

Daniels Fund Colloquia on Ethics in Communication

# FAKE NEWS AND FILTER BUBBLES: OVERCOMING OUR INFORMATION DIVIDE

March 30 | 7 pm | LSC Terrace Room



Department of Communication  
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **DENVER**



DANIELS FUND

# DANIELS FUND COLLOQUIA ON ETHICS IN COMMUNICATION

The Department of Communication at CU Denver is delighted to partner with the Daniels Fund to present the Daniels Fund Colloquia on Ethics in Communication, an educational enhancement designed to promote principle-based media ethics in a rapidly changing news environment. The series promotes interaction between eminent seminar guests and university students, faculty, partners, and the wider community to generate in-depth scholarly discourse about the meaning and impact of ethics and integrity in gathering, disseminating, and interpreting information.

## ABOUT FAKE NEWS

According to the Pew Research Center (2016):

The sense that fake news causes confusion **crosses party and demographic lines.**

64% of U.S. adults say fabricated news stories cause a **great deal of confusion** about the basic facts of current issues and events.

39% are “very confident” in their **ability to detect fake news**, while another 45% are “somewhat confident.”

About **one in four report sharing fake news**, whether they were aware that the story was fabricated at the time or not.

## ABOUT FILTER BUBBLES

Filter bubbles are created when websites’ algorithms **selectively present news and information** that supports viewers’ beliefs and isolates them from competing perspectives.

In a 2017 interview with Quartz Media, Bill Gates said that technology “lets you go off with like-minded people, so you’re not mixing and sharing and **understanding other points of view.**”

# PROGRAM

## WELCOME

Dorothy Horrell, Chancellor of CU Denver

## A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR

Bo Peretto, Daniels Fund

## OVERVIEW

Molly Hughes, Director of Denver Post TV

## OPENING REFLECTIONS

Hedrick Smith, Pulitzer Prize-Winning Journalist, Editor,  
Producer, Author

## PANEL CONVERSATION

Alexios Mantzarlis, Director, International Fact-Checking Network  
at The Poynter Institute

Ashley Muddiman, Media and Political Communication Expert

Hedrick Smith, Pulitzer Prize-Winning Journalist, Editor,  
Producer, Author

## SUBMITTED STUDENT QUESTIONS

## AUDIENCE QUESTIONS

Tweet to #AskHedrick

## CLOSING THOUGHTS FROM PANELISTS

## RECEPTION

## ALEXIOS MANTZARLIS



Alexios Mantzarlis is the Director of the International Fact-Checking Network at Poynter. In this position, he writes about and advocates for fact-checking and conducts trainings and seminars for fact-checkers across the globe. Before joining Poynter, Mantzarlis served as Managing Editor of *Pagella Politica* and *FactCheckEU*. He has also worked for the United Nations and the Italian Institute for International Political Studies.

## ASHLEY MUDDIMAN



Dr. Ashley Muddiman received her PhD in Communication Studies from the University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Muddiman is currently an Assistant Professor of Communication Studies at the University of Kansas. Her research is largely focused on the content and effects of political media, and specifically explores citizens' perceptions of political incivility and the effects of political civility in online settings.

# PARTICIPANTS

## MOLLY HUGHES



Molly Hughes, former CBS4 anchor, joined the Denver Post in 2014 as the Director of Denver Post TV. Hughes and DPTV focus on telling news stories that are enhanced through the use of pictures and sound. She came into the position at a crucial point, as The Denver Post sought to double their video production and increase their on-air presence.

## HEDRICK SMITH



Hedrick Smith, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, editor, producer, and author, is regarded as one of America's most distinguished journalists. Over the last 50 years, Smith has created Emmy award-winning specials for PBS, served as an editor and reporter at the *New York Times*, and written multiple best-selling books. Smith considers his most recent book, *Who Stole the American Dream?*, to be his most timely work yet.

# ADVISORY BOARD

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**Bruce Wilmsen**, Vice President of Media & Community Relations, Daniels Fund

# SPECIAL THANKS

Daniels Fund, CU Denver Department of Communication, CU Denver College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, our panelists and moderator, Chancellor Dorothy Horrell, Bo Peretto, Stephen Hartnett, Michelle Médal, Lisa Keränen, Laura Argys, JoAnn Porter, Leanna Clark, Alyssa Kriese, Tracy Kohm, Sonja K. Foss, Bruce Wilmsen, Jessica Webb, Matthew Kaskavitch, Claire Shannon, Van Browning, Lauren Pfefferle, Pamela Jansma, Austin Pride, and Madison Krall.



**DANIELS FUND**  
**ETHICS INITIATIVE**

**PRINCIPLES**

*Integrity*

Act with honesty in all situations

*Trust*

Build trust in all stakeholder relationships

*Accountability*

Accept responsibility for all decisions

*Transparency*

Maintain open and truthful communications

*Fairness*

Engage in fair competition and create equitable and just relationships

*Respect*

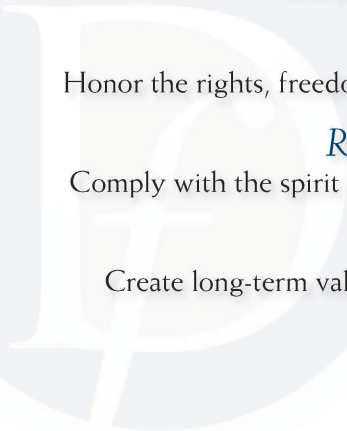
Honor the rights, freedoms, views, and property of others

*Rule of Law*

Comply with the spirit and intent of laws and regulations

*Viability*

Create long-term value for all relevant stakeholders



# About the CU Denver Department of Communication

The Department of Communication at CU Denver is a dynamic community of learners and scholars who are committed to “cultivating the knowledge and ability to use communication to create a more equitable and humane world.” Through our BA, MA, online, and certificate programs, we serve approximately 600 majors and minors, 30 graduate students, and online students from around the world.

We are the third largest major in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and among the first Communication programs to establish a cooperative learning agreement with China’s Ministry of Education to offer a CU Denver BA program in Communication in China at our International College Beijing.

Our alumni form a vibrant group of leaders across many industries, including communication, higher education, justice, healthcare, government, nonprofits, and beyond. Our faculty and staff are united by a passion for teaching and for fostering meaningful learning opportunities.

We place a premium on experiential learning and high-impact teaching practices, stressing service learning, civic engagement, internships, travel study and writing-intensive practices.

Our research faculty are well-known leaders in their respective areas of study. Together, they have received more than 15 major awards for research, teaching, and service in the past several years.

We invite you to stop by our offices on the third floor of the Student Commons Building at 1201 Larimer Street or find us online at [clas.ucdenver.edu/communication](http://clas.ucdenver.edu/communication).



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