

the Journalist

a departmental newsletter for journalism majors & minors

Professor remembered at Memorial Service

By Mike Wolbers

A memorial service for fallen professor and tech guru Doug Lawhead was Thursday, Sept. 7.

Family, friends, students and colleagues of Lawhead filed into the University Ballroom around 6 p.m. and spoke of his many passions, including his family, photography, storytelling and technology, especially Apple computers.

Lawhead was always prepared for any emergency situation, according to Bonnie Irwin, Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities

“One of my fondest memories of Doug will always be just a couple of weeks ago when the tornado sirens went off on campus,” Irwin said. “As we were herding people down into the basement of Doudna, here comes Doug with an emergency lantern, wireless router, and Mac laptop.”

One of Lawhead’s passions, storytelling, was present in that basement, as well.

“He flipped open that laptop, and of course he still had that wireless speed, and he showed me how on the National Weather Service maps that if you look really closely, you can see where the funnel cloud is,” said Irwin. “Everyone was gathered around his laptop and he was going to explain that funnel cloud to anybody who was willing to listen.”

Along with storytelling, journalism professor Brian Poulter said Lawhead



Photo provided by James Tidwell
Doug Lawhead

had an undying passion for his students.

“I remember walking in the hallway (of Buzzard Hall) when I saw Doug ‘nicely’ telling a student that he needed to show up to class, do the assignments that he was assigned and to complete them in a timely manner,” Poulter said.

Lawhead did not just stop at informing his students on what they needed to do to complete the course, but assisted them as well.

“It wasn’t but an hour later that I saw Doug driving his blue Mazda truck up and down Ninth Street so that the

student he had been yelling at in the hallway could complete one of his assignments,” Poulter said.

Along with helping students who were in his class, Lawhead was also willing to listen and give advice on problems outside the classroom.

Molly Vaughn, Lawhead’s former student, said they would talk for hours about what she wanted to do along the lines of choosing her major.

“There was one time that I went in to talk to Doug, because I was having a real hard time deciding what I wanted to do with my life as far as my major goes,” said Vaughn. “I went in there expecting to only talk for a little bit, but it turned into a three hour conversation, and by the end of it he told me that once I figured out to ‘find me and let me know.’”

Vaughn decided to transfer to a university in Chicago and when she chose a major she decided on journalism. She said the decision was influenced by Lawhead.

“I came back to Charleston in early August because I wanted to let him know of my decision, but I never could catch him because he was always running around trying to help people with their problems,” she said.

Lawhead is survived by his wife, Marcia, an employee in the Office of General Counsel, and two sons, Aaron Joseph and Brady Lawhead.

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DEN staff prepares for new format

By Alyssa Stockton

A week-long summer training series prepared the *Daily Eastern News* staff for another year of news.

Most students were packing and organizing to come back to school, but for the staff of the *DEN*, the last week of summer was filled with training and getting back to their journalistic norms.

Lola Burnham, associate professor of journalism and editorial adviser of the *DEN*, was in charge of the week-long summer program. From Monday afternoon to Thursday afternoon various training sessions were provided, including how to come up with story ideas and "Reporter vs. Editor: Who Does What?"

It is important for the students to get started on school mode, Burnham said.

Tim Deters, a senior journalism major and features editor of the *DEN*, said he liked the week-long summer

training because "everyone comes back together and can catch up. (It gets us) back in the spirit of journalism."

Deters transferred last fall from Lakeland College, making this his first summer training with the *DEN*. Some of the covered topics were things he already knew but were good refreshers.

Deters also mentioned that he thinks it would be beneficial to allow other students who are interested in journalism to attend the sessions.

This training pushed the new online-first format and helped develop a stronger web presence for the *DEN*.

Bryan Murley, assistant professor and the online adviser for the *DEN*, has advocated for the *DEN* to switch to the online-first format for several years. Standards in the news industry have changed, and now more than ever with 24/7 news, online-first is practical for newspapers, Murley said.

According to Murley, the staff is adapting well. The purpose of the training and transition is to teach the stu-

dent staff members how professionals work, along with keeping up with the news while it is new.

"The ultimate goal is to see the students succeed as professional journalists," Murley said.

According to Murley, key aspects of the online-first move include:

- Copy editors post stories to the web site as soon as the stories are ready for publication.
- Stories are posted to the web frequently on weekends.
- Reporters send out tweets while covering campus events.
- The *DEN* Facebook page is used to promote stories and photographs from the web site.
- Twitter (@den_news) is used to share stories and interact with interested followers.
- Blogs and video features are examples of exclusive web content.

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Upcoming Monical's Fundraisers:

Kappa Tau Alpha:
October 8

Roy K. Wilson Scholarship:
October 22

In Memoriam Annette Samuels
November 12

Watch for more at other locations!

Department holds annual majors meeting

By Mike Wolbers

Journalism majors gathered to attend the annual Journalism Majors Meeting, where members of student media and professors talked about news within the department, in Buzzard Hall, Wednesday, August 29, at 6:30 p.m.

One of the things that the department chair, Dr. James Tidwell, wanted to stress was the importance of participating in student media.

"The majors meeting is a great way to get the word out about student-run media and how easy it is to get involved," Tidwell said. "It is surprising how many just do the bare minimum."

Not only is participation in student media important, but meeting and working with colleagues is also a great opportunity, according to Rachel Rodgers, vice president of Society of Collegiate Journalists.

"You can come up to the RSOs ta-

bles after the meeting and talk to us, have a snack and see what we are all about," Rodgers said.

Rodgers added that a lot of information at the majors meeting could be helpful to those seeking a degree in journalism.

"It helps you decide on what to do in journalism. Whatever your specialty is, there is probably a student publication for you," Rodgers said.

Jasmine Randle, a senior journalism major with a design and editing concentration, said her first majors meeting was also helpful.

"There was a lot of information and you learned so much about the different student media, and I definitely appreciated that," Randle said.

Student media include *The Daily Eastern News*, *Fresh*, *The Agency*, a student-run public relations firm, WEIU-TV and WEIU-FM, and *The Vehicle*, a student literary magazine.

Other topics discussed included

the Journalism Department's *Student Code of Conduct*. All students need to familiar with.

Students also heard from other students about RSOs that are available for journalism students including The Society of Collegiate Journalists and the Public Relations Student Society of America.

Students also met the faculty and student leaders and had a Skype session with an alumna, Victoria Zeal, from her Virginia home, who shared information about her job at a television station there.

Students were also told about the possibility of doing research and graduating with departmental honors by Dr. Eunseong Kim.

Following the meeting, the students enjoyed ice cream and cookies and exchanged ideas and asked questions of other students and professors. Students were encouraged to get involved early and stay involved.

Professor accepts new position with Booth Library

By Geoff Zuhone

After 20 years in the newspaper and editing business, Beth Heldebrandt decided it might be time for a change.

After a former *Journal Gazette-Times Courier* colleague referred her to the job opening, Heldebrandt began contemplating a career move.

One application and successful hiring process later, Heldebrandt had the new title of editorial writer for Booth Library, but the name is misleading she said.

"There's writing involved, but I'm not writing pieces about my opinion," Heldebrandt said.

Her main contributions are in the form of publicity and public relations, Heldebrandt said.

Recently, she has been working on a pamphlet for a Greece symposium for publication in October.



Photo: Geoff Zuhone

Beth Heldebrandt

Heldebrandt has been working in Booth since late July. Even though she now has a position in the library, Heldebrandt continues to teach for the journalism department on an as-needed basis.

"I'm hired year-by-year, so I will

still be teaching through this academic year, Heldebrandt said.

While she keeps in contact with the *JG-TC*, she no longer contributes to the publication full time.

"I'm not working for the paper right now, but I might be writing some travel pieces later if they're needed," Heldebrandt said.

Heldebrandt said she likes the hours more with her current position and it gives her more time at home.

"I really enjoyed working in the newspaper business," Heldebrandt said. "After 20 years, it gets tiring, and I wanted to expand my horizons. So far, I'm really enjoying it."

Heldebrandt has taught editing, news writing, publicity methods and other courses for the department. She is a graduate of Southern Illinois University and has her master's from Eastern in English.

Warbler staff trains with other universities

By Kelly Johnson

Eastern Illinois University's 2012-2013 *Warbler* yearbook staff went on a road trip to Indiana University for a training sessions Aug. 13-14.

The Warbler staff united with several different universities for this training.

"We spent the first night talking about the books as a whole from our school and the other schools that came," Brandyce Gordon, a junior journalism major, said.

The second day was filled with sessions where the staff learned about different aspects of the yearbook.

"We learned a lot through sessions taught by the other advisors," Gordon said. "We went over everything from ethics to photo style."

The students who attended learned a lot from this two day trip.

"I have learned that you can never have enough story ideas," senior journalism major Alex McNamee said. "If the story is not up to your standards the first time, then you don't have to keep it."

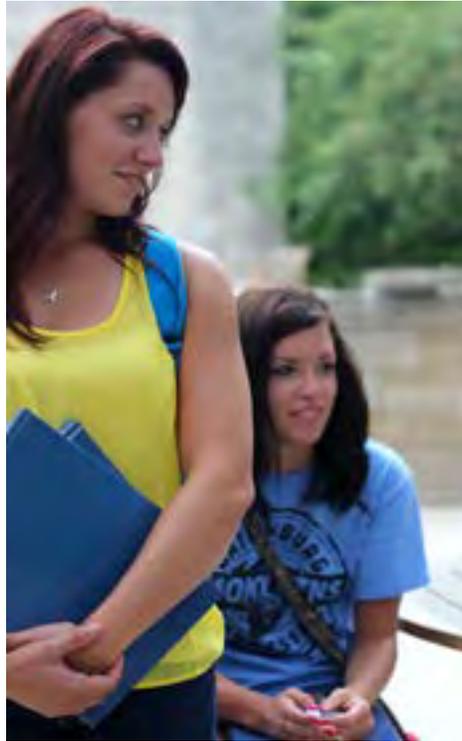
While other students have learned practical lessons such as copy editing, one member of the Warbler staff, Shea Lazansky, learned the importance of getting along with coworkers.

"I learned the importance of staff interaction," Lazansky, a junior journalism major, said. "I think that staff interaction was the most important thing I took away, because it leads to a closer relationship between staff members, which make the production of our book easier."

The staff saw the benefits in attending the training.

"Since this is my first year being a staff member, I wanted to go to help me get a hold of fitting in," McNamee said.

Lazansky attended to learn as much as she could.



Photos by Shea Lazansky

Warbler Managing Editor Brandyce Gordon (left), and photographer Olivia Angeloff relax on the campus of Indiana University.

"This is my first year as an editor. As the photo editor, I want to do the best I possibly can, which involves learning from a variety of sources, including other yearbooks," Lazansky said.

The staff members enjoyed their time spent at Indiana University.

"I enjoyed the staff bonding with everyone that went. It's fun to get out of your university," McNamee said.

Lazansky enjoying reuniting with her staff.

"I hadn't seen any of them over the summer, so the reunion was nice," Lazansky said. "It was also nice having the opportunity to learn about the different directions our book can take."

Gordon enjoyed seeing how the other yearbooks worked.

"I enjoyed hearing how everyone ran their yearbook and how all the staffs interacted," Gordon said. "It was a couple days packed with a lot of information, but it was a great experience."

The yearbook has many deadlines throughout the year for a distribution date that coincides with graduation so that seniors can get a copy of their yearbook before they leave.



Content Producer Zachary White (left) and Assistant Design Editor Tim McHugh bond at Nick's, a local bar and hangout for journalism students at Indiana University.