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# bgTcomers

Alumni Newsletter of the BGSU Department of Telecommunications

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## TCOM Students Engage in Service-Learning Project

Service-learning is an educational experience in which students apply what they learn in the classroom to organized activities that meet community needs. This past semester, students in Dr. Lori Liggett and Mr. Dave Skorupski's "Writing for Electronic Media" classes participated in an important service-learning project that enabled them to work with a community-based client, the Northwestern Ohio Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. The regional MS chapter serves 3,500 people in the area by providing MS patients and their loved ones with myriad programs and services, ranging from advocacy and equipment lending, aquatic and equestrian therapy, financial services and referrals, to support groups and respite care.

The project was initially introduced by two BGSU alumni, Dave Skorupski and Tricia

Courtney Tischler. Skorupski is Research Director for FOX Toledo and adjunct instructor for the Department of Telecommunications. Tischler, a well-known local radio personality, is now Director of Media and MS Bike Tour Promotions after being diagnosed with MS nine years ago. She met with telecommunications students and described the community's needs: "People with MS often do not know where to go for help or who to contact. Our goal is to let them know what programs and services are available, and to tell them that we're here for them, and we can help in so many different ways." Tischler challenged Liggett and Skorupski's students to write a 30-second public service announcement (PSA) that would create awareness of the organization and encourage people to make connections. As a result, Liggett developed a multi-step assignment based

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## Message from Acting Chair: Dr. Louisa Ha

I changed my role from being the former editor of this newsletter to acting department chair as Dr. Skinner took sabbatical leave this year. We have many new administrators at BGSU including: School of Media and Communication director, Dr. Terry Rentner; College of Arts and Sciences dean, Dr. Simon Morgan-Russell; and most important of all, university president, Dr. Carol Cartwright. Although we are facing tough economic times and budgetary cuts, I am happy to report that we have

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**BGSU**

## Service-Learning Project

Continued from p.1



Kathryn Sibio, Tricia Courtney Tischler,  
& Cristina Strickland

on BGSU's core commitment to service-learning that requires educators to connect academic principles to learning outcomes that meet important societal needs. "Writing for Electronic Media" (TCOM 260) is a telecommunications prerequisite course in which students learn a variety of broadcast media writing techniques, styles, and script formats for short news stories, PSAs, promotions, etc. By applying what they learned in class to the creation of a PSA for the Northwestern Ohio Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, students developed an understanding of the actual relationship between academic curricula and civic responsibility. Working with a real client with real needs helped students develop skills that actively contributed to the welfare and well being of community members in the region.

Tischler was pleased with the outcome of the project, and at an informal awards ceremony held April 30, she announced the winners of the PSA copywriting contest. Taking third place was the team of Colin Foster and Chris Jasinski. Tischler commended them for their creative visual approach to the subject matter. Coming in second place was solo copywriter, Lizzy Breier, and she too was congratulated for her unique writing approach and level of enthusiasm. Tischler provided strong endorsement of the skills of the first place winning team, sophomores Kathryn Sibio and Christina Strickland, who, according to Tischler, struck just the right balance in tone, visual impact, and information. In the upcoming months, their PSA will be professionally produced by FOX Toledo (under the direction of Skorupski), and it will air on FOX throughout the year. In addition, Sibio and Strickland will receive a copy of the PSA for their creative portfolios. For more information on the Northwestern Ohio Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, call (800) 368-7459 or go to [www.nationalmssociety.org/ohio](http://www.nationalmssociety.org/ohio).

To suggest a service-learning project that promotes academic engagement and community-based needs, please contact Dr. Lori Liggett at [lorilig@bgsu.edu](mailto:lorilig@bgsu.edu) or Dr. Louis Ha at [louisah@bgsu.edu](mailto:louisah@bgsu.edu) or visit the BGSU Office of Service-Learning website at [www.bgsu.edu/offices/service-learning/index.html](http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/service-learning/index.html).



Dave Skorupski, Tricia Courtney Tischler,  
& Lori Liggett

### TCOM Students to Intern at the 25th Annual Jamie Farr Owens Corning Classic Golf Tourney

For the fourth consecutive year, TCOM students will intern at the prestigious **Jamie Farr Owens Corning Classic LPGA golf tournament** to be held June 29–July 5 at the Highland Meadows Country Club in Sylvania, Ohio. Falcon baseball player & TCOM major **Brandon McFarland** & TCOM major **Adam Solomon** have been selected by **WBGU-PBS General Manager, Patrick Fitzgerald**, to be part of the support team that assists credentialed media representatives from international news agencies who will be reporting on the tournament and its stellar roster of world-renowned players. For more information, go to [www.jamiefarrowenscorning.com](http://www.jamiefarrowenscorning.com).

**The Department of Telecommunications thanks Pat Fitzgerald and WBGU-PBS for continuing to support TCOM majors by offering year-round internships and paid employment. Support your local PBS station! Please visit <http://wbgu.org>**



## STUDENT NEWS

### Exchange Student to Attend Hong Kong Baptist University

BGSU's School of Media & Communication has launched its first undergraduate international exchange program with the School of Communication of Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU), the largest communication program in Hong Kong. The cosmopolitan city is a major media, entertainment, transportation, and financial hub in Asia, located at the southern tip of China. Most courses at HKBU are conducted in English, and all course credits taken at HKBU are transferable to BGSU.

TCOM major, **Jessica Ward**, will attend Hong Kong Baptist University in fall 2009. Ward spoke to recent TCOM graduate and newsletter editorial assistant, Kelly Callihan, about the HKBU opportunity.

#### **TCOM major Jessica Ward:**

"I decided to apply to Hong Kong Baptist University because it allowed me to earn credit for both of my majors while being able to live amongst people of an entirely new culture. I am both an Asian Studies and Telecommunications major so it was difficult to find an international program that would help me complete both degrees. On top of this, I wanted to study abroad and with my love of Chinese culture, I found HKBU to be the perfect place for me. HKBU offers a wide variety of classes in the communication field, and I felt that by studying in one of the most heavily mediated places in the world I would be getting a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Being able to say that I have studied abroad on my resume is also something that will make me stand out from other people. After hearing how rewarding of an experience studying abroad was, I could not pass up the chance."

"While studying at HKBU, I hope to gain the knowledge and expertise that some of the leading businesses in advertising possess. By studying at HKBU, I plan to be exposed to a wide variety of media. I want to be able to take what I learn at HKBU and apply it to my field of study when I return to the U.S. This I feel will make me a more cultured person, and I will be able to make the business I work for even better. Specifically, I will be taking courses in the Public Relations and Advertising field at HKBU. I will also be continuing my Chinese language lessons by taking the two-hundred level courses. When I return to BGSU, the courses I have taken at HKBU will fulfill my requirements for my Telecommunications major and my language requirements for Asian Studies. Overall, I hope that by being a model representative that HKBU and BGSU will have stronger relations in the future and will provide many more opportunities for others and myself."



Jessica Ward

For more information on the HKBU exchange program contact Dr. Louisa Ha at [louisah@bgsu.edu](mailto:louisah@bgsu.edu)

Or go to:

[www.bgsu.edu/departments/  
scs/page55187.html](http://www.bgsu.edu/departments/scs/page55187.html)

## STUDENT NEWS

### Student Filmmaker Takes Home 2008 Indie Gathering Award

By Kelly Callihan ('09)

The Indie Gathering Film Fest is a way for independent filmmakers to network with like individuals, promote their works, and, if fortunate, find interest for distribution. The Gathering is held in Westlake, Ohio.

At the time of the 2008 festival, TCOM major Brent Walton was enrolled in Video III class at BG, and was in pre-production for a final project. The project was a movie trailer titled "Keys to the Kingdom," a decision-based action fantasy tale of conversion for which he is still finalizing the full-length script. The Indie Gathering receives many scripts, and of those, a group of judges choose which are to be shown, and beyond that, which are to receive awards. Walton was one of five people to be awarded with the STARR award for the summer of 2008. "It is a real confidence booster, to know that as I progress I have already been through the process and recognized for my work at a film festival," Walton stated.

Walton is currently applying for acceptance into the Full Sail University's Entertainment Business Master of Science program, and after that, he plans to seek sponsorship and produce the full-length feature. "It's only one of several scripts that I hope to have produced."

According to Walton, "The real benefit of working on the trailer was the great group of cast and crew I got to work with, all but one of which was a BGSU student. The experimentation and process of moving through the stages to see a completed project was amazing. Even looking at it now, there are many elements of the project that I think could be improved upon, so if any student is thinking of submitting a piece but doesn't think it's that good, it is. Have confidence and just do it. It looks great on a resume."

Walton's first exposure to the festival was through the website [www.myspace.com/theindiegathering](http://www.myspace.com/theindiegathering).

### Coming to campus for Homecoming or the Black Swamp Arts Festival?

If you plan to visit the BGSU campus for Homecoming or the Black Swamp Arts Festival, we invite you to meet with TCOM students or faculty. Please contact Dr. Louisa Ha at: [louisah@bgsu.edu](mailto:louisah@bgsu.edu)

## GUEST SPEAKERS

### *In the House!*

**Paula J. Adam**, Account Supervisor, Sheroian Associates, Inc., Lambertville, Michigan, **Erin Hirschfeld**, Graphic Artist, BGSU, and **Erin Ink**, LLC, Toledo, Ohio, visited **Dr. Sung-Yeon Park's** "Advertising Campaigns" class (TCOM 469) during spring semester 2009 to discuss their wide-ranging work in the advertising industry.

**Allison Brown and Kristi Leigh**, FOX Toledo Reporters & BGSU Alumni; **Julia Johnston**, The "Face of FOX Toledo"; and **Tricia Courtney Tischler**, BGSU Alumna & Director of Media for the Northwestern Ohio Chapter of the National MS Society. Brown, Johnston, and Leigh discussed the state of television news today and how to break into the industry. Tischler discussed job opportunities in nonprofit organizations. All speakers were invited by adjunct instructor, **Mr. Dave Skorupski**, and they addressed nearly 75 interested BGSU students April 30, 2009.

**Chris Ekstrand**, NBA Consultant. Ekstrand spoke to students in **Dr. Lori Liggett's** "Sport Media Events" class (TCOM 469) April 22, 2009 about his long-time work as a sportswriter and what it takes to be a consultant for the National Basketball Association.

**Randy Fishman**, VP & CFO of the Lingner Group, a prestigious television production company in Indianapolis that specializes in sporting events. Fishman visited **Dr. Lori Liggett's** "Sport Media Events" class (TCOM 469) April 20, 2009 to discuss his 20+ years producing live events and doing post-production for ESPN, Speed, and other nationally- broadcast sport programs. For more information, go to [www.lgpinc.com](http://www.lgpinc.com). Fishman is also the father of recent TCOM graduate, **Matt Fishman ('09)**.

**Paul McCauley**, BGSU Alum & Public Affairs Manager, Time Warner Cable Mid-Ohio Region. McCauley spoke to **Dr. Louisa Ha's** "Telecommunications Programming" class (TCOM 463) on October 30, 2008 about opportunities available to recent graduates in the cable television industry.

**Colette Neirouz**, BGSU Alumna & Coordinating Producer for Boston's Kirk Documentary Group and Producer of Frontline programs for PBS. Neirouz's work has been recognized by both the Emmy and Peabody Awards. She has worked on several documentaries including "Inside the Meltdown," "Bush's War," "The Torture Question," and "Cheney's Law." Neirouz spoke to **Dr. Tom Mascaro's** Video III class March 19, 2009, and also in a public forum titled "Making the Choice."

**Tim Wild**, BGSU Alum & Director of Planning Services, Marcus Thomas LLC, Cleveland, Ohio. Wild is a TCOM Alumni Advisory Board member, and he was invited by **Dr. Sung-Yeon Park** to provide insight on integrated strategic communication and share his industry experience since graduating from BGSU. Wild spoke to students and met with faculty March 25, 2009.

**Katie Wolph**, BGSU Alumna & Assistant Media Planner for Doner Advertising, Southfield, Michigan. As a recent graduate of the TCOM program, Wolph spoke to **Dr. Sung-Yeon Park's** "Media & the Information Society" class (TCOM 103) on October 30, 2008 and provided students with tips on how to break into the advertising industry.



Julia Johnston, The Face of FOX Toledo



Allison Brown & Kristi Leigh  
FOX Toledo Reporters



Chris Ekstrand, NBA Consultant

## GUEST SPEAKERS

### *In the House!*

**Guest Speaker: Dominik Leconte ('93)**

**Vice President for Corporate & Network Research  
Sony Pictures Entertainment**



Dominik Leconte ('93)  
Sony Pictures Entertainment

September 29, 2008

#### **TELEVISION INDUSTRY TODAY: OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES**

*By Ramse' Cavender ('08)*

**MR. DOMINIK LECONTE** of Sony Pictures Entertainment was intriguing and his talk related directly to what we learn in our telecommunications classes. He was informative about the television industry, explaining everything from pitching an idea to when a program is aired to how long shows usually last on television.

Leconte explained that the television industry is comprised of many key components, including studios, networks, talent agencies, labor unions, actors, writers, producers, and directors that are all needed to produce only one show. Leconte focused on how new shows are pitched and how to make a pitch different, creative, and so it stands out from all others. We learned there is a certain time when new show pitches are presented in the television development cycle. It starts around July 4<sup>th</sup>, continues into September, and by November final scripts are submitted. In January the scripts become pilots, and in March is the testing of pilots, and by July shows are completed. Leconte said that every year around 2,500+ ideas are pitched. Of those, only 500 are turned into scripts, and then only 125 are produced pilots. From those 125 pilots, 50 are picked and then only six shows stay in production for more than four seasons. Overall, it made me realize that the television industry is very hard to break into and to get ideas turned into actual programs.

Leconte briefly discussed syndication programs for Sony, and he said the most popular syndication shows are *Wheel of Fortune*, *Jeopardy*, and courtroom shows. Regarding television programming trends, Leconte said the number of channels and programming is on the rise, but channel surfing and watching commercials is decreasing. This is an issue for the industry because if less people are watching the advertisements that has a negative impact on how a show creates revenue. Dominik Leconte's presentation was informative and put classroom learning into reality. We're grateful to have alum such as Dominik Leconte to speak to us about the realities of the industry and what to expect after we graduate.

**DOMINIK LECONTE** is a 1993 TCOM graduate and Vice President for Corporate and Network Research at Sony Pictures Entertainment. One of his most significant projects was the Telemundo acquisition by Sony in 1998. Leconte is a member of the TCOM Alumni Advisory Board and Chair of the Alumni Advisory Board Development Committee. He visited BGSU September 29, 2008, and spoke to students about the state of the television industry today and provided insight into how students should conduct job searches most effectively.

## FACULTY NEWS

**MR. JOSE CARDENAS** was director of photography for the feature film "Closed for the Season" produced by BGSU graduate, Jay Ellison, for Shadow Cast Pictures and crewed by several BGSU alums and current students. For more information, go to [www.shadowcastpictures.com](http://www.shadowcastpictures.com). Cardenas' other recent projects include co-producer & director of photography for the TV pilot "Real Horrxr Show." The feature film "Live Evil" (DP) was released in Germany and Thailand, and the production company is currently working on domestic distribution.

**DR. LOUISA HA'S** award-winning book "Webcasting Worldwide: Business Models of an Emerging Global Medium" was translated into Chinese and published by one of the most prestigious university presses in China, Tsinghua University Press. Her book chapter on TV and radio research appears in D. Sloan and S. Zhou (eds.) "Research Methods in Communication" published by Vision Press. She also presented a co-authored paper with alumnus **Dominik Leconte** titled, "Multi-platform video consumption and satisfaction: A national study of college students" at the Advances in Audience and Consumer Measurement Conference, Miami, Florida, March 26-29, 2009. She was invited as a speaker on digital TV business models at the Media Transformation in the Digital Era Conference, Beijing, China, April 27-29. She has two other articles coauthored with Dr. Canchu Lin to be published in *Journal of Higher Education* and *Journal of Computer Information Systems*.

**MS. KELLI KLING** co-presented a case study "Be a Tourist in Your Own Town" at the Ohio Association of Historical Societies and Museums Region I meeting March 21, 2009. She also serves as Treasurer for the TCOM Alumni Association, and along with fellow alumni, **Andy Nowye**, she launched a FaceBook group in fall 2008 to build strong networking ties with BGSU alumni worldwide. If interested in joining, go to [www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=32280498882](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=32280498882).

**DR. LORI LIGGETT** was named "Favorite Faculty Member" by honor student and graduating TCOM major, **Mark Eres ('09)**. Both were acknowledged at the Senior Honors & Awards Recognition Reception held May 8, 2009 attended by the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, Dr. Simon Morgan-Russell.

**DR. TOM MASCARO** published an article in the latest issue of *Television Quarterly* entitled "They Beat the Clock--NBC's Innovative Newsmagazine, David Brinkley's Journal (1961-63)." The text is available at [www.tvquarterly.com](http://www.tvquarterly.com).

**DRS. SRINIVAS MELKOTE** and **OLIVER BOYD-BARRETT** have received approval from the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to establish partnership arrangements between the School of Media and Communication and other educational institutions to provide effective journalism education in Africa through faculty exchange, teacher training, specialized course development, publications, and reference materials.

**DR. SUNG-YEON PARK** published three articles in top journals such as *Communication Research*, *Journal of Interactive Marketing*, and *Family and Consumer Science Research Journal* and also co-authored a chapter on the subject of consumer reviews on retail websites in the *Handbook of Research on Digital Media and Advertising*. In addition, Dr. Park's paper was recently selected for the Intergroup Communication Interest Group Top Paper Award at the Annual Conference of the International Communication Association in Chicago.

**DR. CLAYTON ROSATI'S** preliminary research on the Writers Guild of America-East strike and the "freelance" employee walk-out at Viacom in New York City appears in *ACME*, the well-respected International E-Journal for Critical Geographies.

**DR. GI WOONG YUN'S** book chapter "The unit of analysis and the validity of web log data" appears in the *Handbook of Research on Web Log Analysis*. **Drs. Gi Woong Yun, Sung-Yeon Park** and **Louisa Ha's** article "Influence of Cultural Dimensions on Online Interview Review Feature Implementations: A Comparison of Korean and U.S. Retail Websites" was published in the *Journal of Interactive Marketing* fall 2008.

## DEPARTMENT NEWS

**TCOM 1030 H launched spring 2009:**

The introductory, prerequisite course "Media and Information Society" (TCOM 1030) now has an honors section, which was recently taught by Dr. Clayton Rosati.

**TCOM 1990 "Student Media Participation" new course to be offered fall 2009:**

Students who choose to participate in one of the TCOM supervised student media organizations can get one credit hour by registering for TCOM 1990. A minimum of 30 hours active participation per semester is required to receive a satisfactory grade for the course.

**TCOM 4680 "Video III" change in title and course description:**

Effective fall 2009, the title of TCOM 4680 (Video III) will be changed from "Advanced Production" to "Advanced Directing & Producing" to better reflect the actual focus of the course.

**TCOM 4690 "Topics" courses are approved for online:**

Now all special topics courses (TCOM 4690) can be taught online. The first special topics course to be offered online is "Sports Writing & Online Media Coverage" which will be taught summer semester 2009 by Dr. Lori Liggett.

## ***STUDENTS CAN TAKE SUMMER COURSES ONLINE...!***

To accommodate the needs of students, **SEVEN TCOM summer courses will be offered online.**

**TCOM 2700 #40082 Topics in Minorities & Film/Video – Mr. David Moody**

**TCOM 3550 #40123 Global Telecommunication Systems – Dr. Ewart Skinner**

**TCOM 3600 #40124 Media Research – Dr. Srinivas Melkote**

**TCOM 4520 #40125 Online Communities & Social Environments – Dr. Gi Woong Yun**

**TCOM 4530 #40126 Media Sales & Promotions – Dr. Louisa Ha**

**TCOM 4670 #40127 Gender, Media & Culture – Dr. Sung-Yeon Park**

**TCOM 4690 #41728 Sports Writing & Online Media Coverage – Dr. Lori Liggett**

## ALUMNI MENTOR PROGRAM

### New Program Offers Students Support from Experts

By Dr. Louisa Ha

I am pleased to announce the launch of our first ever Alumni Mentor Program which is available to freshmen and sophomore TCOM majors. Students can apply to receive mentor support from a TCOM Alumni Advisory Board or Standing Committee member. View their profile at our department's alumni web page at [www.bgsu.edu/departments/tcom/alumni.html](http://www.bgsu.edu/departments/tcom/alumni.html).

Any alumni are welcome to serve as a mentor. Interested alumni please contact me at: [louisah@bgsu.edu](mailto:louisah@bgsu.edu) .

#### Students can benefit from the mentor relationship in several ways:

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• “Job shadow” their mentor for on-the-job insight.</li><li>• Establish valuable links for internship opportunities.</li><li>• Receive feedback on work produced in TCOM classes. (Please do not request assistance until you have received a grade for the assignment.)</li><li>• Establish regular phone or email times to talk about the progress you are making and receive relevant suggestions.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Receive suggestions to develop an effective resume and portfolio.</li><li>• Conduct mock interviews prior to internship or job interviews.</li><li>• Attend professional meetings (such as NAB and NAPTE) and other networking functions.</li><li>• Receive contact and job lead information.</li><li>• Have a “sounding board” to rely on as they establish their career goals.</li></ul> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



#### Message from Acting Chair

Continued from p.1

kept our faculty lines. The department continues to make great strides with stronger alumni relationships, including the launch of the TCOM alumni mentor program and the development of various internships offered by alums such as Pat Silver. Alumni board members also created a TCOM Falcons FaceBook community for everyone to join. It's always gratifying to hear of the great news and accomplishments of our alumni.

This newsletter is distributed to all TCOM alumni, as well as friends, university administrators, and current and prospective students. The current issue represents a highlight of what we have achieved during the past academic year 2008-2009. For instance, our student media organizations have great news to share: WFAL AM radio was renamed WFAL Falcon Radio, and it now delivers shows on the internet with a professionally-designed, full-feature website in addition to its cablecast on Time Warner Cable. One notable public event organized by the Department of Telecommunications was the “Digital TV Transition in Ohio Panel” held February 4<sup>th</sup> that included live TV coverage and webcast. Many alumni wrote to me in support of this event and commented on its timeliness and relevance. Another major breakthrough is that Dr. Gi Woong Yun and I will begin work on a media usage and newspaper readership tracking study in Ohio that will be funded by the Toledo Blade and BGSU. We will upgrade our research facilities to do state-of-the-art audience measurement, and we are expecting research publications and media publicity as a result of this project. In addition, we welcome other referrals from alumni to use our faculty expertise in conducting funded research.

Please enjoy more details about TCOM alumni, students, and faculty in this newsletter.

**IN THE STUDIO...****STUDENT MEDIA ORGANIZATIONS**

*Want to listen & watch student media groups online? Go to:  
[www.bgsu.edu/departments/tcom/student\\_organizations.html](http://www.bgsu.edu/departments/tcom/student_organizations.html)*

**BG RADIO NEWS ORGANIZATION (BGRNO)**

Under the direction of senior Matt Horn and junior Natalie Davidson, BGRNO provided two-minute news segments to WFAL Falcon Radio and WBGU-FM 88.1 Monday through Thursday that focused on local and national news, and the biggest news of the day. Two-hour shows aired Tuesdays and Thursdays and featured hard local and national news, with a mix of entertainment, human interest, and sports stories.

**BG REEL PRODUCTIONS**

For an in-depth report on the latest developments at BG Reel Productions, see the story on page 12.

**BG RADIO SPORTS ORGANIZATION (BGRSO)**

Mike Castellano, Pat Dougherty, and other BGRSO members traveled to Heinz Field this past August as the Falcon Football team defeated the then 25th ranked Pitt Panthers to open their season. Then, BGRSO was back at the Doyt as the Minnesota Golden Gophers became the first Big 10 team to come to BGSU. BGRSO followed the Women's Basketball team to a fifth consecutive Mid-American Conference Regular Season Championship and another appearance in the WNIT, while the Men played their way into the NIT. BGRSO once again broadcast more 100 games and continues to be one of the top college sports radio organizations in the country. For more info, go to [www.bgrso.org](http://www.bgrso.org)

**WFAL FALCON RADIO**

For an in-depth report on the latest developments at WFAL Falcon Radio, see the story on page 11.

**WBGU-FM 88.1**

General Manager Ryan Glover helped the station kick off fall semester 2008 by welcoming 20 new DJs who brought exciting new programming and attitudes to the airwaves. New DJ Earl Britt had the honor of interviewing two artists who went on to perform for President Obama the next day. The station conducted its annual Spring Fund Drive March 16 – 22, and collected more than \$700 in additional funding from the greater BG community. For more information, please visit [www.wbgufm.com](http://www.wbgufm.com).

## IN THE STUDIO...

### WFAL Falcon Radio Takes Flight!

By Kelly Callihan ('09)

TCOM major Richard Ehrbar was elected as the new president for WFAL 1610AM in May 2008 with a multitude of goals in mind. However, two primary items were identified for immediate attention: creating a fresh brand identity and image, along with the transition to a web-primary medium of content transmission. The new WFAL Falcon Radio logo (pictured here) was designed by Steven Merrill (BGSU TCOM alum), along with the help of Ehrbar, and Downtown Bowling Green merchant Shirts, Signs & Designs.

Beginning in summer of 2008, a new domain was purchased ([www.falconradio.org](http://www.falconradio.org)), along with plans for a brand-new, fully-interactive website. With the assistance of numerous individuals in the Department of Telecommunications and the School of Media and Communication, WFAL Falcon Radio was eventually approved by the BGSU Office of Student Affairs for \$9,500 in additional funding specifically allocated for the new site. That site was developed by The Agile Software Factory (BGSU Computer Science Department), along with the graphic elements performed by senior VCT major Whitney Taylor (founder of [www.xcentric-design.com](http://www.xcentric-design.com)). Since the original version of [www.falconradio.org](http://www.falconradio.org) launched on September 8, 2008, the site has averaged 1,500 hits a month, and has enjoyed visitors from 58 different countries around the world. And when the newest version of Falcon Radio went live April 13th, site visitorship has increased nearly two fold with many of the same international countries represented. Total tallies for the 2008-2009 academic year show that nearly 13,000 individuals visited the website.

Campus and community outreach was also a critical mission for the organization in 2008-2009. Events such as Campus Fest, Traffic Jam (Part I & II), Hip Hop Thursdays in Downtown BG, and a 12-hour Dave Matthews Band Marathon led by Timothy Kilkenny, Patrick Dougherty, and Matthew Leininger have helped increase campus and community awareness, promote the station, and gain listeners. Traffic Jam Part I was held November 14th, 2008 and drew an astonishing 500+ guests. "It has been a very enjoyable and successful year," commented Richard Ehrbar, "and I am proud to say I have been a part of such a wonderful transformation. WFAL has such a rich history on campus, and we wanted to pay tribute to its predecessors while also segueing into the emerging age of media. I felt that approach would allow for the highest level of historical perspective, while also paying close attention to the educational and personal enrichment that would be enjoyed by future station members." At the end of October, Richard, along with webmaster Andrew Shady, also attended the College Broadcasters Incorporated Conference in Kansas City to help promote the station and create new networking contacts.

Joshua Wilborn, the current hip-hop co-director of the station is the president elect for 2009, and he intends to build upon the station's ongoing successes. For more info, please go to [www.falconradio.org](http://www.falconradio.org).



Celebrate BGSU's  
100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
in 2010!

Look for events at:  
[www.bgsu.edu/centennial/page48966.html](http://www.bgsu.edu/centennial/page48966.html)

*Let us know if you plan to  
participate & visit campus!*

***IN THE FIELD...***

## Student Filmmakers Find Sanctuary in Student Showcase

By Steve Grunwell

The student filmmaker community at Bowling Green State University is one of the school's best-kept secrets. The University is a hotbed of up-and-coming talents, rich with dedicated students constantly looking to improve their craft and to display their work. Unfortunately for the filmmakers, their cinematic endeavors are often overlooked outside of the classroom, lost in the relative anonymity of the internet. Now, a student organization has stepped in to fill that void.

BG Reel Productions has launched its new website, [www.bgreel.org](http://www.bgreel.org). The website features a growing collection of student video work, produced both in and out of the classroom. Video types include short films, commercials, music videos, and more. All of the work featured on the site is student produced and has come exclusively from the students of Bowling Green State University.

Beyond student videos, the BG Reel website houses the BG Reel Community, an open forum for film discussion, networking, and collaboration. Members of the community also have access to filmmaking resources submitted by other members. Registration in the community is free and open to the Bowling Green community, faculty, alumni, and the general public. The BG Reel Productions website was developed for BG Reel by Matt Haynes of Fleet Street Design ([www.fleetstreetdesign.com](http://www.fleetstreetdesign.com)), an independent web design firm in Northwest Ohio.

BG Reel Productions is a student organization on the campus of Bowling Green State University. The mission of the organization is to provide an open outlet for students to take classroom learning and apply it to their own creative endeavors while working within a supportive environment of peers. For more information, contact [bgreel@bgreel.org](mailto:bgreel@bgreel.org).

**STUDENTS!**  
**JOIN A MEDIA ORGANIZATION & RECEIVE CREDIT!**

**Beginning fall 2009, you can register for TCOM 1990 "Student Media Participation."**

If you choose to participate in one of the TCOM supervised student media organizations, you will receive one credit hour. A minimum of 30 hours active participation per semester is required to receive a satisfactory grade for the course. For more information, contact:

Dr. Tom Mascaro -- [mascaro@bgsu.edu](mailto:mascaro@bgsu.edu)  
Mr. Jose Cardenas -- [cardeni@bgsu.edu](mailto:cardeni@bgsu.edu)  
Mr. Dave Moody -- [dmoody@bgsu.edu](mailto:dmoody@bgsu.edu)

## DEPARTMENT EVENTS

### DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS 2008-2009 SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS RECEPTION



Faculty, students, parents, and friends gathered together March 20, 2009 in the Bowen Thompson Student Union to honor the best and brightest with a wide array of scholarships and awards. Amidst a festive, relaxed atmosphere guests received door prizes, played games, enjoyed food and beverages, and watched several projects created by students from Video III class, as well as a new TCOM department promotional video created by students.

In addition, the following individuals received recognition from the Department of Telecommunications:

*Outstanding Freshman Award:* Brad Woznicki

*Outstanding Sophomore Award:* Jared Miller

*Outstanding Junior Award:* Becky Flynn

*Outstanding Senior Award:* Mike Hertz

*Douglas Beaudry Award:* Anthony Bellino

*Joseph Black Scholarship:* Ithran Kanoyton

*Hainline Scholarships:* Natalie Davidson, Nathaniel Reed, Brian Scheckelhoff

*WBGU-FM Talent Scholarship:* Dara Greene

*WFAL Falcon Radio Talent Scholarship:* Joshua Wilborn

*4.0 GPA Awards:* Kelsey Conklin, Andrea Paris

*TCOM Chair's Awards:* Dr. Sung-Yeon Park and Dr. Tom Mascaro

*TCOM Alumni Service Award:* Kelli Kling

#### Alumni News & Photos Wanted

Please email your photos &  
news (or your classmates'  
news) to: [louisah@bgsu.edu](mailto:louisah@bgsu.edu)

**CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERYONE!**

## DEPARTMENT EVENTS

The Department of Telecommunications  
Presents

*Digital Television Transition in Ohio:  
Challenges to Consumer & the TV Industry*

*February 4, 2009*

**MODERATOR:** Pat Fitzgerald, General Manager, WBGU-TV

**PANELISTS:** Patrick Deville, President & General Manager, Erie County Cablevision

Bob Chirdon, Vice President & General Manger, WTOL,

Steve Crum, Chief Engineer, WTOL

Dr. Louisa Ha, Professor, Dept. of Telecommunications, BGSU

Dr. Sung-Yeon Park, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Telecommunications, BGSU

Webcast on demand & more details available at  
[www.bgsu.edu/departments/tcom/2009\\_DTV\\_Panel.html](http://www.bgsu.edu/departments/tcom/2009_DTV_Panel.html)

The event was broadcast live on WBGU-TV and repeated several times  
on different digital channels of WBGU-TV.



“Digital Television Transition in Ohio” Panel at BGSU February 4, 2009

**UPDATE ON ALUMS...**

Jason Jackson ('94)  
Sun Sports

**JASON JACKSON  
TV Host & Courtside Reporter**

This marks Jason Jackson's fifth season as courtside reporter for HEAT telecasts on Sun Sports. Once again, he will also serve as pre-game, post-game and halftime host, joining Eric Reid and Tony Fiorentino on the HEAT television broadcast team. He also serves as a host for Sun Sports award-winning Inside the HEAT series. Jackson, a three-time Emmy winner, is a versatile broadcasting veteran of over 18 years. He currently hosts The Jax Show on Sports Radio 560 WQAM, and for three seasons (2004-2007) Jackson hosted the post-game coverage for Miami Dolphins' radio broadcasts.

Prior to joining the HEAT, Jackson hosted The Jax Show, then a syndicated, afternoon drive, sports talk radio show, in southern New England. From 1995-2002, Jackson was an anchor/reporter at ESPN. He anchored NBA 2Night, NBA Matchup and co-hosted ESPN Radio's Gameday. Jackson served as host for ESPN's coverage of the NBA All-Star Game and the NBA Finals from 1997-2002. He was also a regular contributor to SportsCenter and ESPN.com's NBA page. Before joining ESPN, Jackson worked at WSVN-TV in Miami as a sports reporter/anchor from 1994-1995. Prior to that, he was news director, anchor and a talk show host at WFAL-AM and WBGU-FM in Bowling Green, Ohio from 1990-1994.

Jackson is a 1994 graduate of Bowling Green State University. He was born in Delaware, Ohio, and Jackson grew up in Cleveland and later, Cincinnati. He currently resides in the greater Miami area with his wife Shirelle and their two boys, Justin and Jordan.

***If you'd like to be profiled in an upcoming  
TCOM newsletter – or to suggest a TCOM alum –  
please contact  
Dr. Lori Liggett at  
[lorilig@bgsu.edu](mailto:lorilig@bgsu.edu)***

## THE INTERVIEW:

### JASON JACKSON ('94)

By Kelly Callihan ('09)

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

I always earned the best of my grades in my TCOM courses. I was so focused on a career in broadcasting that I took my 200-400 level classes very seriously. I, like many college students, could have left more time to complete projects, but where's the fun in that?

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

My experiences as a news anchor and talk show host for Bowling Green Radio News Organization were invaluable. Those early mornings on the radio created a foundation of discipline that I still call on from time to time. The information synthesis and writing are a part of my show preparation to this day.

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

Phil Wentzel ('94) and I hosted a talk show on WFAL and then WBGU called "AfterDark." It was some of the best fun of my life. It was a topical news show with a focus on student issues and pop culture. We had a full staff of hard working people that produced the show each week for 4 years. We had wonderful guests, phone interaction and just plain fun with "AfterDark."

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

The pressure of having to take the broadcasting law and ethics class in the spring of my final semester was my least favorite memory. There's no pressure like having to get a B in a class that could de-rail graduation.



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

There is nothing more important than internships. I think our field is one of the last that requires a true apprenticeship. There is no way to learn what to do in a specific job without going to see it done, and then actually do it. Intern as much as the department will allow, and then some. The only way I broke into this business right out of school was because of the 4 years of interning I was fortunate enough to accumulate. I was able to learn how to write, edit and report/anchor under deadline pressure. Those experiences were a direct link to my ability to land my first on-air job.

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

The NBA Finals 1997-2002, 2006, and the Super Bowl 1994.

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

One National and three Regional Sports Emmy Awards.

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

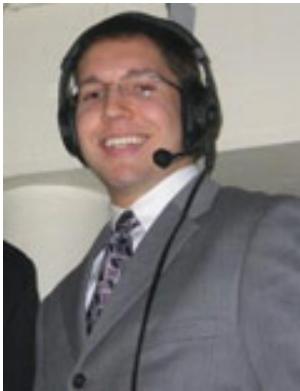
B-minus. I was able to rocket to a career on national television 18 months after graduation, but I didn't sustain it. I am working back to that platform, and look forward to using my experiences to stay on top.

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

I'd like to cover golf on a regular basis.

#### **What do you like most about your current career?**

I have the honor of telling stories about a game that serves as a diversion from the ills of everyday life, and feeds the special passion that only resides inside the best of sports fans.

**UPDATE ON ALUMS...**

Daniel Nieves ('08)  
Rapid City Rush

**DANIEL NIEVES**  
**Sportscaster & Media Relations Director**  
**Rapid City Rush Hockey Team**

Recent TCOM graduate **Daniel Nieves** is the Media Relations Director and sportscaster for a new expansion hockey team, the Rapid City Rush in South Dakota. Before taking on play-by-play duties for the Rush, the Tavernier, Florida native spent four seasons broadcasting the BGSU Falcons of the Central Collegiate Hockey Association. During his time as color commentator, Nieves was named "Hockey Broadcaster of the Year" three consecutive years by the Bowling Green Radio Sports Organization. Nieves was then named as the Falcons play-by-play broadcaster for the 2007-2008 season and covered all 39 regular season and playoff contests.

Along with his play-by-play duties, Nieves also hosted "In the Box," a weekly radio call-in show that covered Falcon hockey, CCHA, and NHL. The show featured guest players and coaches in studio each week, and in its second year "In the Box" was named "Show of the Year" by BGRSO. Nieves' experience behind the microphone also includes numerous BGSU men's and women's basketball and baseball games. For more information on the Rush, visit them online at [www.RapidCityRush.com](http://www.RapidCityRush.com).



Mitch Waxler ('08)  
Smash Studios

**MITCH WAXLER**  
**Studio Manager & Engineer**  
**Smash Studios**

**Mitch Waxler** graduated from BGSU in May 2008 and immediately headed to New York City for his dream job at Smash Studios, a prestigious recording studio with a large clientele of music industry luminaries. Established in 1989, Smash was voted "The Best Studio In New York" by the *Village Voice* and named "Best of the East" by *Mix Magazine*. Smash is New York's largest rehearsal/recording facility with more than 10,000 square feet of music production facilities jam-packed with the highest quality gear and recording suites.

Waxler encourages others to consider the music recording industry as a career choice, and he will be mentoring TCOM major **Rachel Spahr** this summer when she interns at Smash Studios. Waxler was instrumental in creating the internship opportunity for Spahr. For more information, go to [www.smashny.com](http://www.smashny.com).

## THE INTERVIEW:

### DANIEL NIEVES ('08)

By Kelly Callihan ('09)

#### **What kind of student were you?**

A bad one. No way around it. I've always been a pretty good kid, but when it came to school, I was always the kid in the back row (if I made it to class) doing the bare minimum to get by. My time at BGSU were some of the best years of my life, I just didn't expect it to be 5 years.

#### **What school organizations helped you?**

I'm living out my dream because of the Bowling Green Radio Sports Organization. During my freshman year, I had a friend point out that nobody was interested in broadcasting hockey, a sport that has always been a part of my life. I jumped at the chance to be a part of that organization, and I was a member for 5 years.

#### **What is your favorite memory as a student?**

Without a doubt the day I found out that I would be doing play-by-play for BGSU hockey. Once I sent my resume and demo tape, the possibility of getting the job was the only thing I thought about. I'd call the SID's and athletic department, anybody that would listen to see if there was a decision. It seemed like months before I stepped out of class one day to take a call from Dave Meyer who was the hockey SID at the time. I remember him saying that I was their guy. I then proceeded to call every family member and friend I had in my phone.

#### **What is your least favorite memory as a student?**

Any class before 1pm. I was also a professional procrastinator, so the late night's that turned into early mornings were also some of my least favorite memories.

#### **What advice would you give current students who want to follow in your footsteps?**

Network, network, network. It's as much about talent as it is knowing people in your field. The sports world is small, while the hockey world is that much smaller. I got the BG hockey job because I had worked with Andy Evans, the previous play-by-play broadcaster. I got my job with the CHL's Rapid City Rush because I know Steve Mears, broadcaster for the NHL's New York Islanders. Obviously, I needed to have some sort of talent in order for this team to give me a job, but it took networking to get my demo tape a listen before the other 200 that were sent in.

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

Starting a franchise from nothing. When I came to the Rapid City Rush, because it was an expansion franchise there was no template, no previous materials, nothing to work off of. I was thrown into the fire and had to learn how to set up a press box, arrange the media for press conferences, organize the stats crew, etc. People don't realize that when it comes to minor sports, broadcasting is probably 10% of what you do.

#### **What has been your greatest achievement so far?**

To me, it's the little things. It makes me feel great to have fans recognize me and say how much they love the broadcasts. It's my job to paint the picture with words, sell the game, make it exciting to listen to. I have accomplished that goal when fans want to tune in, game after game.

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

B. My career has taken off over the past year and a half, going from college student doing color-commentary for free, to now getting paid to travel and talk about the sport I love. I can definately improve on my broadcasting and my media relations work, but that will come with experience.

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

I am always striving for more, and I was raised by my parent to be the best at whatever I decide to do. I am 23 years old and have only begun my career. I hope to one day broadcast for an NHL team, and follow in the footsteps of Mike "Doc" Emrick and Mike Haynes, men that I have always looked up to.

#### **What do you like most about your current career?**

I can't believe I get paid to talk about hockey, how awesome is that?!

## THE INTERVIEW:

### MITCH WAXLER ('08)

By Kelly Callihan ('09)

#### **How did you get your current job at Smash Studios?**

I decided to fulfill my internship requirement with the TCOM department by moving to NYC and working with engineers at Smash Studios. During my stay in NYC, I quickly learned that the lifestyle was something I wanted to continue right out of college. The internship I completed gave me the hands-on experience that I needed to become a more well-rounded individual coming out of college.

I suggest that all students try to get an internship in a field they're passionate about. You'll learn a great deal about what it is you really want to do when you're done with college.

I owe a great deal of respect to Lori Liggett, David Moody, and Jose Cardenas as they were the teachers that really inspired me to do what I was passionate about. I'm excited to give BGSU students the opportunity to intern here with us, as I hope it will help steer them closer to what it is they'll be doing professionally.

In regards to my job; I'm very happy with what I do. I've always wanted to work in the music industry; and now I can say that I do. My actual title is Studio Manager. Once I graduated from BGSU, the owner of Smash asked me to come back to the studio and basically run it. I knew that is exactly what I wanted to do. So I moved here right after school and began work.

#### **What are some of your responsibilities?**

Some of my responsibilities include managing the employees here at Smash and making sure all of our business contacts are happy with our contracts. Because we're a large studio in NYC we're sponsored by many of the companies that help keep the music industry what it is today. I have to make sure we fulfill our side of the requirement. I also get to engineer for bands, which is my favorite part of the job. The bands that come here are here to rehearse for big shows, or to record their new album. We also offer showcase rooms for bands. Showcase rooms are where bands will display their talent to record labels, A&R, and executives who decide to sign the bands. I also enjoy being in the control room during recording of new albums. It's exciting when you have a job that is very relaxed.

#### **Who are some of your clients?**

Some of my clients include Marky Ramone from The Ramones, MGMT, Lou Reed, Patti Labelle and the Labelle's, Busta Rhymes, MTV, and more. I do enjoy what I get to do with my job, for example tonight I'll be helping with some stage production and engineering for Billy Gibbons from ZZ top, and Warren Haynes (from the Allman Brothers Band and Gov. Mule) and Derek Trucks might stop in for the set. It's exciting getting to work with people who I grew up listening too.



Smash Studios, New York City

*TCOM major Rachel Spahr  
will be interning with Mitch Waxler  
at Smash Studios this semester . . .*

To create new internship opportunities for TCOM students at your company or organization, please contact Dr. Lori Liggett at [lorilig@bgsu.edu](mailto:lorilig@bgsu.edu)

## INTERNSHIP INSIDER

It's unfortunate, but it seems nothing has been left unscathed by the drastic downturn in the global economy, and that includes student internships. Companies that have downsized their labor pool have also cut back on the number of internships offered. Now, more than ever, it's imperative that students participate in relevant internships so that they're better prepared to enter the workplace upon graduation. And that's why it's so important for alumni to lend a helping hand to students and offer internship opportunities. The Department of Telecommunications is grateful to all alumni who are employing students this summer. To date, here's a list of summer 2009 alum-student internships:

BGSU ALUM	COMPANY	2009 STUDENT-INTERNS
Jay Ellison	Shadow Cast Pictures Los Angeles, CA	Hector Elizondo, Branden Lymer, Sean Naves
Lisa Lasarenko	CBS TV Distribution Los Angeles, CA	Chasati Allen, Raysean Autry, Kristen Hess
Pat Silver	Sphere Entertainment Toronto, Canada	Talmarita Kenner
Jeff Shore	Comcast / E! Entertainment Los Angeles, CA	Carlie Ahrens, Matt Cass, Sarah Farley, Becky Flynn, Tom Kerns, Kara Krysiak, Cara Kovach, Travis Montgomery, Adam Strasser
Jeff Shore	Comcast / G4 Network Los Angeles, CA	Brian Scheckelhoff
Mitch Waxler	Smash Studios New York, NY	Rachel Spahr

### Your email address update is needed!

Please send us an updated email address so that job postings & other events about the department can be sent to you via email.

Recent graduates, please note: Your BGSU email account will not work 6 months after you graduate.

### THANK YOU TO ALL OUR ALUMNI WHO HAVE REACHED OUT TO CURRENT TCOM STUDENTS!

### GOOD LUCK INTERNING THIS SUMMER, STUDENTS!

#### TCOM Wall of Fame

We are posting alumni business cards on our "TCOM Wall of Fame" showcase. Please send your business card to:  
Dr. Louisa Ha  
302 West Hall, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio 43403.

## Alumni News & Accomplishments

**MARK BAILEY '07** is currently a human resources assistant and team leader with the Ohio Army National Guard in Columbus, Ohio, and he served a tour of duty in Iraq & Kuwait after graduating from BGSU.

**BRITTANY BARHITE '05** is project engagement leader at First Solar Energy doing project engagement.

**JON BERRIEN '07** is a production assistant for the TV Guide Channel in Los Angeles, and he also owns a freelance production company called Ground Sounds.

**GRANT BLY '06** is an account representative for WXTB-FM 98ROCK in Tampa, Florida. In 2008, he was chosen out of 70 other reps for the Sales Departments MVP award.

**LISA BRAUN '87** is marketing director for the Cincinnati Reds, and she handles advertising, strategic partnerships, and media promotions for the major league baseball team.

**ALISON CATALANO '07** is a research analyst for the TV Stations Division at NBC-Universal in New York, New York where she worked on the Beijing Olympics.

**JASMINE DAVIS '07** is producer for the "The Tyra Banks Show" in Los Angeles, California.

**ANGIE (ZWIEBEL) GABLE '02** is national sales manager for West Central Ohio's News Center, WOHL FOX 25, WLMO CBS 38, and WLQP ABC 18 in Lima, Ohio.

**THOMAS GAINES '76** is associate professor in the English department at Johnson & Wales University in Providence Rhode Island where he teaches courses in public speaking, composition, and literary genres.

**NATHAN HEERDT '97** received the BGSU New Venture Opportunity grant from the College of Business for his streaming video service company, Cast Ventures.

**JASON JACKSON '94** is courtside reporter and host for Miami Heat telecasts on Sun Sports in Miami, Florida. Jackson is a three-time Emmy Award winner.

**RYAN JERWERS '05** is an associate producer for the Cartoon Network in Atlanta, Georgia where he produces on-air promotions.

**KELLY KEMP '91** has worked in TV and radio marketing in Dallas for 12 years, and is now an independent PR & media consultant who works with Dallas-area and national clients.

**DAVID KENNEDY, M.A. '76, Ph.D. '81** is CEO for Flycast Inc. in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

**CRAIG MACK '06** is Media Technician at General Dynamics Land Systems in Lima, Ohio. Mack is responsible for producing all training, ceremonial, and PR videos and still photography.

**STEPHEN MERRILL, B.A. '06 & M.A. '08** has been hired as media marketing agent at Triple L Productions in Temperance, Michigan.

**DANIEL NIEVES '08** is sportscaster and media director for the Rapid City Rush, a new minor league hockey team in Rapid City, South Dakota.

**LAWRENCE ONG '95** is currently working for the United Nations as a communications expert in Beijing, China. Previously, Ong worked for CNBC News in Singapore and London, and the BBC as a business news reporter.

**STEVE ROBERTS '82** is the Force Protection Program Manager for the Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs.

**ERIKA SMITH '06** is associate producer at Workaholic Productions, Inc. in Encino, California, producing specials for the Discovery Channel, the History Channel, A&E Network, and the National Geographic Channel. .

**KATIE SNODGRASS '06** is producer of "First At Ten" for FOX Toledo News in Toledo, Ohio.

**JUSTIN TROYER '99** is assistant manager for the Office of Information Technology for The Ohio State University where he provides classroom digital media distribution, including all streaming media and videoconferencing services.

**NATE VAN SICKLE '06** is a photojournalist for WBNS, the CBS affiliate in Columbus, Ohio.

**MITCH WAXLER '08** is studio manager and engineer for Smash Studios in New York, New York

# Contributions

## Department of Telecommunications

**Name:****Graduation Year:****Address:****Daytime Phone:****Email Address:****Enclosed is my gift of: \$****I would like my gift to:**

- Be used for student scholarships or awards.
- Support faculty research.
- Become a permanent part of an endowment.

**PAYMENT INFO:** Check enclosed, payable to BGSU Foundation, Inc. Please charge my credit card: VISA     Mastercard     Discover**Account #****Exp. Date:****Signature:** I will arrange for my company to match this gift.**Please mail contributions to:**

Dr. Louisa Ha  
Department of Telecommunications  
302 West Hall  
Bowling Green State University  
Bowling Green, OH 43403

***To receive future issues of BG TCOMERS newsletter . . .***

**BG TCOMERS** newsletter is available on the internet in full color with hyperlinks.

To view online, please go to: <http://www.bgsu.edu/departments/tcom/alumni.html>.

This black & white version is the LAST printed version you will receive in the mail. Because of the high cost of printing and mailing, in the future we will only send the newsletter via email link.

If you would like to continue receiving this newsletter online in addition to other departmental information such as job leads and alumni participation opportunities, please send your email address and any other updates to: [louisah@bgsu.edu](mailto:louisah@bgsu.edu)

Your information WILL NOT be released to any non-BGSU third party without your authorization.

We would also appreciate receiving your current business card. Please mail your business card to:

Dr. Louisa Ha, Alumni Liaison  
Department of Telecommunications  
302 West Hall  
Bowling Green State University  
Bowling Green, Ohio 43403

***ANNOUNCING...***

## **TCOM Alumni-Student Development Fund**

### ***To Support Professional Development Opportunities for TCOM Students***

Recently the Alumni Advisory Board & Subcommittee members initiated the establishment of the TCOM Alumni-Student Development Fund. Alumni members have offered to match funds that are donated to the fund up to \$1,800 annually. The fund will provide financial support to outstanding TCOM students for the purpose of professional development which can include the following expenses:

1. Travel and accommodation costs to attend professional conferences related to telecommunications & media studies.
2. Registration fees for professional conferences related to telecommunications & media studies.
3. Cost of purchasing relevant, professional reference books or other educational materials.
4. Entry fees for film festivals or other media industry-related contests and competitions.
5. Student membership fees for media and telecommunications-related professional associations and organizations.
6. Partial support for travel or accommodation expenses incurred at out-of-state prestigious media company internships.

### **TO DONATE TO THE FUND:**

Please send a check payable to "BGSU Foundation" and write "TCOM Alumni-Student Development Fund" in the notes area of your check. Mail your check to:

Dr. Louisa Ha, Alumni Liaison  
Department of Telecommunications  
302 West Hall  
Bowling Green State University  
Bowling Green, Ohio 43403

Please keep a copy for your records for tax deduction purposes. We hope to receive your donation before Homecoming this year (October 3, 2009) so that we can announce it by posting all donors' names on the TCOM alumni web page. (You may also opt to remain anonymous.)

### **HOW STUDENTS WILL APPLY TO THE FUND:**

Students will fill out the official application form and provide justification for their expenses. Based on students' credentials, the TCOM scholarship committee will decide if the request merits support. Students will need to provide necessary documentation after expenses have been incurred. If they travel, they will be obliged to write a report about their experience and post it to the TCOM community (a restricted-access site for TCOM faculty and students only).

*For more info about the alumni board and its subcommittee members, please go to:*

<http://www.bgsu.edu/departments/tcom/alumni.html>

**CELEBRATE the BGSU CENTENNIAL in 2010!**

See event details at: <http://www.bgsu.edu/centennial/page48966.html>

***BG TCOMERS Alumni Newsletter***

School of Media & Communication  
Department of Telecommunications  
Bowling Green State University  
302 West Hall  
Bowling Green, Ohio 43403  
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