

Creating Futures



University of Colorado *at Boulder*

Toward a Better Understanding

Department of Communication

We increasingly see evidence worldwide of dramatic problems such as climate change, political corruption, terrorism, hunger, and poverty. Amid all the claims and counterclaims about these conditions, how can we know what to believe? And once we decide what to believe, how can we collaborate on workable and sustainable solutions? How can we improve our chances for success?

In CU-Boulder's Department of Communication, we believe communication is central to these problems, and to their solutions. Through teaching, research, and hands-on engagement, Department of Communication faculty and students work to engage the extraordinary opportunities and challenges presented by modern communication systems, and ensure that they are used as tools for positive change in relationships, in organizations, and across cultures.

Though communication has always been central to human society, its formal study in American universities is only about a century old. Many questions about communication remain insufficiently explored. In just a few decades as a CU-Boulder department, we have developed an academic community that pursues these questions with rigor and expertise, and produces insights with impact. With your support, we can increase our scholarly success, and our ability to help people become more effective employees, partners, and citizens.

The Department of Communication is...

- **One of CU-Boulder's largest departments**, with over 870 undergraduate majors and more than 50 master's and doctoral students, with 19 tenured and tenure-track faculty.
- **High in faculty research productivity** in core areas of organizational communication, discourse and society, and rhetoric; recently ranked by the National Research Council among the top 20 percent of U.S. doctoral programs in communication.
- **Renowned for exceptional scholarship** by such groups as the National Communication Association and the International Communication Association—with CU-Boulder faculty holding leadership positions and winning distinguished scholarship awards.
- **A producer of respected research** in areas such as communication technology, organizational power and control, and social movements.



Hellems, the CU-Boulder home of the Department of Communication

"I learned about civic engagement and what corporate and political citizenship can look like. Social justice is an easy thing to value in college, but this program helped me learn how to sustain those values and use them for change."

Robert Coombs, BA/MA '04

Director of Public Affairs
California Coalition
Against Sexual Assault

Continued on reverse



Graduate instructor Stephen Konieczka and students of a Department of Communication Group Interaction course demonstrating networked communication.

“Studying communication at CU-Boulder has shown me how it really is the fuel that drives everyone’s life. Each class exposed me to the fascinating ways in which communication shapes human interaction on every level, from business to personal relationships. The incredible instructors have enhanced my experience, playing an integral role in building my passion in this area by leading engaging, interesting, and often entertaining classes.”

Noelle DeWitt
current undergraduate

To learn about the many ways you can make a gift:

Contact

Kimberly Bowman

Associate Director of Development
College of Arts and Sciences
1305 University Ave.
Boulder, CO 80302
303-541-1446
kimberly.bowman@cufund.org
www.cufund.org

Colorado
University of Colorado at Boulder

All gifts should be payable to the University of Colorado Foundation, specifying the appropriate gift designation.

- **A strong teaching department** that emphasizes collaboration, dialogue, and service learning.
- **A campus leader in the study of conflict and sustainability**, housing a certificate program in Peace and Conflict Studies, developing a new Center for the Study of Conflict, Collaboration and Creative Governance (C3G Center), and developing the Communication and Social Engagement (CASE) program that builds student expertise in environmental and scientific communication issues.
- **A collaborator with CU-Boulder partners** such as the Energy Initiative, the Center for Language and Social Policy (CLASP), and the Alliance for Technology, Learning, and Society (ATLAS).

Your gift to the Department of Communication can expand on the opportunities afforded to us by our strong faculty and student population.

You Can Support:

Faculty: While undergraduate enrollment has increased 100 percent in the last 15 years, faculty size has increased only 13 percent. **Endowed faculty positions**, such as an endowed chair, will help our teaching and research expertise keep up with skyrocketing student demand, and enable us to better recruit and retain faculty—who in turn become magnets for top graduate students.

Students: In a turbulent economy, **scholarships** lessen the financial burden and enable more students to attend school and graduate as tomorrow’s leaders, regardless of background or circumstance.

We also aim to increase internships with nonprofits, international NGOs, and other community groups—giving students real-world perspectives and helping them make an immediate and positive impact on their society and environment. This research often entails travel and extensive fieldwork, whose costs can be prohibitive to many. **Internship assistance** will allow us to offer students these opportunities with reduced financial burden.

We also seek to offer more **fellowship and research funding** to entice the most promising graduate students to enroll at CU-Boulder. While we see great demand from prospective students—with nearly 10 applications for each available graduate slot—we frequently lose them to peer schools that offer more attractive financial packages.

Research: **Publication and research support** will allow our scholars to more widely disseminate their work via print journals, online media, and at conferences and symposia—all the while raising the profile of our program.

Technology: Upgrading the department’s **technology infrastructure** will enable us to use the latest teaching tools and research applications, and engage effectively with our stakeholders.

Capital: As our enrollment increases, so does our need for space, and communication classes are now spread among several campus buildings. There is available space in Hellems Hall that can be renovated, if resources allow. Funding for labs and classrooms will help us consolidate more classes into a single part of campus, and will enhance personal interactions that lead to new ideas and approaches.