The *Pepperdine Journal of Communication Research* seeks to pursue truth and academic excellence in the field of communication by recognizing outstanding student scholarship that explores interpersonal, organizational, rhetoric and leadership, intercultural, and strategic communication. Through rigorous peer-review, the *Journal* strives to contribute to ongoing discussions in communication studies by publishing student papers that investigate a variety of contemporary topics and issues. The *Journal* is available through digital commons at [http://digitalcommons.pepperdine.edu/pjcr/](http://digitalcommons.pepperdine.edu/pjcr/)

This year’s *Journal* theme is “Creating Connections through Communication.” As communication students and aspiring professionals, one of communication’s fundamental goals is to create connections. Given the breadth and depth of the communication major, this year’s call is broadened to invite submissions from strategic and media communication majors and fields. This includes but is not limited to:

- Research examining how to develop and maintain relationships between people, such as friendships, romantic, family, social media, workplace, mediated, intercultural, organizational, publics, and many other contexts.
- Research examining or describing communication between speakers/senders and an audience/receivers, broadly conceived and defined.
- Research, papers, reviews, and works (media or journalism) that document, explain, or comment on how social media and other digital forms of communication have impacted communication in a wide variety of settings, like interpersonal, intercultural, organizational, journalism, advertising, integrated marketing, public relations, and so on.
- Research, projects, papers, case studies, analytical papers, and similar that examine the intersection between communication ethics and communication practice are also encouraged, especially if they add to how we can cultivate *ethical* connections through communication or better understand communication practice.
- News or journalism articles the illustrate successes and failures of communication in many different and diverse contexts on campus, in local communities, and across the world. These may be published or not published and may or may not include pictures, graphics, etc. that accompany the article.
- Advertising pitches, proposals, campaigns, and designs that connect service and projects with a target audience. Presentations not accepted, but written projects, proposals, research, and documentation are.
- Public relations and marketing case studies, campaigns, and best practices that cultivate connections between organizations and groups and/or provide rich cases for study and learning.
- Media production projects, such as audio, video, news segments, short films, scenes, websites, and other multimedia that illustrate the connective power of communication are encouraged.
- Reflection papers and/or online e-portfolios that illustrate the role of communication in influencing one’s own communication (or related) behaviors and practices, especially illustrating how connections with others through communication are developed and maintained.
• Print or online photo essays or photo journalism pieces that visually illustrates communication’s connective power.
• Poetry, artwork, musical pieces, and other artistic work is strongly encouraged, as long as it demonstrates how communication creates connections.

In short, this year’s call for papers is broad, with multiple formats, styles, and types of submissions welcomed. Since the Journal is available online, the ability to host video, audio, and other multimedia (like websites) is possible. Course assignments/projects that may fall outside of this scope are welcomed and encouraged! The overall goal is to showcase the best in our division.

Submissions should be sent to Journal editor Catherine Dapello at Catherine.Dapello@Pepperdine.edu. All submissions will undergo rigorous peer review by students in communication majors.

Submissions guidelines:
• Submissions should be sent in standard formats for the field.
• Research papers should be sent in APA or MLA format, in accordance with assignment guidelines.
• Papers, case studies, etc. should be sent in electronic format in a Word or PDF document.
• Do not send a graded copy; please send originals only.
• Media-based and online portfolios should be in the completed, final format and not an in-progress work.
• Media-based/online-based submissions should include a link to where the website, portfolio, audio, video, etc. is available. This not only allows for access by reviewers, but if accepted, your submission will be available through an online link anyway (Note that if you submit a link, it will become publicly available if selected.) You are welcome to provide a private link for review purposes.
• Published news articles can be submitted via either an online link and/or published layout through a pdf in the newspaper, magazine, or publication where it appeared. Pictures, graphics, etc. should be included.

All submissions should be sent with a short cover letter/e-mail that explains:
1) 2-3 paragraphs on how the submission addresses the call
2) If based on an assignment, a brief description of the assignment’s requested format taken from syllabus or other description
3) Electronic, media, and online should provide a link to the submission that will available to reviewers.

Students are strongly encouraged to submit any work that relates to the call. There is no minimum or maximum length. Submission of work from Spring and Fall 2015 are strongly, strongly encouraged! You do not need faculty support to submit.

Publication in the Pepperdine Journal of Communication enhances graduate school applications and professional profiles.
Deadline for submission is Friday, February 26, 2016. The *Journal* will be published around graduation in April 2016.

Questions may be sent to *Journal* editor Catherine Dapello at Catherine.Dapello@Pepperdine.edu and/or Faculty Advisor Bert Ballard at bert.ballard@pepperdine.edu