

# SPEAK EASY

A Publication of the Department of Speech Communication Southern Illinois University Carbondale

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## Department Hosts Patti Pace Performance Festival

Summer Issue

Our department had the honor of hosting the annual Patti Pace Festival in late February. The festival is well-known for its rich tradition among performance scholars. Each year, the festival is held in memory of **Patti Pace**, a highly admired performance scholar and director. She was also the daughter of the department's former graduate studies director Dr. Thomas Pace. The festival maintains a sense of exclusivity by traveling only amongst the schools with which she was affiliated: SIUC, Louisiana State University, and Georgia Southern University.

The Patti Pace Festival provides a space where students and faculty of performance studies can share their work, both completed and in progress, receive helpful feedback on improvement, and interact and network with peers and mentors.

Festivals are traditionally theme-related. This year's theme, "Witnessing Performance," allowed participants to critically show, through performance art, what it means to bear witness to the many tribulations life can present. Individuals had 30 minutes to take the audience with them on their journey. Following each performance was a brief response from a faculty member, followed by open discussion.

Several socially charged themes were apparent throughout the festival. Feminism and social construction of the feminine body were creatively displayed in the performance *Little Miss Grotesque*, written and directed by **Andrea Baldwin**, a second-year doctoral student in our department. Baldwin's piece was chosen to represent our university at the festival and was met with outstanding praise. The performance spawned from the popular TLC show *Toddlers and Tiaras*. Through both dialogue and monologue, actors expressed the sexualization of children and the limited expectations of women socially constructed in a society that severely hinders the female identity. The emotion felt in this performance was captivating and raw.

The Patti Pace Festival embodies the meaning of tradition and performance. When asked what the Patti Pace Festival meant to the department, **Dr. Elyse Pineau**, who was the main organizer, responded, "The festival is a long standing tradition in performance studies... a chance for students and faculty to share work in an informal setting, network across programs, recruit potential graduate students, and generally socialize around our shared interest in artistic/theoretical practices." We, as a department, feel privileged to have had the honor of hosting the festival and look forward to next year's event.



Patti Pace: (L to R) Carlye Schweska, Nico Wood, Janelle Briggs, Sam Sloan, Lindsay Greer, Gigi Perez-Langley

## Debate Team Makes History at National Tournament



(L to R) Farias, Calderwood, Selck, Dr. Graham, Rivera, Campbell, Rehg, and Cheesewright

The SIUC debate team made history at the National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence with two duos finishing in the top four of the tournament. This tournament only invites the top 64 teams from the 848 that competed throughout the year.

The duo awarded third place consisted of **Sid Rehg**, a junior in speech communication, and **Josh Rivera**, a freshman studying political science. The duo awarded fourth place included **Ben Campbell**, a sophomore in political science, and **Mike Selck**, a junior in speech communication. Going into the tournament, Campbell and Selck were ranked first in the nation and Rehg and Rivera had also recently won the prestigious Berkeley tournament. By the end of the season, the SIUC debate team won six out of 13 total tournaments.

The national tournament took place over three days in Bellingham, Wash., and covered a variety of topics. Both teams debated in over 10 rounds throughout the three days. On the final day of the tournament, SIUC reinforced its history of success by claiming victory to the third and fourth places in the tournament.

The two SIUC debate duos are not the only individuals who work to continue SIUC's debate success. **Dr. Todd Graham**, director of debate, along with graduate assistants **Kevin Calderwood**, **Kyle Cheesewright**, and **Steven Farias**, has provided research, strategies, and insight for the debate team. Our department congratulates the entire team for their dedication, success and their historic winning season!

# DEPARTMENT NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

## Pineau Granted Prestigious Coger Award



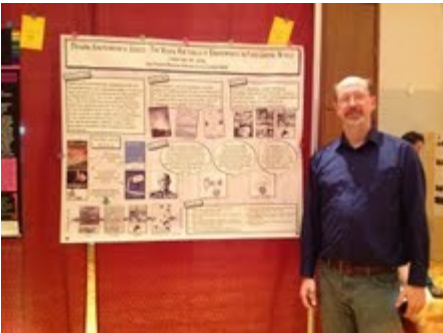
Dr. Elyse Pineau during a performance

The National Communication Association (NCA) recognized associate professor **Dr. Elyse Pineau** at The 97<sup>th</sup> annual convention which took place in New Orleans, La., in November 2011 by naming her as the 2011 recipient of the Leslie Irene Coger Award for Distinguished Performance.

In 1994, Leslie Irene Coger contributed \$10,000 to an NCA restricted reserve fund to support and recognize a career dedicated to performance. The award is given to members of NCA and those in performance careers that have recently delivered outstanding performances.

Dr. Pineau has been recognized on several occasions for her contributions to the field. She has received awards such as Outstanding Scholar in Theatre and Performance Studies and Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher for the Department of Speech Communication. She has also published several professional pieces. Her interests

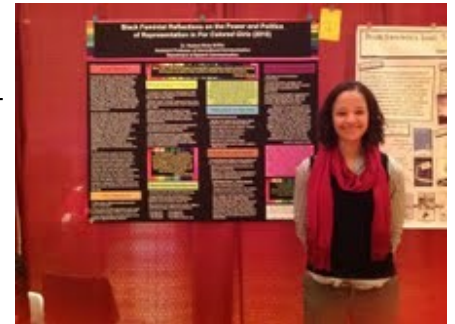
## Faculty Represent Department at SIUC Research Town Hall



**Dr. Jonathan Gray** presented a poster entitled "Drawing Environmental Issues: The Visual Rhetorics of Environments in Graphic Novels." Combining research interests in visual rhetoric and

environmental communication, this project explores the explicit and implicit arguments about human/environment relationships and how visual style in graphic novels participates in making those arguments.

**Dr. Rachel Alicia Griffin** displayed a research poster entitled "Black Feminist Reflections on the Power and Politics of Representation in *For Colored Girls*." Designed to both trouble and celebrate Tyler Perry's film inspired by NtozakeShange'scho-reopoems, her poster addressed gender violence against Black women and the power of media representation.



**Dr. Nilanjana Bardhan** presented a poster entitled "*Slumdog Millionaire* meets 'India Shining': (Trans)national narratives of Identity Among South Asian Diaspora." This study investigated how south Asians living in diaspora around the world expressed issues of identity and belonging through their discussions of representation in the Oscar winning film *Slumdog Millionaire*.

**Drs. Satoshi Toyosaki and Sandy Pensoneau-Conway** presented a poster entitled "Interpersonal Culture Analysis: A Relationship in Retropect." Interpersonal culture analysis, a qualitative method of research they published in 2005, engages intercultural and interpersonal relationship partners in in-the-moment construction of their relationship. Partners systematically co-author a narrative of a relational epiphany--a moment in the relationship that calls attention to its interpersonal *and* intercultural qualities. They use this narrative to reflect upon and presently understand the ways their cultural identities impact the relationship, and thus create interpersonal culture.



L to R: Dr. Pensoneau-Conway., Dr. Griffin, Dr. Toyasaki, & Dr. Bardhan

## Intercultural Mini-Conference Inspires Book



### IDENTITY RESEARCH AND COMMUNICATION

INTERCULTURAL REFLECTIONS AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Edited by NILANJANA BARDHAN and MARK P. ORBE



Intercultural contact is continuously increasing in today's world, which brings about an increased potential for both connections and conflict. Scholars within our department are well aware of this and in order to expedite a growth in the area of intercultural communication, the department hosted an Intercultural Communication Mini-Conference last April. Invitations were sent out to intercultural communication scholars across the country. The department's intercultural communication faculty and 11 other intercultural communication scholars met April 27<sup>th</sup> through the 29<sup>th</sup> in 2011 at the Touch of Nature Environmental Center to present papers and discuss the future of the topic of identity within intercultural communication.

Due to the excellent quality of the papers presented, whispers arose about coming out with a book. Those whispers became a plan and now that plan has become a reality. *Identity Research and Communication: Intercultural Reflections and Future Directions* was published by Lexington Books in April 2012. The contributors to the book include seasoned as well as budding intercultural communication scholars. The volume is a collection of essays on identity research pertaining to the field of intercultural communication. The authors concentrate primarily on concepts that are relevant in the 21<sup>st</sup> century that have tremendous potential for effecting social change. **Dr. Nilanjana Bardhan**, co-editor of the book, said "This book would not have come together without the

valuable efforts of all the contributors. Each essay is a must-read for those interested in identity and intercultural communication." In addition, this book honors the work of the late **Dr. John Warren**, with proceeds going directly to his two sons, Elias John Warren and Isaac James Warren. Dr. Mark Orbe, co-editor and Professor of Diversity and Communication at Western Michigan University, stated that he is "deeply honored to be a part of something that represents a lot of what Dr. Warren accomplished."

## Dr. Mark Orbe Visits SIUC Campus

The department brought Dr. Mark Orbe to the SIUC campus on April 6<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Orbe is currently a professor at Western Michigan University and his research focuses on interpersonal communication, communication and diversity, and intercultural communication. In the presentation, Dr. Orbe discussed the material of his new book, *Communication Realities in a "Post-Racial" Society: What the U.S. Public Really Thinks of President Barack Obama*. Published by Lexington Books in 2011, his book seeks to move past data polls and reveals insights about President Obama, race and media compiled from multiple focus groups.

For this book, Dr. Orbe visited 10 states and conducted 42 focus groups. He individually transcribed all data collected from the groups in an attempt to understand diverse perspectives. His discussion included topics such as the perspective of President Obama as a communicator and a leader, the impact of race on his image, and the media's influence on public opinion. The presentation articulated diverse opinions from across the United States, along with insights discovered through the extensive research Dr. Orbe conducted. The presentation also created a space for dialogue by allowing the audience to speak and ask questions at the conclusion of the lecture. This event was educational for speech communication and political scholars alike, and successfully drew individuals from various departments across campus. The event was co-sponsored by Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies, Africana Studies, the Department of Political Science and the Paul Simon Public Policy In-



Dr. Mark Orbe speaking about his new book

## Getting to Know: Dr. Sandy Pensoneau-Conway



Dr. Sandy Pensoneau-Conway

**Dr. Sandy Pensoneau-Conway** (Ph. D., '06) joined the department an assistant professor this year. After receiving her bachelor's degree in 1999, Dr. Pensoneau-Conway went on to receive both her M.S. and doctoral degrees in speech communication from SIUC. Once she completed her doctoral degree, she joined the Department of Communication at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan.

Returning for a second run at SIUC, now as faculty, Dr. Pensoneau-Conway is glad to be back. She commented, "I just feel fortunate that I have been able to come back here. Both professionally and personally, it has been a good move. I would say that it has exceeded my expectations." Dr. Pensoneau-Conway returned to SIUC because she enjoys the critical methodology of the department, feels that the department strongly values education, and she remains closer to her family. She also expressed that she is "really excited to get to know the students better."

Dr. Pensoneau-Conway's research focus is critical communication pedagogy and she is currently working on three separate topics. First, she is independently researching the ethic of narrative in the classroom. Additionally, she is researching intercultural communication topics with **Dr. Satoshi Toyosaki**. Lastly, she is revising a piece about autoethnography and social justice. We are excited to welcome Dr. Sandy Pensoneau-Conway to the department!

## Saying Good-bye to Dr. Ross Singer

Our department is saying good-bye to **Dr. Ross Singer** as he has accepted a tenure-track faculty position at Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) in Michigan. Dr. Singer will be teaching undergraduate courses in rhetoric, argumentation, media, and environmental communication. He will also be active with graduate students through the department's master's program in Communication and Digital Media.

Dr. Singer has expressed the bittersweet feelings of this transition. However, SVSU is where he began his undergraduate career and he is drawn to the idea of going home. He admires the personal and professional relationships he has developed throughout his four years at SIUC. "There are so many unique and positive aspects in the department...I love the social change and justice advocacy that is so apparent in the department," Singer said. Although he will miss the department, he is looking forward to polishing classes currently in development and teaching in a new environment. He'd like to thank faculty and students for their support in making this transition a little easier for him.



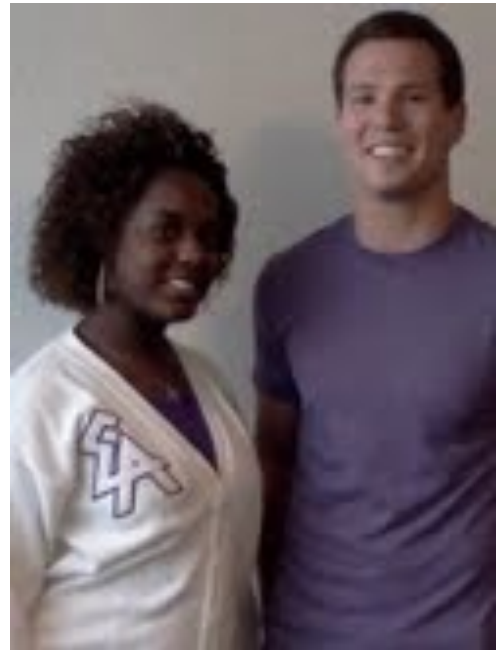
Dr. Ross Singer

# MEET SOME OF OUR STUDENTS

## Schumacher and Cherry are Named to the List of Top 25 Most Distinguished Seniors

Being named to the list of the SIUC Top 25 Most Distinguished Seniors is an amazing accomplishment. This year, the Department of Speech Communication is proud to have two students selected as members of the Top 25 Most Distinguished Seniors group: Darlyshia Cherry and John Schumacher. This prestigious award is earned through hard work and extensive participation in on-campus activities. Cherry and Schumacher both personify exactly what it means to be dedicated and driven students consistently striving for excellence.

The students were honored with an introduction ceremony hosted by the Office of the Chancellor. On behalf of the department, we would like to formally congratulate Darlyshia and John on their outstanding achievements. We cannot wait to see them thrive in their careers!



Darlyshia Cherry & John Schumacher

## Wildman Wins Paul Hibbs Award



Alecia Wildman

The department would like to recognize and congratulate undergraduate student **Alecia K. Wildman** for receiving the Paul Hibbs Award. This award is given annually to an outstanding speech communication student based on extraordinary scholarship and involvement within the department. The Strasburg, Ill., native is a 2008 Stewardson-Strasburg High School graduate. After earning her Associate of Arts degree from Shawnee Community College, Wildman transferred to SIUC and was eager to join the Department of Speech Communication.

The award is named after R. Paul Hibbs, who dedicated himself to his work as an associate professor in our department. Hibbs made a significant impact both in the department and the entire community. His untimely death in 1982 was recognized at a memorial service held at Morris Library Auditorium. The Paul Hibbs Scholarship Fund was created in 1977 and was designed to recognize a student that reflected his passion for speech, performance, and the beauty of the spoken word.

We are proud to have Alecia as a member of our department, and know she will accomplish great things in her lifetime. "I am very honored to receive this award. It really makes all the years of hard work to achieve good grades worthwhile," she said.

# OUR AMAZING ALUMNI

## Tuder Shines as Festival's Featured Performer

**Dr. Jen Tuder** (Ph. D., '02) was honored as the featured performer at the Patti Pace Festival earlier this year. Tuder performed *Suicide Punchline*, an unforgettable performance documenting her personal recovery from the loss she experienced when her father committed suicide.

In 1992, Tuder was a senior in high school in Keokuk, Iowa, when she was one of two recipients of the Donna Reed Scholarship for the Performing Arts, a scholarship that goes to an Iowan seeking a career in the performing arts. That fall, Tuder took her scholarship to the University of Northern Iowa, where she earned her B.A. in Theatre in 1996. Following UNI, Tuder received her M.A. in Communication Studies from Arizona State University in 1998, as well as her Ph.D in Speech Communication with an emphasis in performance studies from SIUC in 2002.



Jen Tuder

"There is no better conversation-stopper than the revelation that you have lost a loved one to suicide," Tuder stated. "With it being a sensitive topic, you never know what the reactions will be after such a personal performance on such a tragic event." "I worry about pushing the audience too far, about turning them off. I want the audience to listen, to try and understand and to think about the ways they can act to prevent suicide and to help the survivors with their loss," explained Tuder.

Tuder's solo performance was not easy for her for several reasons. However, she was "so honored by the invitation to be featured at a festival of this caliber and standing in our community." She was thrilled that the festival took place at SIUC and expressed she was fortunate enough to have several friends, colleagues, and mentors there for support. Tuder admitted that during her performance, the only thing she thinks about is the performance itself. She explained, "That's what makes the performance so attractive. Once you understand how to focus yourself in performance, you realize that it's a wonderful way of letting go of the extraneous so that you can concentrate on performing well."

Tuder is an Associate Professor in the Department of Communication Studies and the Department of Theatre and Film Studies at St. Cloud State University in Minnesota.

## Department Alum Wins Two Grammy Nominations



David Lee Murphy

**David Lee Murphy** (B.S., '83) recently received two Grammy Award nominations for Thompson Square's single "Are You Gonna Kiss Me or Not." Murphy, alongside Jim Collins, wrote the hit that the awards committee gave nomination spots in the Best Country Duo/Group Performance and Best Country Song categories.

Murphy first visited Nashville with a music business class that is still offered at SIUC. After his first taste of Nashville, Murphy continued to pursue a music career that has now become successful. Awards are nothing new to him. His first album, "Out with a Bang," was the best-selling album for a new male artist in 1995 and became a certified gold record. Over the last 10 years, Murphy has released four albums and created compositions used by multiple recording artists. Murphy's most recent single, "Loco," reached number five on the national country music charts.

Murphy now lives in Franklin, Tenn., and remains involved in the music industry. He has composed pieces for many country artists including Hank Williams Jr., Brooks and Dunn, and Kenny Chesney. Murphy's recent Grammy nominations, along with an impressive career, exemplify the successful students that SIUC produces.

## Miller Continues to Shine as Performance Scholar

### Defenbaugh Wins Couch Internet Research Award



Nicole Defenbaugh

**Dr. Nicole Defenbaugh** (Ph. D., '07) is no stranger to producing research that shows originality and her advanced knowledge of particular subjects at hand. As a result of her dedication and hard work she has

been awarded the Carl J. Couch Internet Research Award for 2012. As a winner of the Couch Award, her work will be presented at the 2012 meeting of the Association of Internet Researchers at the University of Salford, and she will also be awarded a cash prize.

Ensuring that her paper vividly analyzed a human interactionist approach aided her in accomplishing this amazing achievement. The hard work and humility that Defenbaugh displays is admirable, and her active role as an advocate has truly set her apart. We in the department want to congratulate her on her many accomplishments and wish her all the luck in the future.



Tim Miller

Tim Miller, is an internationally acclaimed performance artist and author. Miller's work explores spirituality, sexuality, politics and relevant topics. Miller often travels to many universities producing workshops for students to learn from him and to perform their own performance pieces at the end of the workshop.

Miller has visited SIUC several times, more recently in September 2011. He performed *Lay of the Land*. This piece addresses the State of the Queer Union, his adventures performing in 45 states, marriage equality protests, and electoral assaults on the LGBTQ community.

Miller's work is well known in the department. Many faculty and students attend his workshops and admire Miller's work. **Kyle Cheesewright**, a Ph.D. student in the department, believes that Miller's overall message is about freedom. When asked what he feels is Miller's primary message, Cheesewright said, "The deep importance of being human and being attentive to stories. We should listen to one another and support one another."

Miller is a part of several social organizations that address issues such as marriage equality, gay identities, and immigration. His work is known for being humorous, passionate, and challenging. Miller has also published several books on these issues. Some of his most famous are *Shirts & Skin*, *Body Blows*, and *1001 Beds*.

### Alum Creates Inspiring Program for Teens and Young Adults



Victoria Whitsett

In the age of technology and social media there is a void in how teenagers and young adults socialize and communicate: face-to-face interactions. Perception of Perfection, a Chicago based program founded by **Victoria Whitsett** (B.S., '09), is looking to fill that void. After Whitsett graduated from SIUC with a bachelor's degree in speech communication and a specialization in public relations, her career really took off. She is currently the Social Media/PR Specialist & Event Consultant for KC Media in Chicago.

However, Whitsett wanted to do more for her community and work independently at the same time. In August of 2011, she created Perception of Perfection to serve both teens (ages 14-19) and young adults (ages 20-28) who are transitioning from college to professional life. Whitsett said her mission "is to use Perception of Perfection to serve as the channel that produces the perfect social life for teens and young adults across Chicago." The goal of the program is to meet the social needs of teenagers that are interested in succeeding academically and young adults who want to do more for their community in the Chicago area. Whitsett is looking to fill this need by providing both educational and social events for Chicago youth. She is currently looking for an event space that will host bi-weekly affairs such as networking events and educational seminars.

During a recent break, she paired up with the Urban League to send some of the boys from her program on a college trip. There are over 60 teens in the program now, and word is just getting out. As her program takes off, she hopes to target more teens in high-risk areas during the summer to keep them safe, active, and engaged.

# FACULTY UPDATES

**Nilanjana Bardhan** had a productive sabbatical in fall 2011 and her co-edited book (with Mark Orbe) *Identity and Communication Research: Intercultural Reflections and Future Directions* was published in April 2012. She continues to teach courses in intercultural communication and public relations.

**Bryan Crow** spent the fall 2011 semester working on research for a book on classic MGM film director Clarence Brown. Several weeks were spent at the University of Tennessee Knoxville Special Collections Library, where Brown's shooting scripts and production photographs are stored. Dr. Crow also chaired the planning committee for the 15th annual Southern Illinois Irish Festival, held in Carbondale the first weekend of October 2011. In April 2012, he attended the Southern States Communication Association convention in San Antonio as Secretary of the Language and Social Interaction Division. He continues to produce a weekly radio program through WSIU-FM, which is syndicated to stations around the US ([www.celticconnectionsradio.org](http://www.celticconnectionsradio.org)).

**Suzanne Daughton** published "Compassionate Communication: The Power of Vulnerability" in the fall issue of the online *Peace Studies Journal* and continued to teach classes in rhetorical theory and criticism, and compassionate communication. She was delighted to perform an excerpt from Sophie Kinsella's *Shopaholic and Sister* in the Faculty Performance Hour, and celebrated increasingly deepening learning during two week-long retreats in Nonviolent Communication, as well as developing that interest into two National Communication Association presentations. She was proud to serve as the department's Faculty Association representative during this year of difficult negotiations, and is hopeful that the year to come will be more harmonious for the university.

**Craig Gingrich-Philbrook** had essays in *Text and Performance Quarterly* ("Web-Based Performance as a Willingness to Die") and the *Quarterly Journal of Speech* ("ACT UP as a Structure of Feeling") this year. He is currently on sabbatical leave working on a collection of his solo performance scripts.

**Jonathan Gray** published "Web 2.0 and Collaborative On-Line Performance" in *Text and Performance Quarterly*. He was also honored as Outstanding Scholar by the Performance Studies and Theatre Interest Group at the Central States Communication Association in March. He currently serves as chair of the SIUC Sustainability Council as well as the search committee chair for the newly formed position: SIUC Sustainability Coordinator. This spring he taught a new graduate seminar titled "Pedagogy and Rhetoric of Place and Public Memory".

**Todd Graham** continues to develop a distinguished team of debaters. Among other accomplishments, the Saluki Debate team made history by having two teams finish in the top five at the National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence.

**Rachel Griffin** published "The Disgrace of Commodification and Shameful Convenience: A Critical Race Critique of the NBA" in *The Journal of Black Studies* and "Bearing Witness and Paying Mind: (Re)defining the Meanings of Black Male Success" in *Masculinity in the Black Imagination*. She most recently spoke at the Oregon Sexual Assault Taskforce and Maryland Coalition against Sexual Assault conferences; her anti-gender violence activism has also been featured in *Ms. Magazine's* Blog and *Voice Male Magazine*.

**Mimi Hinchcliff-Pelias** recently served as a chair and respondent for a program presented this past fall at the National Communication Association conference in New Orleans, La. Additionally, an essay she co-authored was recently published in the journal *Cultural Studies Critical Methodologies*. She has a paper accepted for presentation at an international multi-disciplinary conference in the UK scheduled for the upcoming summer. She continues to enjoy her "Visiting" status in the department.

**Joshua Houston** continues to teach courses within the emphases of public relations and organizational communication. The Special Topics course in Sports Public Relations that he built and offers annually will be formally added to the course catalog as SPCM 482 in the 2012-2013 academic year. He is looking forward to the constant challenge of helping students keep up with rapid changes in media and public relations.

**Denise McClearey** continues to teach courses in the areas of public relations and organizational communication. She is currently finishing her first year as the Faculty Advisor for the Raymond D. Wiley Chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA). After a successful first year with PRSSA, she is looking forward to great things to come.

**Ronald J. Pelias** is pleased to announce that his book, *Leaning: A Poetics of Personal Relations*, is now available from Left Coast Press. He is also a coauthor with Ken Gale, Larry Russell, Tami Spry and Jonathan Wyatt of a book entitled, *How Writing Touches: An Intimate Scholarly Collaboration*, which became available in spring 2012. His most recent journal publication is "My Body's Placement: An Autoethnographic Account of Communicative Practice" in the inaugural issue of *Qualitative Communication Research*.



# FACULTY UPDATES *(continued)*

**Elyse Pineau** published "Intimacy, Empathy, Activism: A Performative Response to Children's Wartime Art" in *Qualitative Inquiry and Global Crises*, and presented papers at national and regional communication conferences and the International Congress for Qualitative Inquiry. In October 2011, she was a visiting scholar for the Graduate Schools of Education at Plymouth University and the University of Bristol in the UK where she gave keynote presentations on critical performative pedagogy and led a writing workshop on narrative inquiry and homeplace. In spring 2012, she organized the Patti Pace Performance Festival which brought over 60 individuals and 12 universities together to share performance work focusing on "witnessing and bearing witness" through stage performance.

**Ross Singer** recently published "Anti-Corporate Argument and the Spectacle of the Grotesque Rhetorical Body" in *Critical Studies in Media Communication* as well as a book chapter with doctoral student JiangBoHuangFu entitled "The Populist Argumentative Frame in the Environmental Vision of Van Jones." In 2012, Singer is serving as vice president and convention program planner for the National Communication Association's Environmental Communication Division.

**Miriam Sobré-Denton** published "The Emergence of Cosmopolitan Group Cultures and its Implications for Cultural Transition: A Case Study of an International Student Support Group" in the *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*, "Do You Talk to Your Teacher with that Mouth? F\*ck: A Documentary and Profanity as a Teaching Tool in the Communication Classroom" in *Communication Teacher*, and two co-authored articles, one in *Intercultural New Media Forum: Journal of International and Intercultural Communication* and one in the *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science*. She has been working on her seed grant research on cosmopolitan pedagogy with Hostelling International Chicago, and teaching courses on cosmopolitanism, intercultural training, and language and culture.

**Diana Tigerlily** continued teaching nonverbal communication and interpersonal communication, and she designed and proposed a University Honors course entitled "Personal and Global Narratives" that she will teach in the fall. Tigerlily also taught public speaking and theatre appreciation at John A. Logan College (JALC) and directed her students in their narrative performances of Hurricane Katrina survivors for JALC's The Big Read initiative. She continues to build her seven-acre creative retreat farm, Mandala Gardens, and to document the process.

**Satoshi Toyosaki** published "Critical Complete-Member Ethnography: Theorizing Consensus and Conflict in Intra-cultural Communication" in the *Journal of International and Intercultural Communication* and "Automethodology: Tracing a Home for Praxis-Oriented Ethnography" in *International Journal of Qualitative Methods* (co-authored with **Dr. Sandy Pensoneau-Conway**). Additionally, he published two chapters in the book *Identity Research and Communication: Intercultural Reflections and Future Directions*.

**Nathan Stucky**, Department Chair, presented two papers at the National Communication Association conference in New Orleans in November, and helped to host the annual NCA Speech Communication Department reception for alumni and friends of the department. He is on sabbatical leave during spring 2011.



(L to R) Miguela Marzolf, Mercedes Alvear, Clayton Zamudio, Cate Alber, and Mohanad Ajina

## Spring 2012 Speakers Forum

This spring's Student Speakers Forum on "Strategizing Social Media: Democracy, Censorship & Civic Engagement" brought 210 attendees to the Lesar Law Auditorium on April 19, 2012. The forum's topic of the democratic potential for social media offered diverse opinions and rich intersections for discussion, such as the role of social media in political and social movements, the role of individual and political censorship with regard to social media, and the relationship between social media and both corporate and governmental surveillance.

From an impressive pool of auditions, five students were selected to present their speeches as part of the opening panel: **Clayton Zamudio, Miguela Marzolf, Mercedes Alvear, Mohanad Ajina,** and

**Cate Alber.** Upon completion of the selected panel of student speakers, the event's moderators, department graduate students **Nichole Nicholson** and **Kyle Ruddick**, opened the floor for comments and impromptu speeches from the audience.

## Kleinau Theatre : Spring 2012 Season

February 16-18th, 2012

### *Little Miss Grottesque*

Written and Directed by  
Andrea Baldwin

Assistant Direction by  
Diana Woodhouse

*Little Miss Grottesque* explored the construction of norms for female bodies in theory of child beauty pageants.



Heather Hull performing in *The Real Housewives of Heather's Head*

*The Real Housewives of Heather's Head*

Written and Performed by Heather Hull

Directed by Aubrey Huber

In this performance, the insatiable affinity for pop/cultural portrayals of female social structures was highlighted.

April 4th, 2012

*Lost Lines* Lesa Lockford, Visiting Artist

*Lost Lines* was a solo performance in which Lesa Lockford tracked the lives of her grandfather and grandmother, vaudeville performers whom she never met, through remnants of reviews and newspaper clippings found in archives and a long-lost scrapbook. In so doing, she interrogated loss and the fear that attends on its ever-present potential.

February 24-25th, 2012

### Patti Pace Performance Festival

February 24th, 2012

### *Suicide Punchline*

Jen Tuder, Featured Artist of the Patti Pace Performance Festival

In this solo performance, Jen Tuder took the audience on a journey into the survival and comprehension of her father's suicide.

April 26-28th, 2012

### *Try This @ Home: An Experiment in Remix Culture*

Directed by Samuel Sloan  
Technical Direction by  
Nichole Nicholson

This show was an investigation of the aesthetic practice of remix culture in the digital age.



Nichole Nicholson performing in *Try This @ Home*

March 22-24th, 2012 – Double Bill!

### *Where's Queerdo? Disabling Perceptions!*

Written and Performed by Julie Cosenza

Directed by Rick Jones

*Queerdo* challenged notions of ablebodiedness, sexuality, and the dreaded "normal." This 'wacky' tale explored avenues of queerness and disability.

## MORE STUDENT NEWS

### SCO Raises Money for Dept and Scholarship Program

Although the 2011-2012 school year has been a quiet one for the Speech Communication Organization (SCO), it has been another year that has given our graduate students a great year of opportunities in order to heighten their academic development. This year's SCO board members, including President **Nichole Nicholson**, have been guiding members to develop and execute fundraisers in order to raise money for the department, as well as, for the John T. Warren Memorial Scholarship.



(L to R) Lindsay Greer, Andrea Baldwin, Joshua Potter, Nichole Nicholson, Benny LeMaster, Molly Cummins, Sam Sloan, Rick Jones, Meggie Mapes

**Dr. John T. Warren** was a well-known and highly-respected faculty member in the department. A small group of graduate students, including **Molly Cummins**, **Christi Saindon**, **Benny LeMaster**, **Aubrey Huber**, and **Diana Woodhouse**, have taken the responsibility of developing the intra-departmental scholarship. In his honor, SCO decided to create the scholarship to award it to one undergraduate and one graduate student who seek assistance with individual research funding. The desire is to establish this as an annually awarded scholarship and to keep the loving memory of Dr. Warren in our hearts for many years to come.

## Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA)

The Raymond D. Wiley chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) is one that prides itself on the effort members put in and its community involvement. In the fall semester, PRSSA developed and implemented a philanthropic event entitled "Shop with a Cop." A selected number of children were given gift cards and, along with members of PRSSA, traveled with officers from the SIUC Campus Police Department to the area's local Kohl's department store. The children individually selected and purchased holiday gifts for their families. Each individual selected to participate was the child of an SIUC student.

For the spring event, PRSSA decided to help students with their professional development. They held a professional development retreat called "BrandU: Acquiring the job by building your professional brand online and offline." The event featured speakers who are dedicated to building an individuals' professional brand. The event was an outstanding success.

The newly elected executive boards, headed by President Nathan Maul, looks forward to the next school year, and PRSSA will continue to advance the profession and future professionals of public relations.



PRSSA members joining SIUC Campus Police Department and child participants at *Shop with a Cop*

## Interrupt: Our Newest RSO

Second-year Ph.D. student, **Andrea Baldwin**, will oversee a new registered student organization beginning in the fall semester of 2012. Interrupt will be the newest student organization at SIUC, and will be run by students in the Department of Speech Communication.



Andrea Baldwin

Interrupt will focus on the power of performance and serve as an outlet to those looking for ways of expression and embodiment of performance. Interrupt is also looking forward to organizing performances within the community and focus on workshops for students to teach them the importance of performance studies.

When asked about the importance of having a performance troop on campus, Baldwin said "It is important for Interrupt to continue to grow and contribute to the community and department. We want to expose knowledge to those who do not know about performance and for students to be inspired like I was. We want to be active and represent SIUC."

Interrupt will be open for recruitment starting in the fall.

## NCASC Focuses on Expansion

Every organization needs a good revival story. The National Communication Association Student Chapter (NCASC), directly affiliated with the National Communication Association (NCA), has such a story. SIUC is one of the lucky 20 universities that have an NCASC chapter, which has been brought back to life this year under the guidance of faculty advisor **Dr. Satoshi Toyosaki** and president **Missy Gurga**. **Kat Golsan**, first year Ph. D. student and assistant to the undergraduate director, says that, "This year is the first year that they really brought the program back."



members discussing plans for recruitment and expansion

The goal of the NCASC is to make connections. The NCASC hosts various social and professional events in order to encourage interaction between students, faculty, and professionals. This year the main focus has been on Relay for Life. They have held such fundraising activities such as a Bowl-A-Thon, a social at Blend, and selling purple bows, the support symbol for all those touched by cancer. At the same time NCASC is trying to reach out to peers, the Department of Speech Communication, and other student organizations to get the word out about the own organization. President Missy Gurga is proud of her group and says that "The best thing is getting to meet peers from different cultures and learn from each other as we help the community."

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## Department Recognized Excellence at Annual Awards Ceremony

On May 4th the department recognized the outstanding achievements of our graduate students and faculty. The following are this year's winners:

*John T. Warren Award for Excellence in Graduate Student Research and Activity*

**Jenn Freitag**

*Excellence in Graduate Student Service Award*

**Aubrey Huber**

*Thomas Pace Excellence in Graduate Teaching Award*

*Masters Level: **Ashley Hall***

*Ph.D. Level: **Molly Cummins***

*John T. Warren Memorial Scholarship Winners:*

**Nico Wood**

**Sharon Chuang**

**Nichole Nicholson**

**Josh Potter**

**Benny LeMaster**

*Assistant Core Curriculum Director*

**Molly Cummins**

*Kaleidoscope Editor*

**Matt Foy**

*Outstanding Department Teacher Award*

**Dr. Ross Singer**



1st Row L to R: Jenn Freitag, Aubrey Huber, Molly Cummins, Sharon Chuang;

2nd Row L to R: Benny LeMaster, Ashley Hall, Nico Wood Nichole Nicholson;

3rd Row L to R: Josh Potter Dr. Ross Singer, Matt Foy

## What Can I Do With Degree in Speech Communication?

This is the number one question of all new speech majors. Our department would like to help students answer this question. And, you can help! By sending us three business cards, you can help us to build a display that answers that all important question. Just send them to our address listed above, attention Dr. Rachel Griffin.

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