

Connections

Dept. of Communication Studies Alumni Newsletter

Spring 2004

"Hats Off to our Graduates"

Saturday, May 8, 2004, will mark a special occasion. Thirty-eight (count 'em ...38!) Communication Studies majors will graduate from Christopher Newport University, making this the largest graduating class that our department has ever seen!



At the end of 2003, thirteen majors finished their Communication Studies program. Pretty impressive for a December [make that, January 2004] graduation!

Congratulations to all!

Much success to you, and be sure to keep in touch!

Dr. Terilyn Goins to take Leave of Absence



Dr. Terilyn J. Goins, Associate Professor and Communication Studies Department Chair, has decided to take a leave of absence from the University. Beginning with the Fall Semester 2004, she will pursue her interests in singing, writing, personal development, and consulting.

Dr. Goins has been a member of the Communication Studies Dept. since 1991. At that time, it was part of the Dept. of Arts and Communication which included theater, music, and fine arts. Following the retirement of Dr. Rita Hubbard (Professor Emerita) in 2001, Dr. Goins assumed the role of Communication Studies Department Chair, and became a tenured member of the University faculty.

During her 13 years here, she has seen the number of Communication Studies majors swell. While serving as a respected member of multiple University committees over the years, she has also garnered many prestigious and well-deserved awards.

Most notably, Dr. Goins received the *Outstanding Professor Award* from the National Speakers Association, an

award given to only two professors in the nation. She has also been voted *Professor of the Year* by the Christopher Newport University student body.

Dr. Goins has had numerous publications in the scholarship of teaching, and has presented papers, nationally and regionally, on an annual basis.

Now, Dr. Goins will be focusing on her music/motivational programs in which she addresses, through word and song, issues related to personal growth and development. She has professionally recorded four CDs, and more can be learned about her upcoming performances by accessing her website www.terilyngoins.com

“While pursuit of new career possibilities can certainly be exciting, I will definitely miss the rapport and comraderie I enjoy with my students, colleagues, and administrative folks here at CNU. And, who knows, I may be back...!”

Currently, Dr. Goins can be reached at: tgoins@cnu.edu

"Best Wishes"

January 16, 2004, turned out to be a very special day as Dr. Mary Rose Williams and long-time beau, Dr. Art Ranney, were married!

Dr. Ranney is Associate Professor of Communication Technologies at the University of Wisconsin, Platteville. Dr. Williams, Assistant Professor of Communication Studies, resides here in Newport News, Virginia. So where did they choose to exchange vows? You guessed it!... Kentucky. While on a weekend visit to Dr. Ranney's family in Covington, Kentucky, and as a surprise to friends and family alike, they were wed.

Naturally, all of us in the Communication Studies Dept. are thrilled and overjoyed for our co-worker. We wish Dr. Williams all of our best wishes as she leaves CNU to be with her new husband

in Platteville, Wisconsin.

"I'm really looking forward to riding the rolling hills of Wisconsin on our various motorcycles," she says.

Of course, Dr. Williams plans to continue with her career. This year, she has made presentations at two conventions: the 2003 National Communication Association in Miami, and the 2004 Western States Communication Association in Albuquerque.

Dr. Mary Rose Williams... author, teacher, faculty advisor to Circle K, and generous hostess for student/faculty parties. And don't forget the purple attire, or that office wall dedicated to photographs and memories!

Dr. Williams can currently be reached at: mrwillia@cnu.edu

Faculty Notes



Dr. Linda Baughman, with Dr. Terilyn Goins, has written a proposal for a University-wide oral intensive component entitled *Communication Within the Curriculum*. She is also offering a *CNU Quest Coffeetalk* on the ethics of downloading music from the Internet.

Dr. Claire Jacobs, with Dr. Mary Rose Williams, participated in a panel discussion entitled *What, Me Worry?: CosmoGirl and Her Friends Look at Women's Health* at the National Communication Association 2003 Convention in Miami.

Dr. Vernon Harper participated in the National Communication Association 2003 Convention. He presented *Reaching Out to Reach in: How do research institutions prepare their graduates to survive in research and non-research environments?*

Prof. Pamela Laucella is completing her doctoral studies at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. Her dissertation is entitled *Jesse Owens, A Black Pearl Amidst an Ocean of Fury: A case study of press coverage in the Berlin Olympic Games*

Prof. Mary Best has presented two programs for the CNU President's Leadership Program, *Self-Esteem for Leaders* and *Networking Knowledgeably*. Also, through the Workforce Development Center, she has become certified in *Sexual Harassment Awareness*.

Exploring the Job Market

Yearly Salary Ranges for Bachelor Degree Candidates

Communication	\$24,000-36,000
Elementary Education	\$26,000-34,500
English Literature/Letters	\$22,000-33,000
Journalism	\$23,000-33,000
Organizational Comm.	\$23,000-35,000
Performing Arts	\$22,880-32,700
Public Relations	\$23,000-35,000

source: NACE Salary Survey, Summer 220 report, *Planning Job Choices, 2003*



*You have brains in your head.
You have feet in your shoes.
You can steer yourself
Any direction you choose.*

*You're on your own. And you know what you know.
And YOU are the guy who'll decide where to go.*

Oh, the Places You'll Go!
Dr. Seuss

Guest Column

"Things I Learned in Public Speaking at CNU That Have Helped Me Succeed in the Business Environment"

by Susan Shelburne Hunt '97

The Introduction to Your Speech is Important

Don't forget... informal communication and pleasantries. 'Schmoozing' is important for rapport building.

Be Sincere in Your Communication

It is easy to spot a phony. If you are not believable, you will lose credibility.

Tailor Your Approach to the Audience

To gain rapport and ensure that the audience understands the message, adjust your communication style and content to better fit the personality, education, and position of those with whom you are communicating.

Organize your Content in a Concise and Logical Manner

When you need to communicate with the boss, e.g., you have a finite amount of time to get your point across. If you start to ramble... he/she will have ceased listening.

Be Ready With Your Supporting Evidence

[Do] your homework. The way you frame your evidence can mean the difference between a 'no' and a 'yes.'

Anticipate the Response

Be sure that you have thought out the other side to any argument so that you can debunk the negative responses you may get.

If you can't communicate effectively, it doesn't matter how smart you are, you will fail.

AlumniConnections



Jonathan Blanks ('98)
Chesapeake, VA, is being promoted to Senior Specialist on the Boeing Team at Towers Perrin.

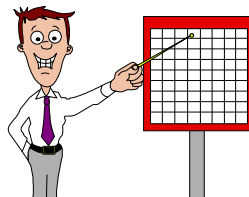
Becky (James) Ceraul ('97)
Newport News, VA, and husband **Shane ('98)** are the parents of daughter Lily Joy, born September 2003.

Cindy Collins ('01) Cincinnati, OH, is employed as an Advertising Consultant for the Cincinnati Enquirer Newspaper.

Jenny (Hodges) Dean ('99)
Newport News, VA, was married to **Andrey Dean ('00)** in November 2003.

Chanda Epps ('00) Hampton, VA, will be graduating in June with an MS Degree in Human Resources Management from Troy State University.

Katie Farmer ('03) Glen Allen, VA, is employed as a Marketing Assistant at Virginia Center Commons Mall.



Sarah Fox ('03) Pensacola, FL, is employed by Wells Fargo Home Mortgage as a Mortgage Consultant.

Hannah Goodwin ('03) Virginia Beach, VA, continues with her graduate studies at Regent University, and serves as the

Communication Assistant, Dept. of Marketing and Communication in the School of Law.

April Hudson ('00) Grafton, VA, is the Counter Manager for Clinique at Dillards, Patrick Henry Mall, and is assisting with *Career Connection 2004* for the CNU Alumni Society.

Gina (Holland) Shackelford ('96)
Newport News, VA, works with the Virginia Living Museum as Capital Campaign Assistant and eBay Coordinator for fundraising auctions.



Monica Snider ('03) Smithfield, VA, is employed by Casey Toyota as Manager/Delivery Coordinator for the dealership's after-market department.

Hugh Spain ('01) Yorktown, VA, works for Arcamax, an on-line company in Newport News, as the Editor of published *eazines*, e-mailed daily feature news.

Melissa (Johnson) Williams ('96)
Hayes, VA, is now Vice President of Training/Instructional Designer with Bank of America, based in Norfolk

Editor:

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