

COMMUNIQUE

Fall, 2017

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President Caboni Addresses the Communication Department



Dr. Tim Caboni, WKU President

Midway into the Fall 2017 semester, WKU President Tim Caboni, who earned his M.A. in Organizational Communication at WKU, met with Communication faculty members and students to discuss his vision and aspirations for the university. He prided the university on being a “student-centered research university” and hopes to continue capitalizing on this strength throughout his leadership tenure.

The President discussed areas for improvement and quipped, “Running an organization is like boiling a frog, you don’t want anyone to notice any change has happened.” That said, he plans to focus the universi-

ty’s efforts on the retention of students, with an emphasis on students of color. To help first-year students get to their second year, he has plans to lower the cost of school. In conjunction with that, he plans to be more honest and upfront about education costs with prospective students. As the price of tuition and other costs continue to rise, the enrollment numbers of four-year universities will decrease as students seek to complete the first two years at community colleges. Caboni said students starting at two-year institutions and finishing at four-year institutions can be the difference of making half a million dollars over their career

lifetimes.

Caboni will also focus on recruitment. “WKU has to stand out in some way,” he said. In the eyes of Caboni, WKU already has an edge over some of the biggest and best schools by having full-time professors teach first-year college students. For freshmen students to have full-time professors teaching their general elective courses who know their names by the fifth

week of the semester is special and uncommon among many schools across the nation.

Caboni also took the time to give advice to Communication majors. In discussing the flexibility of the major, he cautioned students not to sell themselves short when searching for jobs. “The skills and strategies acquired through a communication degree will surprise employers,” he said.

Follow President Caboni’s work on retention and recruitment through the WKU Herald or the President’s personal Twitter account, @caboni.

~ Ben Johnson, Student

Message to the Undeclared Student

Dear Undeclared Student,

At this point in your life, you might be thinking, “How did I make it to college unable to pick a major?” All your friends seem to know what they’re doing, so you should too, right? After spending the majority of your life in school, you might have thought that choosing what you want to do with the rest of your life would have been a little easier and less stressful. Allow me to let you in on a little secret: *it’s ok to not know what to do.*

When I began my journey at WKU, I had no idea what I wanted to do. I experienced many of the feelings you probably have – uncertainty, frustration, anxiety – all while my friends seemed to know exactly what they wanted. After talking with advisers and faculty however, my view began to change. They told me that, as a freshman, not knowing what major to pick was in some ways even better than being declared. I was able to choose any path I wanted and explore some of the colleges within the university.

Still not completely sure what I wanted, I came across the Department of Communication after taking COMM 145. I had an interest in the subject, and I knew I didn’t

want a simple desk job. I also really enjoy interacting with people, so after looking into it further, I discovered it was something I might want to do.

One of the things that attracted me to this department was the wide variety of jobs offered for someone



with a communication degree. Occupations such as management, public relations, sales and training are just a few that caught my attention. The range of opportunities seemed perfect for someone who was unsure of a specific career or industry path they wanted to follow in the future. In the end, with the help of teachers and advisers, I was able to narrow down the choice of a

dual-degree in Corporate and Organizational Communication and Spanish.

With this degree I could go anywhere and obtain a job with a variety of different companies. Marketing, public relations and even healthcare are among the many fields that I could choose from. I could even try out politics, or work with non-profit organizations.

Wherever I end up, I know I will be prepared to take on any new challenge.

If you are currently undeclared and looking to try on a new major, I would highly recommend looking into the Department of Communication. The teachers and staff here prepare you well for the work you will be doing in the future, whatever that may hold. And with an expanded program including Public Relations and Advertising, there are even more possibilities to choose from! Sometimes not

knowing can be the best thing, and when you do finally figure it out, you realize you hold the key to success.

To learn more about the Department of Communication stop by the Fine Arts Center, room 130, or contact the department head, Dr. Sterk, at helen.sterk@wku.edu.

~ Peter Vavryk, Student

**Communication is key to a better self,
better life, and better future.**

Message from Helen Sterk, Department Head



Dr. Helen Sterk

Silos, or disciplinary boundaries, are coming down at WKU and Communication is leading the way. New ways of communicating cross boundaries and our department is well-situated to bridge the boundaries.

The future ties face-to-face and mediated communication together. Whether someone studies how communication works or how to create effective messages, knowing how to understand and use communication media platforms will be crucial. From public speaking to websites to social media to video games to animation to dating, educated communicators need to know how theory as well as

computer coding create meaning.

July 1, 2017 marked the beginning of the future life of WKU's Department of Communication! On that day, we welcomed three major programs into the department: Advertising, Popular Culture Studies, and Public Relations. Combined with Communication Studies and Corporate and Organizational Communication, these majors move the department strongly toward the future.

Under the leadership of Dr. Angela Jerome, our new Coordinator of Undergraduate Curriculum, the department revised the Advertising, Communication Studies, Corporate and Organizational Communication, and Public Relations curricula. Popular Culture Studies was revised last year by its former director, Dr. Anthony Harkins, and his advisory council.

The new programs enable students to take courses across areas to fulfill core and elective requirements and to double major easily, broadening their educations and enhancing their job prospects. As always, students may double major across departments. Now, however, Communication students may double major within the department.

An Ad and Popular Culture double major will gain current content for ad

creations. A Communication Studies and PR double major will learn more about both audiences and campaigns. A PR and Corporate and Organizational Communication double major will learn how corporate contexts affect messages.

The revised programs have all been approved up to the Board of Regents and are awaiting their final assent.

Also this year, we are hiring a professor in Digital Communication. We are interviewing three dynamite candidates in late January and early February. Whoever we choose will play a key role in charting our future. The candidates we will interview are dynamic and interested broadly in communication from advertising to gaming to storytelling to 3D image generation. Each one brings a different strength to us. Each one has networks into other disciplines that will energize student learning and opportunity.

I encourage you to support the Department of Communication. You can be part of its future by declaring a major and/or by donating to the department. Just go to https://www.wku.edu/communication/gift_to_comm_dept.php and follow the links!

~ Dr. Helen Sterk,
Department Head

Special Topics Course Focuses on the Future of Work in Kentucky

In the Spring of 2018, a new class, Futures of Communication (COMM 400), will be available to students within the Department of Communication. Students from the department are being recruited for the course based on their personal academic achievement, innovative orientation,

and creativity.

According to Ken Payne, Public Relations professor, "Futures of Communication will be the first chance for students from our five different disciplines to come together to bring their expertise to the table."

Payne and Sam Ford, alumnus of

the department, will team teach the course where students will explore the history of work and economic development in Kentucky, the current state of the economy, and potential visions for the future. Students will work in interdisciplinary groups

- *Cont'd on page 4*

Special Topics Course ... *cont'd*

to create communication campaigns promoting a positive image of the future of work, such as coal miners who code, in Kentucky in 2040.

The course will address these key questions:

- ◆ How are we thinking about the future of the economy in our state?
- ◆ To what degree does communication play a role in helping shape what that future could be, and becomes?
- ◆ How do we think about what each of the areas of the Department of Communication has to offer in addressing that question?

Ford stated, “I’m excited to work with a few students from each of the majors of this department in a collaborative space, where we learn from each other, imagine the future of these fields, and think about what happens when the expertise of these various



Bit Source, a Pikeville, Kentucky startup, is out to prove there’s life after coal for the thousands of industry veterans who’ve lost their jobs.

Photo courtesy of seattletimes.com

programs are combined. I think it will provide a unique learning opportunity for students and the sort of project that will be a great portfolio-builder for them as they pursue what comes next in their ca-

reer after graduating.”

If you would like more information on the course please contact Ken Payne at ken.payne@wku.edu or Sam Ford at samford@mit.edu.

~ Eli Hurt, Student

Executive-in-Residence Shares Wisdom with Students



Craig Dezern

On Tuesday, September 5, Craig Dezern, a WKU alumnus, spoke with Communication students about his career and offered advice for future communication professionals. After a career in journalism, Dezern worked his way up to Vice President of Public Relations and Marketing at Walt Disney Parks and Resorts.

Dezern shared two key messages with the students. He said that it's okay to change your ca-

reer path multiple times. Keep your doors open and be willing to explore new opportunities when they come your way. Dezern also expressed the importance of being a lifelong learner who is willing to adapt to various situations and learn from them. Students were very receptive to his advice.

Eli Hurt, a Corporate and Organizational Communication major conveyed, “It was an awesome opportunity being able to spend time

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Executive-in-Residence ... *cont'd*

with a professional who has spent time at the top of his field. His presentation touched on everything we were learning in our Advanced Organizational Communication class.”

Dezern also discussed some of the projects he completed for Disney. One of his most challenging and exciting assignments was the startup of the Shanghai Disney Park. He learned the centrality of culture, while translating an American theme park for Chinese customers.

Dezern recently accepted a new position with Hilton as the Vice President of Brand Communications in Washington, D.

The Communication Department’s Executive-in-Residence program takes place every fall. For more information and a schedule of events visit the department website at <https://www.wku.edu/communication/>.

~ Colleen Coomes, Student



From WKU to Disney’s World: The Profession of a Communicator

September 5 — 5:00 p.m.

GRH Auditorium (Room 1074)

Craig Dezern

VP of Global Public Relations for Disney Destinations



Opinion Piece: Liberal arts education is more than a first semester elective

In recent years there has been a shift in higher education away from liberal arts education.

Most of this shift appears to be reactionary in nature. Public officials often say how the students of today have to become more specialized in the sciences and other industries if we wish to be competitive in a global marketplace, and focusing on liberal arts won’t land us on that competitive field.

“Every month, it seems, we hear about our children’s bad test scores in math and science — and about new initiatives from companies, universities or foundations to expand STEM courses (science, technology,

engineering and math) and deemphasize the humanities,” Fareed Zakaria, author of “In Defense of a Liberal Education,” writes in *The Washington Post*.

But gutting liberal arts education is detrimental in a number of ways.

First, the problem with having to make a case for the liberal arts is that no one should have to do so. Making a case places it in competition with STEM fields, which it doesn’t need to be. There can, is and should be the coexistence of liberal arts and the sciences.

Too often a dichotomy emerges in which it is assumed liberal arts educa-

tion is not necessary or needed in a contemporary workplace, or liberal arts could never work in conjunction with its scientific counterpart.

The concept of liberal arts education is nothing new. First emerging in classical times, having Greek and Roman roots, liberal education was based on grammar, dialectic and rhetoric—known as the Trivium or “three-fold way,” according to Biola University.

Even historically speaking there was a connection between liberal education and the sciences. The Trivium is coupled with the Quadrivium

- *Cont'd on page 6*

Opinion Piece: Liberal Arts ... *cont'd*

or “four-fold way”—arithmetic, music, geometry and astronomy.

So if it worked for the Greeks and Romans what’s changed? Apart from an increasing push on a federal and state level to deemphasize and villainize liberal arts as the bane of a university’s economic struggles, nothing.

A liberal arts education continues to provide a wide variety of practical and intellectual skills which are beneficial to students of all disciplines.

Former president of Berea College, Larry Shinn, lays out some of those skills in a 2014 article in *Trusteeship* magazine:

- ◆ Analytical thinking and communicating well in written and oral modes.
- ◆ Working independently and in team settings.
- ◆ Applying knowledge and skills in complex problem-solving in an ever more complex and rapidly changing world.

If you ignore the inherent benefits these skills give you from a humanities perspective then perhaps you can place it in the context of professional skills.

A 2013 survey conducted by the Association of American Colleges & Universities, found 93 percent of respondents sought a “demonstrated capacity to think critically, communicate clearly, and solve complex problems is more im-

portant than [a candidate’s] undergraduate major.”

And more than 75 percent of respondents wanted potential employees to have emphasis on five key areas including: “critical thinking, complex problem-solving, written and oral communication, and applied



Andrew Henderson

knowledge in real-world settings.”

Examining the reasons for the shift away from liberal arts is multi-layered in nature, but I want to focus on a specific part. The shift, in part, has to do with how public sentiment has taken to the term “liberal arts,” not necessarily the content of the education, but the term itself. A recent op-ed in *Gallup* by Brandon Busted, Executive Director of Education and Workforce Development at *Gallup*, claims putting “liberal and arts together is a branding disaster.”

“It’s time to disconnect the strong

value undergirding the liberal arts from the weak words that define them,” he says.

Busted goes on to argue that the words “liberal” and “arts” fail to resonate in the minds of many Americans and in order to defend the benefits offered by such education we either

have to describe “their attributes and arguably essential -- and practical -- benefits,” give it a new name or no name at all.

So let’s brainstorm some new names: “you’ll need this if you’re not a robot” education, “skills taught are applicable to every job imaginable” education, “no, it’s not all fine arts and opera” education, “you can actually get a job with this easier than you would think” education and the possibilities are endless.

Having to place the benefits of a liberal arts education in the context of job potential and economic benefits is nauseating, no one should have to. Areas such as history, arts, communication, political science and gender studies deserve a place at the table without having to be thought of in terms of a salary.

Besides, even if people aren’t clamoring to hire the interpretive dance majors, employers are clearly hiring not based on a major but based on skills; skills overwhelmingly developed as part of a liberal arts education.

~ *Andrew Henderson, Student*

Witek Transforms Internship into a Full-time Position



Amanda Witek

Amanda Witek, a senior from Chicago, Illinois, is interning with Mellow Mushroom as the human resource representative and catering coordinator. Internships give students the opportunity to apply skills learned in the classroom to real organizational situations. Through her internship, Witek was offered a full-time position with Mellow Mushroom upon graduation as the catering coordinator. She accepted the position and her manager started incorporating training for the position into her internship.

Witek studies Corporate and Organizational Communication and is required to complete an internship to get experience in her chosen field. Witek was formerly a waitress at Mellow Mushroom. At work one day, she mentioned she was searching for an internship. Her manager overheard her and asked if she would like to do an internship in the downtown office. Witek accepted the opportunity.

In a typical day at her internship,

Witek completes approximately two hours of human resource practices, which consists of completing and filing hiring and firing paperwork, updating payroll and sitting in on performance appraisal meetings. In addition, she completes two hours of catering work such as reaching out to clients and creating catering menus.

She said the Department of Communication prepared her very well for this internship, drawing information from every corporate communication class she took.

"The knowledge and skills I gained while taking Interpersonal Communication helped me build

organizational relationships, see from different perspectives, and diffuse situations. I didn't realize how useful these skills were until I had to put them into practice," she said.

Witek put her skills to the test when she was catering for the Humane Society. She listened to the needs of her clients and developed a menu to meet them. Witek created a vegan menu for the event and it was a hit. The Humane Society expressed the desire to come back because of the great service.

"I'm proud of this project because it was my first time catering. I did it and it worked. I gained a lot of confidence," she said.

Witek is looking forward to her future with Mellow Mushroom as the catering coordinator. She loves organizing and building relationships with others; she feels like this position is a good fit for her.

~ Holly Case, Student



World Traveler, Ad Guru, Designer, and Teacher



Kelley Coppinger

Described as “relatable, brilliantly creative, and just an all-around fun teacher to have,” Professional-in-Residence Kelley Coppinger is now in her sixteenth year of teaching at WKU, following a successful career in advertising.

Kelley, as she insists students call her, was born in Iran, and has lived in

many different countries such as Dubai, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Scotland, and Belgium throughout her life, due to her father’s work in the oil industry. She also traveled extensively to India, Japan, Egypt, Europe and beyond.

Kelley moved to the U.S. at 18, and attended the University of North Texas, where she received her Bachelor of Fine Arts and met the love of her life, Chuck Coppinger. While in Texas, Kelley worked with many

companies such as Positive Images, Texas Monthly, Southwest Airlines and more.

She later moved to Bowling Green, to follow her husband when he accepted a job offer. Quickly, Kelley began to establish her career experiences in Bowling Green as well. Her professional involvements

here included political advertising. She also worked with American Bank & Trust, Eagle Industries, Kentucky State Arson Task Force, Farmers National Bank, Houchens Industries and more.

Becoming a college professor, or entering the field of education, was nowhere in Kelley’s plan for her career path, but she was drawn to the curriculum, which she described as “brilliant,” and decided to apply for a job. She said the curriculum was very professional, and “a good combination of advertising theory and practical application.”

When Kelley was asked about her teaching technique she said... “We have a professional program, and the focus is all about getting the job, so I am going to stress critical thinking and the portfolio.”

She loves being in the classroom and believes “all students are creative, it has just been educated out of them. Students want to use a theory or a formula, instead of their own problem solving skills.”

For more information about Kelley Coppinger visit her website www.kelleycoppinger.com.

~Sidney Riney, Student

Imagewest Promotes Professional Success

WKU prides itself on the ability to provide students with real world experiences. These opportunities provide students with an outlet to apply knowledge they gain inside the classroom to the outside world. One program that takes this notion to the next level is Imagewest.

To gain insight on the opportunities Imagewest provides their staff on a day-to-day basis, I interviewed Dominique Warfield who currently works at Imagewest as the Lead Account Executive.

Imagewest is a full-scale advertising and public relations firm staffed by WKU students majoring in Advertising or Public Relations. They offer six core services (per their website) including, “Branding, Research & Strategy, Web Design, Public Relations, and Advertising.” Imagewest opened its doors back in 2004, and over the past thirteen years the agency has grown by leaps and bounds.

Visiting their on-campus office located in Jody Richards Hall, you

will find a space dedicated to forward thinking and professionalism. In this space countless advertising and public relation plans have come together for their clients not only here at WKU, but across the globe as well.

Question one: What has been your favorite project to date?

My favorite project would have to be one that I am currently working on now for a client. This account requires that I create and maintain a Google Ad for their company.

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Imagewest Promotes . . . *cont'd*

Question two: What is the most unique component of Imagewest?

The most unique thing about Imagewest is even though we are on located on campus and we are all student interns, we are a real advertising agency. We operate just like a real agency.

Question three: How has this position prepared you for your future?

Imagewest has prepared me to take on a career after college by showing me the importance of networking. I started at Imagewest in the Summer of 2017, and as an agency we took a business trip to St. Louis, and networked with a lot of industry professionals. When I returned, I joined PMA which is the Professional Marketing Association which further expanded my network.

Over fall break, I set up a job shadow at an agency in Atlanta. I have also connect-



ed with several industry professionals from other agencies across the U.S. and sent my resumes to their HR departments. Without Imagewest I would have never done any of that or had any idea what other options were out there.

Question four: Explain one thing you feel everyone should know about Imagewest.

Imagewest is where you are going to build ever-lasting friendships. Working here brings you closer to your peers, and sets you apart from other students, not just here in Kentucky, but anywhere! Not a lot of universities have something like Imagewest so when you graduate already having some real-world agency experience puts you in a league of your own.

As one of the few PR and Ad agencies in the nation fully staffed by students, the future for Imagewest is bright. In providing this opportunity, prepares students for professional success.

~McKenzie Wilson, Student

Graduate Student Spotlight: Tom Kenley



Tom Kenley

When asked about the skills he is developing in the M.A. program in Communication, Tom Kenley explained, “The key to being successful in communication is not catchy writing, although, that helps. Rather, it is the ability to unearth relevant data, analyze it, and use it to create an actionable strategy.”

Tom Kenley, Communications Specialist at Rogers Group Inc. and current President of the Nashville Chapter of the International Associa-

tion of Business Communicators (IABC), is pursuing a master’s degree in Organizational Communication.

When asked about his passion for communication, Kenley shared, “The value of a thought, an idea, or a strategy is always limited by the ability to express it. When properly communicated, the source of the idea is validated and the intended audience members – the colleagues, the congregation, the team members, and the students – are enlightened, and the organization is more connected. It’s the ultimate win-win.”

Kenley’s career path took him through many doors in the communication world: teaching, writing, editing, public relations, and corporate communications. With his experience and passion for communication, Kenley knew he had the ability to take the communications department of Rogers Group Inc. to the next level, so he began to pursue a

graduate degree from WKU. Kenley knew entering the graduate communication program at WKU would expose him to communication research and knowledge that easily translates into his position at Rogers Group, Inc. He is especially grateful for the company’s tuition reimbursement program and encourages other potential students to seek out opportunities such as these.

Kenley is also working closely with the WKU chapter of IABC, sharing his real-world knowledge and experiences. Currently, he is organizing a panel of communication professionals to speak with students on campus.

Tom Kenley is one of many outstanding students in the graduate program. His professional experience is invaluable in the classroom. If you are interested in more information about the master’s program in Organizational Communication, contact Blair Thompson at blair.thompson@wku

~Lauren Cline, Student

Student Organizations

Communication Organization for Graduate Students

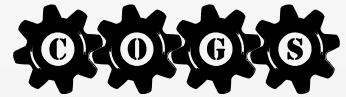
When reflecting upon the preceding months, one cannot help but to be caught up in a swell of firsts. For the WKU COGS, this semester has been full of them—from first classes taken to first classes taught, to first papers written to first chapters of theses completed, the first experiences with a significantly grown and expanded department, and even to first conferences attended and first papers presented—this has certainly been a semester of firsts.

As a group, there wasn't much that occurred in the way of COGS events. However, the comradery fostered through class meetings, office visits, departmental events, and conference travels have certainly helped to grow the cohesiveness of our small cohort of graduate students and assistants.

And while we have seen the graduation of one of our beloved friends and colleagues, I am filled with joy and excitement for all the bright possibilities

that lay ahead of our proud department in the spring of 2018.

~ Marshall Covert, COGS President



Kate Nichols, Katie Lever, Nicole Bufford, & Marshall Covert

Lambda Pi Eta (LPH) - Fall Update

The Fall semester of 2017 proved exciting for the WKU Rho Nu chapter of Lambda Pi Eta (LPH), the National Communication Association's official honor society. Officers for the 2017-2018 academic year are: Emily Anne Pride (President), Hayley Armstrong (Vice-President), Nicole DiMatties (Scholarship Officer), Elizabeth Settle (Co-Secretary), Sarah Harrington (Co-Secretary), Mary Madison Lyons (Treasurer) and Allison Waggoner (Public Relations). The officers work within the organization towards six goals, which include promoting and encouraging professional development among

communication majors and stimulating interest in the field of communication.

In November, the chapter President, Emily Anne Pride, and the chap-

ter Secretary, Elizabeth Settle, were able to attend the National Communication Association (NCA) annual conference in Dallas, Texas.

LPH members participated in the Confucius Institute Tree Decorating Contest. The LPH tree, along with fifteen other trees from varying WKU groups, was displayed throughout the holiday season in the Chinese Exhibition Center in Helm Library.

LPH welcomed five new members who joined the organization during the semester: Colleen Coomes, Sara Ferguson, Katie Fischer, Cole Funkhouser, and



Lambda . . . cont'd

Rachel Paris. These students will attend an induction ceremony in the middle of the Spring semester.

To be eligible to join this organization, one must complete 60 credit hours (at least 12 credit hours in Communication), have a minimum overall cumulative GPA of 3.0 (GPA of 3.25 in Communication courses), and rank within the highest 35% of one's class. The Rho Nu chapter of LPH currently has sixteen inducted members, and the chapter is excited to welcome many more!



~ Emily Anne Pride, LPH President

WKU Alumna Serves the Healthcare Field for over 30 years



Doris Thomas

Doris Thomas never thought she would end up in the health care field. "I am very squeamish just thinking about the word, 'blood.' However, I learned to look beyond the product and realize that there are organizational factors that must be present behind most products that are for public consumption," she said.

Doris Thomas, WKU Alumna and Communication Advisory Council member, completed her B.A. in Corporate and Organizational Communication and M.A. in Communication.

She served as a spokesperson for the Commonwealth Health Corporation for 32 years, and as of April 2017, she is Vice President of Development and Community Outreach.

Thomas has enjoyed her career and benefited tremendously from her communication degree. She said she uses knowledge and skills she learned in class daily. One of the skills that she uses frequently is listening.

"Listening more than talking, and I mean active listening, is a skill. It is not an easy skill to learn, but it is much needed," she said.

Thomas feels the Department of Communication prepared her very well for her career. Overall, she believes most communication

graduates are easy to communicate with, easy to work with, and are approachable.

Healthcare is one of the many fields where one can use a communication degree. With quite a few years of work experience under her belt, Thomas offers communication

graduates some great advice:

"Look beyond the product and see where you might fit in with the bigger organizational picture. Keep learning, and form a good network of people you can trust. Be a truly engaged employee and representative of the company you work for. Remember, it takes everyone to make the organization what it is and what it will become."

The Department of Communication loves to hear about alumni success. We are always looking for stories to encourage and inspire our students. If you would like to share your story please contact the Communication Department Head, Dr. Sterk at helen.sterk@wku.edu.

~Tori Bowles, Student



Events

Executive in Residence Lecture Series

Craig Dezern
September 5, 2017



Imagewest Halloween Costume Contest

October 31, 2017

PCAL Fall Festival



Pumpkin Bowling & Spin-to-Win

October 18, 2017



Alumni Updates

Haley Baseheart—B.A. Corporate and Organizational Communication, 2014—Haley is now the Merchandising Analytics Analyst at Dollar General Corporation in Nashville, Tennessee.

Sara (Smith) Bowman— B.A. Communication Studies, 2008—Sara works in Business Development at Flavorman in Louisville, Kentucky.

Ian Brandon—M.A. Organizational Communication, 2012—Ian is a Partner Services Coordinator for Michigan Athletics at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Jordan Cofer—B.A. Corporate and Organizational Communication, 2015—Jordan is currently the Content & Advertising Manager at Guerrero Howe in Chicago, Illinois.

Emily Gerard—B.A. Communication Studies, 2015—Emily is a graduate student in Marriage and Family Therapy at Liberty University.

Jenna Haugen—M.A. Organizational Communication, 2009—Jenna earned a Ph.D. in Communication Studies from the University of Kansas in 2015. She is currently working as an Assistant Professor at the University of Louisville.

Kathering Meredith—B.A. Corporate and Organizational Communication, 2013—Katherine is currently the Marketing and Development Coordinator at The AOII Foundation. She is also the Booking

Agent at White Heart + Dallas Wilson Wedding Films in Brentwood, Tennessee.

Jessica (Mattingly) Nations—B.A. Corporate and Organizational Communication, 2013—Jessica is currently a Corporate Recruiter at Fruit of the Loom in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Beau Pearson—B.A. Public Relations, Advertising, and Applied Communication, 2016—Beau is currently a Buyer & Online Media Marketer for M.B. Merchants for the Bowling Green, Kentucky area.

Will Porter—B.A. Corporate and Organizational Communication, 2015—Will is currently working at Enterprise Holdings as the Tri-Branded Assistant Manager in Louisville, Kentucky.

Haley Rogers—B.A. Corporate and Organizational Communication, 2016—Haley is a Digital Banking Specialist for Republic Bank in Louisville, Kentucky.

Paige Settles—B.A. Communication Studies, 2016—Paige is a graduate assistant at Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs.

Kenny Sibal—M.A. Organizational Communication, 2006—Kenny earned his Ph.D. in Communication and is an Assistant Professor at Georgetown College.

Jessica Sizemore—B.A. Communication Studies, 2016—Jessica is a Chapter 13 Bankruptcy & Personal Injury Paralegal at O'Bryan Law Offices in Louisville, Kentucky.

Lynn (Stellar) Smith—B.A. Corporate and Organizational Communication, 2007—Lynn is currently working as the Next Generations Coordinator at Cross Point Church in Nashville, Tennessee.

Hannah Snyder—B.A. Corporate and Organizational Communication, 2016—Hannah is the Brand Manager at Werkshop Branding in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Lainey Stricker—B.A. Corporate & Organizational Communication, 2011—Lainey is currently a Digital Ad Strategist at BOLD Marketing in Nashville, Tennessee.

Byron Turner—B.A. Communication Studies, 2013—Byron attended Northern Kentucky University and received his J.D. in 2016. He is currently working as the Assistant Attorney General in the Ohio Attorney General's office in Columbus, Ohio.

Shirelle Williams—B.A. Communication Studies, 2014—Shirelle works as the Outreach and Program Facilitator at Global Game Changers Children's Education Initiative in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Let us know what you are doing.
We would love to hear from you, too!**

Send news to Laura Wagoner at laura.wagoner@wku.edu

Fall 2017

Student Workers



Stephen Dewitt, Mackenzie Mills, Allie Young, and Abby North



Thank you!

Western Kentucky
University
Department of
Communication

130 Ivan Wilson Fine Arts Center
1906 College Heights Blvd. #21029
Bowling Green, KY 42101
Phone: 270-745-3296
Fax: 270-745-3295

We're on the Web!
www.wku.edu/communication



For information on giving to the
Department of Communication contact:

Ryan Dearbone

Assistant Director, College Advancement
Institutional Advancement
Western Kentucky University
1906 College Heights Blvd.
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Phone: 270-745-4317

Fax: (270) 745-5300

E-Mail: ryan.dearbone@wku.edu

Or visit:

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