Tremendous Year for Falcon Forensics & Debate

2012-2013 was an exceptional year for the Falcon Forensics and Debate Team. From its first tournament at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia to its capstone Pi Kappa Delta National championship in St. Louis, Missouri, forensics team members earned both individual honors and team placement at each tournament through the grueling seven month season.

The highlight of this season was the team’s successful earning of the North American Forensics Society Continental Championships title in Toronto, Ontario. BGSU and Tallahassee Community College, headed by alumnus John Schultz, founded the tournament as an alternative to more expensive travel tournaments. The concept, established by Paul Wesley Alday, BGSU Director of Forensics and Debate, was to develop a new league which would blend high quality competition and experienced judging with an opportunity to embrace a cultural experience through forensics.

Not in Our Town: Tiffany Smith Takes a Stand
Against Racism and Discrimination

On April 4th, several BGSU students tweeted racially offensive messages about a group of African American students who were attending a social event at Ziggy Zoomba’s, a bar in Bowling Green.

The hateful messages made many students, faculty, and community members feel angry, hurt, and horrified. However, instead of fighting hate with hate, Tiffany R. Smith took the high road and used her communication skills to take a stand against racism and discrimination.

Smith used social media and other forms of computer-mediated communication to alert BGSU about the hateful incidents. And she worked with the President’s Advisory Council on Diversity and Inclusion (PACODI), the Office of Equity and Diversity, and the Inclusion Group to encourage members of BGSU and the Bowling Green community to fight discrimination and chant the words, “Not in our town!” Developed in 1988 by a nonprofit organization in Oakland, California, Not in Our Town (NIOT) has helped hundreds of schools and communities take action against hate and discrimination.

Read more on p.2.
Continued from p.1.

The Toronto event was the inaugural tournament and attracted 12 universities and colleges, ranging from the University of Michigan to Oberlin College. BGSU team members topped the competition with multiple finalists, placing first in individual events and second as a team in debate.

Falcon Forensics also headed to New York City to compete in the “Off Broadway Swing,” hosted collaboratively by Nassau and Suffolk Colleges in December. The Falcons took top honors, placing 27 events in final rounds. The trip followed the devastating northeast hurricane and nor’easter which wreaked havoc on the east coast. BGSU took forensics beyond just words as team members mounted a massive food and supply drive and packed two vans with relief supplies which were delivered at the tournament.

However, relief supplies weren’t the only place team members made an impact beyond the competition. 5 team members donated time on behalf of the “Skate for Hope” Breast Cancer Awareness Initiative. Members sold raffle tickets, accepted donations, and shared their message about breast cancer awareness at a skating exhibition hosted at the BGSU Ice Arena in March. Together, team members helped to raise over $10,000 for the cause.

Competitively, BGSU earned team placements at every tournament of the season, 16 in all. The Falcons earned success at Purdue University, University of Michigan, Eastern Michigan University, Bradley University, Berea College, West Chester University, Central Michigan University, Marietta College, the Ohio State Championships, the National Forensics Association National Tournament (NFA), and the 100th annual Pi Kappa Delta National Tournament and Convention.

Season successes were led by senior Samantha Kirsch of Perrysburg, Ohio, who earned top individual honors at numerous tournaments. Senior Rachel Rine of Bowling Green, Ohio achieved top honors in the state in Impromptu, Persuasion and Dramatic Interpretation. Our third graduating senior, Shirley O’Nan of Findlay, Ohio, stepped aside from the competitive circle to focus on promoting the team and serving as adjudicator for the 4 tournaments hosted by BGSU in 2012-2013. Other top performers included Spencer Coile from Heyworth, Illinois, Chanequa Cargle-Price from New York, Ashley Hendricks from Canton, Ohio, Dylan House from Wooster, Ohio and Christopher Stack from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Christopher accompanied Director of Forensics and Debate, Paul Wesley Alday, to the Alumni College held in Florida in February. Stack and Alday presented on the history of BGSU Forensics and Debate as BGSU’s oldest and most honored co-curricular program.

Forensics and Debate is a co-curricular, competitive program offered through the School of Media and Communication and Department of Communication, offering BGSU undergraduate students the opportunity to hone their communication and performance skills in competition with other colleges and universities from around the nation and globe.

For more information about forensics, speech or debate, please contact 372-8856 or BGSU4N6@Yahoo.com
As the President of the Black Student Union and an active leader on campus, Tiffany Smith played a key role in the development and launch of NIOT in our local community. She explained, “I believe my role in NIOT was to upstart the movement...Bringing attention to NIOT gave light to a new way to disengage racist comments by coming together—not tearing the community apart.”

On April 17th, more than 200 people expressed their interest in NIOT by attending the campaign’s kick-off event and pledging to take a stand against acts of discrimination and hate. Smith helped organize the event and served as a featured speaker.

On April 23rd, hundreds of people attended the campaign’s second event, which aimed to begin a healthy dialogue on race, responding to discrimination, and building a stronger community. Four panelists, including Dr. Lisa Hanasono and doctoral student Arpan Yagnik from the School of Media and Communication, gave short presentations and responded to audience members’ questions. Smith facilitated the forum’s Q & A and encouraged BGSU students to join the campaign.

As the NIOT movement continues to build momentum, many people remain grateful for Smith’s contributions and leadership in fighting discrimination and building a stronger community. Dr. Hanasono explained, “Tiffany has worked tirelessly to promote social justice and fight hate. Her commitment to diversity and inclusion is truly inspirational.”

Smith graduated from BGSU in May with a BAC in Communication. This summer, she will be teaching a course on communication and media to high school students through BGSU’s Upward Bound Program. In the fall, she plans to pursue a graduate degree in African American Studies or Integrated Global Communication.

Filling the Empty Chair: Dr. Karrin Anderson Examines the Role of Gender and Race in Elections

In October, the BGSU chapters of Lambda Pi Eta and the Association for Women in Communications, hosted Dr. Karrin Vasby Anderson, Associate Professor of Communication Studies at Colorado State University. Dr. Anderson is an expert in rhetoric, gender, and political communication, and is the coauthor of Governing Codes: Gender, Metaphor, and Political Identity (2005) and Woman President: Negotiating Postfeminist Political Culture (2013).

On October 17, she delivered a public lecture, “Filling the Empty Chair: Narrative Norming and Presidential Identity.” During her talk, Dr. Anderson discussed the roles played by gender and race in presidential campaigns, with particular attention to the racial imagery that is associated with President Barack Obama and the persistent patterns of sexism that affect female politicians such as former Alaska Governor Sarah Palin and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. On October 18, Dr. Anderson spent time with graduate students in the School of Media and Communication and visited Dr. Michael Butterworth’s COMM 4020: Political Communication class to talk about the upcoming presidential election.
Members of the Association of Women in Communications (AWC) organized the annual homecoming event on September 28, 2012. Alumni, faculty members, and students met for games, food, and conversation. They spent a joyful afternoon celebrating the success of the Department of Communication in building stronger connections between current students and alumni.

This second annual event presented an opportunity for the current students to meet recent alumnus David Johnson, who is an Admissions Advisor at the Ohio University and alumna Courtney Seel, Regional Sales Manager at WTWH Media LLC. The students were eager to hear what recent graduates have been able to accomplish with their Communication degrees.

Both Courtney and David stressed the importance of good oral and written communication skills for establishing successful relationships at work. They emphasized that communication competency begins with the ability to show appreciation and respect to people. “When you get your first job, the first thing you do is buy a stack of Thank You notes,” said Courtney when asked what advice she would give to a new employee. Courtney said that the handwritten notes have helped her to impress her superiors and especially her clients and opened many new opportunities for her. David stressed the importance of being a good listener and ability to connect with different audiences.

Some students were planning on continuing their studies and they used this opportunity to ask faculty for advice about different graduate programs. This informal impromptu question and answer session established stronger connections between the current students and faculty.

The highlight of the Homecoming activities was the BGSU history trivia game between the faculty and students. The alumni played for the student team and having David, a former campus tour guide, on the team assured the student team won.
Senior Angelica Fox Lobbied Congress for Juvenile Diabetes Research Event

Recent communication graduate Angelica Fox (’13) was featured on the BGSU Homepage for her work in Washington, DC on behalf of juvenile diabetes advocacy:

Angelica Fox participated in the Promise Campaign which works to build connection between the government the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF). The campaign works to arrange meetings between congress members and their constituencies. Angelica has been living with diabetes since she was 3 years old. “Meeting with the congress members is essential every year to the JDRF to keep the funding for a cure,” said Angelica after her visit to Washington DC in March. The focus of this year’s initiative was on lobbying for the Special Diabetes Program which funds critical research for finding a cure. Angelica met with the top medical researchers for the JDRF as well as the CEO to learn about the current research in diabetes.

Participating in the Promise Campaign allowed me “to tell my story of living with type 1 diabetes so that they can put a face to the disease and know who the money they approve is going to,” said Angelica after meeting with Senators Sherrod Brown and Rob Portman as well as Congress members Bob Latta, Jim Jordan, and Marcy Kaptur.

Women-Centered Service for the Community and the MLK Day of Service

Communication students in COMM 4120 Gender and Communication and the Association for Women in Communications (AWC) engaged in several service-learning and volunteer efforts for women-lead community organizations, including the Perrysburg Heights Community Association and Center and Project H.O.P.E. Equine Assisted Therapies.

“I was able to gain a perspective on the many gender issues that occur within organizations that offer counseling and the gender related challenges that go along with working at a relatively new non-profit organization,” said Kassie Cooper, COMM 4120 student and President of AWC.

Sandra Tebbe, director of Project H.O.P.E., said, “Project H.O.P.E. is about people and horses helping other people.” Tebbe, a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, a Licensed Independent Chemical Dependency Counselor, and a certified therapeutic riding instructor, has over 25 years of experience working with children, adolescents, and families.

During her initial class visit and service-learning briefing to COMM 4120 students in January 2013, Sandra Tebbe presented several case studies of survivors of domestic violence and sexual abuse, and explained how they have interacted with horses as a medium for therapy. Following the briefing, students began learning first-hand how Project H.O.P.E. has helped girls and women negotiate traumatic memories of abuse, cope with loss and grief, and address an array of emotional and behavioral challenges.

Tebbe said, “The BGSU students who have worked on service-learning efforts with Project H.O.P.E. have seen first-hand how community organizations can help at-risk girls and women.”

Learn more about Project H.O.P.E. at http://projecthope-equinetherapy.com/

Read more about our students’ commitment to community during the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service Challenge in this Sentinel-Tribune article.
Environmental Communication: Service-Learning and Community Partnership Building

H.O.P.E. for the Earth was the theme of the semester-long service-learning program for COMM 4060 Environmental Communication. Students were involved in several on-campus and community outreach events for Earth First, a week-long series of community-wide events during the week leading up to Earth Day, April 22, highlighting the efforts of several community organizations dedicated to environmental stewardship and awareness.

Environmental Communication students represented the department at the BGSU Eco-Fair, where city and county agencies and university and community organizations focused on environmental issues, green products, and student-community outreach efforts.

“I enjoyed the service learning and the various activities outside the classroom,” said COMM 4060 student Sarah Martinelli. “I was able to get more out of the class by actually doing.”

Students helped plan and implement the Fourth Annual BG Community Earth Day Celebration. Held on Montessori School of Bowling Green’s 14-acre grounds, children from age three and up were involved in hands-on environmental learning activities.

“The kids were having a blast doing all sorts of activities, and they were not just there goofing off, but it seemed like they were really learning from the activities presented to them,” said Jordan Gerbers (’13). “Seeing the kids wanting to learn about the environment and what little things they could do to help, was honestly an inspiration because when I was young we never did anything like this.”

New this year was the partnership with Project H.O.P.E. Equine Assisted Therapies. Environmental Communication students proposed and hosted northwest Ohio’s first and only Earth Day 3 R’s event. The two-day event promoted community partnership building to protect and preserve the environment with sustainable practices: Repurpose, Reuse, and Recycle to commemorate Earth Day.

“One thing that isn’t discussed a lot by Communication students is the importance of being able to work and converse with a diverse group of people,” said Marisa Vittoria (’13). “That is definitely one thing that I really enjoyed within my service learning. I got the chance to work and converse with a variety of people such as Project H.O.P.E board members, kids that utilize equine therapy, and community members. Not being originally from Bowling Green, it gave me the chance to feel as if I was a part of the BG community.”

Environmental Communication students spent the semester conducting research and developing outreach materials for Project H.O.P.E.’s newest initiative: Community supported and sustainable agriculture strategies. Partnering with BGSU Environmental Communication students and faculty and the Montessori School of BG, Project H.O.P.E provides education on composting natural animal waste for use in organic gardening and farming.

The course “this semester has proven to be one of my most informational, meaningful, and impactful classes I’ve had,” said Jordan Johnson (’13). “It is impactful because it not only educated me on an important field of study, but it also impacted the surrounding community as well through our service learning projects.”

“Most importantly, this class has taught me to think critically”, said Don Bonesteel (’13). “I will think about the decisions that I make and take into consideration the effect each decision will have on me, my peers, my employer, my family, my community, my state, my nation, and my planet. I will do the best I can, in whatever way that I can to help clean up the environment and leave the world a better, safer, and more habitable place to live for the future generations to come.”

Vittoria said, “I hope that this class continues throughout future semesters, so that other students can become aware of these issues and also advocate to preserve the world around us -- conversing about environmental issues, but also in environmental activism, media representation, and service learning endeavors.”

“With the knowledge I’ve gained in class, I understand and also make others understand the importance of environment,” said Johnson. “Through Dr. Lengel and this course, I have enacted some of the steps in the process of environmental communication: educating and making a call for mobilization to others. This is what I imagined Dr. Lengel’s hope for this class is about: creating students who are informed, inspired, and willing enough to make changes in the environment or in people’s behaviors that will make a difference in the world.”

See also a Journalism Public Affairs Reporting blog for more about this event.
Honors Student China Billotte’s Award-Winning Research Projects: Understanding Decision Making and Preventing Bias in Health Communication

Under the direction of Dr. Lisa Hanasono and Dr. Kate Magsamen-Conrad, Billotte’s Honors project utilized the theory of planned behavior to investigate why some undergraduate students do not take advantage of universities’ career services and programs. Her study revealed how social norms, perceived barriers, and self-efficacy influence students’ decisions to use specific career services. In April, Billotte presented her project at BGSU’s Undergraduate Research Symposium and received the competitively selected Mayeux Award for her Honors project.

In addition, Billotte received the Arnedia Smith Award from the Ohio Association of Gerontology and Education (OAGE) for her research on aging, communication, and health. This project examined how an intergenerational communication intervention could foster positive health outcomes in older adults and reduce age-related biases in college students.

She is currently co-authoring a book chapter related to this project with Dr. Magsamen-Conrad and Dr. Hanasono. When asked about her experiences as a Communication student at BGSU, Billotte replied, “I suppose you could say that my favorite memory was the realization of the immensely supportive climate of the Communication Department and the only way I could ever replay it was to pay it forward.”

Billotte graduated with University Honors from BGSU in May. This fall, she will become a graduate student in the Department of Communication and Journalism at the University of New Mexico. When asked about her decision to pursue a degree in communication, Billotte explained, “This is a field where I could take what I learned and use it to make changes in the world.”

Undergraduate Ashley R. G. Brown and Faculty Research Collaboration: Coping with Relationship Rejection

This summer, Ashley R. G. Brown and faculty mentor Dr. Lisa K. Hanasono will explore how individuals cope with interpersonal rejection.

Brown, a senior at BGSU who is double majoring in communication and psychology, was awarded a summer grant from the Center for Undergraduate Research and Scholarship (CURS). The CURS Undergraduate Summer Research Program helps students pursue primary research projects under the direction of faculty mentors. As a grant recipient, Brown will receive a summer stipend and special funding to support her research.

Under the direction of Dr. Hanasono, Brown’s project will investigate how young adults respond to different types of rejection messages in romantic relationships. “As humans, we rely on social groups for survival and support. Rejection from peers, friends, groups, and romantic partners can be painful,” she explained. Drawing from attribution theory, politeness theory, and attachment theory, Brown aims to identify and test the most effective ways to reject romantic dating partners. Her work will also explore individuals’ emotional and behavioral responses to interpersonal rejection.

After completing her project, Brown aims to share her research findings at academic conferences and submit her work to peer-reviewed journals. Next year, Brown plans to graduate from BGSU and attend a graduate program in counseling psychology.
New Faculty Spotlight

Wellbeing Messages: Dr. Kate Magsamen-Conrad Examines How Communication Facilitates Health

Dr. Kate Magsamen-Conrad joined the Department of Communication in August of 2012. She comes to BGSU after completing her Ph.D. in Communication at Rutgers University. Dr. Magsamen-Conrad (or Dr. MC, as her students call her) studies issues in health communication, interpersonal communication, and behavioral change within a variety of populations. Some of her research examines how communication between couples, partners, or families facilitates health, disease management, medication adherence, negotiation, and the experience of burden, especially within underserved populations and health disparities. She is also interested in how people manage their personal and private information, especially health-related information. For example, she has been working on a brief intervention that helps HIV-positive individuals develop confidence and strategies to share their HIV status with other individuals. Dr. MC is community-oriented and applied in her research focus. To that end, her teaching and research interests merge on a variety of different projects.

In her teaching she strives to create assignments that prepare students for their futures while giving back to the community. For example, students in her small group communication class teach tablet skills classes at the Bowling Green senior center and develop educational materials for those individuals. After working with the small group communication students, participants reported lower levels of personal anxiety related to using technology, decreased overall levels of stress when using technology, increased willingness to practice a new computer skill, increased contact with family through use of technology, and a more positive overall attitude toward technology than before they took the classes. Students in Dr. MC’s organizational communication class work as a mini-company with student CEOs and other levels of management and perform a theory and research-based communication assessment consultation for a local organization and provide recommendations to improve communication practices.

Students in the health communication class will be designing and promoting health-related initiatives for BGSU.

Outside of BGSU, Dr. MC enjoys spending time with her spouse, two kids, two dogs, three goats, four ducks, pig, cat, and 22 chickens, on her mini-farm just west of BG.

You Do Not Have to Cope Alone: Dr. Lisa Hanasono Examines How Communication Makes a Difference

Each year, people report thousands of hate crimes to the FBI; however, many more acts of discrimination go unreported. Ranging from physical assaults and verbal harassment to social exclusion and inappropriate jokes, hate incidents are prejudiced acts that target a person’s race, ethnicity, gender, age, ability, religion, class, nationality, or sexual orientation.

Coping with discrimination is challenging and difficult if you are alone. Dr. Lisa Hanasono (Ph.D., Purdue University), who joined the Department of Communication in the Fall 2011, is conducting a series of research projects that investigate how friends, family, and community members can help individuals cope with discrimination. She is interested in the ways that supportive communication can help individuals respond to hate incidents. “It is important for people to know that they do not have to cope alone,” Dr. Hanasono explained. “In addition to helping individuals cope more effectively with discrimination, social support is linked to more positive physical and mental health outcomes.”

Although supportive communication has the potential to help individuals respond to discrimination, Dr. Hanasono cautions that it isn’t a magic bullet. “Some messages of support are more effective than others. I’m currently working to identify which types of supportive messages facilitate better coping outcomes.”

Dr. Hanasono’s research has been published in Communication Research, Communication Quarterly, Human Communication Research, Communication Teacher, Sex Roles, and the Journal of College Student Development.

She is also studying how people can use communication to reduce prejudice and discrimination. Earlier this year, Dr. Hanasono partnered with Dr. Kate Magsamen-Conrad and China Billotte on a research project that examined how a special service-learning program reduced age-related biases in college students. Currently, she is collaborating with researchers across campus to develop a grant proposal aimed at reducing gender biases and advancing female faculty members’ careers in science, technology, engineering, mathematics and social studies.

Dr. Hanasono is also actively involved in fighting discrimination and promoting diversity at BGSU. As a member of the College of Arts and Sciences’ Diversity Committee, she assisted with the development of a new mentoring program for faculty members from underrepresented groups. As a member of the President’s Advisory Council on Diversity and Inclusion’s Community Outreach Committee, Dr. Hanasono served as a panelist at a special forum titled “Not in Our Town: Let’s Talk about Race.” The forum brought together hundreds of members from BGSU and the Bowling Green area to discuss issues related to racism, fighting discrimination, and building a stronger community.
Forensics & Debate Awards

**Martin Hanna Award** went to Spencer Coile. This award goes to the outstanding upperclassman on the Forensics Speech & Debate Team.

**Shine Family Award** went to Dylan House for being the outstanding novice on the Forensics Speech & Debate Team.

**Forensics Scholarships** were awarded to: Gilbert Bauman-Flores, Rebecca Barth, Chanequa Cargle-Price, Spencer Coile, Brooke Deck, Travis Filicky, Ashley Hendricks, Dylan House, Arrielle Hudgies, Kaitlyn Johnson, Nathaniel Joy, Evan Kelly, Al Korsog, Tricia Kushen, Alexis Martinez, Angela Perretta, Nicholas Redding, Hannah Rine, Jamie Salizar, and Christopher Stack.

Lambda Pi Eta Inductees

Congratulations to all new Lambda Pi Eta inductees: China Billotte, Kassie Cooper, Tiffany Durham, Ashley Holzwart, Jamil Khalil, Robert Musgrove, Toni Rust, Katherine Stoots, Lincoln Storer, Brittany Vinson, Daysha Maples, and Zachary Guagenti.

School of Media and Communication Scholarships and Awards

**SMC’s Excellence Fund Award** went to Kassie Cooper.

This scholarship was established in 2001 by J. Michael Sproule, the former Director of the School of Media and Communication. Awards are given to undergraduate students who have demonstrated excellence as majors in the Department of Communication.

As part of the application for this award students write statement below providing an answer to the question, “What does it mean to pursue excellence in communication?” Excerpt from Kassie’s essay demonstrates that Kassie has a keen understanding of the field of communication: “Communication embodies a variety of ideologies that can allow someone to pursue excellence. This may include organizational aspects, cultures, politics, economics, hegemony, and critical thinking. The field of communication has no bounds.”

Department of Communication Awards

**Rising Star** went to Kelly Hart. In the nomination letter Dr. Hanasono said, “Among the students, she stands out in virtue of her maturity, diligence, and communication skills. Her assignments are always thorough and reflects her serious attitudes toward learning.” Kelly is also an active member of the AWC and the Sports director of BG24 News.

**Outstanding Junior** went to Jessica Sharp.

In her nomination, Dr. Hanasono said “I feel very fortunate to have a student like her. One of the qualities that I appreciate most is her sincere attitude towards learning. She is always attentive and never hesitates to share her insightful opinions and good examples. At the same time, her ability of analytical and critical thinking shines in her class assignments. Jessica’s respectful and positive behaviors also distinguish her from her peers.” Besides being an excellent student, Jessica works as a research assistant and participates in campus leadership activities.

Marisa Vittoria and Matthew Williams were distinguished as Outstanding Seniors.

Department of Communication Awards

Marisa was nominated by Dr. Ellen Gorsevski. Dr. Gorsevski said “If I had to assemble a “Dream Team” of all-star students, Marisa would be in the starting lineup! She is a dedicated student with a bright future. Her intrinsic motivation to succeed academically is truly unparalleled.” In addition to excelling in the classroom, Marisa has made important contributions to the Communication Program at BGSU through her active membership in the Association for Women in Communications.

Matthew was nominated by Dr. Ramune Brazianaite, who said “I am impressed with his work ethic and abilities. In the class we have a lot of student directed ongoing assignments and Matt impressed me by taking initiative and volunteering to be the first to complete many of these assignments. He sets a very good example for others to follow. I am impressed with his knowledge of the communication field, his ability to critically evaluate information, and his skills in presenting information in a competent manner.”
**Del Hillyard Memorial Book Scholarships** went to Chloe Michael and James Seliga.

The nomination by Ellen W Gorsevski said, “Chloe Michael has distinguished herself by being a quiet, unassuming leader in class. Her well informed, steady presence in class discussions adds a dimension of gravitas that invites other students in the class to listen carefully and ponder issues in ways that might not have been engaged before.”

Local Ohioan James Seliga was also nominated by Ellen W Gorsevski for this award. Her nomination said, “He has distinguished himself by being very active in class discussions, taking leadership in group class activities, and writing high quality papers. He engages with course material in new ways, which enables many other students in the class to become involved and interested, too.”

**RK Tucker Outstanding Communication Student** went to Zachary Guagenti

This scholarship was established by long-time faculty member R.K. Tucker, upon his retirement from Bowling Green State University. Four awards are given, one each to a senior, junior, sophomore, and freshman. As part of the application, students submit a statement indicating their involvement in Communication and co- or extra-curricular activities at Bowling Green State University. Zach worked at his family’s business and received many compliments about how much his communication skills have grown and how they have helped shape him into a better man and employee. Zach is also a member of LPE and Tom’s Club on campus.

**Julie Burke Memorial Scholarship** went to Jasmine Jennings

This scholarship honors Dr. Julie Burke, Associate Professor in Communication at Bowling Green State University. Dr. Burke is remembered for her unfailing professionalism, her passion for fairness, her dedication to the interests of students, and her meticulous attention to detail. She held high standards and expectations for her students, and felt passionately about the importance of Communication as a field and practice. Throughout her 15 years at BGSU, Dr. Burke cared deeply for the Department, School, and the role of communication in the campus life at BGSU. This award is given to students who embody Dr. Burke’s ideals and passion for the field. Jasmine has these qualities.

**Women in Communications** award went to Kassie Cooper

Kassie is the current president of the AWC-BGSU chapter. She was nominated by Dr. Cheongmi Shim who said, “As the faculty advisor of the organization, I have had the pleasure of working with her closely. Despite the short history, AWC is an active and solid organization and I cannot help praising Kassie’s role to the organization’s success. Kassie is very enthusiastic about the mission of the organization, and took the initiatives to motivate members and organize events.”
Association for Women in Communications (AWC) Had an Eventful Year

AWC had a successful academic year of building the organization and supporting its members in their academic and career pursuits. The organization held several noteworthy events and activities. They included the Homecoming event (see article on p. 4), invited speakers, professional development workshops, and fundraising events.

Invited Speakers

Together with members of Lambda Pi Eta organization, AWC invited Dr. Karrin Vasby Anderson, a scholar of political communication and gender to discuss how presidential elections might reflect cultural narratives of race and gender and how they impact contemporary political culture. It was important for the members of AWC to bring this speaker to campus to highlight the role the media play in the public portrayal of female political candidates (see a separate story about Dr. Anderson’s visit on p. 3.).

Professional Workshops

Among other important AWC activities was a resume workshop on January 29, 2013. AWC invited Dr. Lisa Hanasono, who works closely with the BGSU Career Center, to facilitate this important resume development event.

The workshop focused on hands-on activities designed to help attendees to prepare their resumes for future job searches, internships, scholarships or any other relevant career opportunities.

After completing this intensive workshop, participants had a good understanding of how to organize and design a presentable resume and many of them left with revised resumes in hand ready for the upcoming job and internship fairs organized by the BGSU’s Career Center.

Fundraising

AWC organized two fundraising events celebrating Valentine’s Day and St. Patrick’s Day.

AWC members baked cookies, brownies, and cupcakes and joined other student groups in promoting their organizations by setting up tables at the Bowen-Thomson Student Union.

AWC raised about $200 during these events. They plan to use the money to fund travel to professional conferences during the upcoming year.

Dance Marathon

AWC members were also proud participants of the BGSU Dance Marathon on April 7-8, 2013. Dance Marathon is an organization that works yearlong to raise money for the local Children’s Miracle Network Hospital, Mercy Children’s in Toledo, OH. Each spring, hundreds of students work to plan and execute the most unforgettable 32-hours in a student’s college career.

This year’s dance marathon raised a total of $313,465.39. The members of AWC volunteered for the position of dancers and runners. Dancers committed to dancing the full 32 hours with a limited amount of breaks. Runners were jogging laps around the track at the Student Recreation Center for hours at a time. There was constant music and entertainment. “Each position was challenging but very rewarding in the end,” said Kassie Cooper, the President of the AWC.

AWC is a growing organization focused on the advancement of women across all communication disciplines. If interested in joining this organization, contact Dr. Cheongmi Shim cshim@bgsu.edu

AWC members had an opportunity to lunch with Dr. Anderson and discuss the upcoming presidential election and the role of women in politics in a more informal atmosphere.
Faculty Achievements: A Year in Review 2012/13

On the Book Shelves

Awards

Ellen Gorsevski, with co-authors Raymond Schuck (BGSU Firelands) and Canchu Lin, received the 2012 B. Aubrey Fisher Award for best article in Western Journal of Communication. The article was titled “The Rhetorical Plasticity of the Dead in Museum Displays.”

Kate Magsamen-Conrad received the Distinguished Alumni Award, from the SC&I Doctoral Program, Rutgers University, and was nominated for two awards at BGSU: College of Arts and Science Diversity Award and Faculty Excellence in Service-Learning and Civic Engagement Award.

Undergraduate China Billotte and co-advisors Kate Magsamen-Conrad and Lisa Hanasono won two awards, the Arnedia Smith Award, for a paper they wrote for the Ohio Association of Gerontology and Education, and the Mayeux Award for Outstanding Honors Project.

Mentoring Undergraduate Student Research Grants

Honors student China Billotte, double majoring in Communication and International Studies, was awarded a Center for Undergraduate Research and Scholarship grant to support her research project, “Career services usage: An analysis of efficacy and contextual barriers’ influence.” Lisa Hanasono and Kate Magsamen-Conrad were her faculty mentors and co-advisors.

Ashley Brown, McNair Scholar and member of the BGSU President’s Leadership Academy, was awarded a Center for Undergraduate Research and Scholarship grant to support her research project on relational communication and interpersonal rejection. Lisa Hanasono was her faculty mentor.

University Collaboration

Sandra Faulkner presented a Brown Bag talk, “Knit Four, Frog Two: DIY Culture and Chapbooks,” at the BGSU Women’s Center (April 17, 2013).

Lara Lengel developed ACS 7100 Research Methods on theoretical, methodological, philosophical, epistemological, and ethical foundations and commitments of research methods and practices appropriate to American Culture Studies and related disciplines.

Grants and Fellowships

Radhika Gajjala received a Fulbright grant for travel to Indonesia in May 2012 to continue research on Nonprofits and Technology in Global Contexts. She travelled to Semarang and Yogyakarta and conducted teaching workshops on gender and technology at Soegijapranata Catholic University.

Lisa Hanasono received a Faculty Development and Instructional Improvement Grant ($725) from BGSU to complete a series of professional workshops on grant writing.

Lara Lengel and faculty in the School of Cultural and Critical Studies (Co-Is Susana Pena and Sarah Rainey) submitted a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), Division of Education Programs grant proposal to fund a 2014 NEH Summer Institute on popular culture, diversity, and difference to facilitate diversity education in primary and secondary schools. If awarded, the institute will be one of eight NEH Summer Programs in the Humanities for School and College Educators across the U.S.

Kate Magsamen-Conrad received two internal grants from BGSU: one to study the communication between college students and underserved populations ($3,500) and one to refine The Intergenerational Communication Intervention ($9,706).

Kate Magsamen-Conrad and Lisa Hanasono Co-Mentored/Advised undergraduate student China Billotte who received two grants from Center for Undergraduate Research (CURS), a travel grant to present “Intergenerational Communication Intervention: Countering Biases to Affect Health Outcomes” poster at the OAGE conference ($200) and a research grant to facilitate her honors project titled “Career Services Usage: An Analysis of Efficacy and Contextual Barriers’ Influence” ($500).

Kate Magsamen-Conrad (PI), and Lisa Hanasono, Michael Horning, Nancy Orel (Professor and Director of Gerontology), and Danielle Brogley (Director of Programs, Wood County Committee on Aging) (Co-Is) submitted grant application to National Institutes of Health for $382,250.
National Service and Recognition

Michael Butterworth was named as the Founding Executive Director of the new academic organization, the International Association for Communication and Sport

Radhika Gajjala was elected Chair of the Feminist Studies Division of the International Communication Association and Chair of the Critical Cultural Studies Division of the National Communication Association

Radhika Gajjala served as co-editor (with Carol Stabile) of ADA: Journal of Gender, New Media and Technology, http://adanewmedia.org/

Al González completed a 6-year term as Chair of the NCA Affirmative Action & Intercaucus Committee

Community Collaboration

Al González was appointed to serve on the Steering Committee of the newly formed La Conexión de Wood County, a Latino-based nonprofit organization. He also served as president of the Board of Trustees of Sofia Quintero Art & Cultural Center in Toledo

Radhika Gajjala participated in Femtechnet and Fembot collaborations dedicated to increase women’s participation in open technology and culture (see http://fembotcollective.org/ and http://fembotcollective.org/femtechnet/1972-2/). She taught ACS 3000/WS 3000 (online) focusing on “Feminism, Technology and American Culture,” a Beta class for a Femtechnet Distributed Online Collaborative Course (DOCC) with collaborator Professor Alex Juhasz of Pitzer College

Lara Lengel directed an environmental communication service-learning program with community partners Montessori School of Bowling Green and Project H.O.P.E. Equine Assisted Therapies (see article on p. 6)

Kate Magsamen-Conrad developed curriculum and established community partnership for Health Communication focusing on a community based research project with Josina Lott (a residential facility in Ohio for adults with developmental disabilities), and for Small Group Communication to provide technology skills training for older adults at the Bowling Green Senior Center with Wood County Committee on Aging

Invited Presentations

Michael Butterworth delivered the keynote lecture, “Communication and Sport Identity Scholarship, and the Identity of Communication and Sport Scholars” at the New Agendas: Sport and Identity conference, held at University of Texas at Austin (February 21, 2013)

Michael Butterworth delivered a lecture, “Nate Silver and Campaign 2012: Sport, the Statistical Frame, and the Rhetoric of Electoral Forecasting” at Northern Illinois University (March 20, 2013), Wayne State University (April 17, 2013), and University of North Carolina, Charlotte (April 23, 2013)

Sandra Faulkner presented, “Art in Academia: How to Incorporate Creative and Non-Traditional Methods Into Your Research” at the BGSU Culture Club 8th Annual Battle Ground States Conference (February 2013)

Radhika Gajjala was a colloquium speaker on “Digital Subaltern 2.0: Micro-finance, Affective Labor, and Virtual Empowerment” at the University of Memphis (April 5, 2013). She also presented “Digital Subaltern 2.0: Networked Labor, Affect and Micro-Finance” at Virginia Commonwealth University (March 14, 2013), and was a featured scholar at the University of Illinois at Chicago Global Learning Community meeting (April 18, 2013)

Radhika Gajjala was an invited speaker on a feature session panel, “Whose Change Is It Anyway? Futures, Youth, Technology and Citizen Action in the Global South,” at the Digital Media and Learning conference in Chicago (March 2013)

Lara Lengel and BGSU School of Media and Communication Ph.D. alumna Victoria Newsom were invited by Norman Denzin, University of Illinois, to present their refereed article forthcoming in Studies in Symbolic Interaction, “Mutable Selves and Digital Reflexivities: Social Media for Social Change in the Middle East and North Africa,” on a plenary panel at the 9th International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, Champaign-Urbana (May 19, 2013)

Kate Magsamen-Conrad was an invited speaker on a feature session, “The Development of the Intergenerational Communication Intervention,” for Distinguished Alumni Panel, at the School of Communication and Information, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ in April.
Faculty Achievements: A Year in Review (Cont.)

Books and Book Chapters


Al González, with co-author Tina Harris, published Mediating Cultures: Parenting in Intercultural Contexts (Lexington, 2013).


Lara Lengel, with co-authors Catherine Cassara (Department of Journalism) and alumni Christy Mesaros-Winckles and Kaitlin Chafetz, published, “‘Voices of Freedom’: Music, Social Media, and Revolution in North Africa,” in Social Media go to War edited by Ralph Berenger (Marquette, 2013).

Journal Articles


Kate Magsamen-Conrad, with Kathryn Greene (Rutgers University, first author), published, “Methodological Issues and Stigmatized Health Populations,” in Research Methods in Health Communication (Routledge, 2013).


Michael Butterworth published, “Militarism and Memorializing at the Pro Football Hall of Fame,” in Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies (September 2012).


Lynda Dixon, with Terry Rentner (first author) and Lara Lengel, published the lead article in Journal of Health Communication, “Critiquing Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Health Communication Campaigns Targeted to American Indians” (2012).


**Peer Reviewed Publications (Cont.)**


Kate Magsamen-Conrad, with Smita Banerjee (first author), Kathryn Greene, Michael Hecht, and Elvira Elek, published “You’re Not cute When You’re About to Puke”: A Content Analysis of Print Alcohol Counter-Advertisements Created by Adolescents,” in *Health Communication* (forthcoming).


Kate Magsamen-Conrad, with Maria Checton (first author), Maria Venetis, and Kathryn Greene, published, “Patients’ and Partners’ Perspectives of Chronic Illness and Its Management,” in *Families, Systems, & Health* (June 2012).


Students in Kate Magsamen-Conrad’s COMM 2030 Small Group Communication class developed materials for smart devices in collaboration with the Wood County Committee on Aging (WCCOA). The projects were completed after one month tablet class instruction. Among the projects, Dr. Magsamen-Conrad supervised an eleven minute Kindle Fire tutorial developed and written by communication students and directed, filmed, edited and produced by journalism students under the supervision of Ken Garland, BGSU School of Media and Communication. She also supervised a twenty two minute Galaxy tablet tutorial and a nine minute iPad tutorial developed, written, directed, filmed, edited and produced by communication students.

**Creative Work**