

a publication for broadcast students

# Wavelength

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*Dr. Janice Collins started Theoretical Tea and Company in her home as a discussion forum. It is now a program on WEIU-FM.*

*Photo by Megan Johnson*

## Brewing up Theoretical talk

**Megan Johnson**  
*Editor*

The smell of tea brewing and the voices of friends chatting of theories and the world they live in can be heard on Theoretical Tea and Company.

In her home, Dr. Janice Collins, started Theoretical Tea and Company as a discussion forum. "I had scholars, researchers, colleagues and local citizens come over to my home to discuss theories, research

and issues," she said. "We would discuss everything from the objectification of women, to bullying, to art and music from a theoretical perspective."

Theoretical Tea and Company is now a radio-talk show that moves away from the argumentative programming and instead focuses on a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. "The show is essentially an academic discussion on various social or political topics based on research as opposed to personal

opinion," said Ethan Kruger, assistant producer. "We have our host Dr. Janice Collins and usually one or two guests who are experts on the various topics for each show," Kruger said.

Collins believes that students should create the type of world they want to live in. Creating the show, she practices this way of thinking herself. Collins wanted a forum to discuss issues, so to get Theoretical Tea and Company produced, Collins pitched the idea

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# WEIU wins a third Student Emmy Award

Desiree Morris  
Editor

Katie Glaze, graduate of Eastern's journalism program, produced the show that helped New Watch win a Student Emmy Award. This is the third consecutive year that Eastern has been the winner of a Student Emmy Award.

Jan. 31, 2011, Eastern's campus was hit with an ice storm. The ice that formed over the bare tree branches from freezing rain the night before dazzled as the sun shone on them. People struggled to keep their balance as they slide on the ice lined pavement. This was the weather scene that Glaze's news show was based upon.

Vicky Zeal, a senior journalism major, was the reporter for this newscast. She spoke with various people in the community who were preparing for the storm and also with people at stores such as Rural King, where generators, candles, and bottled water were brought.

Zeal did a live shot without a script but that was not the only challenge she had to overcome. The freezing rains started just as Zeal began her live shot.

Although they had previously been a part of Emmy

wins this win was particularly special for both Glaze and Zeal because they played a bigger role in the show this time around.

"I was really excited," Glaze said. "I had been a part of previous newscasts that had won Emmys but I had never had my name on it. It was actually my work winning something which made me really excited"

Glaze said she feels great about winning such a prestigious award because it is something no one can ever take away and she hopes it opens doors for her and other student broadcasters in the future. She said that winning this award is gratification for all the hard work that she voluntarily puts into New Watch.

"It reassures us that coming here every day for hours upon hours is worth it," Zeal said.

Zeal, who has worked with New Watch for four years, said she believe this particular newscast was awarded an Emmy because of the live elements that were featured and the different angles of coverage..

Kelly Runyon, News Watch news director, said this is not an individual student award; it is an award for the newscast.

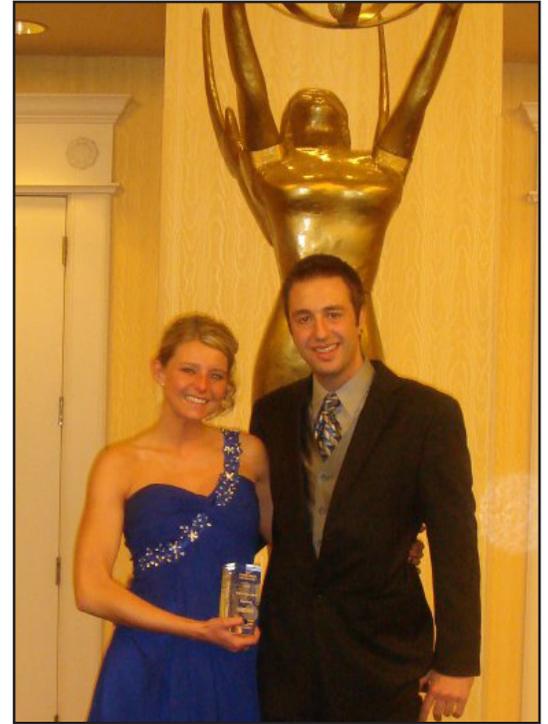
Every role is important because if one person messes up it can jeopardize the entire product, Zeal said.

Each October The Mid-American Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences awards students with Emmys. This is the same organization that awards the daytime and prime-time Emmys.

Runyon pointed out in a job description from a television station in Champaign that background with Eastern is a plus. Runyon said she did not think she had ever seen anything like that in a job ad.

"They want our students because they are well trained and put out good work," Runyon said.

The 35<sup>th</sup> Mid-American Emmy Gala took place Oct 22



Katie Glaze attended the 35th Mid-American Emmy Gala on Oct. 22. (Photo courtesy of Katie Glaze)

at the Renaissance Grand Hotel in St Louis, Mo. Glaze accepted the award in a royal blue evening gown.

The majority of the people who submit their work and attend the Mid-America Emmy Gala are professionals so there are great opportunities for students to network which is another thing Glaze said she and other students had enjoyed doing at the awards event.

## Theoretical, from Page 1

to Jeff Owens, director of FM and media production.

"We always listen to suggestions," Owens said. "It is hard to judge their success but we do things that are positive for the community and Eastern Illinois University."

Theoretical Tea and Company is well on its way to popularity. "We have really kicked it up notch with the show's Facebook page as well as running on air promotions to in-

form people about the show," said Kruger. "In addition we have also added new features to the show, such as the ability for listeners to call in during the program and have their questions answered on air."

"We recently had an interview with a human trafficking survivor Chong Kim and are doing a follow up show on the objectification of women this Sunday," said Kruger. "The show is meant to inform people

on these various topics and our motto is to "provide a sip of knowledge" hence the name of the show "Theoretical Tea and Company."

A Theoretical Tea and Company is in the early stage of being planned for college students. "Students have come to me and asked to be a part of Theoretical Tea and discuss things they're interested in," said Collins. The plan is to have an environment more student-

oriented. This could be in place as early as spring semester, 2012.

Collins believes this would be a great way for students and professors to interact outside the classroom.

Theoretical Tea and Company airs twice a month on Sunday. For more information students can contact Collins, jcollins@eiu.edu, or join Theoretical Tea and Company on Facebook.

# Adopt-A-Watt meets goal in two weeks

**Hilary Hutchins**  
*Reporter*

Adopt-a-Watt was a two week on air membership drive campaign that achieved its goal of \$2500.

Last year's goal was to raise \$2000. The money raised was used to help the WEIU radio station provide new music and improve equipment. The major benefits of Adopt-a-Watt is that WEIU-FM will continue to do what it has been doing and keep listeners and donors updated with promos and upcoming events.

Jeff Owens, FM station director, said he would like to say thanks to the people who helped WEIU Hitmix achieve its goals.

Kacie Berry, a senior journalism major, was one of the on-air disc jockeys promoting Adopt-a-Watt. Berry did a lot of pitching to publicize Adopt-a-Watt by making sure every time she spoke on the radio she mentioned the Adopt-a-Watt membership drive. She always talked about it in details or just mentioned it briefly.

Trying to get people to Adopt-a-Watt was kind of a challenging task Kacie said. "It was just me talking about it on air so it was hard to actually notice if people were adopting a watt, so when people started to call the request line mentioning that they did Adopt-a-Watt, it was encouraging," she said.

Adopt-a-Watt members also got Hitmix T-shirts for



*Jeff Owens, FM station director, (Photo by Hilary Hutchins.)*

their donations. Last year was from the station, including the first year for Hitmix to try Ke'an Armstrong and Jana Johnson, as well as others, to promote the event.

# News Watch in Focus goes in-depth

**Desiree Morris**  
*Editor*

News Watch in Focus is one of seven new shows to air this semester on WEIU-TV. The show premiered on Sept. 30.

New Watch in Focus is a half hour talk show that takes topics featured on the New Watch newscast during the week and explores them in detail. The original news package is re-aired then the reporter who worked on the original story is usually interviewed. Experts on the topic are brought in to educate viewers.

The premiere show put into focus a synthetic form of cannabis that was banned in Effingham County. Kate Pleasant, host of New Watch in Focus, spoke with county police officers and deputies about what they are doing to enforce the ban, why the substance was banned and if the ban could be into places surrounding Eastern.

Pleasant also works with New Director Kelly Runyon to producer the show.

"The big thing that I'm excited about is that it goes back to the roots of what PBS is supposed to do," said Pleasant. "We educate the people and we do it with local content right from their own back yards."

Pleasant said she believe local news is important for the local residents because there is a lot of news that goes on that they deserve to know about.



Although the show just started people are already challenging themselves to think of way to evolve the show.

Runyon said she hopes to eventually add more segments to the show, having more guests and discussing multiple within a show. Pleasant said she supports Dr. James Tidwell, journalism dept. chair, on having local journalists featured on the show.

"I encourage people to tune in and try it out because they're probably going to learn something and that's our mission," said Pleasant.

New Watch in Focus airs every Friday at 6 p.m. and repeats at midnight on WEIU. The show can also be seen on WEIU YouTube's channel at [YouTube.com/weiutv](http://YouTube.com/weiutv) starting the Monday after the original airing date.

# WEIU News Watch In Action

Marcus Smith  
Photographer



Will Hurley, Rachel Morris, Vicki Zeal, and Kyle Guertin wrap up a broadcast Sept. 7.



Rachel Morris and Vicki Zeal joke around before the broadcast Sept. 7.

Students interested in working with WEIU-TV or FM can volunteer by contacting Kelly Runyon, for News Watch, at [karunyon@eiu.edu](mailto:karunyon@eiu.edu), and Jeff Owens, for radio, at [jdowens@eiu.edu](mailto:jdowens@eiu.edu). Those who wish to be members of either can contact Jana Johnson at [jmjohnson3@eiu.edu](mailto:jmjohnson3@eiu.edu).

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