

Communicator

October 2004 A publication of the North Carolina State University Department of Communication

Communication Media
Theater
Public & Interpersonal Communication
Public Relations/ Organizational Communication
Communication Disorders

Department Welcomes New Faculty

Dr. William Kinsella

Dr. William Kinsella joined the department in August and is a native of the Bronx, New York. Dr. Kinsella has a unique background. Originally a physicist, he found the field of communication to present the most complicated questions. After working in the field of science education for several years, he returned to graduate school to pursue a doctorate in communication, information and library studies. He most recently held a position as Assistant Professor of Communication at Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon.

Three aspects attracted Dr. Kinsella to NCSU. He noted the energetic communication department, the opportunity to play a vital role in the department's graduate degree program, and the opportunities to develop research.

Dr. Kinsella's research centers on communication (organizational, public, environmental, and political) in science and technology contexts. He continues his work on two ongoing ethnographic projects, one focusing on the international project to develop controlled nuclear fusion and one on environmental conflict that surrounds the US Department of Energy's nuclear weapons production complex. Dr. Kinsella is also at work on a related, more theoretical project regarding the relationships among expertise, risk communication, and public democratic discourse.

Dr. Kinsella stated he is very excited to join the Wolfpack family. "The people are great, both my colleagues and my students. People have been very warm and welcoming." Since his arrival in mid-August, Dr. Kinsella has noted that the communication department's masters program and the anticipated interdisciplinary PhD program are very in tune with his interests. "I feel positive energy here." Dr. Kinsella, the department is *positive* you will do great things. Welcome to NCSU!

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COM 476 –Real World Experience

For communication majors in the PR concentration, COM 476 is a "must have". COM 476 (Public Relations Applications) focuses on the development of a strategic communication plan for organizations. While some of the clients are fictional, some students work with "real-life" clients. Whether the client is real or imagined, the value is the same.

This semester, Robert Larson's COM 476 class will tackle the challenges of organizations undergoing crisis and organizations that want to raise awareness. Two of the clients for this semester are MSO/Martha Stewart Omnimedia and NCSU's Career

FACULTY NEWS

- Dr. Juliette Storr– Currently at work on a book “Transitions in Colonial and Post Colonial Broadcasting in the Commonwealth Caribbean”. The book examines the challenges that public broadcasting systems in the Caribbean face in the new technological age. Dr. Storr is conducting ongoing research evaluating the HIV/AIDS information campaigns in the Caribbean. Also underway is an examination of the African Diasporic Relationships. This study examines the intersecting, competing and sometimes contradictory discourses of Africans in the Diaspora in the construction of meaning .
- Dr. Karrie Dixon-Former lecturer and advisor in the Department of Communication has been appointed as the Assistant Vice Provost for Student Diversity. Tasked with developing a strategic plan for the Office of the Provost for Diversity and African American Affairs and designing and launching a diversity webpage, Dr. Dixon views her position positively and will work with student groups to develop programs fostering diversity.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Ryan Miller, a senior from Asheville, NC will graduate in December and has begun an intense job search. Miller, a public relations concentration major, is looking into several job markets including Raleigh, Charlotte and Atlanta, GA. He stressed the importance of beginning early and having patience. Miller has utilized the University Career Center and it's online resume service to post his resume for potential employers to view. He has gotten positive feedback and has been on three interviews with more scheduled in the near future.

While graduate school is in the future for this North Carolina native, he stated he is ready to gain experience and begin earning. The field of communication interested Miller since high school. He views communication as vital and stresses the further understanding of communication will benefit society across broad categories.

Miller is very optimistic about his job prospects and feels that the programs and courses here at NC State have prepared him and made him more marketable. Currently interning with a local marketing company, Miller is gaining skills that can be applied to his future position.

While anticipating his advent into the workplace, Miller expresses regret at leaving the Wolfpack family and will miss the support and friendship of students and faculty. *Good luck Ryan .*



Alumni News

2004 Graduate: Kari Smith-Account Coordinator for Coyne, Beahm, Shouse Creative Building, Greensboro, NC.

2004 Graduate: Kim Jessup-Public Relations Coordinator for PSE-3, Raleigh, NC.

1998 Graduate: Carrie Wilson-Legal Assistant for Fletcher, Ray & Satterfield, Wilmington, NC.

1996 Graduate: Brad Lowry-Newscast Director, WFMY-TV, Greensboro, NC.

STUDENT ORGANIZATION UPDATE

PRSSA- “The mission of PRSSA is to serve members by enhancing their knowledge of public relations and provide access to professional development opportunities”. This semester, in keeping with its mission, the organization has scheduled informative and engaging speakers and will also focus on professional development of members by holding interviewing and resume workshops. Present and former members of PRSSA place high value on membership in the organization. Internships, employment, and networking opportunities are benefits possible through membership. Meetings are held in Caldwell G109 from 6-7 pm. October 14 and October 28 are the meeting dates this month. **October 28-Internship Workshop.*

LAMBDA PI ETA—Members of this prestigious organization have the opportunity to participate in service projects, academic enrichment services and social functions. This month’s meeting will be held at 7:00 pm, on October 21st in Winston 003.

BLACK REPERTORY THEATRE—General body meeting will be held October 19 at 7:00 pm in Thompson Theatre board room.

“The beginning of knowledge is the discovery of something we do not understand.” -Frank Herbert



COM 476 (continued from page 1)

Center. Applying knowledge gained from previous public relations classes, the development of the strategic plan will allow students to conduct research using various methods, develop communication objectives for the organizations and develop strategies and tactics for implementing the communication objectives.

The class, comprised of twenty students, is broken down into teams of 4 or 5 students. These teams work long hours, many outside of the classroom, to bring the components of the communication plan together. Valuable knowledge and skills are gained and the opportunity to produce “real-world” material will benefit the groups beyond their college years.

Erin Mack, a member of the MSO team, explained the class refreshed her knowledge of previous courses and provided the opportunity to apply the knowledge to a realistic situation. The MSO team is prepared to present a plan that will help MSO retain credibility in its current crisis, the incarceration of its founder Martha Stewart. NCSU’s Career Center expressed appreciation for the work the COM 476 class completes. A returning “real-world” client, the NCSU Career Center is seeking ways in which to publicize its online resume service ePack.

Robert Larson’s role is to facilitate the development of the communication plan. The class is loosely structured, allowing students to make decisions and problem solve. The structure also allows students to work together to devise ways in which to complete the plan. Students interviewed agreed the work was challenging but truly beneficial.

OCTOBER 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

OCTOBER 2004

Black Repertory Theatre- meets October 5 and October 19 at 7:00 pm in Thompson Theatre boardroom.

PRSSA- meets October 14 and October 28 in Caldwell G109.

Lambda Pi Eta- meets October 21 in Winston 003.

Upcoming in the November issue of the Wolfpack Communicator:

- Dr. Melissa Johnson shares information on the PhD program
- Dr. Juliette Storr discusses diversity
- Faculty involvement in spreading knowledge of ePack
- Observation as a role in communication disorders



The Wolfpack Communicator

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If you have published or are currently on research that you would like featured in *The Wolfpack Communicator*, please email:

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