



a new publication for broadcast students

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A fresh faculty face for the fall

Journalism department welcomes new broadcast professor

By Danielle Scott

Fall 2008, the journalism department will welcome Janice Collins to Eastern. "She is the whole package," said department Chair James Tidwell of Collins, soon-to-be broadcast professor.

Professors, such as Collins, who enjoy teaching, researching and advising students are in high demand throughout the country, helping to put Collins at an advantage among her peers. Collins' previous professional and academic experiences, combined with her willingness to help students makes her stand out in a competitive job market.

In August 2007, Collins spent three days interviewing with 30 schools at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) Conference in Washington D.C. Eastern caught Collins' attention because she felt that the department keeps the student's perspective in mind.

After realizing students often need guidance to help achieve their dreams, Collins knew she wanted to

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Janice Collins will be Eastern's newest broadcast professor in Fall 2008. Throughout her 19 years in the field, Collins has worked with ESPN and has gained experience through anchoring, reporting, editing and visual directing. Collins will bring her experience to the classroom in order to help broadcast students achieve their goals.

Collins brings 19 years experience to classes

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help. Since Collins has extensive experience in journalism, she will be able to advise students through her first hand experiences and help them to achieve their goals.

"Dreams are realities that haven't happened," said Collins.

Though Eastern has a sound print journalism department, Tidwell envisions an increased growth and strength in broadcast journalism after Collins arrives.

Kelly Runyon, News Director at WEIU-TV, served on the search committee. She said, "Having Janice on campus will be a wonderful addition to the EIU campus community. Her presence will make a valuable difference in the lives of students."

From a technical standpoint, broadcast journalism has changed in recent years because of technological advancements. Collins will be able to show students up-to-

date developments because of her previous work in production and journalism, said John Johnson, journalism professor.

With the convergence of media "journalists must be familiar with the particularities of various technologies," said Sue Kaufman, journalism professor.

When Collins arrives in

applied when professors use what they have learned in the classroom.

Collins also was a professor at Hampton University. In the summers, she also was an instructor in the E.W. Scripps High School Summer Workshops.

During her 19-year career, Collins gained experience by anchoring, report-

She was also a producer for WVEC-TV, WTKR-TV and WAVY-TV in Virginia. She freelanced and also worked with ESPN, according to her Ohio University student profile.

Collins has also done radio work and was a copywriter for a public relations agency in Virginia.

Collins also earned a certificate in Women's Studies at Ohio University.

Terri Johnson, journalism professor, who chaired the search

“Dreams are realities that haven't happened yet.”

—Janice Collins

Fall 2008 broadcast professor

August, she expects to finish her Ph.D. from Ohio University, where she assisted and instructed classes, one being Writing and Production Planning.

Throughout 2007, Collins worked as a research assistant with several professors at Ohio University. She learned research is best

ing, editing, as well as being a video-journalist and visual director. She held a producer position in Georgia at WXIA-TV where she won three regional Emmy Awards. In Charlotte, North Carolina, she worked with the NBC NewsChannel, as a producer, writer and editor. She also worked at WCNC-TV.

committee said, "Collins has great experience, excellent academic credentials and a wonderful attitude about students and teaching that made her a great candidate. We are blessed she chose Eastern."

"I am blessed to come to a fine school with a good [journalism] program that is still growing," Collins said.

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WEIU-TV welcomes new evening anchor

By Carla Poch

Though she was initially nervous and overwhelmed with the thought of becoming involved on campus, Jessica Perillo is busier than ever.

Besides majoring in journalism with a concentration in broadcast news, Perillo is a staff writer for the Daily Eastern News, a cheerleader and Webmaster of her sorority, Delta Zeta.

She has also worked in the Women's Resource Center and volunteered at the WEIU-TV news station.

Perillo said that her interest in journalism began in high school when she participated in a mock television studio.

Her teacher, Cheryl Curtin, helped students produce a weekly program called "The Homeroom Show," which aired for students and faculty. Perillo and other students took turns working in front of the camera as well as behind the scenes ensuring a successful production of the show.

In addition to "The Homeroom Show," Perillo said Curtin gave students the opportunity to see what a live newscast was like. The students went on trips to NBC and FOX studios downtown

Chicago and watched newscasters on set.

"I am so thankful to have learned all sides of television from in-house to field production before even stepping foot on a college campus," Perillo said.

As part of WEIU-TV's schedule, Perillo will be anchoring the news every Tuesday and Thursday at 5:30 p.m. on WEIU-TV. This schedule began after spring break.

Perillo plans on applying

WEIU as a stepping stone for her future career and she is grateful for everything she has learned.

"Working at WEIU gives students a taste of everything in the business. Doing everything from working the



Jessica Perillo (right) anchored WEIU-TV news last summer with intern Christopher Nelson, from Loyola College in Maryland. Perillo, a senior journalism major, now anchors for WEIU-TV Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. Because she had gained experience in front of and behind the scenes of the camera in high school, she found herself ahead of others when she arrived at college. Perillo hopes to work for entertainment news programs after she finishes school. Perillo is thankful for the experience she has gained at Eastern and feels she is prepared for her future after college.

Student involvement with WEIU-TV is constantly changing. Perillo said that every half semester, the station gets a new schedule. This way, students are able to work at new positions and expand their knowledge of television and broadcast.

for jobs around her hometown, Geneva, Ill., or even in Chicago.

Her dream job, however, would be to work for an entertainment news show like E! News or the Daily 10, live in California.

Perillo sees her time at

studio camera to directing to anchoring really makes you appreciate the final product," Perillo said.

"I think this experience will give us at WEIU a big boost into the real world most college kids around the country might not have!"

Jack Ashmore to say good-bye to Eastern

By Leah Vaughn

With 30 years of radio experience and 15 years teaching at Eastern, Jack Ashmore is saying goodbye.

Though Ashmore, Eastern communication studies professor, said his time at Eastern has been enjoyable, he is retiring at the end of the spring 2008 semester.

Currently, Ashmore teaches electronic media relations and other basic broadcasting classes. He has announced for Charleston High School sports as well as Eastern's basketball and football with Mike Bradd.

Throughout his time at Eastern, Ashmore has helped many students. John Twork, sophomore journalism major, is one student Ashmore leaves a lasting effect on.

"Ashmore really values his relationships with students," Twork said. Twork added that students have the ability to learn a lot from Ashmore through his constructive feedback and willingness to help students.



Jack Ashmore will retire at the end of the 2008 spring semester. He has more than 30 years radio experience and 15 years of teaching. Ashmore will continue to broadcast for Charleston and Eastern sports after he retires this spring.

"There is not a nicer guy out there," Twork said. Though Twork has spent a limited amount of time working with Ashmore, Twork "really admires him; he is a very talented man."

Ashmore has enjoyed his time as a professor at Eastern. His retirement plans are to move to Arizona and enjoy the warm weather. Although Ashmore is retiring, he will continue to broadcast for Charleston High School and Eastern sports teams.

"Jack is a great play-by-play and color man," said James Tidwell, chair of the journalism department. "We wish him well in his retirement, but we are certainly glad we will continue to hear him on local broadcasts for a while."



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