeF-X0>

What is the purpose of Fulbright?

The purpose of the Fulbright is to increase mutual understanding between the citizens of the U.S. and other countries through the exchange of persons, knowledge, and skills. The grants are designed to give U.S. students the opportunity to live and study in a foreign country for one academic year.

What are the different types of Fulbright for undergraduate and grad students?

Fulbright has some great overseas options including:

- Teaching English as an assistant
- Conducting independent research (letter of support from overseas might be required)
- Obtaining a graduate degree (limited number of options)

What is a quick way to learn more?

Please watch a 10-minute video at: <https://us.fulbrightonline.org/tutorials>.

When can students apply?

MTSU students typically apply at the end of their junior year, but seniors, MTSU graduate students, and alumni are also welcome to apply.

Eligibility requirements include:

- U.S. citizenship
- Candidates are recommended to have a GPA of 3.5 or above.
- Language skills may be required, depending on the country selected.
- Must have a bachelor's degree before the beginning date of the grant
- Each country can set additional requirements

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Students can only apply for one Fulbright in one country. Review the requirements for each country that you are interested in to make sure that you qualify.

Link: <https://us.fulbrightonline.org/countries/regions>

The main link for Fulbright is: <https://us.fulbrightonline.org>

Laura Clippard, MTSU International Fellowships and Honors College Coordinator

Best Email: Laura.Clippard@mtsu.edu **Office Phone:** 615-898-5464



JOIN LAMBDA PI ETA FOR

**SIP &
CHAT**

with your professors

APRIL 28, 2021 | 10:00-11:00AM
JONES HALL COMM STUDIES OFFICE

JOIN US FOR THE FINAL MEETING OF THIS TERM



COMMUNICATION STUDIES CLUB SOCIAL

*Come view the new study space in Jones Hall and join us as we celebrate graduating club officers and induct new members. Several leadership positions are needing to be filled!**

**APRIL 19TH @ 4PM
JONES HALL 233
MASKS & SOCIAL DISTANCING
REQUIRED**



**Vice President, Secretary, Social Media Coordinator, and Events Coordinator*

Lexie Thomas attended the International Listening Association's 2021 Virtual Convention with Dr. McCormick in March 2021. Thomas states, "It was extremely insightful as a Communication Studies major here at MTSU. I was able to sit in on some amazing panels and board meetings to see the behind the scenes of how an organization in our field works. I really valued the real-world application of the concepts that we talk about in our Communication courses, as well as getting to hear different perspectives from experts from different cultures."

If you are looking to broaden your horizons and expand on the knowledge you have learned in your coursework, the ILA is an amazing organization with boundless opportunities and tons of expertise in the science of listening! For more information and tons of great resources, visit <https://www.listen.org/>.



Share Your News with Us

Reach out to either Dr. Priddis at dee.priddis@mtsu.edu or Solomon Barber at sb9h@mtmail.mtsu.edu with your news, announcements, or upcoming events. We will have a newsletter in May.

Financial Literacy & Ethical Leadership Week

mtsu.edu/econfin/tfinlitweek

April 5-9 will be Financial Literacy and Ethical Leadership Week. Check out all of the opportunities that will be offered throughout the week!

Monday, April 5

Personal Finance for College Students

1:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m.,

Obtaining and using credit wisely; creating a positive credit history and score; developing a budget and tracking spending.

Hosted by Ascend Federal Credit Union

Monday, April 5

Student Debt and Paying for College

Speaker: Mr. Tim Tipps

4:45–5:45 p.m.,

This workshop will provide guidance on managing student debt and alternative ways to pay for college.

Monday, April 5

Social Dilemma Movie

6:00 p.m.,

Teleparty

Join the Teleparty to view this documentary about social media, data, and AI in technology and join a facilitated discussion about the ethical issues raised in the documentary.

Hosted by Dr. Leigh Anne Clark

Tuesday, April 6

Understanding Credit

1:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m.,

Understanding financial importance of credit; factors impacting qualifying for credit; and how credit is scored/reported.

Hosted by Ascend Federal Credit Union

Tuesday, April 6

Careers in Financial Planning

Speakers: Kerry Dunn and Craig Reed

4:45 p.m.–5:45 p.m.,

Members of the Financial Planning Association will share career opportunities and experiences in the field of financial planning.

Thursday, April 8

Personal Integrity – Building and Sharing the Authentic You

11:20 a.m.–12:45 p.m.,

Keynote speaker Mila Grigg explores the importance of understanding your WHY and establishing your personal brand based on core values including integrity and truth.

Organized by Dr. Leigh Anne Clark

Thursday, April 8

Keynote: How to Catch Your Dream

6:00–7:00 p.m.,

How to Catch Your Dream! and make smart financial decisions. Presented by Brandon Copeland, NFL New England Patriot Linebacker and Financial Literacy Advocate.

Hosted by Ascend Federal Credit

Wednesday, April 7

What I Wish I'd Known

4:45 p.m.–5:45 p.m.,

This game-show formatted presentation addresses three financial empowerment categories: Credit, Jobs, and Life Skills.

Presented by Rutherford Cable

Friday, April 9

Financial Literacy Week Reflection

1:00–2:00

p.m.,

Honors 106 Students will reflect on what they learned throughout the week in regards to financial literacy from the various events and activities offered.

INTERNSHIPS

Interested in an Internship?

Students may earn credit in the major by participating in an internship. It's a great way to network, try out a job to see if it's what you thought, and possibly secure a career upon graduation. To find an internship, you can conduct online research on your own and explore various options. If the company or business doesn't mention internships on their website, feel free to reach out to them and ask if they are willing to take on an intern. You can also visit the College Internship Coordinator, Ella Weaver to discuss your interests and suggestions she might have. Make an appointment by visiting the [CLA Internship website](#).

You may earn 1, 2 or 3 credit hours per semester. The number of hours you work during the semester determines the number of credits. 1 credit = 40 hours; 2 credits = 80 hours; 3 credits = 120 hours. However, to earn credits you need to follow these steps:

1. Secure an internship
2. Complete a Department Internship Agreement form and submit it to Dr. Hundley. The form is available from Ms. Weaver, the Comm Studies Dept, is on the Comm Studies Dept website, and you may also get it from Dr. Hundley.
3. Once approved, you'll be permitted to register for COMM 4900. Complete the registration.

In addition to working the required number of hours, you are also required to complete work to earn course credit. The syllabus, assignments, due dates, and other information is provided on D2L.

It's a good idea to think about this in advance. That is, if you are considering a summer internship, you should be in conversation about this by spring midterm. If you are looking for a fall semester internship, start exploring the options in July. If you are thinking about an internship in the spring, you should probably be checking it out in late October. Some companies may take formal applications and require interviews. Other companies are less formal. Plan it out, make it count, and take advantage of the opportunity.

If you have any questions, please email Dr. Hundley.

Summer and Fall Internship Opportunities with Volunteer Tennessee

Volunteer Tennessee is seeking energetic and organized interns for the summer and fall of 2021.

Interns will help in the planning and coordination of the Tennessee Conference on Volunteerism and Service-Learning and the Governor's Volunteer Stars Awards. Interns must have excellent communication and organization skills and a heart for service.

For the application and more information, *please visit our website at* <https://www.tn.gov/volunteer-tennessee/vt-aboutus/vt-positions.html>.

Recruitment/Outreach Intern

Interested in developing hard skills to well supplement your major such as graphic design and social media management? The COMMS 4900 internship is for you! 3 credit hours will also count to your major Contact Dr. Priddis via email if this entices you!

Policy & Communications Assistant Job Opening – Office of Senator Bill Frist, MD

The Nashville, Tennessee-based Office of Senator Bill Frist, MD seeks a driven, energetic policy & communications assistant to support the former Senator and his senior policy advisor.

In this role, you will make an impact by drafting op-eds, speeches, social media copy and more to guide decisions and educate others in wide-ranging health policy areas. Position can be in-person or remote, so we are not limited by geography (although we do have a Middle TN preference).

Responsibilities:

- Extensive writing and researching biweekly articles and op-eds on current health policy issues
- Drafting briefing materials to prep Senator Frist in advance of public events
- Supporting the Senator's A Second Opinion Podcast
- Managing daily engagement on multiple social media accounts
- Updating billfrist.com and asecondopinionpodcast.com
- Speechwriting

The ideal candidate:

- Excellent writing and communications skills with demonstrated experience
- Ability to work effectively within a small and diverse team, being both a collaborative team player and a self-motivated initiator
- Willingness to engage in and take on diverse projects
- Skill in social media and website management
- Comfort in working with deadlines
- Bachelor's degree or higher
- Healthcare policy knowledge/experience preferred
- Experience working in or around government preferred

Opportunity to work remotely, although Middle Tennessee residence strongly preferred

Applicants should submit a letter of interest, and a current resume to Erin Rogus at erogus@wfrist.com.

Applicant screening begins immediately and continues until the position is filled. Salary commensurate with experience. Half-time and full-time options available.

The Tennessee Department of Treasury is seeking a Communications intern for Summer 2021.

Each year, The Treasury Department strives to have interns from a variety of universities across the state and would appreciate your help in getting this message out to students in your university's Communications Department.

This internship is a 10-week paid educational and experiential learning opportunity and offers undergraduate and graduate students a chance to witness and participate in the operations of a State constitutional office.

The program is both professionally and academically beneficial, providing interns with practical, hands-on experience in state government. The internship will be a mostly virtual work schedule, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, June 7 – Aug 13.

Description of Position:

The Communications Division is responsible for all press, public relations, publications, and communications on behalf of Treasury and its programs. The intern should be prepared on Day 1 to assist with all communications tasks.

Supports work of the division by maintaining professionalism on all communications and developing new ways to communicate internally and externally.

The 2021 intern will assist in producing, editing and creating video as part of their project.

Requirements:

Communications, Journalism, Public Relations, Marketing, Graphic Design, or English Major

Enrolled in or graduate of a degree-seeking program at an accredited university

Minimum GPA of 3.0

Must provide own housing accommodations

Experience in copywriting and editing; working knowledge of MS Office

Adobe Creative Suite experience desired; experience with graphic and photo editing software preferred

Experience creating informational videos, including video editing with Adobe Premiere Pro preferred

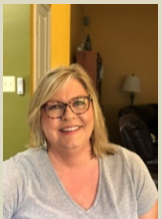
To Apply:

To apply for an internship with the Tennessee Department of Treasury, please send your resume to treasury.resumes@tn.gov, with the subject line "Communications Summer Internship." Successful candidates will be contacted by phone to schedule an interview.

CONGRATULATIONS

Natonya Listach (Faculty) had a publication, "Evolving Identities in Personal Narratives: Time is of the Essence" in the Women and Language Journal in October of 2020.

DeAnne Priddis and Mary Beth Asbury (Faculty) had a publication, "Assessing Grief in Family Caregivers of Individuals with Alcohol Use Disorder or Substance Use Disorder using the Marwit-Meuser Caregiver Grief Inventory Short Form (MM-CGI-SF) in the Substance Abuse: Research and Treatment Journal in January 2021.



Dr. Elizabeth Stephens (Faculty) presented her research with mothers who had lost their sons to death by police for the MTSU's Women's and Gender Studies Research Series in February. Her moving talk, "'Identifying as a Bereaved Mother: Using the Communication Theory of Identity as a Framework" can be accessed at

<https://studio.youtube.com/video/FoYd8M6h-hU/edit>

Dr Dalton's Communication in Nonprofit Organizations (COMM3250)

As part of an EXL fundraising assignment, Dr. Dalton's COMM 3250 class **raised a whopping \$3,016.00** for sick kids in the Middle Tennessee area. The assignment connected the class with the annual Raiderthon event, run by an MTSU student organization for which Dr. Dalton has served as faculty advisor for the past 5 years. Nationwide, Dance Marathon is an annual event – much like a race, but with dancing and other fun activities instead – where students at participating universities and secondary schools compete to raise money to benefit local Children's Miracle Network affiliated hospitals.

This year, due to the pandemic, Raiderthon opted to join a virtual, market-wide "Marathon of Marathons" with other local Dance Marathons for a COVID-safe event. MTSU worked with other local (Vanderbilt, Tennessee Tech, and the University of the South) and secondary schools (Webb School, Ravenswood High School, St. Cecilia Academy, Montgomery Bell Academy, Nolensville High School) and others. While previous Raiderthons donated to the Vanderbilt-affiliated Monroe Carrell Jr. Children's Hospital in Nashville, MTSU now raises funds specifically for the new **Vanderbilt Children's General Surgery and Clinics here in Murfreesboro**. The overall event raised \$335,904.21; Raiderthon contributed \$31,582.21; Dr. Dalton's 3250 class alone contributed 10% of that total – *way to go!* These students are developing important communication skills for careers in nonprofits and other types of organizations, all while making a difference in the lives of local children.

Ready Reference Resource How Does a Student...

Receive Writing Support?

The University Writing Center, in Walker Library 262, provides writing resources for students via remote learning including one-on-one, 45-minute appointments. Sign up at mtsu.edu/writing-center

Get Tutoring Assistance?

Find tutoring schedules for free remote tutoring in over 180 courses at mtsu.edu/studentsuccess/tutoring.php

Schedule an Academic Advising Appointment?

Find the link on Pipeline MT's Registration and Student Records page at pipeline.mtsu.edu

Receive Food Assistance?

The Student Food Pantry provides access to free food, meal vouchers, and personal items with a student ID and is located with MT One Stop, SSAC second floor. Or make an online request at mtsu.edu/foodpantry.

Receive Medical Care?

The Health Services Building located at the Rec Center is open Monday-Friday during fall and spring semesters. Contact the office at 615-898-2988 and mthealth@mtsu.edu.

Get Counseling Assistance?

Fully committed to the emotional health and wellness of our students, Counseling Services is housed in KUC 326-S. Schedule an appointment by calling 615-898-2670

Report Sexual Violence, Harassment, and/or Discrimination?

Visit the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance in Cope 116 or at mtsu.edu/iec

Access Free Professional Clothing?

Raiders' Closet in KUC 327 has professional attire for both men and women (suits, jackets, slacks, shirts, ties, skirts, scarves). Email kim.collins@mtsu.edu or call 615-898-5467

Receive Life Needs Support?

The June Anderson Center, located in Student Union 330, offers housing/utility assistance, legal clinics, child care services, food vouchers, and scholarships. mtsu.edu/jac

Learn about Internships and Employers?

The Career Development Center's services include career advising appointments, professional document review, virtual interview practice, and job search databases. Contact them at 615-898-2500 and career@mtsu.edu.

Apply for an Emergency Grant?

The MTSU Emergency Micro-Grant Program helps students in good standing with short-term financial emergencies to enable them to cope with unexpected hardships and remain in school. Apply on your academic college's home page.

Contact Campus Police?

Reach the University Police 24-7 by calling 615-898-2424 on a cell phone or campus phone or 911 on a campus phone only

Qualify for an Accommodation?

Visit the Disability and Access Center in KUC 107, call 615-898-2783, or email dacemail@mtsu.edu

Access Training Videos Online?

MTSU students have access to the online training video library, LinkedIn Learning, which has over 3,000 training videos. mtsu.edu/itd/lil.php

Report Misconduct by a Student?

Submit incident to the Office of Student Conduct, located in KUC 208, through the online form at mtsu.edu/student-conduct

Succeed as a First-Generation Student?

Student Support Services, housed in KUC 308, works especially with first-generation and Pell grant-eligible students to ensure they navigate college successfully and graduate. One-on-one help with tutoring, advising, mentoring, and major selection are a few of the services provided. mtsu.edu/ssupport

Learn More about Veterans' Student Benefits?

The Charlie and Hazel Daniels Veterans and Military Family Center, in KUC 124/316, provides transition services for veterans and their families after returning to civilian life. Contact the center staff through mtsu.edu/military

Dear MTSU Students, Faculty, Staff, and Retirees,

Per Rutherford County Vaccination guidelines announced yesterday, we are pleased to now be able to offer COVID19 vaccination to adults aged 18 and over who are:

- MTSU current students and their spouses
- MTSU Faculty and Staff and their permanent household members
- MTSU Retirees

To schedule an appointment please go to <https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/VaccinationClinic2@mtsu.edu/bookings/>. The person scheduling the appointment will need a current valid MTSU email account. Please bring a photo ID that includes date of birth (i.e., a driver's license or passport) to your appointment.



0720-9104 / Middle Tennessee State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or disability. See our full policy at mtsu.edu/iec.