

Editor's Note

Jeffrey Layne Blevins

The ripple from the COVID-19 pandemic, its Delta and Omicron variants, and frequently adapting our personal and professional lives to accommodate changing circumstances continues to wreak havoc on our work routines and dedicated time for scholarly pursuits. With that in mind, I am grateful for the commitment of our authors, the dedication of our reviewers, and the patience of our readers as we put together Vol. 31, No. 1 of the *Communiqué*. I am especially indebted to reviewers who have read multiple manuscripts as well as those who produced thoughtful critiques within a short time frame. Thank you, Lee Artz (Purdue University Northwest), Christina Ceisel (California State University, Fullerton), Sonia De La Cruz (University of Washington), Jennifer Proffitt (Florida State University), Rhon Tuerelle (Purdue University Northwest), and John Wittebols (University of Windsor). My heartfelt gratitude also goes to *Communiqué* Associate Editor Peter Stiver, who after completing his M.A. in Political Science at University, is now a Project Manager for Bon Secours Mercy Health based in Cincinnati. This journal would not function without Peter's active management.

After the virtual UDC conference last summer (June 23-25, 2021), the *Communiqué* invited critical commentaries from several presenters, and we are happy to publish two in this issue: "Doing Cultural Studies: An Observation on its Politics, Methodologies, and Histories" by Robert F. Carley; and "'Something Nasty Down Below': Stuart Hall and the contradictions of 'so-called Cultural Studies' in the multi-crisis era" by Bill Yousman. Both are from the conference's closing plenary, "A Return to Sut Jhally's 2018 Dallas Smythe Keynote Address: Stuart Hall's Legacy for Media Studies: Conjunctures, Critique, and Political Projects." All of the presentations led to an engaging discussion (albeit, via Zoom) and we hope to publish more commentaries from this plenary in future issues of the *Communiqué*.