

The UND COMMUNICATOR

UND Department of Communication's Newsletter | Fall 2022, Vol. 1, No. 1

Department of Communication
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Chair's Column

by Soojung Kim (Department Chair & Graduate Director)



Greetings from the UND Communication Department!

My name is Soojung Kim, and I am the Chair/Graduate Program Director and Associate Professor in the UND Department of Communication. I joined the UND Communication Department in August 2015 as an Assistant Professor, since then I have been fortunate enough to work with our undergraduate and graduate students and witness them grow as successful and responsible communication professionals over the past seven years. Since July 2022, I have had the privilege of serving as the Chair of the Communication Department. With this role, I am excited to have more opportunities to build and strengthen the relationships with the alumni of the Communication Department. Despite my limited experiences of meeting our alumni before stepping into the Chair position, I am already convinced that our alumni are so proud of UND and the educational experiences they received at UND and are eager to mentor our current students.

The fall 2022 semester was full of exciting changes and opportunities. First, faculty and staff in the Communication Department have moved into the new office spaces on the fully renovated second floor of O'Kelly Hall. This was perfect timing, especially after interacting with colleagues and students primarily via Zoom during the past 2.5 years of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our faculty and staff are excited to start re-building a culture of collegiality and welcoming environments for our students in this new, beautiful space. We will also have a designated communication library space on the second floor of O'Kelly Hall by the early spring 2023 semester where we can appropriately display books and memorabilia donated by our alumni.

Second, the department has seen a consistent increase in our undergraduate and graduate enrollment even in the midst of the pandemic. In fact, we had a total of 271 students in our undergraduate and graduate programs in fall 2019, followed by 305 students in fall 2020, 335 students in fall 2021, and 374 students in fall 2022. Our innovative and diverse academic programs, including eight undergraduate certificates (e.g., Sports Communication Certificate), the new online professional M.A. program which launched in fall 2022, and the first online Ph.D. program in the College of Arts & Sciences, also launched in fall 2021, have been received very well by our students. Our faculty and staff deserve the credit for this encouraging news. They have been providing students with high-quality learning experiences, updating curricula to meet the ever-changing media and communication industries, and mentoring students tirelessly. I continually hear from organizations in the Greater Grand Forks community that they are eager to hire our students as their interns and/or full-time employees.

Last but not least, the department has been busy planning its second in-person annual event, Communication Appreciation Day. We will have a full day of events featuring a keynote speaker session from one of our alumni, Laura McCallum, Politics and Government Editor at *Star Tribune*, and the Communication Professional Session at the Memorial Union on April 20, 2023, from 9:30AM to 12:30PM, followed by the Alumni Luncheon with the Chair from 1:00PM to 2:00PM and the Communication Networking Social at the Gorecki Alumni Center from 3:30PM to 5:30PM. More information about the Communication Appreciation Day can be found in Pages 2-3 of this newsletter.

All in all, the UND Communication Department is growing and meeting the diverse needs of our students effectively. On behalf of the faculty and staff in the department, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for our alumni's unwavering support for the department. I hope you have a wonderful holiday season, and we will see many of you in Grand Forks for the Communication Appreciation Day on April 20, 2023! 🍀

Department News

Returning to O'Kelly Hall



After spending 4 years at Columbia Hall, the Department returned to O'Kelly Hall. The Department is currently located on the second floor of O'Kelly Hall.

The newly renovated O'Kelly Hall includes several spaces for communication faculty, staff, and students. There are faculty offices, graduate students' office, communication labs, conference rooms, share spaces, recording studios, and lounge.



The conference rooms and shared spaces are available for meetings for faculty and students and small gatherings. The recording studios are available for faculty members to

record lectures and Zoom classes and for students to record videos and podcasts.

The lounge area with cozy furniture and lights is open to anyone. It is a great place for students to study or take a break between classes.



The Department of Communication is excited to provide students with a better educational environment with these new spaces/facilities and the building's centralized location on the main campus.

Communication Appreciation Day

The UND Department of Communication is hosting the Communication Appreciation Day on April 20, 2023 (Thursday), 9:30AM to 12:30PM at the UND Memorial Union Ballroom. This event is open to anyone interested in



the communication degree and career opportunities, including high school students and their parents, current UND students, and advisers. Event page can

be found here:

<https://bit.ly/2023CommAppreciationDayPage>.

The Communication Appreciation Day is the department's annual event designed to help prospective and/or current students better understand what a communication degree has to offer. It also allows the department's alumni to share various career opportunities that are available to communication majors.

As part of this event, the UND Department of Communication offers 1) Alumni Mentorship Program for the current communication majors/minors and 2) scholarship opportunities for high school juniors and seniors and transfer students. Winners will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to attend UND and major in Communication:

<https://bit.ly/2023CommAppreciationDayScholarship>

SCHEDULE (Free Admission)

- 9:30am–10:00am: Registration & Communication Class Showcase Session
- 10:00am–10:10am*: Opening Ceremony
- 10:10am–11:00am*: Communication Alumni Keynote Speaker Session (Laura McCallum, Politics and Government Editor at Star Tribune)
- 11:00am–11:40am*: Communication Student & Alumni Panel Session
- 11:40am–12:30pm: Communication Professional Session
- 1:00pm–2:00pm: Alumni Luncheon with Chair
- 3:30pm–5:00pm: Communication Networking Social

*Note: These sessions will be broadcasted by Zoom:

<https://bit.ly/2023CommAppreciationDay>

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Joonghwa Lee at joonghwa.lee@und.edu.

Communication Networking Social



As part of Communication Appreciation Day, the UND Communication Department hosts the Communication Networking Social on April 20

(Thursday) 3:30pm-5:00pm at the Gorecki Alumni Center. This networking social invites the communication alumni, donors, students, and faculty/staff as well as anyone interested in the communication degree and career opportunities. Event page can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2023CommNetworkingSocialPage>.

Alumni Appreciation

by Kinzley Knutson (Social Media Coordinator, Senior)



Michaela Schull is originally from East Grand Forks, MN, and graduated from UND in 2020 with a Bachelor's in Communication and a minor in Graphic Design. Michaela is a Project Manager at NDM

Communications, a healthcare and senior living marketing agency based in Costa Mesa, California. While at UND, she was involved in Kappa Alpha Theta and was a member of the Advertising Club. Michaela said, "Of all the amazing aspects of the UND Communication Department, I enjoyed Dr. Joonghwa Lee's classes the most. He made learning easy and fun, and of all of my studies, I use the teachings of his courses most often in my career."



Laura McCallum is originally from Bismarck, ND, and graduated from UND in 1989 majoring in Broadcasting and minoring in German. Laura is working as the politics and government editor at

the Star Tribune, leading a team of five reporters. While at UND, she was involved in the Society of Professional Journalists, Gamma Phi Beta sorority, and Phi Beta Kappa. Laura said, "The UND Communication Department - which was the UND School of Communication when I attended - gave me valuable skills: writing, reporting, radio production,

Especially, UND students or prospective students have a chance to directly interact with communication professionals who work in various fields, such as journalism, social media, advertising, public relations, health communication, sports communication, event planning, marketing, and sales.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Joonghwa Lee at joonghwa.lee@und.edu.

Share your career and life updates!

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and knowledge of media law. My faculty advisor was Chris Allen, now at the University of Nebraska Omaha, who taught me so much about broadcast journalism. When I was job hunting after I graduated, he told the news director who hired me for that first job, "Hire her!"



Jackie DeMolee is originally from Warroad, MN, and graduated in 2009 majoring in Communication. Jackie is the Registrar Services Coordinator at the University of Iowa where she also is on the

Board of Trustees for The Daily Iowan. While at UND, she was involved in PRSSA, Advertising Club, Communication Student Council, Dakota Student, Board of Student Publications, Student Government Senator, and North Dakota Student Association. Jackie said, "Early in my undergraduate career, there was a move to create a student council for the communication program (School of Communication). One winter we gave out (School of) Communication Snow Cones in the dead of winter during the spring semester. We got some funny looks, but most people laughed and embraced it. We also had a great soundtrack pumping! I was also very fortunate that my advisor became an incredible friend and mentor in my post-grad life. The connections I made with my advisor and fellow students, along with the leadership opportunities

within the department and UND have been critical in my career and volunteer involvement after graduation."



Annette Albrecht is originally from Park Rapids, MN and graduated from UND in 2003 with a major in Communication and a minor in Women's Studies. Annette is a Business Development Director at

Brandpoint, which is a company that partners with Public Relations agencies and teams across the country. Annette also heads up a team of PR Coordinators who support their PR Business Development team. Annette's team includes another UND Alum, and they were lucky to have a UND student join them as an intern over the summer. Annette was a member of the Advertising Club (Ad Club) and was an intern in the Studio One marketing team for two semesters. All four years of college, she also worked in the Financial Aid Office. Annette said, "I loved my internship at Studio One. I met amazing friends and learned so many practical skills that I still use in my work today. As a member of the marketing team, we greeted each audience member and prepared them to watch the show. We also welcomed guests who would be on the show and spent time with them in the green room. It was fun to meet so many members of the Grand Forks community."



Victor Meza III is originally from Bismarck, ND, and graduated from UND in 2009 with a major in Communication and a focus on Broadcasting. Victor is the Director of Development for the Special

Olympics of North Dakota. Victor works directly with business owners and CEOs to develop sports and health opportunities for those with intellectual disabilities. Victor also oversees the Law Enforcement Torch Run for the state of North Dakota, which is the largest grassroots movement for Special Olympics, he works alongside local Law Enforcement to host events like the Polar Plunge, Tip-A-Cop, and The Truck Convoy. Victor was a member of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity and one of the founding members of the Ballroom Dance Club on campus. Victor said, "During my time in the Communication Department, I really appreciated the professors and staff. From the start, you knew they were the experts in their fields and were always ready to go the extra mile to help you succeed. It was the hands-on training and one-on-one coaching I received that

helped me land my first job as a News Reporter for WDAZ-TV."



Emily Windjue is originally from Devils Lake, ND, and graduated from UND with a degree in Communication, a degree in Elementary Education, and a minor in Leadership. Emily is a

Communication Specialist at Minnkota Power Cooperative in Grand Forks, ND. She was involved in several internships while at UND, one being a Department Campaign Coordinator (2019-2020) for the first Communication Appreciation Day event held at UND. Emily learned a lot through the experiences which helped her post-graduation, including the hands-on skills and practical skills she learned. Emily said, "The UND Communication Department is the first place I felt truly at home while at UND. The professors made classes so engaging and hands-on. I wouldn't be where I am today without the encouragement and guidance, I received from Dr. Joonghwa Lee and Dr. Soojung Kim."



Nikki Pica is originally from Laguna Niguel, CA, and graduated from UND with a degree in Communication. Nikki is studying at Arizona State University obtaining her master's degree in Sports

Journalism. She will graduate in December 2022. Nikki was involved in many different things around UND. She was on the UND Softball team, Student-Athlete Inclusion and Diversity, and UND Athletics Leadership Academy, and she was an intern for Marketing and Media Relations within the UND Athletics Department. She is currently finishing an internship with the Arizona Diamondbacks under dbTV. Nikki is also an anchor for Cronkite News on Arizona PBS and a Sports Broadcast Reporter for Cronkite News. Nikki said, "My time as a communication major was an experience that prepared me for the real world. I had many professors who helped me succeed in class and pushed me to be my best self, which is invaluable."



Monte Koshel is originally from The Pas, Manitoba, Canada, and graduated from UND with a degree in Communication focused on Broadcasting and a Sociology and French minor. Monte works at a

post-secondary institution that offers degrees, diplomas,

certificates, and services in an area roughly the size of France. They are located in the heart of the northern Canadian wilderness. He works in all facets of communication, marketing, and recruitment for the University College of the North. Monte was involved in many different things at UND. He was a part of the Burtness Theatre, University Bards, and the Dakota Student. He also was the 1993 Larry Schlesinger Award Winner and an intern at Studio One. Monte said, "The UND Communication Department was the gateway to the rest of my life. I learned from some of the best instructors as I dipped my toes in the ocean of communication, journalism, and graphic design. I still remember sitting in graphic design guru Lucy Ganje's class when she announced that there was an opening with the TV broadcast internship called Studio One. I dove headfirst into that experience as I gravitated to news and feature storytelling. I was lucky enough to land a full-time position as a producer and news director with the (then called) Television Center and Studio One internship. Twenty-five years followed at the Television Center, working alongside some of the best and brightest students at UND. The students were stellar, and my coworkers were as impressive. I strove every day to be as creative, intelligent, and professional as they were. They will be part of my UND family forever. Thank you to all the students I had the privilege of working with. YOU were the reason I loved my job so, so much."



Kendall Brekken is originally from Hillsboro, ND, and graduated with a degree in Communication and Psychology. Kendall is the Marketing Specialist for the North Dakota Autism Center in Fargo,

ND. They are a nonprofit organization that serves individuals with ASD and other developmental disabilities through clinical behavioral therapy, in-home respite care, and community programs aimed at empowering and enriching their lives and the lives of everyone else in the Fargo-Moorhead community. While at UND, Kendall was very involved with the Alpha Chi Omega sorority and served as the Vice President of Public Relations and Marketing for a year. She was also elected to UND's Greek Council and was the Vice President of Communication on that board. Kendall said, "I loved a lot about the UND Communication Department, especially the broad range of topics and classes available to the students. I was able to take courses that challenged me and made me think outside the box. I also love the passion that all of my

professors had. They truly care about their students and want to prepare them for their future careers."



Molly Andrews is originally from Pembroke, NH, and graduated from UND majoring in Communication with a minor in English, and a certificate in Writing, Editing, and Publishing. Molly works as a

Publications Editor at the New Hampshire Bar Association. She was involved in the Dakota Student during her time at UND. She started as an intern, then a writer, and worked her way up to Managing Editor. Molly also was involved in New Student Orientation. Molly said, "I enjoyed how supportive my professors were because every single one of them wanted to see their students succeed and that was so encouraging as a student. Not only that, the courses were so diverse it was nice to be able to sample all different areas of Communication, as there are many ways this degree can take you."



Ranee Parker is originally from Ste. Agathe, Manitoba, Canada, and graduated with a degree in Communication. Rane currently is self-employed, doing freelance work in graphic design, writing, and

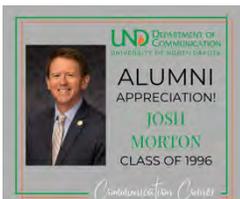
editing. She also is a Social Justice Writer for the Canadian Centre for Women's Empowerment, where she uses her writing skills to raise awareness of issues facing women and all marginalized groups and promotes equality for all. Rane completed her degree fully online, while she was raising a teenager and working part-time, so she wasn't able to be in any organizations at UND. However, she did get to be a UTA (Undergraduate Teaching Assistant) for Dr. Pat Queen Jordheim, which she enjoyed. Rane said, "Without a doubt, the best part of the UND Communication Department is the professors. I truly feel like my professors were there not only to teach but to help me succeed. Being part of the Communication Department allowed me to lean into my strengths as a writer and to see myself as worthy of success. Thank you to my professors, my time at UND was one of the best in my life."



Shantel Lang is originally from Strasburg, ND, and graduated with a major in Communication and a minor in Political Science. Shantel is a Social Media Supervisor for Instacart, a grocery technology

company that facilitates online shopping, grocery delivery, and pickup for more than 900 stores across over 75,000 locations. While at UND, Shantel was a member and the Director of Public Relations of Delta Gamma and the North Dakota Digital Atlas. Shantel said, "I really love how supportive the professors were at UND. They took the time to get to know you and your career goals so they could provide the best support and guidance possible. I truly feel like UND set me up for a successful career."

PRSSA President, STLF, Toast Masters, Farmers Union Collegiate Chapter, and Intramural Hockey. Tom said, "The facility I worked with during my years in the Communication program was 2nd to none. I want to give a special shout out to my professors, Kim Cowden, Brett Ohman, Richard Fiordo, and David Kiefel. The Communication Department awards were always a very festive event, and I am humbled to have been recognized during my time of study."



Josh Morton is originally from Madison, WI, and graduated from UND majoring in Communication focusing on Broadcasting. Josh is Athletic Director at Augustana University after being at Michigan

State University where he was an assistant Athletic Director for Development. While at UND, Josh played football and worked at Studio One. Josh said, "I loved my education at UND and spent 11 years as a local TV Sports Anchor before transitioning to a career in college athletics."



Marilyn Vetter is originally from Harvey, ND, and graduated from UND majoring in Communication focusing on Broadcasting, and minoring in Political Science.

Marilyn has spent 30 years in the Biotech world as a Government Affairs and Commercial Leader, but she recently left that to start an Executive Coaching Firm. While at UND, Marilyn was involved in the first year of the Studio One production and anchored the first season. She also anchored the news at the on-campus NPR radio station. Marilyn said, "Studio One holds great memories for me. What a fantastic team effort by all my student colleagues that gave us crucial real-world experiences."



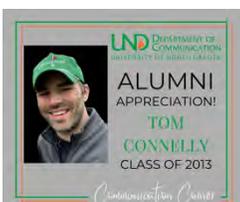
Angie Andresen is originally from Duluth, MN and graduated from UND majoring in Communication. Angie is the Vice President of Communication and Public Affairs for Ecumen, which provides

housing, health care and services for older adults. While at UND, Angie was involved in the University Program Council, first as the Public Relations Chair, then as the Chair. She was also a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority and involved in broomball and the team triathlon. Angie said, "I loved how I gained real-world work experiences in our Advance Public Relations class. Our class essentially served as a communication agency for different departments throughout UND. It was great working on different client teams with my classmates. I have also enjoyed being a mentor to a current UND Communication student."

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Tom Connelly is originally from Boston, MA and graduated from UND majoring in Communication with an emphasis in Public Relations and Public Speaking. Tom is an Accounting Specialist at

an Aerospace Engineering firm called EXB Solutions in Plymouth, MN. While at UND, Tom was involved in many things, He was in Delta Tau Delta, the IFC President, the

Spectacular Students & Incredible Interns

by Kinzley Knutson (Social Media Coordinator, Senior)



Charlotte Sonterre is originally from St. Francis, MN and will graduate in the spring of 2023 with a Bachelor's in Communication and a minor in Sports Business. At UND, she is a student ambassador and the

External Director for Dance Marathon. Charlotte said, "I have enjoyed how committed and helpful the professors are here at the UND Communication Department. They want to see you succeed and offer so much help when you need it. The people who I have met through the communication department have been so great throughout my years here and I am so grateful to be a student here!"



Matthew Hjelmstad is originally from Grand Forks, ND and will graduate in the fall of 2023 with a Bachelor's in Communication. He is a Specialist in the North Dakota Army National Guard, working as small arms and

artillery repairman and building residential housing in Grand Forks. At UND, Matthew is currently pursuing his writing and editing certificate and avid supporter of UND athletics. Matthew said, "The UND Communication Department allows students to feel like they are being taught real-world skills that will transfer to employment post-graduation. The professors always work with you to the best of their ability and take pride in developing their students. The best part of the Communication Department is the connections that students can build, and the opportunities provided for students to find out which career path they most enjoy."



Emily Shank is originally from Sioux Falls, SD and will graduate in the spring of 2023 majoring in Communication with a Writing and Editing Certificate and minoring in Sociology. Emily is a part of Greek

Life, a member of Alpha Phi, and the campus representative for Greek houses. Emily said, "One of the things I enjoy most about the UND Communication Department is the faculty and staff. They have always been so helpful and understanding as well as pushing me to be my best. Dr. Jessica Schanilec-Gowan and Dr. Joonghwa Lee have both been great mentors to me. They have given me the best advice that has helped me grow

and learn more about myself. I am very grateful for the faculty and staff within the Communication Department, and I appreciate each one of them."



Myra Henderson is originally from Grand Forks, ND and will graduate in the spring of 2023 with her Bachelor's in Communication and English and Certificates in Writing & Editing and French. She is a

McNair Scholar, Managing Editor of Floodwall (UND's literary magazine), and involved in the Black Studies Project. Myra said, "My favorite memory during my time as a student in the Communication Department was when I had the opportunity to present as part of a panel of current students at Communication Appreciation Day in April 2022. It was a wonderful opportunity to listen to other students' interests and experiences and interact with so many UND Communication Alumni!"



Anna Corley is originally from Centerville, OH and will graduate in 2023 with a major in Communication and a certificate in Professional and Executive Communication. Anna is a fully

online student at UND, so she isn't involved around campus specifically. Outside of UND, she is an active-duty Air Force member and is currently deployed overseas. Anna said, "I have had a great experience with the UND Communication Department, and I really enjoy the way the professors are willing to work with students. I also love the fact that the classes prepare students for life after college."



Bryce Beckner is originally from Baltimore, MD and will graduate in the fall of 2022 with his Bachelor's in Communication and a certificate in Digital Production for Media Industries. As Bryce is a fully online

student, and when he graduates it will be his first time in North Dakota! He has served 6 years in the US Air Force, then became a member of the Maryland Conservation Corps. Bryce said, "Thanks to the UND Communication Department, my writing skills have significantly improved from when I started."



Mackinney Supola is originally from Asheville, NC and will graduate in the fall of 2022 with her Bachelor's in Communication and Commercial Aviation. She is involved in Gamma Phi Beta and the Women in

Aviation Club. Mackinney said, "I really enjoy how involved and helpful the professors are towards the students. I am also really looking forward to my internship experience this fall semester."



Sinead Goulding is originally from Woodbury, MN and will graduate in the spring of 2024 with her Bachelor's in Communication and a focus on Public Relations. Sinead is involved in Greek Life and is the

Public Relations Vice President for Gamma Phi Beta. Sinead said, "I have enjoyed how small and intimate all of the Communication classes are. I am able to get close to my professors and classmates, which is something I enjoy. I have learned many teamwork skills from being able to have these smaller courses that I will be able to use in my professional career."



Caroline Moffenbier is originally from Woodbury, MN and will graduate in the summer of 2023 majoring in Communication.

Caroline is an intern at Lug Sports where she assists with content creation and videography. Caroline said, "I really like my classes have been interactive and allow you to get to know so many people. Also, the professors are all there to help no matter what the situation is."



Madelyn Insley is originally from St. Cloud, MN and will graduate in December 2022 with a major in Communication and certificates in Health Communication, Professional and Executive

Communication, Social Media Strategies in Communication, Conflict Mediation, and Sports Communication. Madelyn was a Public Relations intern for Epilepsy Services of Southwest Florida. Madelyn said, "During my time at ESSF I was able to create content, post company-made advertisements on social media, shoot video footage that will be used in upcoming promotional videos, learn from professional video producers, and

create advertisement boards that will be used by the advertising team."



Gunnar Moeller is originally from Rosemount, MN and will graduate in the spring of 2023 with a Bachelor's in Communication.

Gunnar was a Marketing Intern for the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community in Tribal Operations. He worked on a variety of tasks in the marketing department which include writing for social media posts, magazines, and blogs. Gunnar also was involved in SMSC's events such as the SMSC State Fair booth, Scott County Fair Booth, and Wacipi.



Lauren Larsen is originally from Hopkins, MN and will graduate in the spring of 2023 with a Bachelor's in Atmospheric Science and a minor in Communication. Lauren was an intern at KVRN-TV, which is

the FOX affiliate for Fargo, ND. She was on-air doing the weather for the first half of the summer and was reporting for the second half of the summer. Lauren learned skills behind the scenes like writing stories and using the cameras to film for the reporters. Lauren said, "The highlight of my summer was reporting live from WEFest on the morning show."



David Trnka is originally from West Fargo, ND and will graduate in 2025 with a major in

Communication and minors in Sports Business and Finance. David was an intern at the UND Insider last year, working with media and broadcasting for the sporting events across campus. He ran the cameras and took videos for the sports teams and the UND Insider social media pages. David said, "My personal favorite was running the courtside camera at the basketball games because it was very fun to be close to the action!"



Hannah Johnson is originally from Grenora, ND and will graduate in May 2023 with majoring in Communication and Marketing, minoring in Leadership, and a certificate in Digital Production for

Media Industries. Hannah was a Marketing Design and Production Intern for the Theodore Roosevelt Medora

Foundation in Medora, ND. Hannah said, "During my time, I had the opportunity to design signs for advertising and postcards, create blog campaigns, brochures, and content for internal use. I also attended events and attractions to photograph for social media use, and developed weekly training videos for over 200 employees."



Matty Urbaniak is originally from Argyle, MN and will graduate in December 2022 with majoring in Marketing and Management and minoring in Communication. Matty was involved in three internships

while at UND. She currently is a Marketing and Communications Intern at the North Dakota Small Business Development Center. She also was a Marketing Intern for Bully Brew Coffee and The Other Half Coffee & Taphouse. Matty said, "The majority of my role includes planning content, managing social media accounts, working through our client success story process with clients, creating marketing materials, writing press releases, and making website updates."



James Vigil is originally from Lakeville, MN and will graduate in December 2023 majoring in Communication and minoring in Graphic Design. James is a Video Content Intern with the UND

Donor Appreciation

by Gunnar Moeller (Newsletter Editor, Senior)



Regina Anavy

For the inaugural issue of the *UND Communicator*, we interviewed Regina Anavy who is a niece to Larry S.

Schlasinger, a UND graduate of the early 1940', a Phi Beta Kappa alumnus, was wounded in battle in 1944 and later died in an English hospital. Mr. Schlasinger's family created

the Larry S. Schlasinger Memorial Award in his honor. This award is our oldest award with an over 60-year history. The Communication Department bestows the Schlasinger Award on its top graduating senior who would receive a

Athletics Department and is currently the Social Media & Video Production Specialist for UND Housing. James also does freelance video editing with TJ Oshie's clothing brand "Warroad" and has his one sports videography Instagram and TikTok accounts.



Kallen Wachi is originally from Kauai, HI and will graduate in 2024 majoring in Commercial Aviation, Aviation Safety and Operations, and Communication. Kallen is a Student Video Production Assistant

for the UND Aerospace Network. In his position, he was able to intertwine his passion for Aviation and Digital Media. He worked to produce videos for the Aerospace College and outside Aerospace organizations. He assists with live studio production, on-location filming, video editing, and digital archives. Kallen said, "It has been a fantastic experience where I am able to express my passions."

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financial award and recognition as our Schlasinger Laureate.

Larry S Schlasinger was the youngest of a family of five. Due to being Jewish their family fled Russia and went to the United States and settled in North Dakota. They were the only Jewish family in the small town of Streeter. Schlasinger's dad, Noah, ran a grocery store, became a pharmacist, and had a stake in some land. Schlasinger soon graduated from the University of North Dakota with a degree in journalism. But patriotism was calling his name and he joined in the war. He was able to speak French and was a good soldier. He was dropped into Normandy before the invasion by parachute to contact the French

Underground. He was in the Battle for Cherbourg and was wounded. He later died of a pulmonary embolism in 1944.

Schlasinger left his family with many letters he had written during his time in North Dakota and during the war. Anavy shared that she used those letters to learn more about her uncle and wrote the book entitled *Larry's Letters: The Personal Correspondence of Larry Schlasinger*. After the book was published, Anavy donated the letters to the Chester Fritz Library.

When asked why she decided to turn his letters into a book she responded, "I really got to know more about him by going through these letters after my mother died. Everybody saved letters. My sister and I found all these letters in a piano bench in the closet, and I started going

through them. This is sort of a universal story and so I organized them and then self-published a book."

To the recipients of the Larry S. Schlasinger Scholarship Award, Anavy said, "I hope you are having good careers and I know all of the people who have received the award are very interesting. I've received biographies and I like that connection."

Anavy also shared that Schlasinger was intrigued by the history of American Indians. He had a wide collection of arrowheads, and they were donated to the Anthropology Department here at the University of North Dakota. Anavy continues to carry on the legacy of not just Larry S Schlasinger, but her entire family and its history. 📖

Faculty Spotlight

by Gunnar Moeller (Newsletter Editor, Senior)



Dr. Pamela Kalbfleisch is the Charles R. "Chuck" Johnson Endowed Professor of Communication here at the University of North Dakota. She specializes in Interpersonal and Persuasive Communication, Health Communication, Intercultural and International Communication, and

Organizational Communication. In her graduate classrooms, she makes sure every student has a way to learn and succeed by using a new innovative way to run a classroom called hyflex (hybrid + flexible) classes.

Hyflex classes offer different options for students to participate in classes. Students can either choose to attend a class in person, synchronously via Zoom, or asynchronously. They can choose to be in person one week, and asynchronous the next. Students can have flexibility in their schedules in her classes.

She said, "It's a wonderful thing that we offer it in our doctoral program. I would love for it to be something that would be offered in our other programs as well because I really enjoy teaching this way, and I think my students enjoy taking classes this way."

Dr. Kalbfleisch shared advice for communication students: "To get experience with as many people as possible. You've got many different people who teach in communication, you have your professors teaching and getting experience with as many of them as possible, so you don't just have one or two people that you know, but you know several people who could possibly recommend you or teach you something and you might learn different styles of communication from those people and professors. Also learn from others in the field. Learn from people who are communication practitioners. Learn from journalists, learn from broadcasters, learn from public relations professionals. Learn from strategic communicators. Learn from all the possible people so you can prepare yourself to be flexible when you go into the workplace, because sometimes jobs will be very specific in the skills they require and in the degree that is needed. And perhaps you have those skills, and perhaps you have that degree, but often what happens with communication majors is they'll graduate. They'll be getting ready to graduate, or they'll be going to career fairs. And they'll find places are advertising for other majors other than communication, but they find that the jobs and the responsibilities for those jobs are things that they know, things that they've been trained in." 📖

Faculty News



Dr. Pamela Kalbfleisch was awarded the Charles R. "Chuck" Johnson Endowed Professor of Communication at the University of North Dakota.



Dr. Timothy Pasch and UND joined a four-year, \$17 million [Arctic research project](#) with the U.S. Department of Defense and three other universities and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to map, analyze, and visualize current and future Arctic terrain.



Dr. Soojung Kim published an article entitled [COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy and Short-Term and Long-Term Intentions among Unvaccinated Young Adults: A Mixed-Method Approach](#) in *BMC Public Health*. This research was supported by the Grand Forks Public Health Department.

Dr. Soojung Kim leads a campus-wide campaign, Vax Venture, with Dr. Tanis Walch in the Department of Education, Health & Behavior. The Vax Venture is funded by the North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services, and it aims to create a culture of vaccine confidence among UND students, faculty, and staff. [A UND Today article featuring Dr. Kim's involvement with Vax Venture](#) was published on December 1, 2022.



On November 3rd, the Comm 206: Digital Fundamentals class, taught by Dr. Jessica Schanilec-Gowan, visited the North Dakota Museum of Art. The purpose of this visit was to learn about museum visits and etiquette. The tour was given by Matthew Anderson, Director of Education, at the state's Art Museum located on the campus of the University of North Dakota. 🌍

Communicators' News

Career Updates

Fabrice MOUSSUS ('73)'s book, entitled ["Grab the Moment"](#) describes how studying journalism at UND led to an international career with ABC for 30 years.

James R. (Bob) Hagerty ('78), who graduated with a double major in economics and journalism, in November 2022 marked 40 years of employment with The Wall Street Journal, with postings in New York, London, Hong Kong, Atlanta and Pittsburgh. James began working for the WSJ in April 1978, left in 1982 to work for the International Herald Tribune in Paris and London, and returned to the WSJ in 1986. James currently is the newspaper's chief obituary writer, assigned to write about the lives of business people from around the world. James' guide to writing life stories, *Yours Truly*, is published by Kensington's Citadel imprint on Dec. 27, 2022.

Rev. John Paulson ('79) is pastor of Augustana Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD. As part of Augustana's 140th

anniversary celebration, he is creating a series of video interviews of church members and working with the local newspaper, the Argus Leader, to develop stories related to the church and its anniversary. He has a blog – [crossintersections.org](#) – on which he posts stories and videos regarding intersections of faith, life, and community. John lives in Sioux Falls with his wife Holly.

Lucy Dalglish ('80) will be stepping down as Dean of Philip Merrill College of Journalism in June 2023 after 11 years. Lucy will continue to be a Professor teaching and researching journalism ethics, First Amendment, and media law at the University of Maryland. She was recently elected a trustee of the Freedom Forum in Washington, D.C. Last year, she was named Administrator of the Year by the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication and the Scripps Howard Foundation. She recently finished a three-year term serving on the Accrediting Council for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (ACEJMC). She volunteers for ACEJMC and have served as a team leader on accreditation site

visits to journalism and communication schools around the world.

Sue Berg ('82) is now Resident Services Director for a private retirement community, Middleton Glen. She also continues volunteer roles as the chairperson of the local Tourism Commission (since 2011) and the member of city's Economic Development Committee (since 2011) in Evansville, Wisconsin, where she lives with a friendly cat and just down the road from the stable where her two retired horses still occasionally get into mischief.

Timothy R. Bolduc ('88) won 7 Telly Awards over the years. Timothy worked in healthcare for 3 years while attending UND and 3 more years after moving to Minneapolis, MN. Timothy played music for a living while between jobs in 1990 and did a short music tour in Sweden and Russia. Timothy has shot professional sports for 24 years as a camera operator for CBS sports, Comedy Central, the CBC and Lucas Oil Productions. Timothy currently works part time in a camera operator capacity for the Minnesota Vikings and have worked in a freelance capacity for the Minnesota Timberwolves, Minnesota Lynx, Minnesota Twins, Lucas Oil Productions and Minnesota Gophers for 22 years. Timothy's focus is on live corporate event video production and IMAG events that also involve large amounts of pre- and post-production work. Timothy loves his work and the opportunities it has provided him. Timothy is always looking for good help on his projects from people with a passion for doing things better and smarter! All of this Timothy shares to give insight to his background as there are many out there who have accomplished more with less and less with more. Timothy is simply thankful and humbled by the opportunities that he has been blessed to enjoy and happy to share what might help the next generation of UND proud.

Debbie Friez ('89) was promoted to Sr. Manager, Social and Influencer Marketing at TopRank Marketing, www.toprankmarketing.com. She also celebrated 8 years with the firm which has earned a reputation as a first-choice content and influencer marketing agency for major B2B technology brands.

Eva Keiser ('92) currently serves as the Immediate Past Chair of the PRSA Midwest District following a productive year leading the organization in 2022.

James A. Bervig is a City Commissioner overseeing Public Safety and Emergency Services and the Chair of CHI St. Alexis Hospital Foundation Board of Directors.

Shanna Johnson ('98) was promoted to Business Banking Portfolio Manager at U.S. Bank, Bismarck, ND in August 2022.

Tara Ekren ('00) was promoted to PR + Social Media Manager at Flint Group in Fargo, ND.

Brian Shawn ('02) was named 2021 North Dakota Sportscaster of the Year. He is a Television Play-by-Play Announcer for University of North Dakota football and men's/women's basketball.

Sarah Christine Neumann ('02)'s company puts on a big event called the Global Ethics Summit every year, as well as regional ethics summits in Europe, APAC, and South Asia. The topics covered compliance, ethics, and ESG.

Stefsnie Rose Stalheim ('07) who was an Assistant City Attorney since 2015 was Promoted to Minot City Attorney in 2022.

Lisa Martinez ('08) is the producer and editor of new Ag Innovation News podcast: <https://auricomms.podbean.com/>

Jackie DeMolee ('09) was elected and serves as the vice chair on the board of directors (Student Publications Inc.) for The Daily Iowan. The Daily Iowan is an independent student-led newspaper that serves Iowa City, Iowa, and the University of Iowa communities.

Victor Meza ('09) will host Special Olympics North Dakota Polar Plunge in Grand Forks, ND on March 4th, 2023 at the Choice Health & Fitness. To register and for more information, visit www.specialolympicsnd.org.

Tom Connelly ('13) was featured in his fraternity magazine: <http://www.deltatadeltaarchive.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Rainbow-Winter-2022.pdf> (PP. 32-33) and started a new role in 2022 at EXB Solutions after 5 years with Northwestern Health Sciences University.

Kayla Krosschell ('13) was promoted to Senior Internal Marketing Communications Specialist at Digi-Key Electronics, Grand Forks, ND. Kayla's former role was in Public Relations, and she now works on internal

communications with a focus in Change Management and transformation efforts within Digi-Key.

Anne Hook Seidler ('13) received a new job as Director of Admissions and Recruitment at Bismarck State College in October 2022. Anne was previously academic advisor/tutor coordinator and COMM 110 adjunct instructor at the University of Mary. Additionally, Anne is pursuing a PhD in Organizational Communication at North Dakota State University and serving as a graduate assistant teaching COMM 110.

Katy Wilson ('14) opened a real estate brokerage and property management company, Katy Wilson Homes - Stellar Realty, in Twin Cities, MN in 2022.

Zack Worthy ('14) started a new job in a new industry in 2022, focusing more on his goals and desires instead of focusing on his paychecks.

Emily Johannes ('16) manages a team of customer success managers at Kaleidoscope, Prior Lake, MN.

Patrick John Wynne ('16) changed jobs at the end of November in 2022. He was the Video Production Specialist for Los Angeles County Dept. of Parks and Recreation for 3 1/2 years. Patrick joined Digi-Key as Senior Video Production Specialist. He made the move to be closer to family. Digi-Key is also a hybrid environment that will allow him to have a lot more freedom for creative endeavors both inside and outside of the company.

Hannah Amundson ('17) recently founded an LLC, "Marjorie", that provides marketing consultation services including brand strategy, content marketing, and paid advertising. You can learn more about Marjorie at www.marjoriemc.com.

Shane Boeser ('17) has been promoted to a supervisor of 10 and working on moving into an ERP Analyst role thanks to the skills developed from his communication degree. The skills learned through the Communication Department are helping him set himself apart from his peers, while he develops other skills to further his career. If in the Southern Twin Cities, look into the Brewer Supply Group for Marketing, Sales, and Customer service roles of all kinds that can evolve into management and senior positions.

Jennifer Friese ('17) was promoted to Marketing Coordinator for MAK Construction and MAK Capital in Grand Forks, ND.

Jamie Holmgren ('17) changed jobs and moved to GAMMA Sports as their sole HR Generalist in March 2022. In 2022 Jamie also obtained her PHR (Professional in Human Resources Certificate). Jamie holds this certificate in addition to SHRM-CP, which she received in 2021.

Connor Johnson ('17) was recently promoted from Commercial Lines Assistant to Junior Account Executive. This promotion was possible thanks to his outstanding outreach to his clients and internal communication efforts using techniques and skills learned during his time at the University of North Dakota's Communication Department.

LaJaun Willis ('17) moved to NYC to start the new job as a UX Researcher at Google.

Abby Smith ('17) changed her job to a Business Enablement Analyst at Optiv.

Dayna Bastian ('18) changed jobs from BBI International in Grand Forks, ND to move to Sioux Falls, SD to become an Account Specialist at Paulsen.

Riley Hallaway ('18) was promoted to Video Director at Forbes in January 2022.

Abby Holloway ('18) changed jobs internally twice and was promoted in 2021 to Marketing Operations Specialist at Comcast, Minneapolis, MN.

Kayla Johnk ('18) received a promotion from Enrollment Specialist to Senior Enrollment Specialist at Collegis Education, Bloomington, MN. It is super fun to be able to talk to hundreds of students and help their goals and dreams become a reality.

Ana Kuzara ('18) recently (July 2022) began a new position with the first company she worked at following graduation. Immediately following graduation, she began an account management position with Excelsior Benefits (a subsidiary of United Healthcare), but left after 18 months for a new position with a tech startup called Nexben. Her new position at United/Excelsior is a Business Analyst role, where her role is primarily technology and product development focused. Since returning to Excelsior, Ana has been awarded/recognized companywide for her

leadership within her team and for implementing a new product and service processes within UHC.

Ryne Bigelow ('19) starts a new job as a Social Media Manager at Spotlight Media, Fargo, ND at the beginning of the new year.

Kolton Brohaugh ('19) won the Growth Mindness award out of 700 people from his company, GPRS in Dallas, TX. The nominations for this award are considered with this in mind: This award is for the team members who consistently give up what is comfortable for the opportunity to create something new or make something better, say yes before you know how, create opportunity for others, widen that gap between GPRS and our competition, and see opportunity where others see obstacles.

Dillon Forseth ('19) changed jobs last April and received a promotion as an Operations Specialist at Coyote Logistics, Excelsior, MN to work on one of the company's largest accounts.

Amelia Patefield ('19) is currently working at Disney World and with the Orlando Solar bears. She plans on getting a full-time job at the post season.

Alexandra Skime ('19) changed jobs at UND from the UIT Department's Communication Specialist to the Wellness and Health Promotions Department as its Health and Wellness Marketing Manager.

Cody Carpentier ('20) was promoted to the Director of Football at PlayerProfiler.com, which is the same company that he started with in 2019 as an internship while he was at the University of North Dakota.

Hennessy Locsin ('20) changed jobs from Taft Law Firm to the Alerus Center as an Event Manager in 2022.

Hannah Olson ('20) changed jobs. She was working previously at ADP in small business sales and moved to a Packaging Sales role at Veritiv. In her new role, she successfully exceeded her sales quota being over 100% of plan during her first full year in 2022.

Chad O'Shea ('20) started a new job with the UND Alumni Association & Foundation, Grand Forks, ND as the Associate Director of Stewardship Communication.

Andrew Samuel ('20) accepted a new job offer with the City of Stafford in TX, just outside of Houston.

Emily Seebold ('20) had [her first article published in North Dakota Living Magazine](#) in November. Her article can be found on ND Living website under recipe roundup.

Turki Ali Muneer A Alrashid ('21) was promoted to the Assistant Professor at Institute of Public Administration in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Kendall Brekken ('21) was promoted from Marketing Coordinator to Marketing & Communications Lead at the North Dakota Autism Center, Fargo, ND in November 2022. In addition to being in charge of the agency's marketing efforts, Kendall works on other internal communication efforts and streamlining existing communication processes.

Kelsey Forster ('21) started as Marketing Manager at Dermatology Specialists, Wayzata, MN from May 2022.

Drew Helten ('21) started as Graphic Designer at Starion Bank, Bismarck, ND from July 2022.

Abby Myers ('21) changed her job as a Graphic Designer at Optum/Advisory Board, residing in Dania Beach, FL.

Nikki Pica ('21) has accepted a job to be a sports reporter with Nevada Sports Net.

Nicole Rothenberger ('21) was selected as the 2022-2023 Benjamin A. Gilman Alumni Ambassador. Nicole is the first Ambassador selected from UND and the first selected from the state of North Dakota.

Kosima Ketcham ('22) was promoted to Assistant Director at the the University of Texas at Arlington in October 2022 where she has been working for six years. She was a manager for four years and received her promotion after she graduated from UND.

Lauren Schoenfelder ('22)'s company, Luther Auto started a new project called Luther Direct where it has drivers go to customers' houses and pickup their vehicles, bring them to get service done, and take them back to the customers' houses. Lauren was hired on to oversee and start this project.

Claire Weltz ('22) started as an intern with Minnesota Aurora FC and found a full-time Social Media Coordinator job with Training HAUS, St. Paul, MN after networking within the team's sponsors.

Life Updates

Rod Meadows ('76) started his career at KNOX radio in Grand Forks and at KTHI-TV's satellite office in Grand Forks, working in sales and sports play-by-play including Fighting Sioux hockey for KNOX and also as on-air talent at KTHI. Moved from there to an AM-FM radio station in Tallahassee, FL working in sales and also radio broadcasts for Florida State University (FSU) football and play-by-play for FSU basketball and baseball. After that, he started his own radio syndication company broadcasting daily college football radio update programs on over 300 radio stations across eight Southeastern states. Following that he moved on to Minor League Baseball, first with the Durham Bulls minor league team as play-by-play broadcaster, then later as the Bulls Director of sales/marketing and eventually moved on to become the VP of sales/marketing for the National Minor League Baseball office servicing 160 Minor League Baseball teams across the US and Canada, a position from which he retired. During his career he was awarded the NC Sportscaster of the Year award by the Raleigh NC Hot Stove League and also received Minor League Baseball's President's Award for dedicated and outstanding service to Minor League Baseball.

Margo Hecker ('78) is happily retired.

Frank Haynes ('81) has retired after working 38 years in the communications industry and is spending his time volunteering and traveling. He resides in Albany, MN with his wife Angela. They have two grown children Kari and Anna.

Laural Meier ('81) retired in 2021 from the Director of Command Services position, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Washington D.C.

Chase H. Boardman ('83) retired from a career at the Diplomatic Security Service; he is now working as a field assessor for a program to improve the physical security for schools in Iowa. A background in communications still serves him well.

Naomi Yaeger ('98) is retired after serving as the editor of the Duluth Budgeteer and attending Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College in Cloquet, MN. Her coursework includes photography, video-making, and podcasting.

Kelsey Jacobson Lawrence ('07) just had a baby, Parks Robert Lawrence, in August 2022. Kelsey has decided not to go back to her full-time job as a Communications Manager at FedEx and to instead focus on her freelancing, which she has been doing in her free time for several years. Kelsey is excited about working for herself and having the flexibility to focus on her growing family while producing the content that she is most passionate about: outdoor adventure and health/fitness.

Zack Worthy ('14) got engaged in March 2022. He is coaching Varsity hockey in Coon Rapids, MN and a hockey scout in Midwest/MN.

Hayley Spalding ('16) recently graduated from the University of South Australia with an International Master of Business Administration with an emphasis in Tourism and Event Management.

Abby Smith ('17) became the first-time auntie to Nora Grace, born in April 2022.

Rachel Cox ('18) got engaged on October 10, 2022 to Jack Auer, whom she met in the graduate school. They will be getting married in December 2023!

Jessica Schacher ('18) is recently relocated to California from Minneapolis, MN.

Jenny Delage ('19) changed her path after college, but communication was a great way to get into her next profession.

Dillon Forseth ('19) will be married on the NYE, 2022 moving to Prior Lake, MN.

Drew Helten ('21) is planning her wedding in August 2023.

Nikki Pica ('21) just graduated from Arizona State's Walter Cronkite School with her Master's degree in Sports Journalism.

Comments

Josephine Althoff ('21) said, "I had an amazing time with The Communication Department, and I am so happy I

changed my major and found this department! :)”

Jacob Defren ('21) said, “The University and its programs have taught me a ton of great skills in which if utilized correctly will help many people within their careers and life. After graduating navigating the road to a job and a career isn't an easy one. Landing my first corporate job out of college took more time and effort than I had imagined prior. After landing an amazing job and learning more in-depth about marketing, communications, and analytics I grew to appreciate the education that UND provided me with. From taking on several new projects to networking outside of company time and assisting in community events, I would love to provide current students with some stories, insight, and assistance into this transitional period from education to career.” 🗨️

Support the Department

Now you can directly support the UND Department of Communication through the donation that can be specifically dedicated to the Communication Appreciation Day event. The funds we raise will go solely towards organizing the Communication Appreciation Day event and Communication Networking Social. These events are crucial to help the department grow and continue to have positive impacts on students. They help us connect to current and future students and allow us to showcase what a communication degree has to offer!

If you are willing, any donation is extremely appreciated. You can donate by following this link: <https://undalumni.org/comm-app-day>

or scan the QR code:



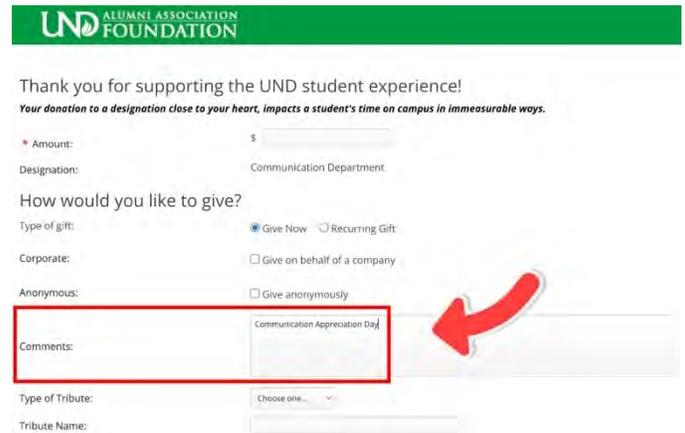
Share your career and life updates!

Submit your news items to the survey by April 30, 2023: <https://bit.ly/UNDCommNewsItem-S2023>

Or scan the QR code:



In the “comments” section, please put “Communication Appreciation Day” to support these wonderful events.



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Thank you for supporting the UND student experience!
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Any donation helps and is extremely appreciated!

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Joonghwa Lee at joonghwa.lee@und.edu. 🗨️