

# COMM NOTES



## Student Activities

April 2011

Check out April's student events!

### Lambda Pi Eta-

The Communication Studies department honorary organization will be holding a bake sale April 5th & 6th to raise money for the Lambda Pi Eta Relay for Life team. They will also continue the sales of shirts from Communication Day. At the end of the semester, they will have their traditional stress-buster event.

### PRSSA-

The Association will be holding PR portfolio workshop on April 4th. They will also hold Skype sessions with various PR professionals in Illinois and Texas from April 11th until April 25th. PRSSA will continue their ongoing "cool sunglasses" fundraising campaign throughout April. Want to get involved? PRSSA is where you need to be!

**For more information and to find the contacts for any of these organizations, visit the Communication Studies Department website @ <http://www.eiu.edu/commstudies>.**



## Key Dates

### April

- 1:** Deadline to Withdraw with a "W"
- 4:** Deadline to Apply for the IL Broadcasters Association Scholarship (5 p.m.)
- 5:** Central States Communication Association Convention
- 9:** Broadcast Education Association Convention
- 11 & 12:** Smith-Merritt Public Speaking Competition (6-9 p.m.– Lumpkin Auditorium)
- 15-18:** EIU Speech Team at National Forensic Association National Tournament

# Advising Corner



## Resume Workshops

No matter what the target industry, one mistake on a resume can cost a person his or her dream job. But in the field of Communication, having a strong resume is especially important because it is expected. A resume that contains spelling or grammatical errors, has a poor layout design, looks unprofessional, or ineffectively communicates the applicant's qualifications suggests that its creator is an inadequate communicator as well.

Because the resume is such a critical part of the career-seeking (and internship-seeking!) process, Leigh Bryan will be conducting three resume workshops throughout the month. Students will have the opportunity to improve their current resume or develop a new one. The workshops will be held on April 13th, 20th, and 27th (all Wednesdays) at 4:00 p.m. in the Hadwiger Computer Lab. These workshops are free to students, but reservations must be made in order to ensure a place because the lab can only accommodate 16 students at a time. Interested students should see Leigh in order to sign up. Participants should bring their resume or relevant information to include in a resume if they are starting from scratch.



Due to his grammar mistake, Wilbur found a position. It just wasn't the one he wanted.



**April 13th, 20th, & 27th  
4 p.m., Hadwiger Lab  
\*Reservation Required\***

# Opportunities



## Smith-Merritt Public Speaking Competition

I am pleased to announce the Communication Studies Department's annual Smith-Merritt Public Speaking Competition. As the Basic Course Director for the department's CMN 1310/1390 classes (Introduction to Speech Communication), coordinating this speech contest is one of my job duties.

The competition was endowed by and named in honor of Dr. Calvin Smith and Dr. Floyd Merritt, both retired faculty from the Department of Communication Studies. This contest recognizes the important contributions of our students in our Introduction to Speech Communication classes, and we hold this contest to celebrate excellence in persuasive public speaking.

Any student who was enrolled in CMN 1310/1390 last semester or is enrolled this semester is eligible to compete once they have completed an application form. Instructors from the Communication Studies faculty will judge students in a break-out preliminary round on Monday April 11<sup>th</sup> in classrooms in Coleman Hall. The top 6-8 students will then compete in a final round on Tuesday April 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 8:30 pm in Lumpkin Auditorium. Anyone from the EIU community is invited to attend the final round on April 12th.

The first place speaker will receive \$500 and a certificate, second place will receive \$300 and a certificate, and third place will receive \$100 and a certificate. This is a great opportunity for students to build their resume, get competitive speaking experience, and potentially win some cash!

-Dr. Rich Jones

For more information, go to <http://www.eiu.edu/~commstudies/1310.php> or email Dr. Jones at [rgjones@eiu.edu](mailto:rgjones@eiu.edu).

## Forensics Team

Interested in getting a head start on next Fall's activities? The Eastern Illinois University Speech Team competes during both fall and spring semesters in nationally attended individual event tournaments. With public address (informative, persuasive, rhetorical criticism, after dinner speaking), interpretation (prose, poetry, dramatic interpretation, duo interpretation, and program oral interpretation), and limited preparation (extemporaneous and impromptu), they've got something for everybody. Students with all levels of skill are welcome on the team, so contact director Sara Gronstal for more information!



EIU Speech Team

# Communication Day



## Communication Day

This year's Communication Day was a great success, with high attendance and intriguing topics of conversation. On Wednesday, March 30th, faculty, graduate students, undergraduate students, and members of the community were speakers or presenters in 17 different communication-focused panels.

This event was beneficial for both presenters and attendees. Greg Sainer, an undergraduate student, said "It's a lot of fun being able to talk about the work you've done, and the subjects are exciting" about his experience as a student presenter. Rianna Elsberry, also an undergrad, said "It was cool to be able to have work we did for class be highlighted outside of class." Both Greg and Rianna presented their work from Dr. T.M. Linda Scholz's Rhetorical Criticism class in the "Critical Analysis of Popular Culture Movies, TV Shows, and Speech" panel.

The department also had the privilege of listening to a special guest speaker. Kathleen Durkin-Russell, a Communication Consultant, spoke to a full room of students and faculty about communicating in the workplace with Dr. Matt Gill in an "Actor's Studio style" conversation. This panel was an excellent finale to a day full of relevant and interesting communication topics. A big thanks to Dr. T.M. Linda Scholz for making it all happen!



Guest Speaker Kathleen Durkin-Russell  
& Facilitator Dr. Matt Gill

## Broadcast Industry Fair

The department, along with Career Services and the Illinois Broadcasters Association, also hosted its 4th Annual Broadcast Industry Fair on Wednesday, March 30th. Students interested in a career in broadcasting were able to meet with representatives from 10 different TV stations and 39 different radio stations about employment and internship opportunities. There were also professionals available to critique students' radio or television audition tapes at Communication Day.

# Faculty Spotlight



*Name:*

Marita Gronnvoll

*Years at EIU:*

2 years, going on 3.

*Hobbies:*

Making students cry, scaring small children. (See fun facts.)

*Fun Fact:*

I often do not answer truthfully to surveys. (Whew!)

*What Makes You Stand Out?:*

My fantastic taste in shoes!

*Leave Us With a Quote?:*

“Can’t sleep. Clowns will eat me.”



# Did You Know?



## Student Research is Celebrated Too!

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Showcase EIU

The Showcase of the Exploration and Inquiry of Undergraduates, or Showcase **EIU**, is an annual event held to honor and exhibit students' accomplishments in research, service, scholarship, and creative activity. Students from any department can submit their research and creative activities for display at the event with the purpose of allowing all of the EIU community to experience and discuss the research of our undergraduate students. This year's Showcase will be held on Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup>.

### Graduate Showcase

A separate showcase will be held for graduate students from the College of Arts and Humanities. These students and their faculty mentors will be displaying their research projects in the form of video showcases and will be available to answer questions and discuss their work. The Showcase will take place on April 4th at 3:00 p.m. in the Doudna Lecture Hall. For more information, please contact Lori Henderson at lahenderson@eiu.edu.

### New Logo!

The Communication Studies Department has a new logo. Look for it in departmental publications and bulletin boards around Coleman!



Got  
Media?



Follow us on Twitter **@eiuCMNstudies** to receive tweets about class cancellations, faculty birthdays, and deadline reminders.

Join the Facebook group at **EIU Communication Studies** to stay connected to friends, faculty, and alumni and to learn about what fellow majors are doing in their internships and while studying abroad!