

**MEGHANA RAWAT, Ph.D.**

(Megh-na Raa-vat, She/Her)

[Rawatmeghana30@gmail.com](mailto:Rawatmeghana30@gmail.com), Ph: +16102030556

Orem, UT

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**EDUCATION**

**Ph.D. (2021):** Purdue University, Brian Lamb School of Communication

Organizational Communication & Public Health

*Dissertation:* Opportunities and Challenges of Collaborative Work: An Examination at the Meso and Micro Levels of Public Health Collaborations in Indiana.

*Co-Advisors:* Dr. Stacey Connaughton (Professor and Director of the Purdue Policy Research Institute) and Dr. Seung Yoon Lee (Professor)

**M.A. (2017):** Purdue University, Brian Lamb School of Communication

Public Relations, Organizational Communication & Research Methods

*Thesis:* Public Relations Practices in Grassroots Organizations: A Case Study of Maitri in India

**M.A. (2011):** University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia, Public Relations & Advertising

**B.A. (2009):** University of Delhi, Mass Media & Mass Communication

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**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT**

**Assistant Professor of Strategic Communication, Utah Valley University**

(August 2021 to present), Orem, Utah

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**ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS**

**Director, Global/ Intercultural Program, Utah Valley University**

(July 2025 - currently), Orem, Utah

**Liaison (Communication Department), Concur Enrollment Program, Utah Valley University**

(July 2024 -currently), Orem, Utah

**Graduate Assistant, MS in Communication (Online Program), Purdue University**

(2016-2017, 2018-2019), West Lafayette, IN

1. Collaborated on launching a networking platform for alumni
2. Developed and updated the course on Global Seminar in Public Relations
3. Developed and assessed student surveys.

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**CONSULTING/ RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS**

**Advisor/ Health Scientist, Tury Research Consulting**

(March 2024 to present), Boston, MA

**Faculty Affiliate, Co-Design Collaborative (Co-Lab), University of Arizona**

(August 2024 to present), Tuscon, AZ

**Research Assistant, Purdue Peace Project, Purdue University**

(August 2018 – April 2020), West Lafayette, IN

## ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

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1. Adekunle, T.B, **Rawat, M.**, Adekunle, T.E; Stenulson, D. (2025). Challenges in Community Engagement: Insights from A Participatory Evaluation of a Health Program Serving Minoritized Older Adults in Indiana. *Journal of Community Practice*. 33(3), 228–241. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10705422.2025.2553536>
2. **Rawat M.**, DeMaria AL, Novorita A, Frank J, Burgett S, Ruple A, Cromer R (2023). Evaluating the impact of a university-wide free menstruation management product policy and program. *BMC Women’s Health*. 351 (23). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12905-023-02457-2>
3. Eise, J., & **Rawat, M.** (2023). Spiritual but not religious seek unrestricted connection to selves, others, and earth: Formative research on the explosive growth of an ‘inactive public’ beyond the organization. *Public Relations Review*, 49(1), 102276. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pubrev.2022.102276>
4. Venetis, M. K., Shields, A. N., **Rawat, M.**, & Seth, J. (2022). Predicting menstruation-related topic avoidance between daughters and mothers in two regions of Northern India. *Western Journal of Communication*, 1–21. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10570314.2022.2141072>
5. **Rawat, M.**, Shields, A. N., Venetis, M. K., & Seth, J. (2021). Women’s agentic role in enabling and dismantling menstrual health taboos in northern India: A culture-centered approach. *Health Communication*, 38(4), 695–704. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10410236.2021.1970296>
6. Eise, J., & **Rawat, M.** (2021). Applying Structural Divergence Theory to Climate Change adaptation in a localized context: Understanding the adaptive potential of coffee producers in Risaralda, Colombia. *Journal of Applied Communication Research*, 49(6), 651–668. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00909882.2021.1970792>

### ***Manuscripts Under Review***

7. **Rawat, M.** & Shields, A.N., Venetis, M.K. Applying Communication Privacy Management Principles to Menstrual Health Disclosure: An Examination of Menstrual Health in Northern India. (*Revise and Resubmit at the Journal of International & Intercultural Communication*).
8. Linabary, J., Corple, D.J., **Rawat, M.** Tech for Transformation: A Framework for Women’s Digital Empowerment. (*Under Review at Gender and Technology*)
9. **Rawat, M.** Opportunities and Challenges of Collaborative Work: An Examination at the Meso-Level of Public Health Collaborations in Indiana. To be submitted to the *Nonprofit Voluntary Quarterly*.

## CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECT

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Creating Space for Change: Contexts, Complexities, and Challenges to #ShiftthePower in the Women’s Development Sector (2022 *ongoing*): A collaborative project with the nonprofit platform *World Pulse* in the data collection phase

## INVITED BOOK CHAPTERS

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1. **Rawat, M.** Menstrual Health in South Asia: At the Crossroads of Culture and Change (forthcoming). *Handbook of Communication in (pre & post) Pandemics: South Asian Perspectives on Securing Health and Well-Being*. Routledge.
2. **Rawat, M.**, Wright, T.O., & Krishna, A. Public Relations in the African context. CA Handbook of Communication in Africa: Theory, Research, and Praxis (*forthcoming*), co-edited by Drs. Joelle Cruz (University of Colorado – Boulder), and Stacey Connaughton (Purdue University).
3. **Rawat, M.** & Adekunle, T. (2023). Participatory Approaches to Determine Effectiveness of Locally Led Peacebuilding Strategies: Role of Communication Scholarship. In S. L. & Linabary, J. *Are we making a difference? Global and local efforts to assess peacebuilding effectiveness*. Lanham, MA: Rowman & Littlefield.
4. Ptacek, J. K., Kamal, D., **Rawat, M.**, Linabary, J. R., & Connaughton, S. L. (2020). Doing locally led peacebuilding: An examination of the relationally attentive approach to conducting engaged scholarship (RAA) and transformations among emergent peacebuilders and U.S.-based collaborators in Liberia, West Africa. In P. Kellett, S. Connaughton, & G. Cheney (Eds.). *Conflict transformation and peacebuilding through engaged scholarship*. Peter Lang Publishing.

## Non-Academic Publishing

1. World Pulse Research & Evaluation Group & Co-Design Collaborative (2024, December). #ShiftThePower: Centering women's voices for change in and beyond the development sector. World Pulse. <https://impact.worldpulse.org/downloads/ShiftThePower>
2. **Rawat, M** (March 2021). The Talk and Taboo of Menstruation: An Exploration of Socio-cultural Implications in North India. **InnovatED**, Purdue University Graduate School Magazine.
3. Eise, J., **Rawat, M.** & Wiemer, E.C. (May 2019). Use peer-to-peer research collaboration in grad school. [Nature Career Column](#).
4. Linabary, J., Connaughton, S., Ptacek, J. **Rawat, M.** & Yeane, G. (March 2018). *Local Citizens Play a Key Role in Promoting Peaceful Elections in Liberia*. [Diplomatic Courier](#).
5. **Rawat, M.** & Ptacek, J. (2018, January). Bridging Community Tensions Through Dialogue. *PPP Perspectives*. <https://cla.purdue.edu/ppp/blogs/liberiajanuary2018.html>
6. Linabary, J.R., & **Rawat, M.** (2017, April). Promoting violence-free elections in the Upper West Region of Ghana. [PPP Perspectives](#).
7. Kohama, A. & Vonnegut, C. (2014). *Just Like You*. (**Rawat, M.** & Sharma, G., translation). American India Foundation. (a book to teach about disability to kids across five states in rural areas of India)

## AWARDS & HONORS

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2026 Outstanding Mentoring of a Student's Capstone Thesis by Integrated Studies at UVU

- 2025 Dean's Award for Excellence in Service, College of Humanities and Social Science, Utah Valley University (\$2500)
- 2021 Alan H. Monroe Scholar: presented to each graduate student in the School of Communication whose cumulative record demonstrates professional scholarship
- 2020 Berenice A. Carroll Feminism, Peace, and Social Justice Award by the Department of Women and Gender Studies, Purdue University for the PMS Project (\$1500)
- 2019 Top Student Paper Award: Public Relations Division, Central States Communication Association, Omaha, Nebraska (\$100)
- 2013 Competitively selected as the Banyan Tree Impact Fellowship (formerly known as the William J Clinton Fellowship) for Service in India by the American India Foundation in 2013-14 to work with a women's social enterprise for domestic help in the Northeast of India (*a yearlong funding towards living costs and professional development*).

### **RESEARCH CONFERENCES**

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1. Linabary, J., **Rawat, M.**, Corple D.J., 'That's an Agonizing Question' Reflecting On Identity While Seeking to 'Shift Power' in International Development. *To be presented at International Communication Association* (June 2026), Capetown, South Africa.
2. **Panelist**, Outties vs. Innies: Organizational Toxicity and Resistance in Severance at the Western States of Communication Association Conference (February 2026), San Diego
3. Linabary, J., Corple, D.J., **Rawat, M.** Tech for Transformation: A Framework for Women's Digital Empowerment (June 2025). *Presented at International Communication Association (2025), Denver, CO, USA*
4. **Rawat, M.** & Shields, A.N., Venetis, M.K. (February 2025) Applying Communication Privacy Management Principles to Menstrual Health Disclosure: An Examination of Menstrual Health in Northern India. Presented at the 95<sup>th</sup> Western States Communication Association, Albuquerque, NM, USA
5. **Panelist**, Interpersonal and Family Communication (February 2025). Supporting Scholars: The Promise and Problems of Academic Friendship held in Albuquerque, NM, USA
6. **Panelist**, Organizational Communication Division (November 2024). #ShiftThePower: Challenging Dominant Paradigms, Building More Just Organizing Practices at the National Communication Association Conference to be held in New Orleans, LA, USA.
7. **Rawat M.** (February 2023). Opportunities and challenges of collaborative work: An examination at the meso-level of public health collaborations in Indiana. To be presented at the 93<sup>rd</sup> Western States Communication Association Conference. Phoenix, Arizona, USA.
8. Linabary, J., Corple, D, & **Rawat, M** (July 2022). Reimagining 'Development': Using Co-

Design to Build a More Participatory Research Process. Paper presented at the 20<sup>th</sup> ASPEN Engaged Scholarship. Aspen, CO, USA.

9. **Rawat, M.** (May 2022). Community Health Workers and their Social Contexts: Qualitative Network Analysis of County-Level Public Health Related Collaborations in Indiana. Paper presentation panel at the 72<sup>nd</sup> International Communication Association Conference (ICA). Paris, France.
10. Eise, J. & **Rawat M.** (May 2022) “Spiritual but Not Religious” Seek Unrestricted Connection to Selves, Others, and Earth: Formative Research on the Explosive Growth of an ‘Inactive Public’ Beyond the Organization. Paper presentation panel at the 72<sup>nd</sup> International Communication Association Conference (ICA). Paris, France.
11. **Rawat, M.**, Shields, A.N, Sanchez V.S, Anderson, L.B, Morgan, M. (April 2022). Qualitative Application of Structural Divergence Theory to Evaluate Socio-Cultural Structures in ‘the Nursing Sector. Poster presentation at the Kentucky Communication of Health Conference. Lexington, Kentucky.
12. DeMaria AL, Novorita A, Frank J, Burgett S, **Rawat M**, Ruple A, Cromer R **(October 2021)**. Evaluating the impact of a university-wide free menstruation management product policy and program. Oral presentation at 149<sup>th</sup> Annual American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting & Exposition. Denver, CO / Virtual.
13. Brunese, P. & **Rawat, M.** (July 2021). Volunteer Identity and Identification in Cross-Sector Partnerships. Presented at the 81<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management. Boston, MA/ virtual.
14. Shields, A., **Rawat M.**, Venetis M. & Seth J **(May 2021)**. Applying the Disclosure Decision Model on sharing Pre-Menstrual Challenges by Women in India. Presented at the International Communication Association 2021 virtual conference, Denver, CO.
15. **Rawat, M. (September 2020)**. Evaluating Communication in Local Health Collaborative Networks: An Exploration of County Level Public Health Departments in Indiana. *Presented at the Organizational Communication Mini-Conference (OCMC), University of South Florida (virtual conference due to COVID-19)*
16. **Rawat, M. & Connaughton, S. (November 2020)**. The Communicative Indicators of Impact in Locally Led Organizations – Implications of a Relationally Attentive Approach to Engaged Scholarship. *Presented at the National Communication Association Convention, Indianapolis (virtually due to COVID-19)*
17. Adekunle, T. & **Rawat, M. (2020)**. Reaching the Community: A Practical Participatory Evaluation of a Community Health Program for Racial and Ethnic Minorities in and around Greater Lafayette, IN. *Presented at the National Communication Association Convention, Indianapolis (virtually due to COVID-19)*
18. Shields, A. & **Rawat M. (2020)**. Women Investigating “Women Problems”: A Collaborative Autoethnography Exploring Narratives of Menstrual and Premenstrual Symptoms. *Paper Presented virtually due to COVID-19 at the International Communication Association Conference, May 2020*

19. **Rawat M.**, Shields, A. & Venetis, M. (2020). A Shared Secret: Manifestation of Privacy Rules about Menstruation in Indian Women. Poster presented virtually due to COVID-19 at the International Communication Association Conference, May 2020
20. **Shields, A., Rawat, M.** & Venetis, M. (2020). "I did not want to talk about that with anyone": Women's Perception of Disclosure of Menarche in India. *Poster presented virtually due to COVID-19 at the Kentucky Conference of Health Communication, in April 2020*
21. **Rawat, M.**; Shields, A; Venetis, M & Seth, J. (2020). Women's Agentic Role in Enabling and Dismantling Menstrual Health Taboos in India: A Structural Analysis. *Paper Presented virtually at the Kentucky Conference of Health Communication, April 2020*
22. Lambert, N., **Rawat, M.**, & Wiemer, E. C. (2019). Evaluation of Indiana Public Health departments' use of Facebook to meet community health information Needs using semantic network analysis. *Presented at the annual meeting of the Sunbelt Conference, Montreal, Canada, June 2019.*
23. **Rawat, M.** (2019, April) "We Cannot Hire a PR Person": Case Study of a Social Enterprise in Transition and the Role of PR Scholarship. *Presented at the Central States Communication Association, Public Relations Division, Omaha, Nebraska. [Top Student Paper]*
24. Eise, J. & **Rawat, M.** (2019, May) Understanding Climate Change Adaptation Capacity in a Localized Environment. *Presented at the 69<sup>th</sup> International Communication Association, Washington D.C. Organizational Communication Division*
25. Brunese, P. & **Rawat M.** (2019, May) Gradual Manifestation of Identities and Identification Tensions in Cross-Sector Partnerships. *Presented at the 69<sup>th</sup> International Communication Association, Washington D.C. Organizational Communication Division.*
26. Sanchez, V.S., **Rawat, M.**, Shields, A., Morgan, M. & Anderson, L. (2017, November): A standpoint analysis of nurses' experiences of incivility. *Paper presented at National Communication Association conference in Dallas, Texas.*
27. Shields, A., Sanchez, V.S., **Rawat, M.**, Morgan, M. & Anderson, L (2017, April): Barbie Just Left the Floor: An Application of Communication Accommodation Theory in the Context of Bullying/ Incivility. *Poster presented at D.C. Health Communication Conference, George Mason University.*
28. **Rawat, M** & Sriramesh, K (2017, March): Public Relations Practices in Grassroots Social Enterprises: A Case Study of Maitri in India. *Paper presented at International Public Relations Research Conference, Orlando, Florida.*
29. **Rawat, M.** (2016, November): Public Relations Practices in Grassroots Social Enterprises: A Case Study of Maitri in India. *Presented at the National Communication Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.*
30. **Rawat, M.** (2016, February): Communicating Development Goals: Focus on social

entrepreneur's decision-making to balance social value creation and organizational sustainability. *Presented at Communication Graduate Student Association Conference, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana*

### **GRANTS (Total amount: \$82,659)**

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- 2025 ELLA grant for student engaged learning. Awarded \$500
- 2025 Center for Social Impact grant for service-learning class. Awarded \$500
- 2023 OTL Faculty Travel grant (2023). Amount: \$700
- 2022 Grants for Engaged Learning (November 2022). Competitively selected faculty grant award to run an undergraduate student's research group in Spring 2023. Amount: \$9,528
- 2022 SCULPT grant for scholarly travel research (May 2022). Awarded by the Utah Valley University. Amount: \$750
- 2020 Competitively awarded the Purdue Research Foundation Grant towards dissertation research (August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020, to July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021). Amount: \$31,119
- 2020 Competitively awarded the Lamb School Doctoral Research Grant towards dissertation research over the summer of 2020. Amount: \$9500.
- 2020 Competitively awarded the Indian Women's Association Award to support my research towards the PMS project. Amount: \$1000
- 2019 Competitively awarded the Lamb School Doctoral Research Grant – 2019 for research by Lamb School of Communication (Amount: \$8,652)
- 2018 Competitively awarded the Global Synergy Grants Award for research in India (in collaboration with the Department of Sociology at Punjab University, India) by the College of Liberal Arts. (Amount: \$19,160) - *Principal Investigator. Mentored two undergraduate students in database management and qualitative analysis.*
- 2016 Competitively awarded the Promise Grant Award by the College of Liberal Arts to support thesis work with a social enterprise in India (Amount: \$1500)
- 2016 Awarded the Brian Lamb School Professional Development Fund to support thesis work in India (Amount: \$750)

### **ENGAGEMENT & SERVICE**

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#### **Student Engagement**

- 2024-25 Independent study for Lexi Vassilaros, Lexi Tanner, and Chadd Williamson  
UVU Honors student co-mentor for Hope Bromman
- 2022-2023 Thesis committee member for Mackenna Horrocks (Integrated Studies)
- 2022 Mentor to PRSA applicant Adriana Sanchez for the PRSA Student of Year Campaign Competition

#### **Service to the department**

*Last updated in 2026, March*

- 2024-25 Committee member to re-envision core COMM 4850 (PR Campaigns Service Learning class)
- 2023-onward Communication Department Representative: Concur Enrollment
- 2023-24 Committee Chair: Curriculum Change in Communication Major
- 2022-23 Search committee member for hiring an Assistant Professor in the applied communication major.
- 2022-24 Advisor for the PRSSA chapter at UVU: The club was awarded “The Above and Beyond performance by UVU clubs” in 2022.
- 2022-23 Co-Revising COM 3140 class – a popular elective across both PR and Applied COM majors.
- 2022-23 Member of the ‘Re-envisioning COM 3050, Communication Theory’ class at UVU.
- 2021-22 Search committee member for hiring for the role of lecturer in the applied communication major.
- 2021-22 Member of the ‘Re-envisioning COM 3020, Research Methods Committee’. Suggested the change in the book and working to create online shells to ensure standard delivery in the course.

### **Service to the college**

- 2023-onward Chair – CHSS Diversity-Inclusion Committee
- 2021-2023 Member of the CHSS Teaching Committee
- 2021-2023 Member of the CHSS Diversity-Inclusion Committee

### **Service to the university**

- 2022-present CHSS representative on the University Engagement Committee
- 2024-present CHSS representative on the Council of Academic Standards

### **Service to the discipline**

- 2026 Reviewer for Health Communication
- 2025 Reviewer for Journal of International and Intercultural Communication
- 2025 Reviewer for Journal of Religious Studies
- 2023 Reviewer for Frontiers Journal of Communication
- 2023 Reviewer for Organizational Communication Division, National Communication Association Conference, 2023
- 2022 Reviewer for Organizational Communication Division, Western States Communication Association Conference, 2023
- 2022 Reviewer for Computational and Organizational Communication Divisions, International Communication Association conference, 2022
- 2019 Reviewer for Activism, Communication and Social Justice Division, International Communication Association Conference, 2019
- 2018 Social media coordinator with the NCA PR Division (2017-18): Conducted social media application survey for the unit.

### **HIGH IMPACT TEACHING PRACTICES CERTIFICATIONS**

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- 2021 Teaching First-Year Undergraduate Student
- 2021 Cultivating Inclusive Classrooms Workshops
- 2022 Teaching Writing Enriched Topics Workshop
- 2022 Online Teaching Academy Workshop to learn best practices in asynchronous teaching
- 2022 Mentoring Undergraduate Students in Research Workshop
- 2022 Service-Learning Fellowship

*Last updated in 2026, March*

**INDUSTRY APPOINTMENTS**

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1. Associate Program Manager at All India Federation of Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA Bharat) in New Delhi, India (July 2014 to June 2015): Monitoring and evaluation for ongoing grassroots programs with women in informal labor, grant development, and media relations.
2. Clinton Fellow and Communication Manager at Purbanchal Maitri Development Society in Assam, India (September 2013 to June 2013) (*Awarded the William J. Clinton Fellowship for Service in India by American India Foundation*): Documented in word and film the mission, vision, and short history of Maitri's work with domestic caregivers and report writing
3. Senior Program Executive at Bite Communications of Next 15 Group in Gurgaon, India (March 2013 to August 2013): Managed media interviews, events, and press releases and conducted planning and review for clients US and Singapore-based clients such as Amazon Web Services, CommScope-and Gates Foundation
4. Assistant Ad Manager at ELLE India in New Delhi, India (November 2011 to March 2013): Worked with the sales team of North India to manage luxury and high street fashion brands and their presence in brand ELLE
5. Marketing Executive in ELLE India in Mumbai, India (July 2009 to May 2010): Assisted the Executive Publisher of ELLE India in partnership management and building ties with brands such as Louis Vuitton, Guess, Cartier, BMW, Swiss Airlines and led subscription drives, readership surveys and event management.

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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1. National Communication Association
2. International Communication Association
3. Western States Communication Association