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logTcomers

Alumni Newsletter of the BGSU Department of Telecommunications

Pat Silver: From Bowling Green to Clowntown Canada

Pat Silver ('76 MA), President of Sphere Entertainment, Toronto, Canada and TCOM Alumni Advisory Board member, visited BGSU April 3 and 4. During her visit, Silver had a full schedule -- meeting with other alumni board members on advisory issues and the admissions office on recruitment, speaking to several classes, and attending an informal session with TCOM students.

Born in St. Louis, Missouri, Silver earned a music degree in piano and violin performance at Stephens College before she received a scholarship to study for a master's degree at BGSU. After graduation, she launched her Canadian career with the production team of a top-rated TV series for *Screen Gems* and then became the sole publicist for the *CBC-FM* network. Now, Pat is a specialist in children's entertainment, and she produces live tours for many major

children's brands, including *Snoopy*, *Carebears*, *Babar*, and *Max & Ruby*. She attributes her success, especially her first job at the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, to her BGSU master's degree in Radio/TV/Film and the hands-on experience she gained while working at WFAL Radio.

While visiting the TCOM department, Silver gave two widely-attended presentations. On April 3, she delivered a public lecture entitled, "From Bowling Green to Clowntown Canada: Life in the International Entertainment Fastlane." During that lecture, Pat discussed her career path from BGSU graduate student to Canadian broadcast professional and offered her insights on Canadian media. Her agency represents more than 3,000 artists and she also owns a Gold Record recording group, Sphere Clown Band. In addition to her company, Pat has played a [continue on p.4]

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Newsletter Editors:
Richard Ehrbar, TCOM
Sophomore, Dr. Louisa
Ha, and Dr. Lori Liggett.

Message from the Department Chair: Dr. Ewart Skinner

Greetings, alumni and friends. In our inaugural edition earlier this semester, I invited you to participate in our *Circle of Influence*, which we are working to establish. We have had great feedback on the concept from some of you. To remind you, by *Circle of Influence* we mean a link between our TCOM students and the professional world and, importantly, widening that link to include prospective students from regional high schools.

The core idea here is to establish a connection between college students, alumni who are working professionals, and high school students. We have tried to deepen our recruitment of high-schoolers who are interested in media studies and to enlist their teachers in training workshops here on campus. In the next few years, we hope to develop these links to help build [continue on p.14]



West Hall, home of the Department of the Telecommunications

Department News

New School Director, Acting Chair, and Undergraduate Coordinator in fall 2008

Dr. Terry Rentner, was elected the new Director of the School of Communication Studies. She will begin her position on August 15, 2008.

Dr. Louisa Ha, will serve as the acting chair for the department during Dr. Ewart Skinner's Faculty Improve Leave Fall 2008-Spring 2009. Dr. Gi Woong Yun will serve as the Undergraduate Coordinator and the webmaster of the Department of Telecommunications' web site.

New Student Radio Advisory Board Formed To Advise on Policy Issues in Student Radio

A new TCOM Student Radio Advisory Board was formed in April 2008 to advise student radio stations on policy issues related to student radio. The members of the board include the current radio station managers of WFAL and WBGU-FM, Stephen Merrill, Programming Director of WBGU-FM and former general manager of WBGU-FM, Dave Moody, the radio organizations' advisor, Mr. Stephen Kendall, an adjunct faculty member and President of TCOM Advisory Board, a veteran community member of WBGU-FM, Dr. Ewart Skinner, the department chair, and Dr. Louisa Ha, the Undergraduate Coordinator.



West Hall Studio

Focus Area Changes in Fall 2008

Receiving the university's final approval, TCOM focus areas effective fall 2008 consist of Interactive Media, Media Business, Radio, and Television/Video. Student graduating in 2008 or 2009 can choose to stay with the old focus areas. Student graduating after 2009 will select one of the four focus areas below or a planned focus area:

Interactive Media (9 Hours)

TCOM464 Interactive Media Technologies II, TCOM452 Online Communities or TCOM 475 Surveillance and Privacy, and one of the following: (TCOM452 Online Communities, TCOM453 Media Sales and Promotion, TCOM463 Telecommunications Programming, TCOM475 Surveillance and Privacy)

Media Business (9 Hours)

TCOM453 Media Sales & Promotion or TCOM463 Telecommunications Programming, and two of the following: (TCOM455 Telecommunications Management, TCOM461 Audience Research, TCOM486 Media Industry & Events)

[continued on page 3]

Radio (9 Hours)

TCOM368 Radio Workshop, TCOM462 Radio Programming, One of the following: (TCOM453 Media Sales and Promotion, TCOM455 Telecommunications Management, TCOM463 Telecommunications Programming)

Television/Video (9 Hours)

TCOM 364 Video II, One of the following: (TCOM 350 Scriptwriting, TCOM395 Workshop on Current Topics, TCOM400 Topics in Documentary Studies, TCOM468 Video III), and One of the following: (TCOM463 Telecommunications Programming, TCOM470 Practicum in Video Production)

Planned (Three TCOM courses at 300/400 level) (9 Hours) TCOM Advisor approval

In addition, TCOM260 Writing for Electronic Media, an important gateway course for TCOM production courses, will be added as a requirement of TCOM minor.

TCOM467 another cultural diversity course

In addition to TCOM270 Topics in Minorities and Film/Video, TCOM467 Gender, Media and Culture has also been approved as a university cultural diversity course effective this summer. TCOM students and all university students can take either one of the two courses to fulfill their cultural diversity course requirement.

Three New Courses Added to the Course Catalog

TCOM461 Audience Research, TCOM468 Media Industry and Events, and TCOM470 Practicum in Video Production have been bluesheeted and added to the University Course Catalog. TCOM350 Scriptwriting, will now be offered in fall instead of spring.

Hong Kong Baptist University Exchange Agreement Signed

Undergraduate students in the School of Communication Studies including TCOM students can exchange at Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU) with the newly signed exchange agreement beginning fall 2008. Students with a GPA 3.0 or higher are eligible for applying to be an exchange student there, paying the same tuition as in the U.S. and course credits will be transferable. Hong Kong is the media hub in Asia and HKBU has the largest communication program there with four departments: Department of Communication Studies, Department of Journalism, Department of Television and Cinema and Department of Digital Media. For further information, please contact Dr. Louisa Ha who is the liaison of the exchange program.

One section of TCOM264 Designated for Service Learning

Based on the new service learning initiative of the university, one section of TCOM264 taught by Kelli Kling in fall will be designated as a Z service learning course. Students in the course will have service learning projects that provide service to community organizations.



Radio booth: Suite 100D



WBGU-FM Studio



. "Get to know everyone and stay in touch. You never know when the connection will pay off."

- Pat Silver

Pat Silver (continued from page 1)

significant role on many industry boards of directors, and is currently the Canadian representative to the U.S.-based *Children's Entertainment Association*.

On April 4, Pat spoke to students in the combined classes of TCOM103 and TCOM260, and she offered them three important keys to success in the media entertainment field: **1) Honesty** – Be true to your vision and honest with your clients and colleagues. **2) Demeanor** – Treat your clients and colleagues as you want to be treated. **3) Networking** –

Get to know everyone and stay in touch. You never know when the connection will pay off.

Pat Silver takes her role as an alumna mentor seriously, and she offers paid internships at her entertainment agency in Canada. Her interns come from all over the world, and recently she had a Ph.D. student-intern from Italy. TCOM students who are interested in interning at Silver's children's entertainment agency should contact Dr. Lori Liggett, Internship Coordinator, to make arrangements.

Guest speakers in TCOM classes

Pat Silver, a 1976 MA graduate, spoke to the combined classes of TCOM103 and 260 on her career path and gave students tips to prepare a career in the telecommunication industry (see front page story).

Dave Skorupski, a 1985 TCOM graduate and 1987 MA graduate, spoke to the TCOM469 Audience Research class on presenting audience research.

Keith Ulrich, Senior Vice President and Group Account Director of Mullen Advertising Agency Detroit office, spoke to the combined classes of TCOM103 and TCOM260 as the speaker representative for the Advertising Education Foundation through the arrangement of Dr. Sung-Yeon Park. He talked students about career in advertising and latest development in the advertising industry. He also has a session with students in Communication Studies on career advice.

Susanne (Lake) Ybarra, a 2000 TCOM graduate and photographer at WTOL-Toledo, spoke to the TCOM103 class on her experience in Banyan Productions in Philadelphia, and Kandoo Films, a promo production company in Los Angeles and her other work experience in NBC24 and Fox Toledo.

Student Accomplishments

Stephen Merrill, MA student and 2006 TCOM graduate, was selected to attend the National Media Sales Institute, a ten-day intensive program paid for by the National Association of Broadcaster in Washington, D.C. from June 1- June 10. He received training and on-site job interviews from top executives in the radio and TV industries on media sales. He posted a blog about his experience.

Julie Pretzlaff and **Mike Castellano** received \$1000 scholarships from the Cleveland Association of Broadcasters in 2008.

Class speakers wanted

We welcome alumni to come back and speak to classes for recruitment or sharing of their work experience. Contact Dr. Louisa Ha for speaking arrangements.

Faculty news and accomplishments

Dr. Oliver Boyd-Barrett, Director of the School of Communication Studies, travelled to South Africa in March 2008, together with **Dr. Srinivas Melkote**, to participate in a UNESCO-sponsored workshop on capacity building for journalism training in Africa. The two-day workshop took place on the campus of Rhodes University in Grahamstown. Drs. Boyd-Barrett and Melkote engaged in several one-on-one conversations with representatives of leading journalism training institutions in Africa, with a view to identifying suitable opportunities for mutual collaboration and exchange between the School of Communication Studies at Bowling Green State University and centers of potential excellence in Africa.

Dr. Boyd-Barrett is Chair of the Division of Global Communication and Social Change of the International Communication Association. In that capacity he oversaw the Division's many panels at the upcoming annual conference of the ICA in Montreal, in May 2008. In addition to the main conference, the Division also co-sponsored a pre-conference on Mediating Global Citizenship.

With together with doctoral student Ms. Shaung Xie, Dr. Boyd-Barrett published a paper in the February 2008 issue of the *International Journal of Communication*. The paper is entitled *Al-Jazeera, Phoenix Satellite Television and the Return of the State: Case Studies in Market Liberalization, Public Sphere and Media Imperialism*. Dr. Boyd-Barrett also published an entry on the History of News Agencies in *The International Encyclopedia of Communication*, edited by Wolfgang Donsbach. In April, he presented a paper by satellite to graduate students of UNITEC in Auckland, New Zealand. The paper dealt with recent developments among national and international news agencies.

Jose Cardenas, lecturer, was the Director of Photography for the feature film "Live Evil". Shot on 35MM in Los Angeles. This horror genre film is in the final stages of post production and will soon be released. He was also Co-Producer and Director of Photograhry in Cali Ford's "Real Horror Show", a television pilot recently finished principle photography over spring break. He will serve as the Director of Photography using the latest in digital acquisition, The Red Camera, for "Closed For The Season." He will begin principle photography at Chippewa Lake Park outside of Mentor, Ohio in July. This Twilight Zone-esque film will offer opportunities for current TCOM students to visit and assist on the set. Several recent graduates in the area have been contacted regarding crew positions for this feature film.

Dr. Louisa Ha, professor and undergraduate coordinator, was invited to give a talk on Webcasting in Greater China, using her access-content-revenue (ACR) model to explain the differences in Webcast industry between mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan in a joint seminar of the China Media Research Center and The Center of Communication and Media Research Institute of the University of Westminster, United Kingdom, on May 16. She then presented her joint paper with Joy Chao, her doctoral dissertation advisee, titled "Leadership Styles and Conflict Management Strategies of Prominent US Female Cable Industry Leaders," at the 8th World Media Economics and Management Conference in Lisbon, Portugal. Her invited review on online advertising research was published in the spring issue of the *Journal of Current Issues and Research in Advertising*. She and Ralph Okigbo, a professor in Nnamdi Azizwe University in Nigeria, and Communication Studies doctoral student Primus Igboaka published their article based on the Emerald Research Award titled, "Knowledge Creation and Dissemination in Sub-Saharan Africa" in the June issue of *Management Decision*, a top refereed journal in the Emerald Publishing Group. Her TCOM469 Audience Research class completed two service learning projects for WBGU-TV and Sony Pictures Entertainment respectively.



Dr. Gi Woong Yun received the Chair's Award



Mr. David Moody received the Chair's Award

Kelli Kling, adjunct professor, just completed a Bowling Green Culinary Tourism Trail to promote local tourism and Northwest Ohio foodways in Bowling Green. The project was a collaborative with the Wood County Historical Center & Museum, Bowling Green Convention & Visitors Bureau (BGCVB), and Lucy Long, Ph.D. and Nathan Crook from the BGSU American Culture Studies



National Association of Broadcasters Education Foundation gave the Department of Telecommunications a First Amendment plaque now hanging on the wall of the West Hall Studio Area.

Dr. Lori Liggett, Instructor and Internship Coordinator, was recently named "Faculty Mentor" for Phi Beta Kappa, (Xi of Ohio Chapter) at Bowling Green State University. Phi Beta Kappa is the nation's oldest academic honorary society. Liggett was nominated by TCOM senior, Kyle Kittelberger, a Phi Beta Kappa member and Liggett's advisee for the past four years.

Dr. Tom Mascaro, associate professor, continues to expand his influence in the Broadcast Education Association (BEA) Documentary Division, which he founded in 2004. This year's conference featured documentary workshops by noted cinematographers Joan Churchill and Michael Caporale, a presentation by the PBS series POV educational outreach coordinator, Eliza Licht, and leading graduate programs in documentary studies in the United States and United Kingdom. Mascaro is heading a subcommittee devoted to developing a peer-reviewed competition for documentary research proposals. Dr. Mascaro has also published a chapter on "HBO Documentaries" in the new book, *The Essential HBO Reader*, Gary Edgerton and Jeff Jones, eds., (University Press of Kentucky).

Dr. Kim McCann, adjunct professor, will move to Northern Illinois University as a Visiting Assistant Professor.

Dr. Sung-Yeon Park, assistant professor, was selected as one of participants in the Advertising Educational Foundations 2008 Visiting Professor Program in a nationwide competition. She will be placed in Leo Burnett Inc., a top advertising agency in Chicago, and observe the most current industry trends and practices from July 14 to July 25, 2008.

Dr. Clayton Rosati, assistant professor, conducted research in December on media and labor politics in NYC with MTV Networks "Freelancers" who had walked off the job after a cut to their benefits, and with the founder of the Freelancers Union, Sara Horowitz. A peer-reviewed essay and comic book (for educators and organizers) from this research will appear in an upcoming issue of ACME: An International E-Journal for Critical Geographies. In March, he gave an invited lecture at Miami University (OH) entitled: "Infrastructures of Feeling: Aspiration, Ecstasy, and Struggles for the Geography of Culture." He was also selected into a competitive Summer Institute for Economic Geography in Manchester, UK and was awarded one of four scholarships to help defray the cost.

Dr. Ewart Skinner, associate professor and department chair, worked with the Caribbean Association, and with the assistance of several departments on campus and institutions in Toledo to organize an HIV/AIDS conference highlighting the problem among young women and the African-American community this spring. He has also been working on a couple of documentary projects with colleague Jose Cardenas, Lecturer in TCOM. We continue to work on a documentary on African filmmaker, producer and director Gaston Kabore. The documentary will focus on Kabore's Imagine media institute, developed to train African youth in media, film and audio production. Twenty one hours of film have already been shot on the project. They continued to work on an edited book on mass media and telecommunications in the Caribbean to be published by University of Alberta/University of the West Indies Press.

Dr. Gi Woong Yun, assistant professor, served as a panelist in the 2008 Broadcasting Education Association in Las Vegas and presented his paper, "Read My Digital Lips: Internet Bogs, Vox Populi, and the Global Village."

Your e-mail address update needed

Please send us an updated e-mail address so that job postings and other events about the department can be sent to you via email. BGSU e-mail address will not work 6 months after your graduation

Alumni news and accomplishments

TCOM Wall of Fame

We are posting the business cards of graduates on the third floor near WH322 in our TCOM Wall of Fame showcase. Please send your business card to Dr. Louisa Ha, 302 West Hall, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH 43403.



TCOM Wall of Fame

Kim Faris, WFAL alum, is the morning show host WLQT, Lite 99.9 in Dayton, Ohio.

Ryan Gallagher, '01, is promoted to Individual, Corporate & Foundation Gift Officer, BGSU.

Joe Gunderman '79, is the producer in WKSU, Kent State University,

David Haineline, '83. His company, Capitol Services Inc., won the 2008 International Special Event Society's Capital Award for Best Corporate Event with its Cold War Homeage executive incentive trip.

Nathan Heerdt, '97, is Founder/CEO of Complycaster, a company specialized in training via streaming video.

Aubree Jeffrey, '06, is production assistant of E! Entertainment International.

Stephen Kendall, '85 MA, received the BG Best Award this year from BGSU.

Denise Kisabeth, '80, is Director of Content Creation WBGU/PBS.

Alumni news and photos wanted
Please send us your news or your classmates' news to louisah@bgsu.edu

A full list of alumni can be found at the TCOM alumni Web page at www.bgsu.edu/departments/tcom/alumni.html

Todd Lewis, '85, is now account manager at WGAR 99.5, Clear Channel Cleveland.

Dennis Logsdon '80, works in acquisitions at Allegiance Realty Corporation.

Stephanie Miller '07, started a production company in Cleveland called Enigma Digital Media Productions, producing music videos, commercials and basic coverage for live events.

John Mann, WFAL alum, is President and General Manager of WSBT in South Bend, Indiana.

Steve Mears '03, is Broadcaster for NHL NY Islanders on Bloomberg Radio. He visited campus on April 11-12 as a keynote speaker for the BGRSO banquet.

Mark Reiter, '87, is President of Level 2 Studio in Perrysburg, Ohio.

Dave Skorupski, '85, is Research Director for Fox Toledo, Ohio.

Ben Wilcox, '06, is account executive for Clear Channel Toledo, Ohio.



WFAL/WBGU Alumni Reunion:
From left: David Olmstead, Joe
Gunderman, Tim Kilkenny

Student media news

WBGU-FM appointed a new General Manager for the 2008-09 school year. Ryan Glover, a Sophomore Telecommunications major from Toledo, Ohio was elected by members of the TCOM Advisory board to serve the 2008-09 term. WBGU also conducted its annual Spring Funding Campaign in April. Initial reports find that donations have exceeded the \$2000 mark.

BG Radio News continues its daily newscasts on WBGU. Look for top and bottom of the hour newscasts on WFAL next year as well. The new directors of BG Radio News next semester will be Matt Horn and David Badenhop.

BG 24 News ended the school year in traditional fashion with its "Senior News Broadcast." Congratulations to all Seniors on a wonderful year!

BG Radio Sports Organization BGRSO has elected a new Sports Director and new Executive Staff for the 2008-09 school year. Senior Mike Castellano will be the new Sports Director for 2008-09. In 2007-08 BGRSO broadcasted over 120 BGSU Athletic Events, over 20 High School Sports events and 12 weekly sports talk shows. 2008-09 is going to be an important year for BGRSO so keep your eyes peeled for big things to come.

Videobank is back in full effect once again! Videobank will be working on various Video projects throughout the 2008-09 school year, including the new "Virtual Tour" and recruitment Video for WFAL Radio. Matt Cass was elected as the new director for the 2008-09 school year.

WFAL appointed a new General manager for the 2008-09 school year. Richard C. Ehrbar III, a Sophomore Telecommunications major from Huron, Ohio was elected by members of the TCOM Advisory board to serve the 08-09 term. WFAL has also announced it will not broadcast in AM. The station will be broadcast over cable channel 21 in Bowling Green, while streamlining its focus toward a stronger web presence. The station plans to also unveil a new brand identity for the 08-09 school year along with numerous other plans.

Plan to visit campus Homecoming or Black Swamp Arts Festival?

If you plan to visit BGSU campus for the Homecoming or Black Swamp Arts Festival and meet with TCOM students or faculty, please contact Dr. Ha at louisah@bgsu.edu

Alumni interview – Nikki Golden

By Yeun Su Park, TCOM Junior

Nikki Golden, '04, is the promotion manager of Radio Disney in Cleveland and the Advocacy Committee member of the TCOM Alumni Advisory Board.

- **What kind of TCOM student were you?**

"I would say I was one that was determined to get in and out in four years. I wanted to get my degree and start my future."

- **What school organizations helped you throughout your career?**

"I joined BG 24, but the BGRNO was more my style. It became clear to me that no one cared what you look like in radio, it was your style and voice that mattered!"

- **What is your favorite memory as a BGSU TCOM student?**

"That's a tough one. There seems to be so many memories that picking one wouldn't do justice. I will say that I enjoyed the freedom to be creative in what I did."

- **What is your least favorite memory as a BGSU TCOM student?**

"TCOM 460, I believe the class was about policy and regulation. It was a class I never envisioned using a day in my life. I struggled everyday trying to understand and remember the laws. In the first thirty days of my big girl job I had the FCC calling me about an application I had sent in for an upgrade of our radio signal. The fact that everything I had learned in 8-9 weeks of class was used in a matter of fifteen minutes was mind blowing. I will never forget that moment."

- **What advice would you give current TCOM students who want to follow your footsteps in terms of your career?**

"Wow, that's tough. I would suggest you never let anyone tell you that you can't or you won't make it. Always have the mentality that you will try. No dream is too big or too small."

- **What is the biggest media industry project you have been a part of so far?**

"I work for the Walt Disney Company, and in 2006-2007 no one would've thought twice about Billy Ray Cyrus' daughter being the biggest kid star around. In winter 2007, I had over 15 events leading up to her sold out concert in early 2008. Everyone I talked to asked me if I was going to be able to meet her. To sum up how big of a deal this was, it would've been like meeting the Beatles back in their prime."

- **What has been your greatest achievement while working thus far?**

"I love to put a smile on people's faces. I never imagined how big of a deal it would've been to work for a company where I have the opportunity to do so much in such a small amount of time. I love what I do and I can't imagine doing anything else at this point."

- **If you were to grade your career, what would you give yourself and why?**

"I find it kind of silly to try to grade ourselves or measure our success. I try to look at the big picture. Am I happy? Do I have a roof over my head? Am I doing what I had envisioned? I would never give myself a grade for what I do. At 26, I am pleased with where I am at now. I am also happy that I have my own home and I am able to make a difference in children's lives, which means the world to me. I am so many individuals' older sister that stops for five minutes to make a difference and put a smile on their face. I spread the magic!"

- **Do you have any career goals you wish to accomplish that you haven't yet?**

"I hope to take time for myself; and I would like to go back to school and obtain my masters degree. I want to give someone the feeling that their voice does matter and that you can make a difference. Be creative, it's ok to express yourself."

Alumni Interview – David Hainline

By Yeun Su Park, TCOM Junior and Richard Ehrbar, TCOM Sophomore

David Hainline, '83, President of Capitol Services Inc., an event-planning company in Washington D.C., is a TCOM alumni advisory board member and a BGSU University Alumni Advisory Board member. He donates three scholarships to the Department of Telecommunication every year under the Jill and David Hainline Scholarships and offers paid internships to BGSU students every semester.

- **What kind of TCOM student were you?**

“I loved the classes I participated in and I had about a 3.0 GPA. I really wanted to focus on Production and becoming a T.V. Director or Producer.”

- **What school organizations helped you throughout your career?**

“I was in Sigma Phi Epsilon, and my Freshman year I was on the Tennis team. The tennis team helped me because it taught me time management and a team-first mentality. While the fraternity helped to further instill that team attitude, it also kept my grades in check because of the GPA requirements.”



- **What is your favorite memory as a BGSU TCOM student?**

“Besides the classes and the easy access to the teachers, I had a really awesome instructor whose name I can't remember. She helped me so much because she really helped to bring out the creative energies inside myself.”

- **What is your least favorite memory as a BGSU TCOM student?**

“My least favorite memory was not doing an air shift on the radio.”

- **What advice would you give current TCOM students who want to follow in your footsteps in terms of your career?**

“Get involved, touch as much equipment as possible and meet successful alumni. I also suggest learning how to sell. Get a summer job that involves sales. Learn public speaking and learn the web. Just get involved and take advantage of everything that BGSU has to offer. And never be afraid to call your alumni and ask for advice or even a job.”

- **What is the biggest media industry project you have been a part of so far?**

“Working as National Sales Manager for Infinity in Washington, D.C. I was there for eight and a half years. We started out as a station with a 5 million dollar budget and by the time I left, we were at \$40 million. It was huge.”

- **What has been your greatest achievement while working thus far?**

“Owning Capital Services Inc. in D.C. with my wife.”

- **If you were to grade your career, what would you give yourself and why?**

“A plus. I love what I do and we are the best at it in D.C.”

- **Do you have any career goals you wish to accomplish that you haven't yet?**

“I would like to start a foundation that works with troubled youth, kids in need and kids with cancer. I also want to start a scholarship foundation to give lower income students a chance at higher education. I just want to give back.”



TCOM Award Ceremony and Alumni-Graduating Senior Reception on March 28

On Friday March 28, Telecommunications students were awarded scholarships for academic and organizational achievements at The Department of Telecommunications 2007-08 Awards Ceremony in the Bowen Thompson Student Union.

Nearly 20 unique scholarships and various internship opportunities were awarded to outstanding students along with various individuals displaying excellence as members of the various media organizations at BGSU. Four students earning a 4.0 GPA were also recognized. Among the scholarships offered, were the Department's Talent Scholarships awarded to 2008-09 student General Managers of both 88.1 WBGU-FM and WFAL Radio. Ryan Glover, a Sophomore Telecommunications major from Toledo, Ohio was awarded the position for WBGU-FM, while Richard Ehrbar, Sophomore Telecommunications major from Huron, Ohio was selected as GM of WFAL Radio. Both students receive a full tuition waiver for the 2008-09 school year.

Master of Ceremonies was Stephen Kendall. Department Chair, Ewart C. Skinner, along with various members of the faculty presented the awards. Mr. David Moody, radio focus area leader and faculty advisor of the student radio organization and Dr. Gi Woong Yun, received the Chair's Award for their service to the department. After the event, a reception was held featuring graduating seniors and alumni. Among those in attendance, was 2006 Graduate Mark Seidel, an account executive at the Time Warner Cable business class in Cleveland. Seidel spoke about his experiences working with CEOs and gave tips on closing business deals and interviews with prospective employers.

Also in attendance, was 1984 Radio, Television and Film Graduate Nick Gorant. Gorant, President of Sea Lion Studio in Bowling Green, stressed the importance of experience outside the classroom, while not losing sight of academic goals. Ryan Gallagher, Major Gift Officer at BGSU, talked about the importance of contacts, and marketing yourself. "Everywhere we go, we are selling ourselves. Whether it's on a date or in an interview, we have to sell ourselves. We have to convince others that we can indeed offer what we say we can. We have to display that we have not only the knowledge and experience necessary, but the tools needed to sell ourselves."

Others in attendance included WFAL Radio alum and part-time instructor Kelli Kling, along with 1985 graduate

and Director of the BGSU Student Technology Center, Stephen Kendall. Picture gallery of the ceremony can be found at <http://www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=2176662&l=b5fb8&id=20900362> and the department's web page at <http://www.bgsu.edu/departments/tcom/>.

WFAL/WBGU Radio Alumni Reunion on April 19

By Richard Ehrbar, TCOM Sophomore

On Saturday April 19, nearly 30 former members of both WBGU and WFAL Radio reunited at West Hall for the 2008 BGSU Radio Alumni Reunion. The reunion included a tour of the BGSU campus, lunch with present executive members of WFAL Radio and the Bowling Green Radio Sports Organization, a tour of the West Hall radio facilities and an opportunity for alums to get back into the studio to reminisce and spin some of their favorite tracks. Department Chair Dr. Ewart Skinner and Professor Emeritus Robert K. Clark joined the lunch.

The event was coordinated by 1980 Journalism graduate, Nancy Smith Kilkenny, and 1979 Radio Television and Film major Dan Jones. It included exclusive interviews with former WFAL and WBGU members Joe Gunderman, Production Coordinator for WKSU Radio at Kent State University; Kim Faris, host of the "Morning Show" at 99.9 fm in Dayton; David "Red Muldoon" Olmstead of Chicago, Illinois and John Mann, President and General Manager of WSBT in South Bend, Indiana.

Special thanks to all radio alumni members for attending and sharing their time and wisdom. We look forward to seeing everyone at Homecoming.

The interviews are available at <http://merrillmedia.com/interviews>



From left: Joe Gunderman, Bob Bishop, Paul Stowers and Richard Ehrbar.

TCOM Students to Intern at CBS Television Distribution

By Lori Liggett, Internship Coordinator

When internship coordinator Dr. Lori Liggett received an out-of-the-blue email last fall from BGSU alumna Lisa Lasarenko, she could only imagine what might come of it! Lasarenko is the Vice President of Internet / Marketing at CBS Television Distribution in Santa Monica, California. CBS Television Distribution was in the early stages of developing a paid internship program, and Lasarenko thought of her alma mater first. Through many rounds of phone calls and emails, Lasarenko and Liggett began to develop a program in which two fortunate TCOM students would get the opportunity to intern summer 2008 – and be paid for it – somewhat unusual in the world of internships, where unpaid positions far outweigh paid jobs!

TCOM majors Anthony Antoine and Brian Scheckelhoff have been chosen to represent the TCOM department during the summer 2008 inaugural internship program.

CBS Television Distribution is the distributor of well-known TV shows such as *Wheel of Fortune*, *Jeopardy!*, *Entertainment Tonight*, *CSI Miami*, *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, *Rachael Ray*, *Dr. Phil*, *Star Trek Original Series*, *Everybody Loves Raymond*, and *Judge Judy*, to name just a few.

Anthony and Brian will conduct interviews with all departments in order to gain different perspectives and understand the complete process involved with syndicated television. They will also have the opportunity to meet with other CBS Television Distribution partners such as Paramount studios and CBS Television City.

The Department of Telecommunications hopes that this will be the first year of many to come with CBS Television Distribution, and it is certainly a new venture for which students are grateful. If you would like to offer internships at your company, please email Dr. Lori Liggett at: lorilig@bgsu.edu .



A red, handwritten signature, likely belonging to Lori Liggett, is written in a cursive style.

My Internship Experience at CNN

By Yeun Su Park, TCOM Junior, currently interning at CNN International's New York News Bureau

Q. What did you think you would be doing?

A. Based on my previous E entertainment internship experience, I expected to ingest and log in tapes, research, and monitor. Even though I wasn't sure what I would be doing exactly, I wanted to use my diversity background and foreign language skills during this internship period.

Q. What are you doing?

A. Since my internship started, my day seems very short. As soon I came to CNN bureau, I read several newspapers and watch CNN International channel. I often go out to shoot with my crew to get some interview or b-roll. After coming back to the office, I ingest and log in the tape and help to write the script. Also, I assist to edit. One of my daily routine work is operating the prompter for the show called "Business Today" We have a spot three times a day at 2:30, 3:30 and 5.

Q. How do you feel about that?

A. I truly love interning for CNN International. All of my crew (senior producer, Mat, Producer, David, and Reporters, Irren and Jim) are so nice and willing to let me experience the real media market. We often go to bar to bond up on Friday after work. In addition, I am the only intern for our department. So, I have more opportunities to experience. I really appreciate this chance. I am learning every day. When my internship is over, I will be a student who is well prepared for the real world.

Q. What problems, if any, have you had?

A. I haven't find any problems yet. The CNN internship program is well organized, and I really love my department and co-workers.

Q. What successes, if any, have you had?

A. I interviewed several famous people including Donald Trump. I am working hard, having great responsibilities not only as an intern, but also as a future journalist. I am always be on time and try to do my best.

Q. About how many hours are you working?

A. I am working five days a week (Monday-Friday) from 9:30 to 5 afternoon. I am always come to the bureau around 9. I often work over time. So far, I hadn't missed any days.

Nine Students Prepare to Intern at E! Entertainment Network

By Lori Liggett, Internship Coordinator

For many BGSU students, spring semester represents a flurry of activities as they make plans for spring break, prepare to graduate, or gear up for summer internships. TCOM majors are no different than other students on campus, except that some of them begin preparing for a particular summer job many months in advance – the E! Entertainment internship in Los Angeles. For more than five years, the Department of Telecommunications has had a special arrangement with the entertainment giant, thanks to the efforts of BGSU alum (formerly RTVF), Jeff Shore, who is the Vice President for Production at Comcast, E! Entertainment's parent corporation. While students from all over the world can apply for internships at E! via the official website, TCOM students have the benefit of applying within their own department – and they have a much better chance of being chosen. Since the inception of the program, every semester TCOM has sent between 5 and 10 of its top students to LA to learn how a TV network operates and to hone their media skills. And this year is no exception.

The Department of Telecommunications is pleased to announce that nine BGSU students will be completing an 8-10 week internship at E! during the summer 2008 semester. The selected TCOM majors are: Steven Eustathios, Matt Fishman, Robert Gifford, Carla Heaps, and Chris O'Donnell.

Initially, all interns will be assigned to work as production assistants for various E! network programs. In the past, students have also worked in development, live events, marketing, and several other departments. Regardless of their specific work assignment, former E! interns have made the most of the experience, in particular, the industry contacts they make while in LA, which have proven to be beneficial. As a result, there are now more than 20 recent TCOM graduates who are living and working in LA in various media-related jobs. Most begin their post-graduation career working as production assistants at E! Entertainment or in other Comcast companies. In recent years, several students have moved on to other companies – most notably, TCOM alumna Erika Smith (2006) is now an associate producer for Actuality Productions which produces the "Modern Marvels" series on *The History Channel*. In addition, TCOM alum Nick Ramos (2005) is the Supervising Producer of Digital Media for *SiTV*, a Latin music and culture network. Both are former E! interns and post-graduation employees, and they credit their current

career situation to the initial opportunities and experiences they received at E!.

While TCOM students do have an "insider's track" to becoming E! interns, the selection process is decidedly rigorous and competitive. Dr. Lori Liggett is the TCOM internship coordinator, and she manages and supervises all student internships in the department. The E! internship presents a particular challenge because students go through a multistep process that begins months in advance. Typically, students find out about the internship through the student grapevine or from various campus advertisements placed fall semester. In late November, Liggett organizes a "Question & Answer" session to inform prospective interns about the opportunity, and she invites former E! interns to attend. Those who are still attending BGSU take this responsibility seriously, and most enjoy the opportunity to mentor younger students and pass along words of wisdom about their own internship experiences. Approximately 30-40 student hopefuls usually attend the Q&A session where they have the chance to learn about the internship and ask questions about what it's *really* like to work in LA. In mid-January, students are required to submit a professional resume, cover letter, and several letters of reference to Liggett and the other members of the E! Internship Selection Committee. Then 10-20 students are selected to move forward in the process, and in-person interviews are conducted in February. Depending on how many TCOM interns E! agrees to hire for summer employment, the finalists are chosen, and the lucky recipients learn of their selection in early March. The remainder of the semester is a whirlwind of activity as the new interns receive their work assignments, make travel plans, and arrange for LA housing. And former interns graciously continue to give of their time and knowledge as they provide direction and insight to the new E! hires.



NY Islander's Announcer and TCOM Alum Steve Mears Spoke at BGRSO's 13th Banquet

By Ryan Gasser, BGRSO Director

Steve Mears, 03, current radio play-by-play announcer for the National Hockey League's New York Islanders, Steve Mears, returned to Falcon Country for the BGRSO's 13th Annual Awards Appreciation Banquet. Mr. Mears was catered to and shown the latest BGSU and community improvements as well as the new addition to the football stadium, the Sebo Center. A walk down memory lane was also taken with Mr. Mears' visit to the BGSU Ice Arena and a reunion with former hockey coach and current Ice Arena Director, Buddy Powers.



When business was at hand, Mr. Mears addressed family, friends, and members of the BGRSO in a riveting and inspirational speech on his journey from a nineteen year old sophomore announcing BGSU hockey games in 1996 to Shreveport, Louisiana working for the Shreveport Mudbugs, to his current occupation as radio play-by-play announcer for the New York Islanders of the NHL. Mears addressed a few key issues to BGRSO members and those near sixty people in attendance. They included staying focused on the goal and to never stray away from it despite apparently hardships in the field, getting as much experience as one possibly can while in college in a variety of different areas, and a special call to announcers with his extreme emphasis on preparing for a broadcast thoroughly and timely.

Mears, who holds a degree Telecommunications as well as a minor in history, is a native of Pittsburgh, PA and an avid Pittsburgh Penguins hockey fan, of course when not on the clock for the Islanders. He attributes his unbelievably fast advancement in the field to those connections he established as early as his first college years at BGSU and made certain to all listening that ideal job placement may not happen for everybody so soon in their careers. Though the chances limited, Mears expressed that hard work, lots of connections and a passion for the desired job anything can be achieved.

Mears currently resides in New York on the island of Manhattan and is taking the off-season to do some minor community work for the Islanders, but largely is taking the time to recuperate after a grueling second season with the team.

Message from Chair (cont'd)

our enrollment to our 300-student target, which will give us a more competitive space in the college media educational environment. We look forward to our association with you in the next few months.

BGSU, the School of Communication Studies and the TCOM are currently experiencing deep institutional changes. The refrain heard around campus these days is: changes, changes, changes! You probably have all heard the news that many administrative changes are taking place on campus, some of which will affect TCOM.

- President Ribeau has announced his resignation, taking up a position as President of Howard University in Washington, D.C.
- Dean Donald Nieman has recently left to become Dean of Harpur College, Binghamton University's College of Arts & Sciences, State University of New York.
- In the School of Communication Studies, Director Oliver-Boyd-Barrett has stepped down to focus on writing projects.
- This spring, the School faculty elected Dr. Terri Rentner, Chair of Journalism, to become the new director. Dr. Rentner has outlined her plans for the School, including a new media center. We are sure these developments will deeply involve TCOM because the radio and television production facilities that now form the core of TCOM's undergraduate program will be an important component.

This past year we have worked with the Chamber of Commerce to establish a link between the business community and the University through the auspices of WBGU-FM 88.1. Through this arrangement, the Chamber sponsored a 6-9 a.m. radio show from June 2007 to June 2008 dealing with University and Bowling Green community news and events. Dave Horger, longtime radio voice of the BGSU Falcons and WFOB, is the host. The show was a success, and the Chamber and WBGU will continue the relationship for the upcoming academic year.

On a personal note, I will be on Faculty Improvement Leave for the upcoming year to work on research and writing projects. Dr. Louisa Ha will be Acting Chair while I am gone. Please enjoy the contents of this TCOMERS Newsletter. If you have any comment or question, please contact us.

TCOM 2008 Scholarship Winners

- Outstanding Freshman: Christina Morgeneier
- Outstanding Sophomore: Jonathan Uhl
- Outstanding Junior: Ashley Paparone
- Outstanding Senior: Julie Pretzlaff
- J. Douglas Beaudry Scholarship: Mike Hertz
- Joseph Black Scholarship: Robert J. Mills
- SCS fund for excellence: Yeun Su Park
- Jill & David Hainline Scholarships: Monica Beer, Mikeita Burkes, Mark Eres
- Outstanding Media Talent Award: Larry Marshall
- 4.0 Recognition: Benjamin M. Hollinger, Haley A. Loughton, Shandrea R. Edwards, Kayleigh A. Rasmussen