

ABOUT THE AUTHORS AND EDITORS

Patricia Alberto was born and raised in San Diego, California. She graduated with a B.A. in Communication from the University of California, Santa Barbara. With a quest for knowledge, she continued her education at California State University, Los Angeles in the TVF Graduate Program, obtaining an M.A. in Communication Studies with the Telecommunications and Film option in 2011. She has begun her career in television production.

Remy Ashe graduated with an M.A. in Communication Studies, Telecommunication and Film Option, from the Department of Television and Film at CSULA in 2011. She holds a B.A. in English (Honors) from JMI University, New Delhi, India. While a graduate student at CSULA and UCLA, Remy has won several awards, including recognition as an outstanding graduate student. She was also second place winner at the annual CSU Student Research Symposium competition at the state level in 2012. She was also a 2007 Fellow in Film Independent's Project Involve Program.

Sarah J. Black holds a B.A. in English from Mount Saint Mary's College and an M.A. in Communication Studies from California State University, Los Angeles. Her interests of study include rhetoric, especially the work of ancient female rhetoricians, and instructional communication, especially in the areas of student persistence. She is specifically interested in ways to increase the quality of education and graduation rates for minority first-generation students at urban universities and her passions are research and teaching. In her non-academic life, she enjoys spending time with her three children, meditating, and enjoying good food and good music with her friends.

Tanya Andrea Cornejo received her B.A. in Communication Studies with an emphasis in Rhetoric and Social Change from California State University, Los Angeles in 2008. She is expected to complete her M.A. from New York University's Media, Culture, and Communication department in September 2012. Her research interests include transnational U.S. Spanish language media flows, political economy, cultural studies, and gender and identity constructions.

D. Robert DeChaine is a joint Professor in the Departments of Liberal Studies and Communication Studies at California State University, Los Angeles. He teaches courses on a variety of subjects in both departments, including classical and contemporary rhetoric, cultural studies, human rights, critical pedagogy,

social movements, and border studies. He is author of *Global Humanitarianism: NGOs and the Crafting of Community* (Lexington Books, 2005) and editor of *Border Rhetorics: Citizenship and Identity on the US-Mexico Frontier* (University of Alabama Press, 2012). He has also published numerous journal articles and book chapters.

Jaime Guzmán is currently working towards his M.A. in Communication Studies at California State University, Los Angeles. This year he will be attending the National Communication Association conference at Orlando, Florida where he will speak in the Performance Studies Division panel entitled “Mediated Spaces: Technology, Ephemerality, Normalcy and Meaning.” He is interested in the field of studies pertaining to rhetoric, critical/culture and performance studies. Specifically, Jaime is interested in trying to understand how society, through communication, creates a “way” of living for its citizens. He is currently revising research papers on the term “anchor babies,” and the effectiveness of the Read 180 program. After he completes his graduate level studies, he plans to pursue a doctoral degree, which he will use to get a teaching position at a university institution.

Raul Ibarra is a Mexican-American student who was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. In 2011, he received his B.A. in Communication, and is currently working on his M.A. in Communication Studies, both from California State University, Los Angeles. Raul currently works for the Los Angeles Superior Court, and after obtaining his M.A. plans to attend law school. His career goals include being a civil rights attorney and a part-time communications professor.

Rensi Ke is a second-year M.A. student in Communication Studies (the Communication option) at California State University, Los Angeles. She sides with the phenomenological tradition and the critical tradition. Her research interests include early medieval rhetoric, social media and user experience, contemporary social movements, and China’s pop culture. She has written about communication privacy management on Facebook, the Chinese university students’ knowledge and perspectives on the Nobel Peace Prize of 2010 and the Tiananmen Square Protests of 1989, the organization of the Occupy Los Angeles movement at the City Hall in 2011, and the value of silence in U.S.-China intercultural communication. She presented the paper “Dancing in Shackles: Interpretations of Internet Slang Used by Chinese University Students on Tulip BBS” at the CSULA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative

Activity in 2011. She is currently compiling an online Chinese-English dictionary of the Internet slang used by the Chinese people.

May Maalouly is a Lebanese-American who was born in Beirut. At the age of four she moved to the United States with her family and spent the next decade of her life immersed in the American culture. At the age of fourteen she moved back to Beirut to attend high school and college where she completed a Bachelor's degree in Business with an emphasis in Marketing at the Lebanese American University. After graduation, she worked as a research analyst, but her love of communication led her to move back to the United States once again to pursue an M.A. in Communication Studies at California State University, Los Angeles. After graduating with her M.A. in 2011, she found herself once again traveling between the United States and the Middle East. Other than her love of communication, she wishes to travel the world and experience new cultures.

Kelly Opdycke is a second year Communication Studies graduate student and COMM 150 Teaching Associate at California State University, Los Angeles. She is currently working on her Master's thesis, which will examine the ironic rhetorical style of *The Daily Show* and how this style may be a new, more effective form of journalism. Her research interests include political communication, media, and social change. She will be applying to doctoral programs this fall.

Afnan Qutub graduated with an M.A. from the Communication Studies Department at California State University, Los Angeles in 2012. She was born in 1985 in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. She is a Lecturer in the Communication Skills Department at King Abdul Aziz University where she graduated from the psychology department. Afnan is about to begin her Ph.D. research in gender communications.

Angie Vargas is a Hispanic-American who was born and raised in Los Angeles County. From a young age, Vargas showed immense interest in writing, performing, collaborating and communicating with people as she avidly participated in student politics, leadership, and performing arts throughout high school. She went on to complete a B.A. in English in 2008 from California State University, Los Angeles and remained an active performer in her colorguard (pageantry) groups while touring and performing in venues around the United States. Wanting to branch out into a new field, Vargas decided to pursue an M.A. in Communication Studies from CSULA and recently graduated in spring

2012. In her free time, Vargas still works as a high school colorguard instructor/coach. She hopes to put her knowledge from the field of communications to good use very soon as she embarks on her professional career.

Paul Vera was born in Los Angeles and received his B.A. in English from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1992 and his first M.A. in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages from California State University, Los Angeles in 1995. From 1994 to 1999, he taught English as a Foreign Language in the Czech Republic, Croatia, and Russia, and managed a Business English school in Moscow. After returning to Los Angeles, Paul taught middle school and high school English, and since 2001 has been a English as a Second Language professor at Glendale Community College. Interested in conflict communication, he completed a second M.A. in Communication Studies at CSULA in 2008. Currently he volunteers at the Center for Civic Mediation in Los Angeles and is working on a graphic novel. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife Leticia and their long-awaited son Diego.