

# Communication Kudos

March & April 2020

## AWARDS, HONORS & APPOINTMENTS:

**Josh Foreman** won 2nd place Best College Website: The Reflector, Advisor, at the Southeastern Journalism Conference 2020 awards presentation for the best in broadcast, print and online journalism.

**Jason Hibbs** won Best of Competition for his multimedia compilation from his freelance work for WCBI-TV in the category of Television Hard News Reporting at the 2020 Broadcast Education Association awards ceremony. This award marks Hibbs' first BEA award.

**Jason Hibbs** won 1st place Best Video News Program: Take 30 News, Advisor, at the Southeastern Journalism Conference 2020 awards presentation for the best in broadcast, print and online journalism.

**Dr. Terry Likes** won an Award of Excellence for his report, Fake News Blues: A Credibility Crisis for Journalism, in the category of Feature News Reporting at the 2020 Broadcast Education Association awards ceremony. The report aired in December on WMSV-FM. This award marks Likes' fifteenth BEA award in the last twenty years.

**Dr. Terry Likes** won two Associated Press awards for Use of Sound and Long Feature Story for his report: "Fake News Blues: A Credibility Crisis for Journalism." The Impact of Fake News Allegations on Media Organizations and Audience Trust" which aired on WMSV-FM.

**Dr. Philip Poe** was elected in February as President of the Mississippi Communication Association. Established in 1950, MCA promotes the study, criticism, research, teaching, and appreciation of the artistic, humanistic, and scientific principles of communication while creating a sense of unity among all high school, community college, and university communication departments in the state of Mississippi.

**Dr. Holli Seitz** received funding from the Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) Event Sponsorship Program to develop a Mississippi Science Communication Summit, to be hosted in Fall 2020.

**Dr. Holli Seitz** was appointed by Dr. David Shaw to serve on a Health Task Force to explore how MSU can best fulfill its land-grant mission of teaching, research and service through a comprehensive transdisciplinary program in the area of health.

## CONFERENCES:

**Dr. Holli Seitz** attended Science Talk 2020, a (virtual) science communication conference, held March 26-27.

## PRESENTATIONS:

**Dr. Holli Seitz** was an invited speaker on a panel titled "Facilitating Undergraduate Engagement in Research" at the Mississippi Communication Association annual meeting in Jackson, Mississippi.

**Veluscek, A. M., & Guerrero, L. K.** (2020, February). Attachment style during military deployment: Associations with satisfaction, stress, and changes over time. Paper to be presented at the Western States Communication Association Conference, Denver, CO. \*Top Four Paper for Interpersonal Communication Division.

## PUBLICATIONS:

**Lawrence, C.** (2020, March). Crafting your message for greater impact. Presented at United Way of North Central Mississippi, Starkville, MS.

Sherman-Morris, K., **Poe, P. S.**, Nunley, C. & Morris, J. A. (2010, March). Perceived risk, protective actions and the parasocial relationship with the local weathercaster: A case study of Hurricane Irma. *Southeastern Geographer*, 60(1), 23-47.

Guttmann, K., Flibotte, J., DeMauro, S. B., & **Seitz, H.** (2020). A mixed methods analysis of parental perspectives on diagnosis and prognosis of NICU graduates with cerebral palsy. *Journal of Child Neurology*, 35, 336-343. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0883073820901412>

Ray, C. D., Floyd, K., Tietz, C. J., **Veluscek, A. M.**, Otmar, C. D., Hashi, E. C., & Fisher, R. (2019). Mixed messages: The consequences of communicating brief negative statements within social support messages to cancer patients. *Journal of Patient Experience*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2374373519873781>

## STUDENT NEWS:

**Reflector Journalists** took home 23 total awards at the **Mississippi Press Association** conference.

**1st – Hannah Blankenship:** General News Story

**1st – Dylan Bufkin:** General Interest Column

**1st – Rosalind Hutton:** Best Cartoon

**1st – Mary Georgia Hamilton:** Sports Photo

**1st – The Reflector:** Best Front Page

**1st – The Reflector:** Website

**1st – The Reflector:** Use of Social Media

**2nd – Mia Rodriguez:** General Interest Column

**2nd – Mary Georgia Hamilton:** News Photo

**2nd – Jordan Smith:** Spot News Photo

**2nd – Mary Georgia Hamilton:** Sports Photo

**2nd – Mary Georgia Hamilton:** Feature Photo

**2nd – The Reflector:** General Excellence

**3rd – Garrett Smith:** Best Sports News Story

**3rd – Garrett Smith:** Best Sports Column

**3rd – Hunter Cloud:** Sports Feature

**3rd – Riley Stephens:** General Interest Column

**3rd – Mary Mad LaMastus:** Best Feature Story

**3rd – Jordan Smith –** General News Photo

**3rd – Kat Beatty –** Spot News Photo

**3rd – The Reflector –** Best Design

**3rd – Rosalind Hutton –** Graphic

**3rd – Mary Mad LaMastus –** Use of Video

## STUDENT NEWS, continued:

**Southeastern Journalism Conference's "Best of the South" contest** features student work from throughout the past year. MSU students earned honors in:

- 1st – **Georgia Hamilton:** Best Press Photographer
- 1st – **Rosalind Hutton:** Place Best News Graphic Designer
- 2nd – **Anne Elizabeth Buys:** Place Best Television Hard News Reporter
- 2nd – **John Lee:** Place Best Radio Journalist
- 3rd – **Bronson Woodruff:** Place Best Radio Hard News Reporter
- 3rd – **Katie Kronk:** Place Best Advertising Staff Member
- 3rd – **Rosalind Hutton:** Place Best News Editorial Artist
- 4th – **Mia Rodriguez:** Place College Journalist of the Year
- 4th – **Gracie Byrne:** Place Best College Magazine Writer
- 5th – **Courtney Carver:** Place Best News Writer
- 6th – **Hunter Cloud:** Place Best Sports Writer

**SEJC also features an "On-Site" competition** where MSU students won the following awards:

- 1st – **Amelia Henson, Marisa Laudadio and Parker Lee:** Public Relations
- 1st – **Ella Schalski:** Current Events
- 2nd – **Hannah Blankenship:** Place Design/Page Layout

**The MSU Speech and Debate Council** attended multiple tournaments this Spring.

### **I. Eddy Shell Invitational Tournament hosted by Bossier Parish Community College**

#### **Team Awards:**

- 3rd – Individual Events
- 4th – Debate
- 4th – Overall

#### **Individual Speaking Awards:**

- 1st – **Mia Robertson:** Persuasive Speech
- 3rd – **Mia Robertson:** Extemporaneous Speaking
- 4th – **Tyler Melvin:** Speaker Award
- 5th – **Tyler Melvin:** Extemporaneous Speaking

#### **Debate:**

- Josh McCoy:** Double-Octofinalist, Varsity
- Amanda Kronenberger:** Octofinalist, Novice
- Nirmal Bhatt:** Octofinalist, Junior Varsity
- Tyler Melvin:** Octofinalist, Junior Varsity
- Luke Acuff:** Octofinalist, Varsity
- Alicia Brown:** Quarterfinalist, Varsity
- Mia Robertson:** Top of Field of 54 competitors, Junior Varsity
- Josh McCoy and Alicia Brown:** Quarter-Finalists, Partner Debate

## STUDENT NEWS, continued:

### II. District IV tournament hosted by The University of Alabama.

#### Individual Speaking Awards:

- 5th - Dawn Jackson: Impromptu Speaking
- 6th - Dawn Jackson: Informative
- 7th - Nate Williams: Extemporaneous Speaking
- 3rd - Delaney Reed: Poetry Interpretation

### III. Black Warrior Invitational in Tuscaloosa, AL

#### Team Award:

- 3rd - Team Sweepstakes Award

#### Individual Speaking Awards:

- 5th - Dawn Jackson: Impromptu and
- 4th - Dawn Jackson: Informative Speaking
- 4th - Nate Williams: Extemporaneous Speaking
- 2nd - Delaney Reed: Poetry Interpretation
- 1st - Mia Robertson: Persuasive Speaking

### IV. Arkansas Tech University

#### Team Award:

- 2nd - Debate Sweepstakes Award

#### Individual & Duo Awards:

- Josh McCoy and Alicia Brown: Semi-finalists Team Debate, Second Swing
- Mayukh Datta: Quarterfinalist, Novice Division
- Alicia Brown: Semi-finalist, Varsity Debate
- Alicia Brown: Top Performer Cup
- Tyler Melvin and Nirmal Bhatt: Quarterfinalists, Junior Varsity
- 2nd - Alicia Brown: Speaker Award, Second Swing
- 2nd - Josh McCoy: Speaker Award, First Swing
- 5th - Mayukh Datta: Speaker Award
- 5th - Nirmal Bhatt: Speaker Award, Junior Varsity

### V. MSU won its first ever individual national championship in debate. Mia Robertson, a freshman from Starkville, was named overall season-long national champion in her division out of 305 qualified debaters from 84 schools. Overall, MSU ranked 8th in the country out of 128 schools, our highest final ranking in the five years the team has existed.

### Louisiana-Mississippi Associated Press Broadcasters Awards

#### College Newspaper Division:

- Mary Madeline LaMastus: Feature, The Reflector: "Bob Swanson: instructor and 'Singing Weatherman'"
- Hannah Blankenship: Layout & Design, The Reflector

#### College Television Division:

- Richard Hill: Feature Story, Take 30 News, "MSU Homecoming King"
- Parker Lee: Videographer, Take 30 News
- Danielle Davis: Weathercast, MSTV
- Jake Eshpeter: Weathercast, MSTV

## STUDENT NEWS, continued:

**Anne Elizabeth Buys:** Continuing Coverage, Take 30 News: "Mississippi Flooding."

**Take 30 News:** General Excellence, Television

**College Digital:**

**The Reflector:** Website

**Mary Madeline LaMastus:** Multi-Media Journalist, The Reflector, "Bob Swanson: Instructor and Singing Weatherman"