NEWS AND EVENTS

Student Spotlight

We enjoy putting a spotlight on our outstanding students. If you'd like to nominate a student to be profiled, please contact us.

GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

AHSS GRADUATE STUDENT COORDINATES GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH SEMINAR

On February 7, the Graduate Student Government (GSG) at the University of Denver will host the first Graduate Research and Performance Summit: Breaking Down the Silos. Organized by communication studies doctoral candidate Leslie Rossman, the event will focus on cross-disciplinary research and the interdisciplinary opportunities that arise at graduate-level student research.

"The idea for the event came about by the need to foster dialogue within DU's graduate community. The summit will give students from across DU's disciplines the opportunity to exhibit their work to the whole campus community," said Rossman, GSG president.

In addition to her service as GSG President, Rossman continues to focus on her doctoral research to observe the intersections of critical rhetoric and rhetoric of political economy. "My dissertation examines the material effects of rhetoric in the production of a service and within discourses surrounding outsourcing and offshoring. This phenomenon has very real effects on how rhetoric is utilized to enforce hegemonic notions of what it is to be an American white-collar worker," said Rossman. She hopes her research will shed light on why service industry occupations are more easily outsourced and offshored, and how rhetoric is able to mediate the loss of jobs to lower paid labor.

DU's Graduate Research and Performance Summit will showcase the wide-ranging multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary work of the graduate students to the DU community. It will include papers, performances, poster presentations and experiential panels focusing on social justice, contemporary issues, public good and global perspectives. "This summit complements the mission of the Graduate Student Government fostering inclusivity within interdisciplinary research and dialogue among the DU community," said Rossman.

Student leadership and taking on large tasks to support students are common practices for Rossman. She has served on GSG for 3 years at DU, helping to strengthen the organization and making it more inclusive. Before coming to Denver, Rossman helped create the graduate assistant union at the University of Illinois at Springfield, and she was president of college democrats and a leader with LGBTQI community as an undergraduate at Southern Illinois University.
"The summit and graduate research grant funding are form of recognition for the innovative and cutting edge research occurring on our campus, and the grant was in danger of being cut. Therefore, I want thank the Chancellor, Provost, Associate Provost and Director of Budget and Planning in their efforts to secure our research and conference funding for another year to highlight the high level of research being conducted by our graduate students," said Rossman.

Learn more about the summit and graduate student research.