

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION ANNUAL REPORT FALL 2021 & SPRING 2022

A LETTER FROM DR. LIKES

TO CO FACULTY, STUDENTS, ADMINISTRATORS, ALUMNI & FRIENDS,



CO forges onward to new heights in student achievement and faculty success despite another year facing a pandemic. Students and faculty succeeded in facing ongoing challenges of classes in various modalities of face-to-face, hybrid and online. Major initiatives were achieved including approval of the proposal to start a graduate program, PR Certification was approved, and a self-study was completed to seek ACEJMC accreditation. The graduate program had a soft rollout of two classes spring 2022. In lieu of one large advisory board, each concentration held its own advisory board meeting to delve deeper into its subject matter. As you will see in brief below, and detailed more elaborately in the pages ahead, I am proud of our faculty and students for facing these challenges head-on.

THEATRE saw the hiring of a new faculty member this year. Jesse Wade, MFA, joined CO as a new Clinical Assistant Professor specializing in technical direction. The children’s show, a highlight of the year and part of our mission to serve youth audiences, was performed in November. Banner:

a Sea Turtle Saga, occurred in unison via a grant from the Northern Gulf Institute. Theatre brought in an artist-in-residence, Tim Baker, to assist in building the large puppets. In spring 2022, Theatre MSU presented the student directed production of All American Boys in February. In April, Theatre MSU presented the musical, Once on this Island, and wrapped up the season, in late April/Early May with a devised piece - Who Gets to Be an American? Theatre MSU brought in guest artist Barbara Pitts-McAdams from NY to work with students in the Theatre for Change class to devise the piece. Theatre continues to excel with its additional offerings for students including The Scene, Lab Rats and Black Friars Drama Society.

PUBLIC RELATIONS earned the Certification for Education in Public Relations, a major milestone relative to earning an accreditation. The PR faculty collaborated to write a lengthy self-study in fall 2020, and a virtual site team reviewed the program in spring 2021. The program was approved summer 2021, and a virtual ceremony was held fall 2021. There are fewer than 60 CEPR approved programs around the world. MSU joins only Alabama and Florida as CEPR programs in the SEC. In other PR news, PR hired a new faculty member who started fall 2021. Dr. Uyanga Bazaa earned her Ph.D. from Texas Tech and began teaching Research in Public Relations and Advertising in the fall and spring. Fall 2021 marked the initial enrollment of students in PR’s new online degree program. The PR program continues to achieve, winning many awards from the Southern

PR Federation and the PR Association of Mississippi. The PR Integrated Student Media Agency (PRISM) along with our capstone course, PR in Organizations, afford students opportunities to work with real-world clients. PR also maintains its biweekly chapter meetings of PRSSA, hosting various speakers, this year both in person and virtually.

COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA STUDIES faculty have worked diligently to revise and update their curriculum and brand. New courses are now being offered. The pandemic forced the Speech and Debate team to compete virtually and in person this year, but that did not stop the students from significant achievement.

BROADCAST AND DIGITAL JOURNALISM welcomed a new faculty member this year. Victoria Bailey has an MA from Troy University and has worked in several media markets. She teaches writing and news courses while also overseeing the Take 30 student newscast. **PRINT & DIGITAL JOURNALISM** rolled out its new capstone course, the Bulldog Online Newsroom. This experience mirrors the broadcast side of the Take 30 newscast. As you will see in the pages ahead, these two concentrations saw a significant increase in student awards and honors.

I hope you will enjoy reading about our success stories. We are proud of our students and faculty and we greatly appreciate your support.

**SINCERELY,
DR. TERRY LIKES
DEPT. HEAD & PROFESSOR**

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DEPARTMENTAL DATA

Enrollment Numbers											
	Fall 2011	Fall 2012	Fall 2013	Fall 2014	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2021
Broadcast & Digital Journalism	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	47	85	113
Broadcasting	169	180	154	136	146	142	147	157	94	44	24
Communication & Media Studies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Communication Studies	21	16	10	24	23	23	27	35	43	63	66
Journalism	72	73	67	67	78	77	61	55	36	20	7
Print & Digital Journalism	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	35	37
Public Relations	236	270	277	296	283	270	277	290	288	263	233
Theatre	16	21	21	22	12	17	13	15	24	25	26
Total	546	575	552	565	559	549	544	562	577	538	513
Gender											
Male	161	164	167	172	165	148	160	184	192	168	175
Female	385	411	385	393	394	401	384	378	385	370	338
Ethnicity											
Am Indian Or Alaskan Native	1	3	2	3	2	5	3	2	3	2	4
Asian	3	5	4	3	3	1	3	1	3	6	2
Black Or African American	128	125	118	132	134	143	132	125	108	107	91
Hispanic	9	7	6	11	9	5	8	11	16	16	8
Multiracial	9	9	11	12	8	8	12	18	16	8	10
Native Hawaiian Or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Unknown	18	9	7	11	6	5	2	0	1	4	5
White	378	417	403	392	397	382	384	404	429	395	393

First-Time Freshmen											
	Fall 2011	Fall 2012	Fall 2013	Fall 2014	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2021
Broadcast & Digital Journalism	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	19	24
Broadcasting	32	23	26	14	21	20	15	19	0	0	0
Communication Studies	5	0	1	4	0	2	1	4	5	8	3
Journalism	10	12	11	9	19	10	11	10	0	0	0
Print & Digital Journalism	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	7	9
Public Relations	22	26	30	22	24	20	17	23	32	22	14
Theatre	2	0	4	4	2	3	4	0	2	3	3
	5	6	7	7	9	9	10	7	6	2	1
Total	76	67	79	60	75	64	58	63	86	61	54
Retention											
Graduation	0.9	0.87	0.79	0.85	0.83	0.77	0.89	0.81	0.94	0.86	0.82
Average Composite ACT	0.66	0.64	0.75	0.75	0.65						
	23.7	23.7	24.4	24.7	24.6	23.9	25.1	25.6	25.4	23.9	23.9

DEPARTMENTAL DATA

Degrees Awarded							
	Broadcasting	Broadcast & Digital Journalism	Communication Studies	Journalism	Print & Digital Journalism	Public Relations	Theatre
Spring 2011	17	0	3	10	0	41	3 0
Summer 2011	5	0	0	3	0	8	0 0
Fall 2011	9	0	0	2	0	12	2 0
Spring 2012	16	0	4	15	0	46	3 0
Summer 2012	3	0	1	0	0	8	0 0
Fall 2012	12	0	2	6	0	31	2 0
Spring 2013	18	0	7	9	0	61	3 0
Summer 2013	2	0	1	4	0	10	1 0
Fall 2013	10	0	0	6	0	34	1 0
Spring 2014	21	0	3	11	0	35	4 1
Summer 2014	6	0	0	1	0	11	0 0
Fall 2014	19	0	2	6	0	22	1 0
Spring 2015	16	0	4	10	0	60	3 0
Summer 2015	4	0	2	2	0	4	1 0
Fall 2015	15	0	3	5	0	30	1 0
Spring 2016	21	0	5	12	0	55	3 0
Summer 2016	7	0	2	1	0	14	0 0
Fall 2016	12	0	0	6	0	25	0 1
Spring 2017	24	0	4	8	0	65	3 0
Summer 2017	3	0	2	1	0	10	0 0
Fall 2017	8	0	2	5	0	22	0 1
Spring 2018	15	0	4	15	0	63	4 2
Summer 2018	7	0	1	2	0	6	0 0
Fall 2018	13	0	1	1	0	30	0 0
Spring 2019	21	0	1	15	0	60	2 0
Summer 2019	3	0	2	1	0	1	1 0
Fall 2019	11	0	4	3	0	14	0 0
Spring 2020	18	0	10	6	0	67	4 0
Summer 2020	5	0	2	4	0	12	1 0
Fall 2020	6	0	4	4	0	16	1 0
Spring 2021	11	5	13	5	8	57	5 0
Summer 2021	1	2	1	0	0	11	2 0
Fall 2021	3	4	6	1	1	23	3 0

INITIATIVES

FIRST GRADUATE PROGRAM CLASSES OFFERED

After decades in the making, the Department of Communication held its first graduate classes since the Mississippi Institutes of Higher Learning approved the department's graduate program in spring 2021. As part of the soft rollout in the fall 2021 semester, Dr. John Nicholson's Communication Theory class had nine students enrolled. Dr. Holli Seitz is also teaching Communication Research during the spring 2022 semester.



recruit for the CO graduate program, which will include graduate assistants by the fall semester.

The **MASTER OF ARTS** is a 33-hour program. The Department of Communication has hired two additional faculty members, beginning fall 2022, to help with the additional teaching brought on by the graduate program. A third new hire will begin in August 2023. The department is ecstatic for all the new opportunities that the graduate program will bring for students, faculty and the university.

"I am excited for the students, the faculty and our university to begin our graduate program! My hope is that the program grows as everyone involved grows academically and professionally."

- Dr. John Nicholson,
Inaugural Graduate Professor

SUMMER 2022 will feature Dr. Uyanga Bazaa teaching Health Communication while Dr. Terri Hernandez is teaching International Communication. **FALL 2022** is the official full slate of classes (4) with Dr. Philip Poe teaching a Seminar in Media, Dr. Hernandez teaching Communication Pedagogy, Dr. Nicholson teaching Communication Theory and Dr. Seitz teaching Communication Research.

The graduate program coordinator, **DR. MELODY FISHER**, has put in countless hours of work to establish policies and

"These courses are the realization of decades-long planning for a graduate program in communication. We are elated for students to finally have the opportunity to advance their careers and studies in our department."

- Dr. Melody Fisher
Graduate Program Coordinator

INITIATIVES

MSU DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION NOW OFFERS:

ONLINE DEGREES IN PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATION & MEDIA STUDIES

The online degrees were developed to meet the **growing demand** for online offerings— which has become even more evident in the past year because of COVID-19. The online degrees meet a need for **current** and **non-traditional students**. The online offerings benefit students by giving **multiple modalities** of instruction as they learn more about public relations theory, application and practice.

The web-based **PUBLIC RELATIONS** degree proposal was spearheaded by **Kelli Anthony**, a Communication instructor for almost 20 years. She explained that many students in the university's Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies online program frequently have chosen communication as an emphasis area.

The online **COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA STUDIES** degree prepares students to "specialize in the theory, critique and practice of communication, equipping students to communicate effectively and ethically in diverse contexts," according to the curriculum description.

"This degree is an extension of that mission—to provide an education to those who seek it but who may not have the resources, time or the convenience to travel to campus. As with any online degree, students will get the same opportunities that our face-to-face students have—a quality education through first-rate instruction."

-Dr. Pete Smith

"The online program provides those working full time an opportunity to either finish their degree or get the more in-depth public relations education and training they desire. COVID-19 also has changed what life looks like for many traditional students. The flexibility in class schedules because of COVID has potentially opened doors for those who would traditionally attend face-to-face classes to work more hours and still attend classes online. Therefore, these students can continue working more while completing their communication degree."

-Kelli Anthony

Communication
**GRADUATE
PROGRAM**
MASTER OF ARTS IN COMMUNICATION

Online
Public Relations
CONCENTRATION

Online
Comm. & Media Studies
CONCENTRATION

INITIATIVES

DEPARTMENT HOSTS MEDIA PROFESSIONALS



Mississippi Association of Broadcasters Day, hosted by the department once in the fall and once in the spring, welcomes **media professionals** from around the state of Mississippi to give students an opportunity to ask questions and learn from professionals in **broadcasting, producing, management, marketing, advertising** and **more**. Students are also invited to attend networking events to gain opportunities for internships and jobs in the media.

MSU SPEAKING CENTER OPENS ON CAMPUS



A new **university-wide** resource is now available for Mississippi State students and employees who wish to improve their speaking skills.

Located in **Old Main Academic Center Room 3290**, the **MSU Speaking Center** is designed to assist with skill training on topic and speech purpose development, audience adaptation, organization, visual and audio delivery and use of visual aids. Individuals also may get

assistance with reducing public speaking apprehension.

Cheryl Chambers, an instructor in the Department of Communication, currently serves as the center's **director**. She said the center was created with the intent to help students overcome anxiety related to public speaking. The center also provides consultation with external experts to improve overall delivery and quality. Once participants have the presentation delivery prepared to the optimal level, they have access to subject matter experts to help ensure information being presented is accurate and current.

In March 2022, the Center hosted a **"Snack & Chat" Open House** to showcase the varied opportunities that the center offers students and employees alike. Individuals were able to take tours of the Speaking Center, and Chambers said the event was a **"fun introduction"** to the various options available.

INITIATIVES

RENOVATIONS COMPLETED AT THE REFLECTOR

Renovations in the office of student newspaper **The Reflector** have been completed. New carpet was installed and walls were painted to update the space and give a fresh look. The office now includes **canvas print editions** of newspapers from a hundred years of publishing, including our **2014 #1 ranking college football season** with **Dak Prescott** at QB. The Reflector houses student writers and photographers from across campus and covers stories around MSU, the city of Starkville and state of Mississippi.



PR CONCENTRATION RECEIVES CERTIFICATE IN EDUCATION FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS

MSU is now **one of three schools** in the Southeastern Conference and one of only 52 schools internationally to obtain **Certification in Education for Public Relations**, a distinction from the **Public Relations Society of America** earned by organizations meeting top PR education standards.

The CEPR review process required an **external evaluation team** to examine and endorse the MSU undergraduate PR program's **curriculum, faculty, students, resources and facilities, assessment, professional affiliations, relationships** with the total unit and the university, and **diversity** and **global perspectives**.

John Forde, who led the university's effort to achieve CEPR status, said, "Earning CEPR demonstrates the quality of our program and puts us in the company of many of the best colleges offering degrees in public relations."

THEATRE HOSTS PROFESSIONALIZATION WORKSHOPS



During the 2021-2022 year, the department hosted a duo of professionalization workshops aimed at preparing students for their future careers. The Fall workshop, held over WebEx in November, focused on coaching students to **succeed in interviews**. The spring workshop, hosted in person, featured **Barbara Pitts McAdams**, co-author of ***Moment Work: Tectonic Theater Project's Process for Devising Theatre***, and sought to teach students about **creating their own work**.

The Department of Communication held its second Story State virtual conference, a program that aims to foster innovative storytelling, on February 25. The entertaining and educational event invited writers, filmmakers, communication practitioners and others who can help the audience understand how to craft better stories and use stories to achieve their communication goals. This year's program, presented in memory of Doc Comby, featured storytellers from throughout the state of Mississippi. Listen to each story [HERE](#).

2022 STORYSTATE PRESENTERS

GENESIS BE is a native of Biloxi, Miss. and is a rapper, painter, speaker and activist who has advocated for racial healing, voting rights, changing the Mississippi flag, and other causes.

TERRY "HARMONICA" BEAN, a native of Pontotoc, carries on the musical tradition of North Mississippi bluesmen such as Howlin' Wolf, R.L. Burnside, and Junior Kimbrough. He has recorded seven albums, played at innumerable events and festivals, and toured Europe and Africa playing the blues.

HARRY BOLICK grew up visiting his relatives in Carroll County, and is one of the foremost scholars of Mississippi fiddle music. He has published "Fiddle Tunes from Mississippi, Commercial and Informal recordings 1920-2018" and "Mississippi Fiddle Tunes and Songs from the 1930s" (University Press of Mississippi), and plays and teaches the fiddle himself.

STEVE SOLTIS is a Public Relations Advisory Board member at Mississippi State University and Executive in Residence at the University of Virginia Darden School of Business. He is one of the original creators of the New Narrative Festival, from which Story State grew.

HAROLD "DOC" COMBY, a native of the Choctaw Reservation near Philadelphia and elder in the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, served his community in various roles for many years, including most recently as captain of operations for the police department. His mother taught him traditional Choctaw culture growing up. He was an avid stickball practitioner and made stickball sticks and balls. Comby passed away a few days after his Story State presentation was broadcast.

ANNE MARTIN, originally from Greenville, spent 30 years as a broadcast journalist. She co-founded the Delta Hot Tamale Festival in 2012 and published "Delta Hot Tamales: History Stories and Recipes" (The History Press) in 2016.

HALEY MONTGOMERY, native of Noxubee County and owner of Small Pond Graphics in Starkville, creates stunning watercolor paintings, graphics, prints, carvings, typography and more for clients. She has a guiding belief that stories told in words and pictures hold immense power.

LYNN OLDSHUE is a Yazoo City native who has pursued her award-winning career as a journalist in Mobile, Ala. She explores the lives of everyday Southerners through interviews, photography and video, and publishes their stories on her website, [oursouthernsouls.com](#).

GABE SMITH, a longtime resident of Starkville, has performed in the Starkville theatre scene for many years, and leads the Starkville Community Theatre as its executive director. He and his SCT colleagues recently produced a production of Dolly Parton's "9 to 5 the Musical!"

QUENTIN SMITH is a native of Tupelo. He is an award-winning broadcast journalist at WLBT in Jackson. At WLBT, he travels across central Mississippi interviewing and shooting video.

STORY STATE COMPETITION WINNERS



MASTER STORYTELLER

MSU senior **Hannah Blankenship**, winner in the "written stories" category, is also this year's overall "Master Storyteller." Hannah won for her first-person narrative "**Putting Sight to Sound; two poddies' journey into the case of Curtis Flowers.**" She is from Huntsville, Ala., and majors in Communication and Spanish.



Congratulations to **Heather Harrison** and **Emma Dotson**, who are the winners of this year's "oral stories" category for their episode of the "On the Scene" podcast entitled "**The Unhoused.**"



Aniya Scott won second place in the "written stories" category for "**Fine.**"



Matthew Jamison won third place in the "written stories" category for "**Our Story.**"

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION WELCOMES TWO NEW FACULTY HIRES

Starting August 2022, we are delighted to welcome Jessica Collier and Carrie McCormick to the faculty. With growth in curricular offerings, including the graduate program and two new online degrees, the department was allowed to hire new personnel.



JESSICA COLLIER is currently working as a postdoctoral research fellow at UT- Austin, where she earned her Ph.D. in 2021. She also holds the MA from UNC-Chapel Hill and BA from the University of Virginia. Jessica will teach Elements of Persuasion and Communication and Leadership.

"In my visit to Starkville, I was struck by the CO faculty, the work they are doing, and the enthusiasm and camaraderie I felt from everyone in the department. I am ecstatic to be joining your ranks and cannot wait to hit the ground running in August. See you all soon, and Hail State!" - Jessica Collier

CARRIE MCCORMICK is currently an instructor at Ole Miss. She has a law degree from the Mississippi College School of Law, an MA from the University of Arizona, and a BA from MSU. Carrie taught at MSU as an instructor from 2004-2007. Carrie will teach Intro to Communication, Elements of Persuasion, and Intro to Comm Theory.

"As a graduate of MSU's Communication Department, I know firsthand the strengths of the program; not only did it shape my critical thinking skills, but it also set me up to succeed in both graduate programs as well as later careers. I am incredibly excited to be coming "home" to teach in the department and work to impact the next generation of communication scholars. Hail State!" - Carrie McCormick

As part of the program growth, CO will hire an additional tenure track faculty member in the 2022-2023 academic year.



SEITZ JOINS MENTORING ACADEMY

Dr. Holli Seitz, **assistant professor**, was accepted into the 2021-2022 class of participants in the **Mississippi Center for Clinical and Translational Research's Mentoring Academy**. The Mentoring Academy is designed to develop the mentoring skills and grant writing skills of early-career investigators.

SEITZ FEATURED ON VISION TV

Dr. Seitz was featured on the College of Arts & Sciences television production Vision TV to discuss her research in health and science communication.



STROUT EARNS MA IN LEGAL STUDIES

Larry Strout recently received a **Master of Arts** degree in **Legal Studies** from the University of Illinois-Springfield. Strout, an associate professor, has a **Ph.D. in Communication** from Florida State University (1997) and an M.A. in Public Affairs Reporting from The Ohio State University (1990).

STROUT PUBLISHED IN THE CONVERSATION

Dr. Strout's article "Don't Pay Too Much Attention to Guesses about how US Supreme Court will Vote on Abortion Rights – Experts are Often Wrong," discussing Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, was published in January of 2022 and quickly became one of the top articles on the website.



FOREMAN PUBLISHES TWO BOOKS

In the past school year, Professor Josh Foreman has published two books alongside his co-author and friend Ryan Starrett. **Hidden History of Natchez** examines the history of Natchez, one of the South's oldest cities, and explores stories of early Mississippians about whom little has previously been known. **Death Along the Natchez Trace** is a collection of nonfiction stories centered on one of the most important roads in American history: the Natchez Trace.

FOREMAN FEATURED AS PANELIST

Foreman has been invited to be a panelist at the **Mississippi Book Festival** this summer, a huge event with lots of visitors and high-profile speakers. **Congratulations, Professor Foreman!**



DEPARTMENTAL FACULTY MEMBERS HOST SCIENCE COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP

AMY FOUNTAIN, CHERYL CHAMBERS and HOLLI SEITZ, in partnership with the Office of Research and Economic Development, hosted a two-part workshop providing opportunities to learn principles for SCIENCE COMMUNICATION, receive constructive feedback and apply these principles through practice. The goal of this program was to provide a safe space to practice communicating a three-minute presentation on a topic of research and obtain valuable feedback on that presentation from evaluators to further develop science communication skills.

MISUN NAMED MAGNOLIA FILM FESTIVAL DIRECTOR



CHRIS MISUN, broadcast instructor for the department's Broadcast & Digital Journalism concentration, directed this year's edition of the Magnolia Independent

Film Festival, affectionately known as "The Mag." Concerning the festival, Misun said, "I believe The Magnolia Independent Film Festival creates an inviting atmosphere for film enthusiasts of all ages through our different programming, and to be a part of that as the Director is a great honor. Embarking on this journey is a rewarding experience that I can bring back to the classroom and give students yet another look into opportunities they can pursue after graduation."

SMITH RECEIVES INAUGURAL HUMANITIES FELLOWSHIP

DR. PETE SMITH, associate professor in Communication & Media Studies, received the first humanities fellowship award from the INSTITUTE FOR THE HUMANITIES, receiving \$1,000 and one course release



this spring to allow dedicated time for humanities-related research. Smith intends to use his fellowship to complete his manuscript, "BULLDOGS AND TOUGH OLD BROADS: WOMEN JOURNALISTS OF MISSISSIPPI AND A CENTURY OF STATE POLITICS, 1890S-1990S," under contract with Lexington Books, an imprint of Rowman and Littlefield, projected to be published in 2023. Smith also presented his research on the women journalists of Mississippi on May 3 during the 2022 Institute for Humanities Fellows presentation event. The department is so proud of Dr. Smith's accomplishments.

CO FACULTY ANNUAL AWARDS

In an effort to celebrate the department's wonderful faculty, the Department closed out each academic year by recognizing outstanding faculty members.

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

Despite COVID, Josh Foreman worked hard to get out in the field with student reporters and is now teaching the Bulldog Online Newsroom capstone course with much success. Students gained hands-on experience and were published in professional media outlets. Combine his classroom excellence with his advisor duties of the Reflector, and students have won dozens of awards this year including 27 from the Mississippi Press Association.



EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

Terri Hernandez excels in both creative and traditional research. She has had four articles published in respected journals, two book chapters with first authorship, five conference presentations through respected organizations, and has numerous manuscripts under review and in progress. Regarding creative scholarship in 2021, Hernandez, in working with her students, earned numerous honors from the PR Association of Mississippi and the Southern PR Federation.



EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE

Kelli Anthony has taken on additional duties to help promote the department via her expertise in communication. Kelli's work included teaming with Karyn Brown on the new A&S website. She worked with two PR students updating the CO website, spotlights, social media, bulletin boards, the regular Communication Kudos electronic newsletters and the detailed CO annual report. She spearheaded the online PR curriculum, which began fall 2021 and wrote the proposal for UCCC approval for a new PR multimedia course while completing much more work for the department.



OUTSTANDING LECTURER

Giles Lindley constantly gives of his time to the department and to his students. He teaches a variety of courses, including three sections of Interviewing, and always fills in when needed, which seems to be every semester. He is a frequent attendee of the Communication Pedagogy Roundtable. Giles is admired and respected by colleagues. Students rate him as exceptional with comments such as: "Lindley is an amazing professor. He cares about his students and is extremely personable."



FACULTY/STAFF AWARDS



KNIGHT HONORED AS LAMBDA SIGMA OUTSTANDING ADVISOR

Amy Knight, instructor in Communication and Media Studies, was nationally recognized for her work with MSU's Lambda Sigma Alpha Iota chapter, demonstrating skills and abilities in leadership, scholarship, fellowship and service—the four tenets of the national honor society. The prestigious award is presented by the Lambda Sigma board annually to only one advisor across the U.S.

"I am so proud of the impact made by the members of Lambda Sigma during my 10-plus years of working with the group and feel honored to be recognized for my work with these outstanding students."
- Amy Knight

KEASLER RECEIVES MSU STAFF AWARD

Myra Keasler, long-time CO administrative assistant, was presented with the Donald W. Zacharias Distinguished Staff Award. The award is given to staff members who go above and beyond what is expected of them. Mrs. Keasler has been with the university for over 25 years, and she's been with the Department of Communication for 13.



CROUCH EARNS ADVISING AWARD

Haylee Crouch, who was recently promoted to the department's academic advising coordinator, has been selected as the recipient of the 2022 Wes Ammon Outstanding New Staff Advisor Award. The award recognizes outstanding academic advising and enhances visibility to the institutional commitment to quality advising.



LIKES WINS MULTIPLE AWARDS FOR AUDIO DOCUMENTARY

An audio documentary titled Newsroom Need: How Demand Now Far Outweighs Supply for Hiring Young TV Journalists, produced by Dr. Terry Likes, won Best of Competition in the Radio Hard News Reporting Category through the Broadcast Education Association. The audio documentary also received third place in the Use of Sound Category.

"The role of the media involves holding the powerful accountable and being a watchdog for the people. This report provides a history from FDR's fireside chats to Trump's tweets, offering context and analysis of the love-hate relationship of the president and the media."
- Dr. Terry Likes, Department Head



PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

BAILEY, VICTORIA had a story air on WCBI-TV CBS, "Safe Walk" - aired on WCBI-TV aired on November 13th in the 6, 9 and 10:00 newscasts.

CHOI, HEESOOK presented her research at the International Communication Association and National Communication Association.

CHOI, HEESOOK (2021). Traditional News vs. Political Satire: Fragmented Audience and Discreet Pathways to Political Participation. Paper presented at the International Communication Association Annual Conference.

CHOI, H., FORDE, J., HAYS, T., POE, P., & ROGERSON, J. (2021, February). Teaching panel: Lessons learned from the online transition. Mississippi Communication Association Annual Conference, via Zoom.

CHOI, HEESOOK, Rocío Galarza Molina. (2021). Pandemic, communication, and participation: Exploring the mediating role of emotion, efficacy, and knowledge in the effects of communication on civic participation during the COVID-19 pandemic in Mexico. Paper presented at the National Communication Association Annual Conference, Seattle, Washington."

FISHER, MELODY had a peer reviewed Journal article published in Family & Community Health. "Assessing readiness for barbershop-based HIV prevention programs among rural African American barbershop patrons."

FISHER, MELODY and **HERNANDEZ, TERRI** collaborated for the Public Relations Society of America Educators Academy. Fisher, M., Cole, H., & Hernandez, T. (2021, October). Engaging while protecting students in the climate of racism, social movements, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Presented at the 2021 Public Relations Society of America Educators Academy, Orlando, FL (Virtual).

FORDE, JOHN had an article accepted in the Journal of Public Relations Education.

Plowman, K., **FORDE, J. E.**, Rawlins, B., Puglisi, G., & Turk, J. (accepted, date pending). Public relations graduates' perceptions of their degrees and careers: A five-university survey. Journal of Public Relations Education.

HAYS, TONYA produced the, "I Have a Story Anthology" Galveston, Anthology of Plays, Dramatic Publishing. She also had the play she wrote, adjudicated via the KCACTF Region IV: Banner: A Sea Turtle Saga.

HAYS, TONYA to present "Performing Arts as an Integrated Method for Teaching STE(A)M Concepts to Middle and High School Students", at the 2022 Hawaii University International Conferences on STEM/STEAM and Education to be held on June 8, 9 and 10, 2022 at the Prince Waikiki Resort in Honolulu, Hawaii

LIKES, TERRY Likes' 2020 30 minute audio documentary "The President and the Media. From Fireside Chats to Twitter, the Love-Hate Relationship Between the Media and Commander in Chief" won 2021 a BEA Award of Excellence and two 2021 MS Association of Broadcasters awards.

LIKES, TERRY also presented "Recruitment and Retention of Students in the COVID Era and Beyond" at the Broadcast Education Association conference in Las Vegas, Nev.

LOEHWIN, MELANIE had a publication and conference presentation. Journal of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (December 2021) From Diversity to Dignity: Overcoming Polarization in an Age of Division. Also, she presented at the National Communication Association 2021, "Rupturing Post-Racial Fantasies: The Rhetorical Politics of Race and American Popular Culture Since the Furguson Uprisings."

MISUN, CHRIS was a finalist in the National Electronic Media Association Faculty Awards with "Child of Mississippi," music video for artist Emily White and Recruitment video for MSU Airforce ROTC.

POE, PHILIP has a publication pending in Electronic News (forthcoming, Spring 2022) "Review of Hate, Inc: Why Today's Media Makes Us Hate Each Other." He also will present in 2022 at the Mississippi Communication Association Conference, "Virtually There: Teaching Writing to Distance Learning Students."

SEITZ, HOLLI was published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association, 259, 1471-1480, measuring veterinary client preferences for autonomy and information when making medical decisions for their pets.

SEITZ, HOLLI was published in the Journal of Pain and Symptom Management, 62, 529-536 Goals of care discussions and moral distress among neonatal intensive care unit staff.

SEITZ, HOLLI was published in the Journal of Rural Health, online publication Rural adults' perceived role of family members in prescription opioid misuse prevention: Implications for family-based approaches.

SEITZ, HOLLI was published in the Journal of Human Sciences and Extension, 9, 46-65, which was an evaluation of a health education intervention for rural preschool and kindergarten children in the southeastern US: A cluster randomized trial

SEITZ, HOLLI presented at the National Communication Association 107th Annual - Convention/Formative research to inform college health communication campaigns about COVID-19 prevention behaviors, American Public Health Association 2021 Annual Meeting/ Informing COVID-19 university prevention and response through parent and student assessment data.

SEITZ, HOLLI presented at the 67th Annual North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture Conference/Using experiential learning to help undergraduates understand the science of science communication.

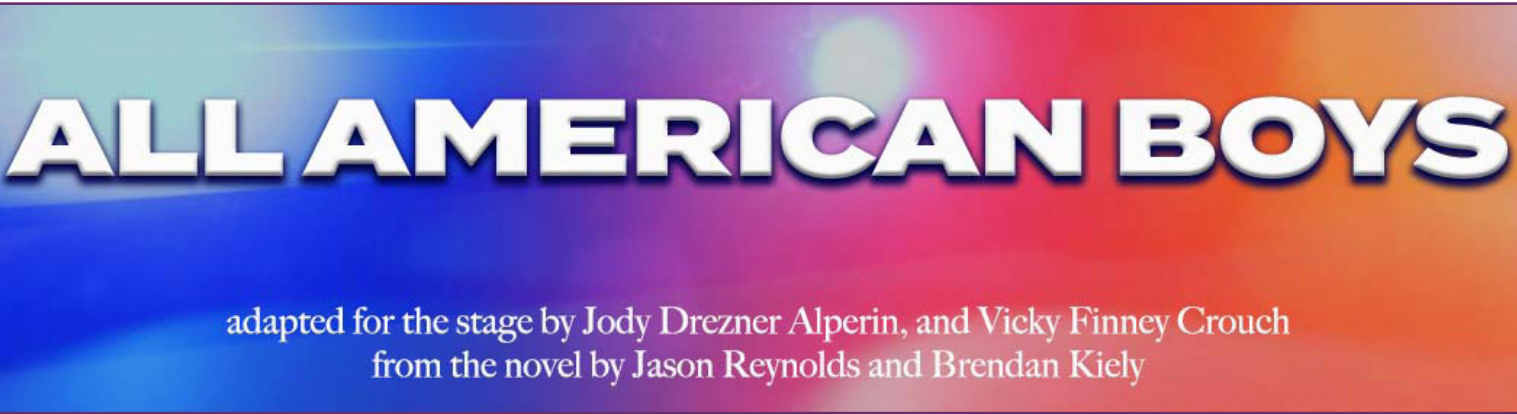
SEITZ, HOLLI presented at the International Communication Association 71st Annual Conference/Changing the minds of climate change deniers: Effects of message theme and source.

SMITH, PETE published Journalism History 47 (3)"A Praying Mother': The Press Framing of Telephone Supervisor Lisa Jefferson and Her Conversation with United 93 Passenger Todd Beamer."

SMITH, PETE presented research at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, "A Praying Mother': The Press Framing of Telephone Supervisor Lisa Jefferson and Her Conversation with United 93 Passenger Todd Beamer."

STROUT, LARRY presented at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. Paper Submission: "The Brandenburg Test: Out of date 50 years later?"

THEATRE MSU’S 2021-2022 SEASON



THEATRE MSU PRESENTS...
BANNER: A SEA TURTLE SAGA

Banner: A Sea Turtle Saga, an original musical production created by MSU faculty and students, followed the story of a green sea turtle named **Banner** and his aquatic friends who embark on an under-the-sea adventure. The production aimed to educate the next generation about being good stewards of the Gulf of Mexico’s resources and marine habitats and was a partnership with **The Northern Gulf Institute**. Students joined with **Tim Baker**, a professional sculptor, propmaker, and special effects artist, to create large-scale puppets to captivate audiences in McComas Theatre. **Tonya Hays**, an assistant professor in the department, wrote the play out of a passion to engage young audiences through theatre.



“After seeing the musical, our hope is that the students really understand how everything is connected and how we interact matters. In the end, the children will learn to care for and protect the Gulf because they will want it to be a better place—not just for the sea creatures, but for themselves too.” -Tonya Hays

BANNER: A SEA TURTLE SAGA GAINS INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION



Photos by Megan Bean, MSU OPA

Theatre MSU’s production of **Banner: A Sea Turtle Saga** gained attention from media outlets all around the state, nation and world. News outlets like **USA Today**, **AP News** and **The Phuket Times (Thailand)** covered the show after a performance at the Mississippi Aquarium in Gulfport on November 22. After the performance at the aquarium, Theatre MSU students were able to tour the aquarium and interact with the animals that the production was based on. In an effort to educate children around Mississippi on the importance of taking care of ocean habitats, Theatre MSU also held performances for **schools** in and around Starkville. After each performance, **young students** had the opportunity to experience the puppets up close and learn more about how the show was produced.

THEATRE MSU RECEIVES MAC GRANT TO CREATE ORIGINAL PRODUCTION

Story by Sara Nicholas, College of Arts & Sciences

Theatre MSU has received a portion of more than \$1.4 million in funding from the Mississippi Arts Commission to support the creation and performance of an original theatrical production.

“We are thrilled to announce and congratulate this year’s many deserving grant recipients,” said Story. “We applaud these talented and innovative individuals and groups who met the challenge of one of the hardest years the arts sector has experienced.”

“The state’s arts community has displayed such **resiliency** during tumultuous times, and we are very pleased to provide support to these **worthy organizations**,” said Sarah Story, executive director of MAC. “These funds will help organizations recover from the past year and build upon their successes for future arts-based programming. **MAC awards annual grants to individuals and organizations in nearly every area of the state, helping broaden the reach of arts to serve the state’s diverse population.**”

Theatre MSU used a portion of the \$4,500 in MAC funding to bring to campus **Master Teacher Barbara Pitts McAdams**, an artist-in-residence who will provide workshops, education and insight for Theatre MSU’s original spring 2022 production of “Who Gets to be an American?”

McAdams is a co-author of “Moment Work: Tectonic Theater Projects’ Process of Devising,” and a company member of the Tectonic Theatre Project.

She was an original cast member and co-creator

of The Laramie Project, an interview-based play about the beating and death of Matthew Shepard.

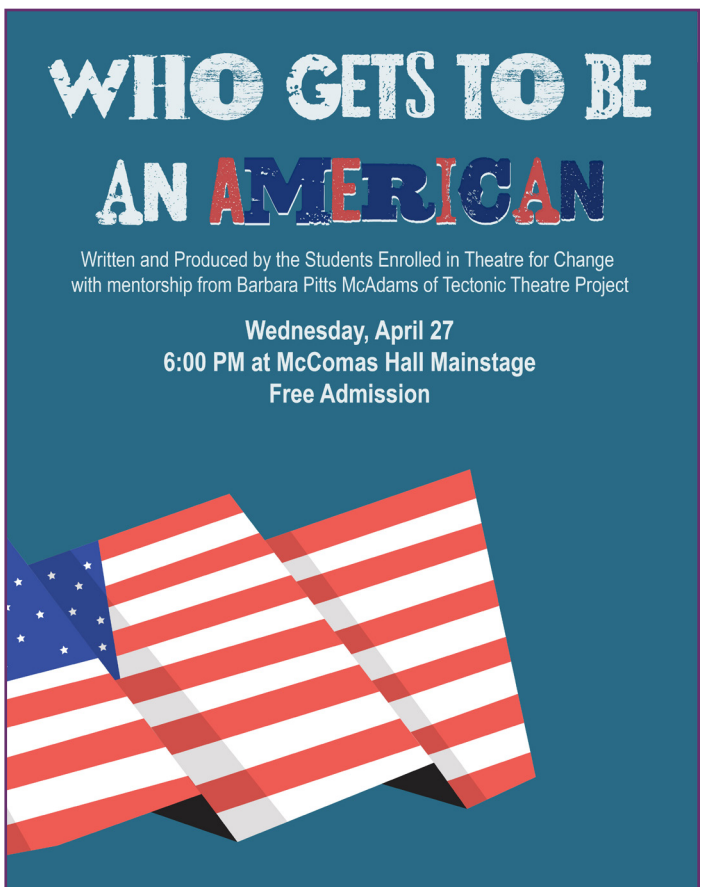
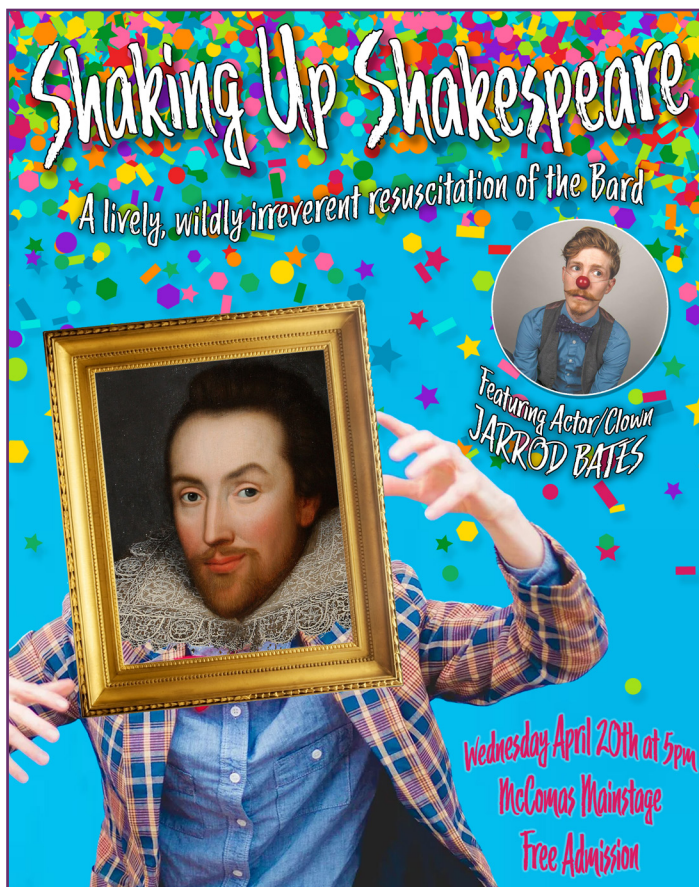


Tonya S. Hays, an assistant professor of theatre performance, said, “The question, ‘Who gets to be an American?’ belongs to all of us, from immigrants and indigenous people to generations of former slaves and a boat full of Jews seeking asylum from the Holocaust. This theatre project focused on devising a **non-traditional** way of creating theatre, and will provide a unique opportunity for creative engagement, **bringing people together** on a polarizing issue.”

Funding for the MAC grant is provided by the Mississippi Legislature, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Mississippi Endowment for the Arts at the Community Foundation for Mississippi, and other private sources.

MAC is a state agency serving more than two million people through grants and special initiatives that enhance communities, assist artists and arts organizations, promote arts education and celebrate Mississippi’s cultural heritage. For more information, visit www.arts.ms.gov.

Hays said Theatre MSU is committed to themes of social justice and to a diverse and inclusive student body and production season. “We believe fervently in lifting up the voices of underrepresented artists and students,” said Hays.



THEATRE PROGRAM NAMED MAEE SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

We know as arts educators that no school can develop strong arts programs without effective leadership from leaders like you. Your work has **greatly contributed** to a **favorable climate** for the arts in your school and in your community. By providing effective leadership for your faculty, by encouraging implementation of learning strategies, by developing creative community partnerships to enlarge on the arts experiences of your students, **you are exhibiting an exemplary level of service that energizes those around you.** It is clear that your dedication and **commitment to the greater good of the arts** as an active component of the curriculum in your school is having a profound impact and as such deserves to be recognized and celebrated. We salute you!

-Shannon Frost, Mississippi Alliance for Arts Education

STUDENT-DIRECTED PRODUCTION SHINES SPOTLIGHT ON SOCIAL AWARENESS, INJUSTICE



Vernell L. Allen, a senior Communication major with a concentration in theater from Brookhaven, has worked in different areas of theater throughout his college years, but directing **All American Boys**

was a new experience for him.

"I hadn't done it before, and it helped fuel my desire and passion for being a director in the future. I knew that I wanted to direct, but every day I do it, I realize that I enjoy the work, even when it's stressful," said Allen.

When Allen learned that he would be directing **All American Boys**, he said he was honored because the play is relevant in today's socio-political culture.

"All American Boys is about the complexities surrounding police brutality," said Allen, "especially the relationships between the victim and their family, the perpetrator and their family, and witnesses. The show explores their experiences and how it affects each individual until it can't be ignored anymore."

After reading the script, Allen wanted the audience to talk about what they had seen, and not simply "internalize it and leave with biases." Allen's desire was for audience members to see "a different vantage point into social issues."

Allen said the goal of the show is to "encourage individuals to think and act," so he invited a panel of individuals with experience in law enforcement, black culture, social issues, and more to speak about the effects these situations have on individuals who might experience injustice.

"If people take away one thing from the show, I hope that they realize the importance of treating people the way they want to be treated," said Allen. "A lot of social issues can't be systemically solved by this, but individually, it will make a change. Be conscious of those around you."

Despite the production workload, Allen remained diligent in making his vision come to life. He said the most satisfying part of directing was seeing every detail fall into place—from the beginning with only a script, to blocking in a rehearsal room, to seeing it come to life on the main stage in McComas Theatre.

Allen said directing has taught him how to achieve his high expectations and about having faith in his cast and crew. Developing the production exceeded his expectations, something he said was better than he could have imagined even though he faced challenges, something he now sees as an "opportunity to grow."

All American Boys is a production based on the novel by the same name written by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely and adapted for stage by Jody Drezner Alperin and Vicky Finney Crouch. The show promotes civil discourse about the policing of people of color and follows the stories of Rashad, a black teenager, and Quinn, a white classmate.

SPEECH & DEBATE COUNCIL NAMED SECOND IN NATION



The **MSU Speech and Debate Team** recently traveled to Abilene, Texas for the IPDA Nationals. This annual event sees the best debaters in the nation compete in five divisions of public debate. At the conclusion of the event, awards are also given to those competitors accumulating the most points throughout the season. This year's national championship event drew over 300 individuals representing 44 colleges and universities.

When accounting for all tournaments this season, MSU had several top-ten finishes. **Out of over 100 teams across the country, MSU was named the 2nd place squad.** MSU debaters won three of the five divisions of IPDA Debate: Lindsay

Culpepper (Novice), Mia Robertson (Varsity), Mia Robertson/Tyler Melvin (TIPDA). The Novice Squad reached 2nd place, and the JV squad earned 4th place for the season. The Varsity squad earned enough points to place 1st for the season. Mia Robertson also secured the 1st place speaker award in both Varsity and Team Debate. Other top-ten awards include: Luke Chaney (7th place JV), Hannah Daniels (6th place JV), Devin Hutchins (7th place Varsity), and Tyler Melvin (3rd place Professional).

These season-long awards continue to build on the success MSU Debate has had in recent years. This is also the third consecutive year that MSU had a top finisher in season-long awards (Robertson finished in 1st place of the JV division in 2020 and 1st in Varsity in 2021).

For the National Tournament, the MSU squad finished in second place. Representing MSU in the IPDA National tournament were: Lindsay Culpepper, Anamica Kadgi, Tanner Marlow, Maggie Phillips, Madison Biggerstaff, Hannah Daniels, Luke Chaney, Marcus Williams, Amanda Kronenberger, Devin Hutchins, Patrick McKenzie, Mia Robertson, Nirmal Bhatt, Ryan Jarratt, and Tyler Melvin.

MSU WINS MULTIPLE AWARDS AT MAB AWARDS CEREMONY

RADIO – NEWSCAST:

1st: Mississippi State University – WMSV News Update - **Ethan Foster**
2nd: Mississippi State University – WMSV News Update - **Jada Evans**
3rd: Mississippi State University – WMSV News Update - **Ethan Foster**

RADIO – NEWS STORY:

1st: Mississippi State University – A Performers Heart - **Ethan Foster**
3rd: Mississippi State University – Maroon Volunteer Center - **Jada Evans**

RADIO – RADIO REPORTER:

1st: Mississippi State University – Under the

Microscope - **Ethan Foster**

TELEVISION – FEATURE STORY:

1st: Mississippi State University – Wiernermobile Comes to Starkville - **Flora Dedeaux**
2nd: Mississippi State University – Home Winterization - **Sadie McKnight**
3rd: Mississippi State University – Bully's Closet and Pantry - **Madison Williams**

TELEVISION – NEWS STORY:

2nd: Mississippi State University – Vaccine Mandate- **Mary Alex Anders**

TELEVISION- NEWSCAST:

2nd: **Take 30 News Broadcast**

STUDENT AWARDS



SENIOR AWARDED STUDENT OF THE YEAR IN TWO FIELDS

Gulfport native **FLORA DEDEAUX**, a senior majoring in Communication with double concentrations in public relations and broadcast & digital journalism, has been named both **PRAM STUDENT OF THE YEAR** and the Mississippi Association of Broadcasters' **TELEVISION STUDENT BROADCASTER OF THE YEAR**.

Dedeaux was nominated for Public Relations Association of Mississippi Student of the Year by her professor, Dr. Uyanga Bazaa, who said, **"I nominated Flora for the PRAM's Student of the Year award because I thought she was a strong candidate with an impressive portfolio that showcased her professional, academic, and community service qualities. I am confident that Flora will find her footing in the music and entertainment industry's PR field and beyond."**

This is the fifth year in a row that the PRAM Student of the Year is a MSU Department of Communication student. The PRAM Student of the Year award is bestowed to one student annually who exemplifies the public relations profession's professionalism, goals and ideals. Nominees are judged by selected PRAM members, primarily members with their APR (accreditation in public relations), throughout Mississippi with no affiliation to any Mississippi higher-education institution. The judging criterion is based on academic excellence and academic honors, public relations activities and experience, campus involvement plus community activities, articulation of future goals, and a letter of recommendation from the student's nominating professor/instructor.

The Student of the Year receives a \$1,000 scholarship presented by CSpire. A second student is named the Greg Raimondo Outstanding PR Student and gets a \$500 Scholarship from PRAM and PRAM River City.

"I am incredibly drawn to public relations because I have found that it is so crucial to so many parts of our everyday life; it is not about spinning facts or hiding the truth, but developing strong, lasting relationships between organizations and the publics they serve. Mississippi State's Communication Department has prepared me tremendously for a job in this profession, giving me the knowledge, skills, and experience required to succeed. I am so thankful for the dedicated and accomplished professors that I have been able to learn from the past four years, and I am excited to apply everything I've learned to a job in public relations, hopefully in the music industry, as music is another area I am incredibly passionate about!" - Flora Dedeaux, 2022 PRAM Student of the Year

STUDENT AWARDS



BLANKENSHIP WINS COLLEGE JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Hannah Blankenship, a senior Communication and Spanish major, was named College Journalist of the Year at the 2022 SEJC awards ceremony on March 25. It is the top overall award at the conference and highly sought after by student journalists from more than 25 member universities. The College Journalist of the Year award comes with a \$1500 cash prize from the Southeast Journalism Conference.

"Hannah deserves the award, and I'm glad the judges recognized her hard work. She has a great sense for news, a highly developed writing style, and the grit to accomplish whatever she tries."
- Josh Foreman, Adviser for the Reflector



FOSTER WINS RADIO STUDENT BROADCASTER OF THE YEAR

Ethan Foster, an MSU Communication graduate who concentrated in broadcast & digital journalism from Hamilton, Miss., was named Radio Student Broadcaster of the Year. The award was presented on April 2, 2022 at the second annual Excellence in Broadcasting Awards Ceremony

"Watching our students step in front of the hard-working broadcast professionals in our state, and accept awards recognizing their hard work and effort, is a joyful moment for the faculty that have worked with them to hone their craft,"
- Chris Misun, MSU Broadcast Journalism Instructor



LAIRD NAMED RUNNER UP FOR PRAM STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Laken Laird, a senior majoring in communication with a concentration in public relations, was awarded the Gregory Raimondo Outstanding PR Student Award. The award is given to a student nominated for the PRAM Student of the Year Award, and the winner receives a \$500 scholarship.

"Not only are Laird's grades stellar in each class, but she thinks beyond the classroom topics and how information would apply to later aspects in her career. I am extremely confident she will excel in the public relations profession and if she chooses to attend graduate school."
- Dr. John Forde, APR, Nominating Professor

REFLECTOR TAKES ‘GENERAL EXCELLENCE’ AT MPA FOR SECOND STRAIGHT YEAR



For the second year in a row, the Reflector won the top award at the O.C. McDavid Journalism Summit, held March 24 in Jackson. The Reflector beat the University of Southern Mississippi’s Student Printz and the University of Mississippi’s Daily Mississippian to earn first place in “General Excellence.”

In addition, Reflector staff members earned many of the summit’s top awards — including for news and sports coverage, photography, and website. In all, the Reflector took home 12 first-place awards and 15 second and third-place awards.

First place winners included:

- HEATHER HARRISON, a junior Communication major from Hazlehurst, Miss., for General News Story
- ELIZABETH KEEN, a sophomore Communication major from Vicksburg, Miss., for Sports News Story
- TANNER MARLAR, a junior Communication major from Kossuth, Miss., for Sports Column and Sports Feature
- AARON WATERSON, a senior English major from Murfreesboro, Tenn., for General Interest Column

- HANNAH BLANKENSHIP, a senior Communication and Spanish major from Huntsville, Ala., for Feature Story
- SAVANNAH BONDS, a 2021 Art graduate from Waveland, Miss., for Cartoon
- JOHN GRIFFIN, a senior Aerospace Engineering major from Savannah, Ga., for Feature Photo
- JOSHUA STEWART, a junior Communication major from Tupelo, Miss., for Series or Investigative Package
- THE REFLECTOR, for Front Page, Website, and General Excellence

Other Reflector staff members who took home awards included Tara Smith, a junior Animal and Dairy Science major from Clarksville, Tenn.; Lydia Palmer, a senior Communication major from Louisville, Miss.; Luke Copley, a junior English major from New York City, N.Y.; Dontae Ball, a senior Art major from Louisville, Miss.; Adam Sullivan, a senior Communication major from Meridian, Miss., and Brennan Weaver, a junior Communication major from Lovelock, Nev.

“I am so proud of our staff for all the hard work they have put in this year,” said Blankenship, the outgoing editor-in-chief of the Reflector. “At MPA, we really saw that pay off in a big way.”

Joshua Britt, a sophomore Information Technology Services major from Memphis, Tenn., and the Reflector’s online editor, accepted the award for best website. Britt led a redesign of the Reflector website earlier this year.



“Winning best website is a great accomplishment, especially considering the amount of time and dedication spent tuning it,” Britt said. “We received compliments on both our design and functionality, making the hours spent on both worth it.”

At the summit, 13 Mississippi State students ate sandwiches from Broad Street Bakery and listened to legendary Mississippi investigative journalist Jerry Mitchell. Mitchell, a MacArthur Genius Grant recipient, told stories about interviewing Klansmen, investigating corruption, and stalking a serial killer for an investigative series.

“Wow — our students took it to the next level,” said Josh Foreman, adviser to the Reflector. “This group of talented student journalists will be remembered for a long time.”

Congratulations to The Reflector and all of the talented student winners!

FULL LIST OF AWARDS

- 1st General News Story – Heather Harrison
- 3rd General News Story – Hannah Blankenship
- 1st Sports News Story – Elizabeth Keen
- 2nd Sports News Story – Elizabeth Keen
- 1st Sports Column – Tanner Marlar
- 2nd Sports Column – Tara Smith
- 1st Sports Feature – Tanner Marlar
- 3rd Sports Feature – Lydia Palmer
- 1st General Interest Column – Aaron Waterson
- 2nd General Interest Column – Luke Copley
- 1st Feature Story – Hannah Blankenship
- 3rd Feature Story – Heather Harrison
- 1st Cartoon – Savannah Bonds
- 2nd Cartoon – Dontae Ball
- 3rd Cartoon – Savannah Bonds
- 3rd Spot News Photo – Joshua Stewart
- 2nd Sports Photo – Adam Sullivan
- 1st Feature Photo – John Griffin
- 3rd Advertisement – Brennan Weaver



- 1st Series or Investigative Package – Joshua Stewart
- 3rd Editorials – Luke Copley
- 3rd Design – Reflector
- 1st Front Page – Reflector
- 3rd Graphic – Heather Harrison
- 1st Website – Reflector
- 2nd Use of Social Media – Reflector
- 1st General Excellence – Reflector

STUDENT AWARDS

PRISM STUDENTS WIN STATE PRAM AWARDS



MSU's PRISM assembled two of its most notable client campaigns and tactics from the past year to compete in Mississippi's premier public relations awards program. Their award-winning entries demonstrated knowledge and application of the public relations four-step process emphasizing research, planning, implementation, and evaluation. **Bryanna Trulove, Sarah Colvert and Sophia Calderon** won an **Award of Excellence in Tier 2** for their work on brand identity and communication for the Office of the Provost and Executive Vice Provost. **Elly Lamb and Savannah Munn** received a **Best in Show** award for their work with the Starkville Area Arts Council: Curating an Online Presence.

STUDENTS WIN MAB AWARDS

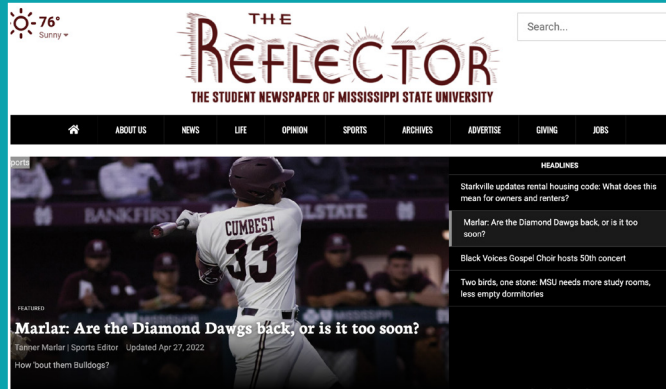


Maben native and 2021 graduate **Hannah Vanderberg** won **second place** for an **individual news feature in television**. Corinth native and 2020 graduate **Bronson Woodruff** won **first place** for **radio in general excellence and first place newscast**. He also won second place for the feature story category.

BROADCAST & DIGITAL JOURNALISM STUDENTS NAMED FINALISTS IN BEA'S ON-LOCATION CREATIVE COMPETITION

Two broadcast and digital journalism students were named finalists in the **Broadcast Education Association's On Location Creative Competition**. 2021 graduate **Ethan Foster** was a finalist in the Student Audio Competition for his work that aired on WMSV-FM. Senior **Flora Dedeaux** was a finalist with two entries in the Student News Competition for reports aired in the student newscast, Take 30.

REFLECTOR WEBSITE WINS HONORABLE MENTION



The website of The Reflector, Mississippi State's student newspaper, received an **Honorable Mention** in the "Website" category at the 2022 **National Electronic Media Association** convention. The Reflector's website was overhauled in early 2022 by sophomore Information Technology Services major **Joshua Britt**.

STUDENT AWARDS

TAKE 30 NEWS NOMINATED FOR NATAS AWARDS

The **National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences** Southeast Chapter announced their **Student Production Awards** nominees and winners for 2021.

"This is a great achievement for the students involved with this broadcast. To be recognized by NATAS, the organization behind the EMMYs, is a great steppingstone as the students begin their professional careers. They are stacking their resumés and paving a path for their classmates following behind. The continued success that our students are seeing speaks loudly for the Broadcast and Digital Journalism concentration and the Department of Communication as a whole." - Chris Misun, Take 30 Advisor and Broadcast Instructor



In the **College Category for Best Newscast**, Mississippi State University's student produced weekly newscast, Take 30 News was selected as a nominee. The broadcast selected from was the Spring 2021 semester on March 19th.

The Take 30 newscast was produced by student **Michelle Martin** and directed by **Ethan Foster**. **Holly Emery** anchored the news desk supported by **Harrison Nix** with weather, **Logan Brown** as the sports anchor, and **Taylor Vollin** delivering entertainment news.



"This is our first time entering this prestigious event. While we did not win, we are thrilled to be one of three nominated. To be recognized by the same organization that issues Emmy awards to professionals is a great achievement for our students and faculty in the Department of Communication. We also appreciate the efforts of those who support us including MSTV, the library via its Digital Media Center and the Department of Geosciences." - Dr. Terry Likes, Department Head.



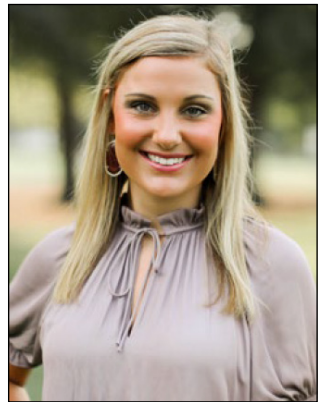
STUDENTS CHOSEN FOR NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

HEATHER HARRISON and JOSHUA STEWART, Communication majors, were selected to receive Investigative Reporters and Editor’s **James Richard Bennett Scholarship** for 2022. The scholarship will provide Harrison and Stewart with a **membership to IRE, registration for IRE’s national conference in Denver in June, and travel and lodging support.** Harrison, a junior from Hazlehurst, Miss., is the editor-in-chief of the Reflector. Stewart, a junior from Tupelo, Miss., is the managing editor of the Reflector.



CO GRADUATES NAMED 2021 PRAM STUDENT OF THE YEAR AND RUNNER-UP

Mississippi State University spring 2021 graduate **KARIE R. PINNIX** is the **2021 STUDENT OF THE YEAR FOR THE PUBLIC RELATIONS ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI**, joining other MSU students and professionals receiving high honors during the annual PRAM awards ceremony. The Mathiston, Miss., native graduated summa cum laude with an MSU Bachelor of Arts in communication and concentrations in both public relations and print and digital journalism. She currently serves as a communications assistant for Brianna Régine Visionary Consulting, a Bridgeport, Connecticut-based strategic communications and marketing agency. **CONGRATULATIONS, KARIE!**



Mississippi State University spring 2021 graduate **ABBIE KATE HANCOCK** received the **GREGORY RAIMONDO OUTSTANDING PUBLIC RELATIONS STUDENT AWARD**, presented by the PRAM River City chapter. The summa cum laude graduate from Cullman, Ala., earned an MSU bachelor’s in communication with a concentration in public relations. While an MSU student, she interned with the university’s Bulldog Club, Department of English, and Bagley College of Engineering, as well as the Columbus Lowndes Chamber of Commerce. **CONGRATULATIONS, ABBIE KATE!**

COMMUNICATION STUDENTS AND FACULTY WIN BIG AT PR CONFERENCE

Story by Zoie Henson, PR Intern
Recent graduates from Mississippi State University’s Department of Communication received four top awards at the Southern Public Relations Federation Conference in Panama City Beach in 2021.

At the October 10-13 SPRF conference, student groups from the Communication Department’s PRISM Spring 2021 class received three Lantern Awards and were named Best of Tier 3 for their work on public relations campaigns.

MSU graduates **MCKINSY HARRIS, BAILEY SENNETT, MAJESTY HENRY** and current communication faculty member **TERRI HERNANDEZ** were awarded a **Lantern Award** and **Best in Tier 3** for their work with **Mercedes-Benz of Tuscaloosa** on “The MBT Experience” social media campaign. Through this campaign, students worked to produce content for social media through photography, videography, graphic production and more to reach higher levels of engagement.

MSU graduates **MARISA LAUDADIO, MADELINE BURDINE, ANNA OWENS AND AMELIA HENSON**, along with **HERNANDEZ**, were awarded a **Lantern Award** for their work on the **John C. Stennis Center for Public Service** website renewal campaign. In this project, students worked to completely redesign, reformat and renew the center’s website, resulting in a more user-friendly site.

“Our team worked diligently to create a website for the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service that highlighted its programs and accomplishments in an inclusive, updated and user-friendly way. Completing this project was challenging, but having team members with diverse skills made the process simpler.”

-Amelia Henson

“I am so proud of the work PRISM produces on behalf of its clients, and it’s great to see these professional-level projects recognized by SPRF and deemed award-worthy by other national public relations practitioners,”
-Dr. Terri Hernandez

JOHN NIX ARLEDGE and **CARLY PIPPIN**, current MSU graduate students, along with MSU graduates **LAUREN LUCAS** and **CHARLOTTE CORR**, joined by **HERNANDEZ**, received a **Lantern Award** for their work with the **Center for Community Engaged-Learning**, where they worked to produce an annual publication and manage social media.

The department is incredibly proud of our PRISM students, their awards and their accomplishments.



PR STUDENT NAMED MISS MSU

Emmie Perkins, a junior communication major with a minor in voice from Hattiesburg, Miss., was crowned Miss MSU. As Miss MSU, Perkins received a full tuition scholarship and competed in the Miss Mississippi Pageant in April 2022, a preliminary to the Miss America Pageant.

MARLAR WRITES FOR SPORTS ILLUSTRATED

Tanner Marlar, a junior with a concentration in print & digital journalism from Kossuth, Miss., received a job with Sports Illustrated covering Mississippi State sports. In this position, Marlar writes 12-15 paid articles a month. Marlar also serves as sports editor for The Reflector student newspaper.



MUSIC VIDEO PRODUCTION COURSE FEATURED ON KICKS 93

The department's Music Video Production course was featured on Kicks 93 for their production of Mississippi Songwriter of the Year Brandon Green's music video "Float." The station interviewed instructor Chris Misun on the process of producing a music video.



STUDENT STORY RUNS FRONT PAGE IN STARKVILLE DAILY NEWS

Ariell Fain, a print & digital journalism student, had a story picked up by Starkville Daily News. The story explores turning the city of Starkville's railroads into walking and biking trails. The story was written as a part of the department's P&DJ capstone course, Bulldog Online Newsroom.



STUDENTS TEAM UP WITH STARKVILLE DAILY NEWS



Students from Karyn Brown's Fall 2021 **Public Relations Organizations** class were tasked with creating a comprehensive public relations plan for Starkville's local newspaper, Starkville Daily News, as their capstone project. The three student groups had an extra incentive

for their projects: a chance to win 50 bonus points if their group was chosen as the winner by Starkville Daily News. The groups were named after iconic television and movie moments, with team names being the Plastics, the Truthers and the Celtics. **Jennifer Lindsey**, editor of Starkville Daily News, and **Ronald Oswalt**, general manager of Starkville Daily News, sat in and listened to the groups' presentations and decided that **the Truthers** produced the best plan for SDN's needs.

"There were many other great things from different groups like a student section for the paper that was posed by The Celtics, and there was new artwork that was fantastic submitted by The Plastics. Ultimately, we have decided that The Truthers have something that we really want to put into play." - Ronald Oswalt

COMM STUDENT NAMED MISS MAROON & WHITE

ANNA-KATHERINE THOMPSON, a freshman majoring in communication with a concentration in public relations, was named Miss Maroon & White 2022. Anna-Katherine is a native of Ruston, La. **CONGRATULATIONS, ANNA KATHERINE!** Thompson was among more than 40 contestants in the annual pageant that includes competition in interview, evening gown and on-stage question.



DEPARTMENT BOASTS THREE PHI BETA KAPPA INDUCTEES

Three Communication majors were inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society during the spring 2022 semester. Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest honor society in the U.S., dating back to 1776. Only 10% of American colleges and universities have a chapter. The Department of Communication is proud to have three of the forty-eight inducted this semester:

JULIA CLEMENTE
GINNI GRAY
LAURA DUNCAN

Congratulations! The communication department and your professors are proud of you.

SPOTLIGHTS



Hannah Blankenship

Senior | P&DJ | Birmingham

"Hannah works so hard each week to keep the paper running smoothly. She is always patient, kind, and helpful. I wouldn't know what to do without her help as a new editor. She deserves this award and so much more!" -Heather Harrison, Peer



Maggie McKinnis

Junior | CMST | Madison

"Maggie is engaging and dynamic; unafraid to engage in critical thinking and possesses a strong willingness to learn and polish her skills. She will be of great value to a company or organization in the future." - Pete Smith, Associate Professor



Flora Dedeaux

Senior | B&DJ/PR | Gulfport

"Flora was a stellar student in my PR Production class and currently maintains a 4.0 GPA. In my experience, she contributes high-quality, well thought-out work; whether written or designed content." -Anna Blount, Instructor



Jordan Smith

Senior | PR | Chelsea, Ala.

"I nominated Jordan because she is an outstanding student who has a passion for PR and communication. She worked hard and excelled in my class. She is curious, humble, and kind." - Uyanga Bazaa, Assistant Professor



Chris LoNigro

Senior | B&DJ/PR | Katy, Texas

"Chris is an active student in not only the classroom, but extracurricular broadcast activities as well. In the classroom, Chris has been a leader of the Take 30 student newscast as a Producer and Director." - Chris Misun, Instructor



Bethany Deuel

Senior | PR | Hoover, Ala.

"Bethany is my intern at the Social Science Research Center. She's completed great work, handled herself professionally in interviewing researchers and staff, and aided me in graphic design." - Emile Creel, Supervisor



Tanner Marlar

Junior | P&DJ | Kossuth

"Tanner knows exactly what he wants to do, and has the energy, confidence, and skill to get it done. His bright personality lifts the spirits of everyone in the Reflector newsroom." - Josh Foreman, Instructor



Myracle Evans

Senior | B&DJ | Memphis

"Myracle was a member of PRISM and was very much adored by her peers. She brought fresh and practical ideas to her client and applied her broadcasting skills in tandem with her team's public relations campaign." - Anna Blount, Instructor



Ginni Gray

Senior | PR | Peachtree City, Ga.

"Ginni works hard in and outside of the classroom, and she deserves to be recognized for the work she puts into her department, college and MSU organizations." - Hannah Bateman, CASA Adviser



Cameron Mayers

Junior | Theatre | Pearl

"Cameron is passionate and has some amazing theatre accomplishments. I have only known him since the spring semester, and he is one of those students who sticks out from the crowd." - Hannah Bateman, CASA Adviser



Emmie Perkins

Junior | PR | Hattiesburg

"Emmie is an outstanding student and was named Miss MSU. I believe that she'll represent our department and university well at the Miss Mississippi pageant." -Meaghan Gordon, Instructor



Joshua Stewart

Junior | P&DJ | Tupelo

"Josh was awarded this semester with a 1st place win at the MPA conference and a 2nd place win at the SEJ Conference. He shows initiative and an understanding while investigating." - Josh Foreman, Adviser for The Reflector



Vidur Katyal

Freshman | Theatre | Jaipur, India

"Vidur is very excited to be at MSU, and his enthusiasm is contagious. I wanted to feature him because I think it is great to spotlight a new, promising student as well as someone who has done a lot." - Tonya Hays, Assistant Professor



Aspen Humes

Junior | CMST | Atlanta

"Aspen takes her talent for communication everywhere and is dedicated to making a difference in the community. In class, Aspen makes connections between class concepts and real-world application." - Holli Setiz, Assistant Professor



Alicia Margerum

Senior | Theatre | Poplarville

"Alicia has been putting in a ton of hard work as the scenic designer and paint charge for our shows this season. Her skills are growing more and more with each project she completes." - Jesse Wade, Assistant Clinical Professor



Ben Shannon

Junior | B&DJ | Fort Walton Beach

"Ben displays a strong desire to learn more about the broadcasting field. Ben has great potential to be a skilled video production specialist when he graduates." - Chris Misun, Instructor

CLICK THE PHOTOS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHTS!

SPOTLIGHTS



Emily Jones
Senior | CMST | Laurel
“Emily is so energetic and fun -- and I’m impressed with her dedication to her coursework and how proficient she is in her classes. She just gets it.”
- Pete Smith, Associate Professor



Philip Poe
Assoc. Prof. | P&DJ
“Dr. Poe is funny, quick-witted and excellent at his job. In his News Writing and Reporting class, I learned so much. He’s an excellent member of the communication faculty.” - Joshua Stewart, Student



Ross Dellenger
Journalism 2006 | Senior Writer, Sports Illustrated
“It’s okay to be bold in the interview and express your plan for the job you are interviewing for. Even if it is on paper or email, develop a plan of what you want to do in that role and sketch it all out.” -Ross Dellenger



Sara Frederic
PR 2008 | Director of Development, MSU CAS
“You will never know what fulfills you unless you experience it firsthand. I recommend everyone pursues those opportunities early to ensure it is something you want to wake up and do each day.”
-Sara Frederic



Anna Blount
Instructor | PR
“Mrs. Blount cares deeply for her students’ success and strives to create the most informative and understanding learning environment that she can for us. If I could have her for any more classes, I would in a heartbeat.” - Josh Riggs, Student



Chris Misun
Instructor | B&DJ
“Chris Misun has been a valuable addition to the department. He is part of improving the quality of our student media content, showing increasing results in a variety of student media competitions.”
- Terry Likes, Department Head



Morgan Middleton
PR 2013 | Special Assistant Attorney General, State of MS
“When you are interviewing, they are seeing many people and so if there is something you can do, like wearing something memorable, outside of what you say then you want to do that.” - Morgan Middleton



Sarah Nicholas
PR 2000 | Writer & Editor, MSU CAS
“Bring up your portfolio, take the interviewer through your work, and be open about your college accomplishments.” -Sarah Nicholas



Tonya Hays
Asst. Prof. | Theatre
“Tonya walked into Theatre MSU last year at a difficult time, and she knocked it out of the park. She has produced innovative ideas, plays that reach the community, secured grant money and helped recruit students.”
-Terry Likes, Department Head



Josh Foreman
Instructor | P&DJ
“Josh is an amazing teacher, mentor and author. This spring, his students won 27 awards at MPA, so his excellence is evident in and out of the classroom. As an author, Josh is a storyteller at heart and strives to find unique stories about American life.” - Terry Likes, Department Head



Emily Cain
Comm. Studies 2005 | Academic Coordinator, MSU CAS
“If you don’t have an offer immediately after graduation, that’s ok! Use that time to engage in activities that will make you even more marketable.” -Emily Cain



Chuck Dunlap
PR 1999 | Director of Communication, SEC
“Be humble or prepare to be humbled. You just want your foot in the door of whatever field or company you want to pursue a future in.” -Chuck Dunlap



Giles Lindley
Lecturer | CMST
“I have taken him for interviewing, and currently persuasion, and I think he is one of the best teachers. Other students can tell he enjoys teaching and that by itself makes his classes more interesting and enjoyable.” -Ryan Ingram, Student



Sara Martin
Broadcasting 2016 | Asst. Payroll Accountant, Marvel Studios
“If you want a job, set your mind and go for it! Never sell yourself short of a dream just because you didn’t try!” -Sara Martin



Hannah Bateman
PR 2016 | Admissions Coordinator, MSU CAS
“The classes you take at MSU will truly teach you how to excel in the “real” world. MSU taught me practical skills like writing, design and developing complete communication plans.” -Hannah Bateman



Nancy Dorman-Hickson
PR 1982 | Former Features Editor, Southern Living & Progressive Farmer
“Networking is absolutely essential in landing jobs, or in my case, freelance assignments. It often really is who you know.”
-Nancy Dorman-Hickson

CLICK THE PHOTOS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHTS!



Brittany Young
Journalism 2013 | Program Director
& Content Manager, AL Public
Radio
“Look into jobs in the public media
sector; there are a lot of opportunities
there. Look into other industries; they
need people with communication
skills too.” -Brittany Young



Will Chandler
PR 1998 | Territory Manager,
Oyster Point Pharmaceuticals
“Nothing beats real world experience.
Be prepared to tell an employer
how those experiences make you
qualified for the job.” - Will Chandler



John Arledge
PR 1990 | VP of Public Affairs,
Entergy
“Internships and/or some job
experience (even if unrelated
to your chosen field) are huge
advantages - these are the first
things most employers will gravitate
to on your resume.” -John Arledge



Lynn Henderson Oldshue
PR 1991 | Gulf Coast Coorespondent
for Alabama Public Radio
“Communication degrees are
versatile, and your activities and
internships matter almost as much as
your degree.”
- Lynn Henderson Oldshue



Kristi Brown
PR 1992 | Regional Counsultant
in Economic Development, TVA
“Utilize your network; don’t be
bashful about trying to connect with
alumni who are a deep source of
information.” -Kristi Brown



Vicki Burnett
PR 1986 | Owner, Burnett Art
“The most valuable lesson was
learning that I could be successful
in a career field that I’d not even
considered. So if your job search
in your primary field is unfruitful,
be willing to reinvent yourself and
prepare for new opportunities.”
- Vicki Burnett



Greg Barker
Journalism 1988 | President,
Economic Development
Partnership of Alabama
“The more the applicant knows
about the position and the
company/organization, the more
constructive the interview will be for
everyone.” -Greg Barker



Santana Brown Ware
PR & Broadcasting 2008 | Program
Coordinator, Clayton Youth
Enrichment
“Make sure you demonstrate your
skills and abilities. The purpose is to
make sure the company gets YOU.”
- Santana Brown Ware



Katie Corban
PR 2008 | Marketing and Communications Director for
Student Affairs and Access, Diversity, and Inclusion,
Mississippi State University
“Always apply, even if you think you aren’t qualified. Every job
that I have gotten, I would think ‘I don’t know if I could do that.’
Then, I’d be hired, and by the end of the first year, be doing
everything needed and more. Know that you can learn and
convey that when interviewing.” - Katie Corban

COMM ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER INDUCTED INTO THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX



John Walker, an MSU graduate, was inducted as a member of an elite class of Georgia PR professionals, **The Order of the Phoenix**. The honor, given by **Georgia’s Public Relations Society of America** to one member each year, is awarded to **“recognize and honor distinguished public relations professionals for their career achievements, significant contributions to the field and exemplary community service.”** Along with this honor, Walker will also be inducted into the Georgia PRSA Hall of Fame. In 2017,

Walker founded the PR firm **Chirp** after working for over 20 years in the communication industry for major corporations and firms. The Order of the Phoenix award will be added to his myriad of accolades, including recognition as one of *PR Weekly* magazine’s 30 under 30. Walker is a former president of Georgia PRSA as well. **Congratulations, John!**

ALUMNAE WINS NATIONAL PR AWARD

Anisa Sullivan Jimenez, a 2002 graduate of the Department of Communication, received a **National School Public Relations Association Front-Runner Award**, one of four presented annually. Jimenez is the recipient for the Southeastern region.

Jimenez also holds a master’s degree in public administration from the University of Georgia and earned her Accreditation in Public Relations (APR) in 2020. She currently serves as the **director of communications** for Oconee County Schools, located in Watkinsville, Ga.

“The education I received at Mississippi State absolutely laid the foundation for my successful career in communications, which is nearing its 20-year mark,” Jimenez said. “I am so fortunate to have learned from the best of the best—the late Lora DeFore, Dr. John Forde, Pattye Archer, Karyn Brown and Frances McDavid. In one of Lora’s courses, I made my first-ever portfolio, and as I look at the shelves in my office today, I count fourteen of them—full of writing, graphic design, web design, social media, event planning, photography and much more. Having such a wide range of skills and expertise all started with what I learned at MSU.” -Anisa Sullivan Jimenez



JOURNALISM GRADUATE WINS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD



Anna Wolfe, investigative reporter for Mississippi Today, was awarded the 2021 Collier Prize for State Government Accountability, one of the largest journalism prizes in the nation, for her reporting on certain issues within the state's prison system.

"I'm grateful to know that readers were as stirred as I was by the experiences of Annita, Dixie, Gaylia and so many others in Mississippi's disastrous prison system. Thank you to the dozens of people who trusted us to tell their stories. None of this, none of the impact we hope to have through our reporting, is possible without their courage and vulnerability."

-Anna Wolfe

COMMUNICATION ALUMNAE NAMED MSU ALUMNI FELLOW

Camille Scales-Young, a 1994 graduate with a concentration in communication studies, has been inducted into the 2021 class of MSU Alumni Fellows.

Young also earned a master's degree from MSU in Agriculture & Extension Education with an emphasis in public policy. Young now serves as principal and director at the Jackson office of Cornerstone Government Affairs, a consulting firm based in Washington, D.C.



MSU's Alumni Fellows are chosen by their respective academic college, with Young being selected by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Alumni Fellows are invited to share their experiences with current students both formally and informally.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

FACULTY AND STAFF | 2021-2022

BROADCASTING & DIGITAL JOURNALISM

Terry Likes, Ph.D., **Department Head & Professor**
Kevin Williams, Ph.D., **Associate Professor**
Larry Strout, Ph.D., **Associate Professor**
Chris Misun, MA, **Instructor**
Victoria Bailey, MA, **Instructor**

COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Melanie Loehwing, Ph.D., **Associate Professor**
John Nicholson, Ph.D., **Associate Professor**
Pete Smith Ph.D., **Associate Professor**
Holli Seitz, Ph.D., **Assistant Professor**
Cheryl Chambers, MA, **Instructor**
Amy Fountain MA, **Instructor**
Amy Knight, MA, **Instructor**
Logan Copeland, MA, **Instructor**

PRINT & DIGITAL JOURNALISM

Philip Poe, Ph.D., **Associate Professor**
Wendy Roussin, MFA, **Associate Professor**
Heesok Choi, Ph.D., **Assistant Professor**
Josh Foreman, MFA, **Instructor**

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Melody Fisher, Ph.D., **Associate Professor**
John E. Forde, Ph.D., **Professor**
Terri Hernandez, Ph.D., **Assistant Professor**
Uyanga Bazaa, Ph.D., **Assistant Professor**
Karyn Brown, MA, **Instructor**
Kelli Anthony, MA, **Instructor**
Meaghan Gordon, MA, **Instructor**
Anna Blount, MA, **Instructor**

THEATRE

Matt Webb, MFA, **Clinical Assistant Professor**
Tonya Hays, MFA, **Assistant Professor**
Melanie Harris, MS, **Instructor**
Jesse Wade, MFA, **Clinical Assistant Professor**

STAFF

Haylee Crouch, MA, **Academic Coordinator**
Kala LeGrand, MBA, **Business Manager I**
Myra Keasler, **Business Coordinator**

COMMUNICATION CONNECTION



Click to watch each edition of Communication Connection, a monthly show where Dr. Terry Likes interviews a faculty member, student, or alumnus about their work!

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