

COMMUNIQUE

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Laura Emberton Owens – Secretary of Education, Commonwealth of Kentucky

A graduate of the baccalaureate and masters degree programs in communication at WKU, Governor Ernie Fletcher notes that Laura Owens' experience and commitment to accelerating student achievement makes her a logical choice for this very important position."

Laura E. Owens served as the Commissioner of the Department of Workforce Investment from 2004-2006 and has served as Deputy Secretary of the Education Cabinet since January, 2006.

A Frankfort resident, Owens has been involved in workforce training and teaching for more than twenty years. A native of Glasgow, Owens is married to Donnie Owens, principal of Elkhorn Elementary School in Frankfort. They have a daughter, son, daughter-in-law, and two grandchildren.

The Kentucky Education Cabinet coordinates learning programs from P-16, and manages and supports training and employment functions in the Department for Work-



Laura Emberton Owens
Kentucky Secretary of Education

force Investment. For more information about these programs, visit www.educationcabinet.ky.gov or at www.workforce.ky.gov.



Year of Excellence for Forensic Team

On May 10, 2006, the Western Kentucky Forensic Team was honored with a day of celebration from Western Kentucky University, Warren County and the City of Bowling Green. This day of celebration, marked by a proclamation ceremony, was an appropriate conclusion to the 2006 competition season.

While the day was meant to celebrate the team's many victories, it was also a recog-

inition of their efforts during the year. According to the forensic team's website, "It



Mike Buchanan and Mayor Elaine Walker at Proclamation Ceremony

takes heart, substance, and hard work..." to be apart of the team and compete. The team started preparing for the year's competition during summer 2006 with the help of forensic coaches and other team members.

In February, the team competed at Berea College and won their sixteenth Kentucky Forensic Association State Championship title

Continued on page 2

EVENTS



Year of Excellence for Forensic Team—cont'd

with more than a 500 point margin.

Along with placing first in the overall team sweepstakes, the team also brought home twelve state individual titles.

In March, the team traveled to Prague, Czech Republic for the International Forensic Association World Championship. Competing in individual and debate events, seven WKU forensic team members won eight of the twelve individual world championships.

In April, the team won the American Forensic Association

National Individual Event Tournament. At this tourna-



Forensics students at Proclamation Ceremony/Reception

ment, Western won its third national team sweepstakes out of 92 other schools. The team earned individual championships in the national individual

sweepstakes award and the AFA national championship in dramatic interpretation.

In late April, the team won the National Forensics Association (NFA) national title.

While Western Kentucky Forensic team has won numerous awards this competition year, it was their desire and hard work that pushed them to achieve more. With the 2006-07 season ahead, Western Kentucky University looks forward to supporting the team in future competitions.

Congratulations Vanessa Pierrard! Recipient of the 2006-07 Ed Robertson Scholarship

CENTENNIAL ORATORICAL CONTEST

On Wednesday, April 19, 2006 the Department of Communication hosted its annual Oratorical Contest, incorporating the theme "The Spirit Makes the Master" in celebration of WKU's Centennial. The first two rounds of speeches were held in mid-afternoon. The final round took place at a dinner for all participants at the Kentucky Building later that evening. The final round was judged by a panel of dignitaries from the University and the Bowling Green – Warren County community.

Courtney Wright, a history and social studies major from Evansville, Indiana, won the Centennial Oratorical Contest and was awarded the \$500 first prize, sponsored by

McGraw-Hill Publishing. In his speech, Wright said that the phrase, "The Spirit Makes the Master," means that "passion, spirit, and the ability to overcome adversity lead to success." He used examples ranging from Theodore Roosevelt, Charlie Chaplin, and the 1950 U.S. Men's Soccer Team to illustrate his speech.

Finishing in second place and receiving a \$100 cash award was sophomore Coty Back, an agriculture business major from Frenchburg. Freshman Beverly Hill, journalism and

broadcasting student from Paducah, finished in third place and also received a \$100 cash award.



Coty Back gives his speech during contest

The contest, which was open to all WKU students, attracted approximately forty participants.

-- Jessica McClanahan

HAUNTED HILL TOURS—LEARN ABOUT THE GHOSTS WHO HAUNT THE HILL



Tours are sponsored by Lambda Pi Eta Communication Honor Society

Be prepared to be scared . . .

Friday, October 27th—6-8 p.m.
 Sunday, October 29th—6-8 p.m.
 Monday, October 30th—6-8 p.m. & 10-12 p.m.

Starting at FAC Amphitheater
 Adults \$5
 Kids 12-under \$3
 WKU Students (with ID) \$3

Ghostly tours leave every 15 minutes & last an hour
 (Tours are given outside so dress warm)

STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER OPENS

According to an old Proverb, “Good things do come to those who wait.” Or for some, good things do come to those who have a vision and are willing to work to make that vision come true. Many individuals in the Communication Department have worked hard, looked for funding and physically labored to put together a first-class, state-of-the-art center that provides students, faculty and staff with resources and access to resources that enable us to develop needed skills for today’s classroom and work environment.

According to Dr. Sally Ray, Department Head, “This center adds so much to the already successful communication program as it becomes a place where students will feel comfortable working on their communication classes assignments.” Dr. Ray also emphasized the unique opportunity that will allow faculty and students to meet one

–on-one to review progress, provide/receive help or simply to watch a student’s speech with them in order to help them build their skills.

The center will provide peer tutors for students to assist them with course assignments and assessments for communication general education courses. Students with communication majors/minors will also find the center helpful as they advance to higher level classes. Now that advanced teaching tools have been added to the department’s classrooms, such as Communication Coach, students and faculty will benefit by having a place to watch recorded presentations/ speeches. Students can use the area for self evaluations and faculty can use the area to help conduct student evaluations. The availability of good feedback, critical to student engagement, is always essential to student learning.

The Communication Success

Center is located in the Ivan Wilson Fine Arts Center, Room 138. There are three workstations, a printer, a TV with DVD and VCR capability, a library with communication materials and extra tables to use for work.

Support for the Center will be provided by the office staff located in Room 130. Support includes scheduling student appointments in coordination with peer tutor availability and the every day management of the Center. An advisory committee of communication faculty will guide the direction and development of the Center.

An open house is scheduled for Tuesday, October 3, 2006 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Equipment will be demonstrated during that time. To compliment the open house, the Communication Department will host a reception across the hall in Room 135.

Fall 2006 Student Workers



Lorin Isaacs

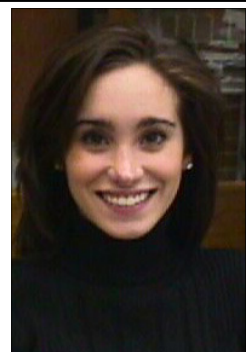


Shae Manning



Vanessa Pierrard

Fall 2006 Student Research Assistant



MacKenzie Keaster

Announcements

NATIONAL FORENSIC LEAGUE OPENS REGIONAL OFFICE AT WKU

The National Forensic League has opened a regional office at Western Kentucky University.

The NFL regional office, located in Garrett Conference Center, will provide assistance and support to high school students and coaches in Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana and southern Illinois.

Tyler Billman will serve as director of the NFL regional office. Billman, who grew up in Harrisburg, Illinois, and graduated from Bradley University, will visit schools and tournaments in the four-state region to raise awareness about the NFL's speech and debate programs.

The 2006 national tournament, held June 18-23 in Grapevine-Colleyville, Texas, attracted 2,700 students and 1,500 coaches, administrators and parents and awarded more than \$130,000 in scholarships.

said Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Barbara Burch. "Not only will this office benefit WKU, but it will increase participation opportunities for high school students in the region."

"Billman, will visit schools and tournaments in the four-state region to raise awareness about the NFL's speech and debate programs."

The forensic program, which includes the Kentucky High School Speech League office, is housed at the Garrett Conference Center.

Since its founding in 1925, the NFL has enrolled about 1.2 million members in all 50 states and other countries. More than 93,000 high school students and more than 3,500 high school teachers are active members.

"Having the National Forensic League office at WKU speaks to the high level of academic quality that WKU has to offer in its forensics program in particular, and in the University as a whole,"



DR. LARRY J. WINN TO RETIRE 2006-07



Dr. Larry J. Winn has provided 33 years of outstanding

service as a world class teacher, researcher, and in University and Public service. Dr. Winn served 5-1/2 years as Department Head, leading the Department in a variety of program initiatives.

Dr. Winn is best known and deeply admired for his

benchmark use of technology in the classroom. Communication majors are well versed, far ahead of their peers, in the proper development and use of PowerPoint.

Additionally, Dr. Winn's students have been well schooled in the use of language and how to write effectively in a number of venues.

A meticulous teacher, thinker, and writer, Dr. Winn

will be sorely missed in a program in which he spent his entire professional career.

Later in the fall, a retirement dinner will be arranged for Dr. Winn. Plans are presently incomplete.

Should you desire to send a letter of appreciation, or some other way of honoring Dr. Winn, please write, call, or email.



LIFE AFTER *THE APPRENTICE*

Last year, Charmaine Hunt, a Corporate and Organizational Communication graduate of WKU, appeared on Donald Trump's hit show "The Apprentice." Charmaine made quite an impression on Donald, as well as the rest of the world, making Western Kentucky University and especially the Department of Communication proud. Though she didn't get "hired," Charmaine made it to the final eight contestants out of 18.

Since the show, Charmaine has continued to make quite a name for herself. She has continued to work with First American Home Buyers Protection where she is the Area Manager in middle Tennessee. Aside from receiving several sales achievement awards and being part of the "President's Club" with First Ameri-

can, she has taken on the huge task of starting her own business. Charmaine is creating www.realtorEsearch.com, an internet search engine that connects buyers and sellers with Realtors. The website is designed to help consumers find real estate agents that will fit their needs, while simultaneously helping real estate agents build and grow their clientele. The website is set to officially launch in late fall.

Charmaine not only has kept in touch with other "Apprentice" candidates, but has also kept in touch with The Donald himself. Trump has contacted and met with Charmaine about potential business opportunities in the near future.

Charmaine will be back to "The Hill" soon for the Bowling Green 10k and

also for Homecoming. She will be participating in a fundraiser to help two WKU Alumni raise money for



their 13 month old daughter Layla, who is in need of a liver transplant. She will also be helping at the Communication Department's Alumni Tailgating Event.

- MacKenzie Keaster

HOMECOMING FESTIVAL OF FRIENDS

Saturday, October 28, 2006

1:00—3:30 DUC South Lawn

Join us for light appetizers and excellent conversation!

Contact **Charlotte Elder** at charlotte.elder@wku.edu

270-746-6579

Student Organizations

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BUSINESS COMMUNICATORS



Donna Renaud—
Faculty Advisor

Spring of 2006 was a busy semester for the members of WKU's International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) chapter. IABC strived to take a more active role in campus activities, and that goal was achieved. The first and most entertaining event that IABC sponsored was the Stand-Up Comedy Competition. As a part of Communication Week, IABC set up a competition that encouraged students to get in front of their peers and give their best shot at stand-up comedy. There were three contestants; Jason Rowlet, Alex Ison, and Torrence Douglas that competed for the grand prize of \$100. The three performed their individual acts in front of an audience of about 50 students and faculty members. Alex Ison won the competition along with \$100, and everyone that was there got a good laugh out of it all.

IABC soon followed with another event, a Valentine's Day sale, so students could "communicate their love" for others. The booth contained small items such as

chocolate, candy hearts, balloons, and other Valentine's Day memorabilia. Although the sale did not bring in huge profits, it did get IABC's name out to other students and helped out those who were in need of last minute gifts.

Since many of IABC's members are upperclassmen, the topic of internships needed to be addressed. Towards the end of the semester, IABC members had an open meeting and met with Dr. Carl Kell to discuss and share about internship opportunities and experiences. Dr. Kell enlightened everyone on how to make your internship a successful experience and the necessary requirements that had to be met in order to receive credit.



IABC

In May, IABC elected their new officers for the upcoming year. Elections were held and then followed by a night of food, fun, and bowling. The new officers for 2006 are as follows: President – MacKenzie Keaster; VP of Programs –

Vanessa Pierrard; VP of Projects – Mariah Cole; Secretary – Lynn Steller; Treasurer – Pamela Eblen; VP of Membership – Evan Gold; Fundraising Co-Chairs – Andrea Collins and Jelena Markovic; Webmaster – Jonathon Bucy; SGA Representative – Johnisa Spence; and Historian – Jessica Davis.

Lastly, IABC assisted with the Graduation Celebration Dinner for graduating communication students. The dinner was to recognize and honor those achievements made by the graduating seniors, and many awards were given out including Outstanding Corporate & Organizational Communication major, Outstanding Communication Studies major, Outstanding Graduate Award, etc. Many were in attendance, including Charmaine Hunt, the WKU Corporate & Organizational Communication graduate that participated in the NBC show *The Apprentice*, and Jamie Froedge who delivered the motivational speech.

In preparation for the next school year, IABC members have already met together and begun making plans for the upcoming year. IABC had a very exciting Spring semester, and looks forward to an even better Fall!

- Mariah Cole

LAMBDA PI ETA IS OFF TO A GOOD START



Jenifer Lewis—
Faculty Advisor

The members of the Communication Honors Society known as Lambda Pi Eta (LPH) are anxious to start the new school year, and for good reason. The minds of eight returning members, ten new members from last spring, and Dr. Jenifer Lewis as the advisor, have started working and coming up with exciting programs for the 2006-2007 academic year. During their recruitment week of September

11-15, LPH hopes to bring awareness to their organization, as well as acquire many new members looking to be involved within the Communication Department. LPH is planning to have their annual Ghost Tours of campus as their main fundraiser again this year. For \$5 (\$3 with WKU ID & for children under 12), you will hear all of the haunted tales of Western's campus. The tours can be heard on October 27th, 29th, and 30th. With Halloween being the same weekend as Homecoming, LPH hopes to attract a wide variety of participants.

The members of LPH are excited about attending

the National Communication Association (NCA) Convention as well. This year, NCA will be held in San Antonio, Texas from November 15-19. Here, the group looks forward to meeting fellow honor society members from across the country.



So what is LPH doing for the Department of Communication? The group not only plans on having volunteers work in the brand new Communica-

tion Lab, but they are also planning on holding two workshops throughout the school year. In the fall, LPH is going to hold a resume' writing workshop for anyone who would like to attend. Here, there will be a speaker to instruct students how to perfect the art of resume writing. In the spring, a similar workshop will be held on interviewing skills. Both of these are important aspects to have, especially for graduating seniors, when going out to look for a job.

This year is looking to be very bright for the students within LPH, as well as the Communication Department as a whole. For more information about LPH, please contact Dr. Lewis at jenifer.lewis@wku.edu.

COMMUNICATION AMBASSADORS



Jessica McClanahan—
Faculty Advisor

The 2006-2007 Communication Ambassadors are busy planning a successful academic year. The Ambassadors will continue to host Speaker's Corner, and support other departmental events. While the group already promotes the

field of Communication and our majors available to students attending Western, one major focus for this year will be to recruit potential majors for upcoming years. This will include recruitment events and partnerships with area high schools.

The Ambassadors are chosen by interview format only during the spring semester of each year, and selects a maximum of 20 members. This year, we are pleased to have the following members: Lynn Steller

(Chair), MacKenzie Keaster (Vice Chair), Mary McCubbin (Secretary/Treasurer), Melissa Messer (Faculty Liaison), Angela Tevis (Public Relations), Jenna Haugen (Community Liaison), Jordan Dial, Hannah George, Colleen Mathews, Lauren Willoughby, Andrea Collins, Katie Winburn, Amanda Garmon, Erika Pedigo, Jared Williams, Kristen Fort, Michelle Bell, and Tiffany Graham. Jessica McClanahan is the Faculty Advisor.

The Department of Communication would like to say "Thank You" to all the students who participate in the student organizations and for all the hard work that is given.

INTERCULTURAL

WHERE IS SHANGRI-LA?

Dr. Larry Caillouet was on sabbatical during the spring semester. He was living in Beijing, China, doing research on communication in state owned and privately owned Chinese enterprises. His wife, Diana, joined him there for a week and together they went in search of Shangri-La. He wrote this account of their search:

After two days of visiting my new friends in Beijing, Diana and I set out in search of Shangri-La. Shangri-La was introduced to the world by James Hilton in his 1933 best seller, "Lost Horizon" which led to the classic movie of the same name by director Frank Capra. The appeal of this mountain paradise where the people renounce violence and materialism and live to incredible old age has endured and given its name to countless hotels, spas, and resorts. But where is Shangri-La?

Many of the details of Hilton's description point to an area at the edge of the Himalayas, perhaps in Tibet or near the Tibet-Yunnan border. In fact, so many details point to the area of Zhongdian, China, in the edge of Yunnan province, the area has officially renamed itself Shangri-La. So we decided to see for ourselves.

From Beijing we took a night train to Xi'an, the ancient capital of China in the Great Wall building days. As the train rolled to a stop in Xi'an on Monday morning, there were two eager Chinese faces smiling through our window and holding up a sign with our names on it. They are relatives of a classmate of a Chinese friend of mine. That's *guanxi* in action. They met us to take us to our hotel.

We spent a day at the Terra Cotta Warriors World Heritage Site, truly the eighth wonder of the world. Emperor Qin Shihuang, who united the Chinese into one nation, built something else to be remembered by—a tomb with 8000 full sized terra cotta warriors to serve him in the next life. Complete with chariots and horses, archers, foot soldiers, and weapons, all arrayed around him in battle formation, it was forgotten to

gage over steps and cobblestones while searching for a recognizable face in the crowd. Our new guide managed to pick us out of the crowd. We were thrilled and relieved to be found.

Then I got my first taste of Shangri-La. We boarded a boat and spent four hours cruising on the Dali Sea. We visited two small islands with ornate temples and breathtak-



Dr. Caillouet, his wife Diana, and student assistants in China

history until 1974 when a Chinese farmer discovered it while digging a well. He makes a comfortable living today by signing autographs and shaking hands at the Museum where he used to farm.

From there we flew to Kunming in Yunnan province and visited the Temple of 500 Arhats. Then another night train. Two Chinese couples helped us find our bunks, and my appreciation for bilingual people climbed a big notch higher.

The train rolled into Dali at 6:30 a.m. Coming down from the Dali train station in the dark were a thousand black-haired people pressed shoulder to shoulder dragging their lug-

ing views before docking again. After eating a king's feast we went to Dali's famous Three Pagodas. Even for folks who don't go for that brand of spirituality, the pagodas sent a message of peace, patience, tranquility, and harmony.

We ended the day in the Ancient City of Dali with another scrumptious Chinese meal that you can't get at the All You Can Eat Chinese Buffet back home. Throw in the Butterfly Springs where tens of thousands of butterflies congregate around you and on you, and you might make the case that this is Shangri-La, a land of lovely people, gentle animals, almost perpetual spring-like weather, and a sense of harmony in the air.

SHANGRI-LA—CONT'D

But no, James Hilton's novel, which stamped the name and dream of Shangri-La on the world consciousness, described it as nestled at the bottom of the world's most beautiful mountain. This and some other descriptions mean that wonderful Dali is not Shangri-La. Shangri-La is higher in the mountains, somewhere to the west toward Tibet.



Three Pagodas in Dali

We hired a car and driver and set out for Lijiang, a city famous for its Jade Dragon Snow Mountain which has seven jagged peaks that are perpetually covered with snow. All the streets and walks are paved with large rectangular stones to eliminate mud. Centuries of feet have polished the stones so that facets of the stones gleam like silver when the sun strikes them. Melted snow water flows down from Black Dragon Pool to supply streams

filled with goldfish beside the main walkways. The streets are lined with trees and flowers.

The perfect harmony of stone walks and bridges, hand carved wooden doors, moving water, and trees rustling over all of it could make you believe that you had found Shangri-La.

But there are still some details missing, so the next day we continued up toward the Yunnan-Tibet border where there

are mountains and meadows that fit Hilton's descriptions even better. Shangri-La must be close. We pulled into Zhongdian, the town that calls itself, and its hotels, and its restaurants, Shangri-La. At 10,500 feet above sea level, any exertion can take a toll on flatlanders, as folks in our part of Kentucky have been called. As I looked out the windows I surveyed a 2-star scene of some kind of dirty industrial compound.

With dreams of Shangri-La crashing fast, our new tour guide/translator, a charming young Tibetan woman with beautiful long jet-black hair and a quick smile, suggested we rest a few minutes, go to one of her favorite restaurants for a leisurely meal of Hot Pot beside a charcoal fire to knock the chill off the air, and then take in a performance of Tibetan dance, costume, and music. It was an easy sale.

The performance was not Hollywood slick, but it had a charming element that I had not experienced before. At any point in the performance audience members could come up on stage and place a white silk scarf around the neck of a favorite performer. Sometimes children would get onto the stage to dance with the performers. They felt as completely at ease and secure as if they were in their own home, not in a wild kingdom of strangers and dangers. This is not a geographic feature, but it matches Hilton's description of the people of Shangri-La.

Maybe there really is a Shangri-La, Virginia.

It is tempting to conclude that Zhongdian is Shangri-La, but some important details don't match. If Zhongdian was ever beautiful, it isn't today. Streets are dusty, trucks and other work vehicles are crude, and many neighborhoods are ugly. In Hilton's "Lost Horizon" he claimed that people could live to be 200 years old because they live in perfect harmony without strife. Although the children of Zhongdian are adorable, the young men are handsome, and the young women are strikingly beautiful, the people grow old before their time. I saw a grandmother so bent over from carrying



Larry & Diana Caillouet with Tibetan children at Tiger Leaping Gorge

heavy loads on her back that her face was barely above her waist. I saw a beggar on the street

who was hideously deformed. I saw things that don't belong in Shangri-La.

Some people who have searched for Shangri-La have concluded that Hilton's Shangri-La is not a single place but a composite of several places including the city of Kunming, 300 kilometers away, which is known as the "city of eternal spring" because of its year round spring-like climate and its 365-day flower growing season. I believe that Shangri-La is not a spot on a map, but a place in the heart. It is not an area, but an attitude. It is not a fertile valley in the high mountains, but a personal vision of what life can be.

China and Tibet



Huaqing Hot Springs Garden



Diana being carried up 900 steps at Tiger Leaping Gorge.



Dr. Caillouet by woven tree at Three Pagodas



Ladder of knives

NEW FACULTY PROFILES

Stacey Gish, M.A., Instructor— Stacey completed a journalism degree at Northern Kentucky University before earning a Master's degree in Communication from Western in 1999. Professionally, she has worked in sports publishing, public relations and training and development. She has taught COMM 161 part-time for four semesters and is excited to be teaching on a full-time basis this year. Scrapbooking, reading and the Chicago Cubs are her passions. She lives in Russellville with her husband, Stan, and her children, Shelby and Slade.

Angela Jerome, Ph.D., Assistant Professor— A native of Louisville, Kentucky, Dr. Jerome graduated from Western Kentucky University in 1997 with a B. A. in Corporate and Organizational Communication and in 1999 with an M. A. in Communication. She went on to receive her Ph. D. from the University of Kansas in 2002, where her studies focused on organizational communication and rhetorical studies. While in Kansas, she taught courses in Public Speaking, Behavioral Research Methods, Organizational Communication, and Effective Business Communication. After receiving

her Ph. D., Dr. Jerome spent four years working in the School of Communication at Illinois State University where she taught courses in Public Relations Management, Campaign Composition and Message Design, Crisis Communication, Introduction to Communication Theory, and Organizational Rhetoric. New to Western Kentucky University's Department of Communication faculty, Dr. Jerome will be teaching Business and Professional Speaking, Introduction to Communication Theory, and Foundations of Communication during the Fall 2006 semester. Her on-going research projects examine the apologetic campaigns of Ford and Firestone, Arthur Andersen, Texas A&M, Tony Stewart, Trent Lott, and Coors Brewing Company.

Glenn Prince, M.A., Instructor/Debate Coach— Glenn is a new instructor & a debate coach here at WKU. He previously competed at the University of South Carolina where he won a national championship in 2004. In 2005, Glenn remained at South Carolina and coached the national championship team. He completed his M.A. from WKU Dept. of Communication in May, 2006.

Eugenia Scott, M.A., Instructor— A native New Yorker, Eugenia earned her Masters degree in Communication in 1998 from Western Kentucky University. She began her career at WKU in 1991 as a staff member in student affairs. From 1998-2003 she joined the ranks of faculty and became Division Chair of Liberal Arts & Sciences at Bowling Green Community College. Eugenia has returned to WKU as an Instructor after an extended three year absence teaching public speaking course at two Alabama Community Colleges, Jefferson Davis and Alabama Southern. She is extremely involved in her children's activities, community, and university activities.

Jennifer Mize Smith, M.A., Assistant Professor— currently completing her doctoral degree in organizational communication at Purdue University. Her dissertation research focuses on corporate philanthropy, workplace fundraising, and identity construction. More specifically, she is exploring how charitable giving is talked about at work and how a company's espoused philanthropic values might influence employees' philanthropic identity and charitable giving behavior.

Faculty News

Dr. Cecile Garmon was the keynote speaker at the Texas-Mexican Frozen Food Association in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico in May 2006. Her presentation was entitled "Developing an Effective Multi-Cultural Team."

Dr. Judith Hoover published a second edition of her textbook, **Effective Small Group and Team Communication** with Thomson/Wadsworth, 2005.

Dr. Kumi Ishii presented two papers at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association (ICA) held in Dresden Germany in June 2006.

Dr. Carl L. Kell presented the inaugural lecture of the **Centering the South Speakers Series** at the Center for the Study of the American South, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, September 5, 2006. Dr. Kell lectured on his twenty-five year research project on the takeover of the Southern Baptist Convention (a three book initiative) with **Build the Walls – Save the Castle – The Rhetoric of the New Southern Baptist Convention**.

Dr. Jenifer Lewis was recently awarded a WKU Junior Faculty Grant in the amount of \$4,000 for her research project entitled "Young People and Campaign 2006." Dr. Lewis will be collecting data this fall at WKU and the University of Kansas to examine the communicative relationship between young people and candidates in the 2006 mid-term elections.

Dr. Sally Ray, Head, Department of Communication, will deliver the keynote address to the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Communication Program's Industrial Board Meeting, Daytona Beach, Florida, February 1, 2007. Dr. Ray's landmark book **Strategic Communication in Crisis Management: Lessons from the Airline Industry** will serve as the backdrop for her address. As a prominent authority in the aviation/ aerospace communication field, Dr. Ray will offer a unique perspective on current aerospace/aviation communication issues and the fascinating interactions between the airline's industry and the flying public.

Faculty

Alumni Updates

Laura Adams (B.A. Communication)—is Sales Manager for Executive Inn for the SMERF (Social, Military, Educational, Religious, & Fraternal) market. She prospects organizations seeking a convention location. She has the second largest market in the company. Her new found glory is the Dog Show world.

Michael A. Brown (M.A. Communication) - employed by the Kroger Co., was recently assigned to a plant in Layton, Utah for one year as a Supply Chain Systems manager. He maintains several “pet” projects in Louisville, Dayton, and Northern Kentucky.

Ernie Chen (M.A. Communication) — is a Group Managing Consultant / CEO at ATCEN in Selangor, Malaysia.

Dianne Conlee (B.A. Communication) — is a Front Office Manager at the Palmer House Hilton in Chicago, Illinois.”

Melanie Kington Evans (B.A. Communication) — married Mark Evans (WKU '02) in September, 2005. She is currently pursuing a Masters degree in College Student Personnel at the University of Louisville.

Stephanie Chaffins Franklin (M.A. Communication) - was appointed to the position of Senior HR Manager, Gillette Global Business Unit on June 19, 2006. Stephanie will report to the Director of Human Resources, Gillette GBU and will be based in Boston. Stephanie's primary responsibilities will be to manage the Gillette GBU Training & Development initiatives/activities, initially working closely with the GOLD team in completing the transition to the new organization, and she will also be the HR Business Partner to the staff functions in Boston (Finance, Legal, Strategy & Business Development, Medical &

Security). Stephanie brings with her 10 years of professional HR experience, joining the Gillette Company in 1999 as Manager Employee Relations, Lexington, NC. In 2002 Stephanie moved to the South Boston Manufacturing Facility, with her most recent assignment there being Manager, Employee Relations supporting South Boston Campus (approx. 2000 employees form MTO, R&D, Value Chain, Purchasing and Finance organizations).

Mary Beth Frith (M.A. Communication) — is currently serving as Employee Relations Consultant for Fifth Third Bank. She is responsible for the entire footprint in Tennessee as well as four major lines of business across Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, and Missouri.

Jamie Froedge (B.A., M.A. Communication) - was recently appointed to the position of Vice President of Marquee Sales—Dell and HPQ for Emerson Network Power. Jamie will be closely aligned with all of the Emerson Network Power divisions. He will be located in the Austin, Texas office. Most recently, Jamie spent several years with Hitachi, in World Wide Account Management roles responsible for managing Hitachi's sales to Hewlett Packard. Prior to his time with Hitachi, Jamie worked for IBM, as World Wide Account Executive for IBM's strategic alliance with Dell.

Lara Witherspoon Hudson (B.A. Communication) — married Travis G. Hudson of Austin, TX on April 15, 2006.

Lori Seifert Inman (M.A. Communication) — is the

president/owner of High Fidelity Communications, LLC, a Nashville-based creative agency specializing in HR, employee and healthcare communication. Her services include communication strategy and brand development, copywriting, web writing, scriptwriting, editing, proofreading, research, and print and web design.

Dana Kuhman (B.A. Communication) —began the Masters Program in Public Service Management at DePaul last fall.

Mitchell McKinney (B.A. Communication) - joined the National Communication Association national office staff as Director of Academic and Professional Affairs beginning July 10. Previously, Mitchell was an associate professor in the department of communication at the University of Missouri. In his NCA role, he is responsible for programming in the areas of scholarship, research and teaching, directing professional services, assisting in discipline advocacy and overseeing research and data collection about the discipline. He will be working closely with the NCA Research Board and Educational Policies Board.

Harold J. Monroe (M.A. Communication) — serves as a Consultant with the Organizational Effectiveness & Engagement Group at Caterpillar which provides consulting for and coordination of Caterpillar facilities/units worldwide. “This position will take me around the globe and everywhere I go a piece of ‘The Spirit’ goes with me.”

Amee Meyers (M.A. Com-

munication) — is Associate Director of Alumni Relations at Washington University in St. Louis. She started teaching again this past fall at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Martha E. Newton (B.A. Communication) - Was appointed as the Director of the Office of Refugee Resettlement, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administrator for Children and Families, on February 27, 2006. In this capacity she directs all assistance that supports refugee resettlement within the United States and is committed to strengthening programs to ensure that refugees and others eligible can participate fully in society and achieve economic self sufficiency. Prior to her appointment at the Department of Human Services, Martha was the Deputy Under Secretary for International Affairs at the U.S. Department of Labor. Appointed to this position in May, 2005, she led the formulation of international economic, trade and labor policies on behalf of the U.S. Department of Labor. From 2002, she also served as the Associate Deputy Under Secretary and the Chief of Staff for International Labor Affairs Bureau. Martha lives in Oakton, VA with her husband and five year old son.

Laura Emberton Owens (B.A., M.A. Communication) — currently serving as Secretary of Education for the Commonwealth of Kentucky. “Whether speaking to large crowds or testifying to Senate subcommittees I am always grateful for my WKU communication background.”

Ruslan ‘Roo’ Totrov (M.A. Communicaiton) — is currently a General Manager of a well-known Russian soccer club ‘Alania’. His main duties are organizational development and restructuring. “I’m pursuing my dream of working in professional

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Fall 2006 Upcoming Activities:

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| October 2, 2006 | British Debates - 6:30 in Garrett Conference Center Ballroom |
| October 3, 2006 | Communication Success Center Open House - FAC 135 - 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. |
| October 11, 2006 | Poetry Slam celebration with Bowling Green's Greenhouse Poetry, Inc.—Garrett Theater @ 7:00 p.m.
- Co-sponsored by Communication Ambassadors & Greenhouse Poetry, Inc. |
| October 28, 2006 | Homecoming—Alumni Tailgating tent - DUC South Lawn - 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. |
| October 27-30, 2006 | Haunted Hill Tours—Learn about the ghosts who haunt the hill!
Friday, October 27th—6-8:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 29th—6-8:00 p.m.
Monday, October 30th—6-8:00 p.m. & 10-12:00 p.m.
- Sponsored by Lambda Pi Eta Communication Honor Society |