

NEWS

SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION STUDIES

The latest news and information from the School of Communication Studies at Bowling Green State University



ALUMNI NEWS

Indie Award

Brent Walton, a 2008 TCOM graduate, is a winner of the 2008 Indie Gathering Award for his movie trailer "Keys to the Kingdom." The work, a project produced in Dr. Tom Mascaro's TCOM 468 class, was showcased in the Indie Gathering Film Festival.

The Indie Gathering Film Festival exists to showcase the independent filmmaker. Its mission is to inspire and encourage film makers through a competitive showcase of independent features, documentaries, shorts, music videos and trailers. Filmmakers participate in their screenings and after the films speak with audience members who seek a closer look into the creative.

PR Specialist

Sara (Edwards) O'Malley, a SCS graduate, has recently accepted a position as a Public Relations Specialist with Quest Software in Dublin, Ohio. "It looks to be quite a challenge but a great opportunity in pay and experience with corporate communications," O'Malley said. "I am excited about this new venture."



FALCON FORENSICS

8th CFA title gives team record winning streak

BGSU handily won their 8th Collegiate Forensic Association title against 10 teams, including Shepards College, Randolph-Manken, Bloomsburg University and Brooklyn College. Leading the success at the tournament held in Montreal were senior Jennifer Myers (New York) and sophomore team members Ian Hatch (Michigan), Jacob Redfern (Ohio) and Katie

Hodgdon (Pennsylvania).

The team combined its efforts to amass a 100+ point lead over second place Shepards College, earning finals in 37 of BGSU's 42 events entered in the tournament. Freshmen members, Nicholas Blaine (Ohio), Alesha Gailhouse (Ohio) and Ryan Dailey (Ohio) mounted impressive performances, earning a combined 17 CFA awards in their first year.

This tournament also marked BGSU's formal return to team debate, where BGSU has not participated since the 1970s. "We were particularly pleased that our debaters earned honors amongst the top in the tournament in our first

Forensics and Debate team members show off their wining hardware.

time back in debate in roughly 40 years," Paul Wesley Alday, director of Forensics and Debate, said.

Of the 10 individual event types at the tournament, BGSU earned the title of event champion in eight.

"This was an amazing tournament, and each team member ended up placing in finals in at least three of their events. I am truly proud of their accomplishments," Alday said. This was Alday's 11th C.F.A. championship, standing as the only unbeaten coach in CFA history.



JOURNALISM

Workshop brings cultures together on the environment

In November 2008 Dr. Catherine Cassara-Jemai took a group from BGSU to Tunisia for ten days for a workshop on environmental journalism and communication.

The trip brought the BGSU students and faculty together with counterparts from Tunisia and Algeria. The workshop was organized by the Institute of the Press and Information Sciences of the University of Manouba and the Tunis International Centre for Environmental Technologies (CITET) with support from the Tunisian Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development.

"It was wonderful to see the students encounter another culture," Cassara-Jemai said. In the evaluations of the trips, Cassara-Jemai said the students consistently commented on how much they liked meeting students from other countries and learning about shared



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CATHERINE CASSARA-JEMAI

interests.

In addition to sessions with Tunisian environmental authorities, the students traveled to sites in other parts of the country where new projects are tackling the problems presented by

Samira Balbouli from IPSI listens as BGSU senior Laura Simmons asks a question during a session.

industrial and community wastes. The U.S. and Algerian participation in the workshop was made possible through a program assisted financially by a \$388,893 grant from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State under the authority of the Fulbright-Hayes Act of 1961, as amended.

Award for Distinguished Service

Keith Sanders, a 1960 graduate, has been awarded the 2008 Presidential Award for Distinguished Service to Mass Communication and Journalism from the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. He accepted the award during the organization's recent business meeting in Chicago.

The award recognized Sanders' long-term leadership in teaching, research and service to journalism education. Sanders is professor emeritus of journalism at the University of Missouri and executive director of Kappa Tau Alpha national honor society.

At Bowling Green, Sanders was managing editor of the BG News in 1959-1960 and faculty adviser/publisher in 1963-1964. He was tapped for Omicron Delta Kappa 1959 received the university's Distinguished Service award in 1960.

Travelers to Tunisia

FACULTY:

Dr. Catherine Cassara-Jemai
Assoc. Professor Journalism

Dr. Nancy Brendlinger
Assoc. Professor Journalism

GUEST:
David Sears

STUDENTS:

Erin Bucholz
Journalism

Angela Burdge
Journalism

Lauren Farnsworth
Journalism

Elizabeth Hartman
International Studies

Jared Jacobs
Telecommunications

Laura Simmons
Journalism

Joseph Singer
International Studies



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Dr. Terry Rentner
NEWS DESIGNER
Kelly Taylor, journalism



TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Panel explores transition to digital signal

The Department of Telecommunications held a digital TV transition panel on Feb. 4 in the union theater.

Over 150 people including an agent from the FCC Detroit office attended the panel titled “Digital Television Transition in Ohio: Challenges to Consumers and the TV Industry.”

The panel was organized to correspond with the Feb. 17 change over when all full power television stations were required to make the switch to digital broadcast and turn off their analog signals. On

the day of the panel the group learned that the U.S. House had just voted to put off the federally mandated transition until June 12. The change in the deadline did not dampen the event. The transition is a historical moment affecting every TV viewer in the nation.

Pat Fitzgerald, general manager of WBGU-TV, moderated the panel.

Speakers and topics were:

- Christine Merritt, executive director, Ohio Association of Broadcasters: *Digital TV Transition in Ohio: An Overview*
- Patrick Deville, president and general manager of Erie County Cablevision, Ohio Cable Television Association: *Digital Must Carry – the debate and how it will affect consumers and TV stations in Ohio*
- Bob Chirdon, vice president and general manager, and Steve

Dr. Louisa Ha and Dr. Sung-Yeon Park were part of the digital TV transition panel held in the Union.

Crum, Chief Engineer, WTOL: *The implementation of DTV transition by WTOL-Toledo*

- Dr. Louisa Ha, professor and acting chair, department of telecommunications: *Ohio TV stations' digital TV education efforts and business models*
- Dr. Sung-Yeon Park, assistant professor, department of telecommunications: *DTV readiness of Northwest Ohio residents and WBGU-TV Viewers*

About the audience reaction, Dr. Ha said, “They all felt the session was very informative and let them understand the digital transition much better.”

The Sentinel Tribune reported on the event.



STUDENT NEWS

Top Paper

A paper written by Bridget Long and Samara Anarbaeva was ranked in the top four student papers of the International and Intercultural Communication Division at the National Communication Association.

The paper, “Communicative Adaptability and Intercultural Communication Apprehension: Gender and Cultural Differences in College Students” was chosen from more than 140 papers submitted.

WFAL Record

In a record-setting night, WFAL Falcon radio hosted a 12-hour marathon in December featuring Tim Reynolds from the Dave Matthews Band.

In a new high for the student-run station, more than 1,100 online listeners tuned in to hear Reynolds chat by phone about his musical career and the band's new album.

Some listeners hailed from Brazil, Australia, Ireland and the Czech Republic.

Based on the response to the marathon, a similar show is planned for the future. The show was hosted by Tim Kilkenny, Matt Leininger, and Patrick Dougherty.

The station is online at www.falconradio.org.

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

■ Dr. Oliver Boyd-Barrett [JOUR] will be the Keynote Speaker at the Conference on Communication Technologies and Social Change to be held at King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on March 15-17.

Dr. Oliver Boyd-Barrett [JOUR] is the Chair of the Division of Global Communication and Social Change. He is responsible for the Division's one-day pre-conference prior to the annual conference of the International Communication Association, to be held in Chicago, in May. He is also a paper reviewer, panel chair and respondent. In addition he is the chair of award boards for life-time achievement, best book and best journal article.

Dr. Oliver Boyd-Barrett [JOUR] will have his article, "News Agencies in the Era of the Internet," published in *Media Asia*, Vol. 35, No.3, April 2009.

Dr. Oliver Boyd-Barrett [JOUR] has been invited by The Catalan News Agency to edit and contribute to a book on the future of news agency, to mark the agency's 10th anniversary.

■ Dr. Radhika Gajjala [SCS GRADUATE COORDINATOR] submitted an outstanding proposal for the Winifred O. Stone Award and was recommended for funding by the review committee. This means an award of one doctoral stipend at \$12,300. The one-year award will be included as a supplement to the 2009-2010 graduate assistant stipend allocation.

■ Dr. Louisa Ha [TCOM] will attend an invitation-only Competitive TV Summit by Broadcasting and Cable Magazine with 36 TV, industry leaders on the future of TV business in Orlando, Florida, March 4-5. She is one of two invited academic attendees of the summit.

■ Dr. Sung-Yeon Park [TCOM] received first place for her paper in the Intergroup Communication Interest Group for the International Communication Association 2009 Conference to be held in Chicago in May. Her paper, "Explicating Mediated Intergroup Contact: A synthesis of the intergroup contact theory and media stereotype research," came from her Peace Conference presentation last Fall.

■ Dr. Terry Rentner [SCS DIRECTOR] received a \$20,639 grant from the Ohio Department of Health to implement an anti-tobacco social marketing campaign at BGSU this semester. Her co-principle investigator is Faith Yingling, Wellness Connection director.

■ Kelly Taylor's [JOUR] article remembering journalism professor Dennis Hale, who died in March 2008, was published in the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund's fall Adviser Update.

Kelly Taylor [JOUR] was elected secretary of the Ohio Scholastic Media Association, a group that offers workshops and conferences and provides a unified voice for the state's student journalists and their teachers.

The Journalism Department and the Evansville (Ind.) Courier & Press teamed up for the exchange of a BGSU faculty member and a multi-media reporter.



JOURNALISM

Exchange program emphasizes multi-media journalism

Gavin Lesnick, a multi-media reporter at the Courier & Press came to BGSU on Feb. 3-5 and spoke to nearly every journalism class about the changing face of newspapers.

Lesnick shared his experiences of shooting video, audio and still photographs to show how his role as a reporter is evolving from strictly print writing to the Web.



Lesnick also conducted workshops with the journalism faculty. BGSU alumnus Mizell Stewart III, who is editor of the Courier & Press, initiated the successful exchange program.

During fall semester 2008, journalism faculty member Dr. Kathy Bradshaw spent three days in Evansville at the Courier & Press learning about the role of the Web in the Scripps Howard newspaper.

