

Department of Communication Studies
Summer 2015 Faculty Activities and Accomplishments Report
(March 1 to August 1)

Mike Bradd won the 2015 Illinois Silver Dome Award for the Best Radio Play-by-Play Announcer in the state in the Small Market Radio Category (he won the same award on two previous occasions). **Mike** was also awarded the 2014-2015 Ohio Valley Conference Media award.

Leigh Bryan and **A.J. Walsh** led the summer 2015 study abroad program to New Zealand and Australia. The two faculty members, along with ten students, spent 33 days exploring intercultural communication and environmental communication in both countries. In addition, some students had independent study projects ranging from videography to the ethnographic study of farming differences. The students participated in 13 required excursions and explored optional excursions in every city. Highlights of the required excursions included dancing with the performers at an Aboriginal cultural dinner (Cairns, QLD), meeting penguins and sea lions up close in their natural habitat (Dunedin, NZ), learning about agricultural differences at the Agrodome (Rotorua, NZ), and learning how to paint from an Aboriginal artist in his gallery (Mossman, QLD). This program was the third for **Leigh** (NZ & AUS 2011, 2013) and the second for **A.J.**, who also co-led a program to Ireland and Northern Ireland in 2012.

David Gracon travelled to Mexico and Germany this summer to participate in a variety of research and creative activities. From May 27 to June 5, he attended the Centro Mexicano para la Música y las Artes Sonoras (CMMAS or Mexican Center for Music and Sonic Art) in Morelia, Mexico. At this artist in residency, he screened/exhibited and constructed the video "Traces of Morelia" (with a live musical score by **Brad Decker**, EIU Music Instructor), and also screened "Where the Cicadas Sing" and other various digital shorts from his *Ordinary Video Series* (some of the students who participated constructed scores for the short videos that were exhibited). He also team taught (with Decker) a four-day workshop on the merging of image and sound with local music/multi-media composition students.

David attended the Oberhausen Film Festival and Seminar at the Bertolt Brecht House, Oberhausen, Germany. During his stay, David attended a week long screening series, attended seminar discussions, and helped construct a public presentation (in conjunction with the other seminar participants) that served as a critique of the international festival.

David also travelled to West Virginia to attend a summer school program at the Gesundheit! Institute (The School for Designing a Society: Desire and Design: Meet the Peculiar Present). This summer class merged critical pedagogy, critical theory, performance, social justice and volunteerism (VA Hospital, nursing home and juvenile detention center).

In addition, **David** screened *Walls of Sound — A Look Inside the House of Records* at the Institute for Creativity in Champaign, Illinois, hosted a Hallways Microcinema event, and

conducted a guest lecture in the Rhetoric of Documentary class at the University of Illinois (UC Campus) on Experimental Documentary.

Kendall-Hunt published **Rich Jones's** course manual and resource book *CMN 1310: An Introduction to Speech Communication*.

Jones, R. G., Jr. (2015). *CMN 1310: Introduction to Speech Communication*. Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.

Rich was asked to join the guest editorial board for the journal *Departures in Critical Qualitative Research*. **Rich** reviewed submissions for the upcoming special issue: "Cultivating Promise and Possibility: Black Feminist Thought as an Innovative, Interdisciplinary, and International Framework."

Rich is now serving on the Bridging Voices in Our Community™ (BVC): Bullying Prevention Project Advisory Board as the Assistant Conference Chair and the Curriculum Chair. Over the summer he attended a training session at EIU on Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and worked to help plan the Fall conference.

Rich continued to serve on the Board of Directors for the Illinois Communication and Theatre Association. Over the summer he chaired the Higher Education Interest Group, soliciting, reviewing, and paneling submissions for the Fall conference.

Rich continued to serve on the Board of Directors for Charleston Community Theatre.

Rich, Marita Gronnvoll and T. M. Linda Scholz attended a Learning Goals Workshop in May/June.

At the Council of Chairs Retreat in May, **Stephen A. King** won the Chair Leadership Award, bestowed annually by the Provost and Academic Leadership. At the retreat, **Stephen** also presented on the topic of strategic planning.

Andrew Robinson served as Senior Pastor and Faculty Advisor to ACTS Campus Ministry, where he has been highly effective in building bridges across racial and cultural divides. He established a new ACTS Campus Ministry at the University of Illinois. He trained nine students and recent graduates in their final semester at the Christ Ministries School of Divinity Cultivating Ministers' Ordination and Master of Divinity Programs and interviewed new candidates for the next term, set to begin September 13, 2015. **Andrew** performed two marriage ceremonies and conducted various counseling sessions, such as spiritual, marriage, financial, relationship, terminal illness, and addiction.

In addition, **Andrew** taught two sections of "Instructional Design for Online Learning" through the Illinois Online Network (ION) provided by the University of Illinois. He also designed an online course for another department entitled "Ethical Behavior in Organizations." Andrew presented on his 6P Model for Instructional Design at the 2015

Faculty Summer Institute. The 6P Model has now been adopted by ION's Master of Online Teaching certification program.