We would like to share the latest news from the Department of Telecommunications (TCOM), our alumni and students.

Department/Faculty Update

- The School of Media and Communication purchased a drone camera to provide aerial photography training to students. Mr. Jose Cardenas, Mr. Ken Garland, and Dr. Gi Woong Yun had a maiden flight with this drone camera for aerial photography on April 8, 2014. Watch “Go Pro First Flight BGSU.”
- Dr. Gi Woong Yun was invited by UNC Center for Media Law and Policy to lead an interdisciplinary luncheon at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill on April 11, 2014 titled “Should I Comment? Online Engagement and What We Know (and Don’t Know) About Social Media Interaction.”
- The Telecommunications Awards Ceremony was held on March 21, 2014. Congratulations to all of the telecommunications award and scholarship recipients, who were recognized for their hard work, dedication, and talent. Visit our Facebook page to see photos.
- The TCOM department sponsored a Broadcast Education Association conference this April for a documentary workshop with well-known documentary producer Sheila Bernard organized by Dr. Tom Mascaro.

Announcements

- The TCOM department is launching a documentary minor this fall, that focuses on the use of electronic media documentary to document and promote various subject areas. Courses offered this fall are TCOM 2900 Documentary Proposal Research & Writing and TCOM 3000 America’s Documentary Story Before 1968.
- Dr. Sung-Yeon Park is organizing a TCOM summer program in July for university students from South Korea that will include classes taught by TCOM faculty and field trips to the Google campus in Ann Arbor and advertising agencies in Detroit.
- The TCOM department will offer a new hands-on live production service learning course this fall: TCOM4690 Live Music Production by Mr. Stephen Merrill in which students will learn how to do live remote and music concert production.
- Dr. Tom Mascaro received a university instruction development grant ($2,000) for a documentary workshop “Frontline Goes to College” to be launched in the fall.
- Mr. Jose Cardenas will participate in the project “Walking Witness: Civic Responsibility in the Shadow of the Holocaust,” that will provide K-12 teachers an opportunity to trace the life paths of Toledo’s six remaining Holocaust survivors in Europe. Mr. Cardenas will document the teachers’ experience on film and lead interviews with local people. Click to read more about a prior documentary film “Bearing Witness: The Voices of Our Survivors.”
- Dr. Louisa Ha, chair of the TCOM department, will complete her four-year term in June 2014. Dr. Rick Busselle will be the new chair starting July 1.
- Dr. Louisa Ha will assume editorship of Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly, a flagship scholarly journal of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, starting October 1, 2014.
- Dr. Louisa Ha’s co-authored article, “The Role of News Media Use and Demographic Characteristics in the Prediction of Information Overload” has been published in the International Journal of Communication 8 (2014), pp. 699–714.
- Drs. Busselle, Ha, Park, and Yun will have a total of seven research papers in the upcoming International Communication Association Annual Conference in May on topics related to engagement, perceived unrealism and emotion, exemplification research and narrative persuasion, influence of narrative engagement, online prosumption proclivity, digital divide, women in South Korean dramas and migrant workers in South Korea.

Student Achievements

- The award ceremony for 2014 TCOM Student Production Contest was held on April 18. Congratulations to the winners: Brittany Shank (1st place video), Nick Weiss (2nd place video), Jared Calvelage (3rd place video), Melissa Belcher (1st place radio feature), Jared Calvelage (1st place radio production), Tim Whittington (1st place radio script), John Subitrelu (1st place website), and Jacob Westmeyer (2nd place website). Twenty entries in total were judged by alumni of the TCOM program: Dave Dobson, ESPN; Larry Marshall, independent filmmaker, Jim Filbert, Biznet, Detroit, and Mitch Waxler, chief studio manager, Smash Studio, NY.
- Eric Romero has been selected to participate in the Media Sales Institute at Florida A&M University. Ashley Hendricks and Jonas Clark has been selected to participate in the Media Sales Institute in Ohio this summer.
- Jonathan Keilholz, a graduating senior, has been hired as associate TV producer for WTVG-Toledo.
- Graduating senior John Subitrelu has been hired by HBM, an IT consulting company in Columbus, Ohio as a web developer.
- Heather Pollauf, a senior, was TCOMSA’s Student of the Month for April.
- Garett Mansfield, a third year student holding the academic status of a senior, was TCOMSA’s Student of the Month for March.
• Morgan Tucker, a sophomore, was TCOMSA's Student of the Month for February.

Alumni Update
• Dave Dobson ’95, associate producer, ESPN, was named the TCOM Alumni Service Award Recipient. He was the keynote speaker for the TCOM Student Production Contest award ceremony.
• Ryan Zangrilli ’04, Midwest account executive for Fullscreen, Inc., was selected for the Alumni Spotlight of the Week.

TCOM Career Day
The third annual TCOM Career Day was held on April 4, 2014. The event featured three panels, an employer mixer, and individual interviews. Thanks to all faculty, alumni, students, and employers who organized and attended the event. Visit our TCOMSA's Facebook page for photos.

Dr. Gi Woong Yun moderated the “Interviews, Demo Reel Preparation and Job Search Tips Panel.” Speakers were Debbie Alderman, associate producer, EWTN Cable TV Network; Jerry Brown, CEO, Madison Avenue Group, Toledo; Kristin Pierce, multimedia journalist, MyTV 20, Detroit; and Joshua Surgeon, president, SixCreative. TCOM student Gary Galbreath Jr. said this was his favorite panel because he heard directly from employers on what they're looking for. He learned from Debbie that knowledge, skills and passion are three indispensable factors to be successful at anything in life.

Dr. Ewart Skinner moderated the “TCOM Alumni Panel.” Speakers were alums from all five focus areas in media business, media culture, interactive media, radio, television and video. Media business alum Mark Seidel, regional sales manager, Time Warner Cable, talked about the importance of having specific, measurable, obtainable, and timely goals, being confident in an interview, as well as paying attention to details such as making eye contact and producing a firm handshake.

TCOM student Ben Lachowski said he was impressed by video/television representative Dave Dobson, associate producer, ESPN. Dave emphasized the importance of broadening your horizons as well as doing something that you are truly passionate about. Ben also received great advice about networking, flexibility, and adaptability from other panelists. Other speakers included media culture representative Marie Dunn-Harris, writer/social media specialist, BGSU; interactive media representative Jim Filbert, COO, BizNet, Detroit; and radio representative Chad McNeal, production director/DJ for Childers Media Group, Lima.

Another alumni panel was held in Dr. Lori Liggett’s TCOM2600 Writing for Electronic Media class. Four alumni attended this discussion: Codi Giesey ’13, account executive, WKKM; Kaitlyn Kuch ’13, assignment editor, WTOL-TV; Debbie Alderman ‘13, associate professor, EWTN; and Brad Woznicki ’12, Buckeye Cable Sports Network. Topics discussed included transitioning between college and the real world, going beyond expectations to stand out, utilizing the organizations at BGSU, taking advantage of internships, and more.

Students not only learned from alumni and other industry professionals but they also had a chance to apply for internships and jobs at eight media companies including WBGU-TV, WTOL/Fox Toledo, 107.7 FM The Wolf, and Buckeye Cable/BCSN.