

# COMM STUDIES @ IUPUI

IU School of Liberal Arts - Fall 2012

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December 3, 7pm, Murat Theatre, Old  
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Curtis Memorial Oratorical Contest  
December 5, 6pm, IUPUI Campus  
Center || [Read More »](#)



## Letter from the Chair

Dr. Kristina Horn Sheeler

Dear Alumni, Students, Friends, Faculty and Staff of Communication Studies:

This fall 2012 issue of Comm Studies @ IUPUI could be titled "The Celebration Issue." This semester we celebrate our MA in Applied Communication, selected as the top MA program by the Master's Education Division of our National Communication Association (NCA). We will host our first-ever IUPUI reception at the NCA meeting. We are in the process of hiring two faculty members who will add to our growing expertise in the area of health communication, and our PhD program proposal in health communication is one step closer to approval. We anticipate that the proposal will be on the agenda of the Indiana Commission on Higher Education in February.

Our graduate students have much to celebrate as well. You'll want to read more about the amazing energy of our Graduate Communication Club in planning the first ever TEDxIUPUI event. Our graduate students continue

to excel not only outside the classroom, but in their research and grant-writing, putting their applied communication expertise to use.

During the past few months we welcomed Dr. YoungJu Shin, celebrated the retirement of Senior Lecturer Jennifer Cochrane, and are proud of a variety of faculty accomplishments. | [Read More »](#)

We would love to know what you are up to and we especially want alumni to come back to our Third Annual Student-Alumni Conference on March 23, 2013. Contact us by emailing [commdept@iupui.edu](mailto:commdept@iupui.edu), filling out a [classnotes submission](#) or posting on our [Facebook page](#).

Best wishes,  
[Kristy Sheeler](#)

To read Kristy's extended letter [click here](#)

## Curtis Memorial Oratorical Contest

You are invited to attend the **6th Annual Curtis Memorial Oratorical Contest**, December 5, 2012, 6pm at the IUPUI Campus Center. Made possible through the generosity of Professor Emeritus Richard Curtis and his late wife Beth, this contest provides IUPUI undergraduate students a chance to showcase their commitment to peaceful resolution of conflict through extemporaneous oration. This event will also help us celebrate the scholarship of our students and further the notion that the building of a community requires the open and free exchange of ideas. | [Read More »](#)



## TEDxIUPUI: Raising the Next Generation

By Lindsay Quandt, MA Student in Applied Communication, TEDxIUPUI Planning Committee

Next spring during Communication Week, the IUPUI Graduate Communication Club, along with the Communication Studies Department, will host TEDxIUPUI "Raising the Next Generation." TED is a foundation devoted to a global movement focused on meaningful change through the power of ideas. TEDxIUPUI will bring together local leaders to share ideas that matter.



The TEDxIUPUI planning committee is looking for committee members and volunteers to help out with speakers, sponsors, communication and technology. Email us [tedx@iupui.edu](mailto:tedx@iupui.edu) or visit us on [Facebook](#) to get involved. | [Read extended story »](#)



## The Communication Network

By Sarah Hemmersbach, Communication Studies undergraduate student

The Department of Communication Studies student organizations are crossing into a new frontier, creating a bridge between our Communication Club and Lambda Pi Eta—our National Communication Association Honor Society. The two groups are joining forces in what is now known as [The Communication Network](#) or TCN. TCN has established its mission for community service, educational programming, and career networking, and has planned several events this semester dedicated to those three goals. | [Read more about TCN »](#)

## Communication Week, Third Annual Student-Alumni Networking Conference

By Mike Polites, Senior Lecturer and TCN Advisor

Communication Week is March 19<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>, 2013!

Communication Week gives our students opportunities to network with alumni, gain experience with event planning, learn about classes within the major, and show their pride in Communication Studies! If you are an



alumnus of the department and would like to get involved in any way, please contact [Mike Polites](mailto:mpolites@iupui.edu), Senior Lecturer, at [mpolites@iupui.edu](mailto:mpolites@iupui.edu).

If you would like to give in support of the week's events, please visit our [alumni and donor webpage](#) and select Communication and Theatre Fund - make a note in the form that your gift is for Communication Week! | [Read more about Communication Week and other events »](#)



## Communication Studies 2012 Outstanding Alumna: Amanda Hart-Gaddis

Amanda Hart-Gaddis (BA Communication Studies, 2009), Account Executive and Trainer for T-Mobile, recently won "T-Mobile Indy South MVP" after being selected by her boss and peers across the city. As a rookie on her team, she created a sales Boot Camp training for T-Mobile. Each underperforming store made it a requirement for their sales reps to go through Amanda's Boot Camp. The T-Mobile award was based on performance, market success, and living the company values.

Amanda has worked to connect Communication Studies majors with employment opportunities at T-Mobile and has served as a "guest interviewer" for the C325 interviewing class. | [Read more about Amanda »](#)



## Outstanding Young Professional of Central Indiana: Olivia Roney

Congratulations to Olivia Roney for being named the Outstanding Young Professional of Central Indiana for 2012 by the Young Professionals of Central Indiana. Olivia graduated with a communication studies degree in 2010 and in two years has accomplished a great deal. She is the CEO of [Crouching Tigers](#), a fitness and martial arts program for children that she founded while still an undergraduate student. The company now includes over 65 locations and works with 1,000 students. Read more about her award [here](#).

## "What I'm Doing is Communicating": Ryan McDaniel

You may remember that our [spring 2012 eNewsletter](#) featured Ryan McDaniel (BA Communication Studies, 2012) and the debut of his music video "Naive." Ryan has embarked on another adventure as a member of the band "Rock Star Madness," associated with the relaunch of the Kenya dolls from the 1990s. These dolls were created so that girls of color would have a toy that resembled their skin tone and body features. The real life characters associated with the dolls will be making appearances all over the country, in person, on television, in films, mobile apps, and music albums and videos. Be sure to watch for Comm Studies' own Ryan McDaniel in the character of TJ, Kenya's boyfriend! | [Read more about Ryan »](#)



## MA Alumni Spotlight: Emily Deering Crosby, Rachel Davidson, Jonathan Pettigrew

We enjoy hearing about the accomplishments of our MA alumni after they leave our program! Here are updates from three of our Applied MA alumni. Each has gone on to pursue or complete a PhD and we can't wait to see what the future has in store for them.

**Emily Deering Crosby (above left)** earned her MA in Applied Communication from IUPUI in the spring of 2011. Her academic areas of emphasis were Rhetorical Criticism and Feminist Theory. She is currently a second year doctoral student in the Department of Communication at the University of Pittsburgh pursuing a PhD in Rhetoric and Communication and a doctoral certificate in Women's Studies in order to become a professor. In the fall of 2011, Emily and her fellow Pitt colleague Wil Upchurch (IPFW MA, 2011) were awarded top graduate paper honors at the Central States Communication Association Conference (CSCA) for their rhetorical critique of the "othering" of women in the *Women Who Rock* exhibit at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, Cleveland, Ohio.

**Rachel Davidson (above right)** holds an MA in Applied Communication from Indiana University-Purdue University in Indianapolis (IUPUI). Rachel completed her MA degree in 2010 after successful completion and defense of her thesis titled, "Subversive Voices in Contemporary Motherhood: The Rhetoric of Resistance in Independent Film" under the direction of Dr. Catherine A. Dobris. Rachel was offered a fully funded teaching assistantship and is in her second year of her doctoral work in the department of Communication at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM). Rachel was offered a Chancellor's Award for the 2011-2012 academic year and was recently awarded a travel grant through the UWM Graduate School in support of her ongoing rhetorical research for the 2012-2013 academic year.

[Read more, including contact information, about Emily and Rachel](#)

### Jonathan Pettigrew

Dr. Jonathan Pettigrew (MA Applied Communication, 2007) attended Penn State University where he earned a PhD in Communication Arts and Sciences in 2011. His studies focused on family communication, something that came in handy as his own family began to grow while in Pennsylvania. His education prepared him to be an expert researcher and teacher, and his training at IUPUI pushed him to get involved with applied projects.

Jonathan's bent toward doing research that makes a difference led him to work with Drs. Michael Hecht and Michelle Miller-Day, creators of the middle-school drug prevention program called keepin' it REAL (kiR).

[Read more about Jonathan »](#)



### Graduate Corner

By Dr. Elizabeth Goering, Director of Graduate Studies with contributions from Jill Cobb, Graduate Program Assistant, and Neesha Mathur, MA student in Applied Communication

This is an exciting time for the graduate program in Communication Studies at IUPUI. Recently our department received word that our MA in Applied Communication was selected as the "Top MA Program" by the Master's Education Section of the National Communication Association. We are very pleased to receive this external recognition from our discipline's primary professional association and our disciplinary peers. Thank you to the graduate faculty, students and alumni who have helped us build such a reputable program in a relatively short period of time!

This is also a time of transition for our program. Nancy Rhodes, who has served as the Director of Graduate Studies since Fall 2011, will be leaving at the end of the semester for a position at Ohio State University. | [Read More »](#)



### Steps for a Successful Graduate Student Life

By Juliana Campoy, first year MA student in Applied Communication

Deciding to go to graduate school is no easy task. In addition to the financial aspect, one must consider how it will affect one's personal and professional life. But once you look in the mirror and say "You can do it! Just apply for the program", a whole different set of events start to occur.

As an international student, the whole process can be even more nerve-wracking. Before you are able to apply for a program there are many tests to take, and each test takes at least four hours! Stay positive and know that this will end up being the fastest part of this experience. | [Read more of Juliana's story »](#)

### Undergraduate Corner

by Ron Sandwina, Lead Academic Advisor

More undergraduates (275) are in the Communication Studies program than any other BA program in Liberal Arts. Our strong commitment to civic engagement, internships, and study abroad provide a pathway to many rewarding careers. Speaking of



study abroad, this summer Dr. John Parrish-Sprowl ([johparri@iupui.edu](mailto:johparri@iupui.edu)) will be teaching COMM C482 (Intercultural Communication), a course that includes two weeks in Poland. | [Read More »](#)



## Study Intercultural Communication in Wroclaw, Poland

By Schirlei Silveira, MA student in Applied Communication

From May 14-28, 2012, a group of IUPUI students followed Professor John Parrish-Sprowl in the amazing experience of studying Communication and Culture in Poland. The experience of traveling with the group and exploring different places was very rich, enhancing students' understanding of themselves and others.



Read more about Schirlei's experience [here](#)

To learn more about the Poland trip and other [study abroad](#) opportunities, contact [John Parrish-Sprowl](mailto:johparri@iupui.edu) (johparri@iupui.edu) or the Department of Communication Studies, 317-274-0566.



## IUPUI Jaguar Speech Team: Tournament Champions

By Jaime Hamilton, Director of Forensics, and Sarah Hemmersbach, Speech Team Member

The 2012-2013 season for the IUPUI Speech & Debate team is underway. Our first tournament, at the University of Indianapolis, proved to be extremely successful. Mitchell West and Mary Ankenbruck came home "Tournament Champions" in Parliamentary Debate. Several students who took individual events also came home with top awards. | [Read More »](#)

## Undergraduate Student Spotlight: Lizzy Richards and Cassandra Mercedes

Undergraduate scholars **Lizzy Richards (left)** and **Cassandra Mercedes (right)** are excelling in their role as Event Planning Interns with United Way of Central Indiana. Their achievements so far include planning a "Be Your Best Superhero" Soccer Tailgate, setting records for attendance at Jaguar Soccer, Key Club and Emerging Leaders Society receptions, and the United Way Team at the IUPUI Fall Regatta (pictured here). Additionally, Lizzie and Cassandra are filming volunteering events and managing IUPUI's video efforts, all in an effort to keep IUPUI the #1 ranked university in Indiana in annual giving to UWCI.



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