

Dear alumni and friends of the School of Communication and Information,

We are deeply immersed in 2023's first semester and many new beginnings!

While our focus is on students and teaching, we are also engaged in advancing outstanding research and running our administrative operations.

You will see there is much going on at the school and we are proud to present some highlights. To read other news from the school, visit our [news page](#).



Alumnus T. Sean Herbert Speaks to JMS Students

Our alum T. Sean Herbert JMS'90 reported from Ukraine and Poland for CBS and shared his experiences in an interview as well as in the classroom with our Journalism and Media Studies (JMS) students.

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Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Communities of Practice

Our Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Bernadette Gailliard is leading three communities of practice in our school:

- **Inclusive Teaching** - where we discover and implement strategies to promote equity in our learning spaces;
- **Engaged Research** - which focuses on the experience of designing research projects with and for communities;
- **Fostering Inclusion and Belonging at Work** - for those interested in learning more about DEI concepts overall and understanding how they are useful to you personally and professionally.

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Developing Micro-Credentials

We are discussing the development of micro-credentials in the school, designing school's priorities and policies, exploring the market's interest in them (we would love to hear your opinion, if you are employer!). This effort is led by our Associate Dean Karen Novick and our Assistant Dean for Programming and Assessment Sharon Stoerger who were part of the university-wide committee.



How Might ChatGPT Impact Journalism and Media Education?

We are getting a deeper understanding of the impact of ChatGPT on teaching and scholarship, leveraging the expertise we already have in the school in Artificial Intelligence and in innovative pedagogy.

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Two SC&I Faculty Members Named in List of Prolific Scholars



Two members of the SC&I faculty in the Department of Communication have been named among the most prolific scholars within the last five years by the journal Communication Education. Associate Professor Kristina Scharp and Assistant Professor Dajung (DJ) Woo were cited for the number of articles published in four journals considered central to the communication discipline.

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New Director of CPS



Our new Director of Continuing and Professional Studies (CPS) Julie Johnson, Ed.D. is building on our existing success and expanding our reach and contributions beyond degree-granting programs.

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New SC&I Research Proposes Cutting-Edge Curriculum for Teaching About Dis- and Misinformation



SC&I Library and Information Science faculty members Assistant Professor Britt Paris and Associate Professor Rebecca Reynolds, along with Gina Marcello Ph.D.'08, MCM'95, COM'93, a part-time lecturer at SC&I, and associate professor and chair of the Communications Department at St. Elizabeth University in Morristown, N.J., developed a media and information literacy course for first and second-year undergraduates. The result is a new class, Disinformation Detox, which is being offered at SC&I for the first time during the Spring 2023 semester, and taught by Paris.

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Media, Inequality, and Change Center Hosts Conference

The Media, Inequality, and Change Center, a unique collaboration between our school and the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Pennsylvania held its annual symposium on the role of media in social movements in the current climate, which brought together academics, community organizers, industry members, policy makers, and students to engage in deep conversations about creating a better future.

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Rutgers Engages with Greece

A delegation from Rutgers attended the Pharos Summit 2022 in Greece in November, which focused on Greek and U.S. collaboration in higher education, including Associate Professor of Communication Matthew Matsaganis.

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A lot to look forward to in our dynamic school!

Remember to save the date for [Rutgers Giving Days](#), which will be taking place over the course of a few days: March 20-24. It is the support of generous alumni and friends like you who believe in our mission and want to give back that truly makes a difference through this initiative.

And if you are in the area, consider joining us for the alumni association award on April 19 honoring SC&I alumna Vivian Salama JMS'00. More information will be available soon on our [events website](#).

Check our [events page](#) for more information on these and other happenings at SC&I.

As always, I am very happy to hear from you – please write to me at dafna.lemish@rutgers.edu – I will respond to you!

In the meanwhile, stay well this winter as we look forward to a blooming spring!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dafna Lemish".

Dafna Lemish, Ph.D.

Interim Dean
Distinguished Professor of Journalism and Media Studies



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