A Change of Header

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Recommended Citation

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Between the first and second issues in this volume, you may notice a change in the header from Nicholson School of Communication (NSC) to Nicholson School of Communication and Media (NSCM). This change results from the creation of a new administrative structure stemming from the merger of academic programs and the founding of a new intercollege school at the University of Central Florida (UCF). On July 1, 2018, the Nicholson School of Communication and academic units from the School of Visual Arts and Design were administratively reconfigured to create expanded academic programs in the areas of communication, games and interactive media, film and mass media, and interactive entertainment. This academic reorganization promises to provide a robust and integrated curriculum for the benefit of the nearly 4,500 students who enroll annually in NSCM’s majors, minors, and certificate programs. We are excited about our future and our efforts to provide high-quality instructional experiences for our students. This excitement is ungirded by the anticipated doctoral program in strategic communication to be launched at UCF through NSCM in 2019.

Back to the header: In 2017, the Nicholson School of Communication took steps to found this Journal of International Crisis and Risk Communication Research. Though leading scholars in crisis and risk communication had been calling for such a journal for nearly a decade, NSC provided the administrative and financial support to make the journal a reality. UCF was well positioned to publish this journal because of its sponsorship of the annual International Crisis and Risk Communication Conference since 2011. JICRCR published its first issue in 2018, and this publication constitutes the second issue. We want to assure you that NSCM will continue to support the publication of JICRCR, because an academic journal dedicated to crisis and risk
research is essential to strengthening the resources available for scholars and enhancing the continued legitimacy of risk and crisis within the broader communication discipline.

While some may expect the creation of our new school to reflect Juliet’s words from William Shakespeare’s play *Romeo and Juliet* that “a rose by any other name would smell as sweet,” we expect our new school to “smell sweeter” and blossom and thrive in the years ahead. We look forward to your continued readership and participation in our efforts to enhance crisis and risk communication.

—Robert S. Littlefield, Founding Director
Nicholson School of Communication and Media