

COMM STUDIES @ IUPUI

IU School of Liberal Arts - Spring 2013

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Photo: Jonathan Rossing presenting at Weekend U, an IUPUI alumni event, held on February 16th at the NCAA Hall of Champions.



Letter from the Chair

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the spring 2013 issue of comm studies @ IUPUI. As you will read in this issue, this semester is very busy! We anticipate many events such as TEDxIUPUI, Communication Week, our Student-Alumni Networking Conference and Job Fair, and of course, speech night, our graduating student celebration and graduation. Read about each of these events in this issue and mark your calendar now to participate. We would love to see you.

Our most exciting announcement is that our health communication Ph.D. program received final approval by the Indiana Commission on Higher Education on February 14. This program will capitalize on the health and life sciences mission of IUPUI as well as the amazing research expertise of our faculty.

Our students continue to excel. You will read about the amazing accomplishments of graduating student Michelle Wickham and MA alum Scott Black. We're especially proud of MA student Neesha Mathur, who this semester is completing an internship with the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland. Congratulations, Neesha! And our students are the primary force behind TEDxIUPUI and the Student-Alumni Networking Conference during Communication Week, March 19-25.

Please, let us know what you are up to and we especially invite you to join us for our networking conference on March 23. Contact us by [email](#), fill out a [classnotes submission](#), or post on our [Facebook page](#).

Best wishes,

[Read Kristy's extended letter »](#)

TEDxIUPUI: Raise your Voice...Empower the FUTURE!

The Graduate Communication Club at IUPUI will host TEDxIUPUI: Raising the Next Generation, during Communication Week. TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design) is a foundation devoted to a global movement focused on meaningful change through the power of ideas. TEDxIUPUI is a smaller-scale, locally organized event. TED and TEDxIUPUI represent the best of what communication can be: transformative.



On Friday, March 22, TEDxIUPUI will push 13 individuals to give the speech of their lives, a speech that not only motivates, but demands a call to action from the audience. TEDxIUPUI will include speeches by an undergraduate, business professionals and academics, as a sign of the talented young adults we have at IUPUI and Indianapolis community in general.

Join TEDxIUPUI, as we encourage you to Raise your Voice; Empower the Future. Limited sponsorships and tickets are still available. Email Co-Chair [Lindsay Quandt](#) to get involved. Visit us on [our website](#), [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#).



Communication Week 2013: March 19-25

By Mike Polites, Communication Week Chair

Communication degrees were recently ranked **4th** of the "in-demand degrees to start in 2013". What better way to bring attention to the discipline than a whole week of activities culminating with some laughs? Communication Week 2013 is Tuesday, March 19-Monday, March 25. The events are open to everyone; if you are interested in attending the Saturday luncheon, please RSVP to [Mike Polites](#) by March 15. We look forward to seeing you!

[Schedule of events:](#)

Tuesday, March 19: Comm Student Research Panel, 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm, Campus Center 406

Wednesday, March 20: Comm Choose Your Class, 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm, Cavanaugh Hall 2nd floor lobby

Thursday, March 21: Community Engagement Showcase, 4:30 pm - 5:45 pm, Campus Center 406

Friday, March 22: TEDxIUPUI, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm, ICTC auditorium

Saturday, March 23 Career Networking Conference, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm, Fairbanks Hall

Monday, March 25: Comics That Care, 7:30 pm, Campus Center Theater



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The Communication Network: Growing Stronger

By Mike Polites, TCN Faculty Advisor

After drafting Andrew Luck as the first pick of the draft last spring, the Colts told the public that they are "building a monster." Few predicted that that "monster" would make it all the way to the playoffs. The fall semester saw the Communication Club and Lambda Pi Eta join forces to create The Communication Network



(TCN). While they may not be "building a monster", they certainly are growing stronger. They have a new slate of officers in place and have already exchanged some fantastic ideas for this semester and beyond. | [Read More »](#)



Graduate Corner

By Elizabeth Goering, Director of Graduate Studies

Ten years ago, in 2003, 4 students were admitted into a brand new graduate program at IUPUI-the M.A. in Applied Communication. We currently have nearly 40 students enrolled in the program: 10-fold growth in 10 years, not bad! The program has not only grown in size, it's grown in reputation as well. At the 98th Annual Convention of the National Communication Association, our MA program was presented the "Top MA Program" award by the Master's Education Section.

As the MA heads into its second decade this fall, we invite our alumni to contact us and let us know what you are doing. Send an e-mail to [me](#) or to [Jill Cobb](#), the Graduate Program Assistant, and let us know about your projects and accomplishments. We really would enjoy hearing from you. | [Read More »](#)

Undergraduate Corner

By Ronald Sandwina, Director of Undergraduate Studies



Congratulations to the 18 students who graduated last December. Communication Studies graduated more students in December than any other Liberal Arts department. Our recent graduates are finding great jobs! Darren Thomas, for example, is now working at the Indiana Civil Rights Commission as its Communication Specialist. What are you going to do with your degree? [Let us know!](#)



This year [Dr. John Parrish-Sprowl](#) will again be taking students to Poland to study Intercultural Communication (COMM C482) during the first summer session. This capstone course has received the highest accolades from those who have participated.



6th Annual Robert and Dana Curtis Memorial Oratorical Contest

By Jaime Hamilton, Director of the Curtis Memorial Contest

The Department of Communication Studies held the 6th Annual Robert and Dana Curtis Memorial Oratorical Contest on December 5, 2012. The Contest was founded by Professor Emeritus of Communication Studies Richard Curtis and his wife, Beth, to honor the memory of his brothers, Robert and Dana, both of whom were killed in war. The contest provides IUPUI undergraduates an opportunity to showcase their commitment to peaceful resolution of conflict through extemporaneous oration. This spectacular event highlighted several top public speaking students in the 2012 Fall Themed Learning Community (TLC). This year's TLC topic was *"We Are All in This Together: Understanding Peace and Conflict in Contemporary Society"*.

Congratulations to our Contest Winners:

- 1st Place - Brooke Woods
- 2nd Place - Sandeep Atwal
- 3rd Place - Nicole Williams
- 4th Place - Austin Harrington
- 5th Place - Gemini Howell-Bey

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"Sobering Thoughts" wins at Speech Night

By Steve LeBeau, Director of Public Speaking



Samantha Stanish, from Moffett Craig's R110 classes, is our latest Speech Night Champion for her speech "Sobering Thoughts." Samantha's victory continues a tradition of strong finishes from Craig's students in IUPUI's Speech Night competitions. This level of preparedness along with the strong bond among classmates is a testament to the impact R110 and Speech Night can have.

[\[Watch the competition\]](#)

Mark your calendars: Spring 2013 Speech Night will be held April 22, 2013, at 7:00pm, in the theatre at the Scottish Rite Cathedral.



Jaguar Speech and Debate Team Update

By Jaime Hamilton, Director of Jaguar Speech

Nationals are on the horizon. The Jaguar Speech and Debate Team is hard at work preparing for three national tournaments in the next few months. Key events include:

March 2, 2013: The IUPUI Speech and Debate Team hosted the 3rd Annual "Any Last Words" Last Chance Tournament. We hosted more than 10 regional schools this year!

April 3, 2013: The 4th Annual Speech and Debate Showcase will be held from 6:00 pm-8:00 pm. We will showcase the top events in limited prep, public address, interpretation, and debate. Make a night of it at the Campus Center Theater.

Photo: (right) The Speech and Debate Team Christmas caroling across campus, December 2012

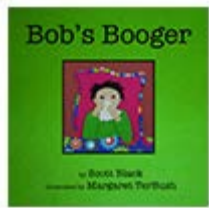
Undergraduate Spotlight: Making the Most of my Senior Year

By Michelle Wickham



This is the year every college student dreams of, and I wanted my last year at IUPUI to be off the charts. Those who know me will tell you that I dream BIG. From my childhood, I knew I would be the first in my family to go to college. I did that when I came to IUPUI in 1994, right out of high school. After two years in college, I fell in love with a big man who had an even bigger heart. I married my sweetheart one week after he graduated from IUPUI. We moved away for his first job, and attending school there was financially impossible. It was incredibly difficult to leave IUPUI, but I put one dream on hold, to pursue another. We both wanted a big family, and we have built a family of five amazing children who are 6, 9, 11, 13, and 15 years old.

I held tight to my dream of education, until by many miracles, the time was right to return to IUPUI in January, 2010! As big as I dreamed before, IUPUI has been the fertile ground that has made my dreams even BIGGER, some so big, I haven't conceived of them yet! | [Read More »](#)



Graduate Spotlight: "Speak for Your Life!"

By Scott Black (MA, 2010)

I genuinely believe that my communication education has played a significant role in my professional and creative life. For the past 20 years, I have labored in the trenches of the urban school setting at Warren Central High School. As a speech and debate teacher/coach, the most challenging obstacle that I face on a daily basis is the performance anxiety of my students. However, the greatest reward that I enjoy is to see my students overcome their fears and find confidence in their abilities to move audiences.

Though competitive speech took up a majority of my professional time, I was able to find time to practice some creative communication through children's literature. In 2012, [Broccoli Press](#) published my first children's picture book titled *Bob's Booger*. *Bob's Booger* is a book about honesty and friendship, which employs Burke's Identification Theory within the context of an elementary school. | [Read More »](#)

Communication Studies Upcoming Events

- **March 2, 2013:** IUPUI Speech and Debate Team hosted the 3rd Annual "Any Last Words" Last Chance Tournament
- **March 4, 2013:** Registration for Summer and Fall begins
- **March 19-25, 2013:** Communication Week
- **March 22, 2013:** TEDxIUPUI: Raising the Next Generation
- **March 23:** Student Alumni Networking Conference and Job Fair
- **April 1, 2013:** Deadline for Application to the MA in Applied Communication Program
- **April 3, 2013:** 4th Annual Speech and Debate Showcase will be held from 6:00 pm-8:00 pm.
- **April 4-7, 2013:** Central States Communication Association meeting
- **April 22, 2013:** Speech Night Spring 2013
- **May 11-12, 2013:** IUPUI Commencement
- **May 13-27, 2013:** Poland Study-Abroad Trip with Professor John Parrish-Sprowl
- **Fall 2014:** We admit our first Ph.D. candidates into the Health Communication Program

IU School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI

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