Graduate Student Susan Mancino Single-Authored Scholarly Journal Publication:


Scholars Honored at 2016 Lambda Pi Eta Induction Ceremony

On April 15, the Department of Communication & Rhetorical Studies recognized undergraduate and graduate communication scholars for their outstanding academic achievements and honored Dr. Calvin L. Troup for his many years of scholarship, teaching, and service at Duquesne University.

Dr. Troup received the Department of Communication & Rhetorical Studies 2016 Scholar Award for Communication Excellence in Ethics Education for the Mind, Heart, and Spirit Award and gave a keynote address titled "A Call to Hesed as Praxis." In his address, Troup asserted that Duquesne has equipped its students with abilities to engage potential unforeseen problems that will arise in their professional lives. Dr. Troup, who has served as Director of the Rhetoric Ph.D. Program for several years, will be transitioning to the new professional role of President at Geneva College.

Undergraduate students were honored through induction into LPE, the official honor society of the National Communication Association. This year, 32 students were inducted into LPE: Sara A. Allego, Deleila Alloui, Barbara Balzer, Ella Blum, Brianna E. Brown, Brooke Bunton, Erin Elizabeth Caughey, Anna Renee Compton, Theresa B. DiFulvio, Arianna Rosa DiMatteo, Brendan James Donovan, Rachel Ferguson, Michael Albert Funt, Kenneth E. Girty III, Rebecca N. Gormley, Dianna Hartford, Michael E. Hopkins, Michael Iannello, Leslie Keegan, Mora J. McLaughlin, Lillian Nelson, Jillian Kathryn Power, Jill Purcell, Jessica M. Sebak, Jaclyn Diane Secen, Lucy Shaffer, Brianna Shea Sullivan, Thomas E. Sweeney III, Cassidy Rae Totin, Mary Wattick, Amber C. Yang and Zachary Zatyko.

Graduate students were honored by the department for exemplary scholarship, teaching, and service. Susan Mancino received the Wilhelm S. Wurzer Scholarship Award, Sarah Flinko received the Richard H. Thames Teaching Award, and Hannah Karolak received the Donald Clark Edwards Service Award.

Sarah Flinko, LPE Advisor and Director of Recruitment & Professional Development, said the address exemplifies Dr. Troup's leadership and guidance in this department. "He reminded us all of the
On April 25, seven undergraduate students participated in Duquesne University's Department of Communication & Rhetorical Studies' Spring 2016 Business and Professional Contest. The students gave presentations focusing on the communication challenges facing major corporations. Austin Schletcher was awarded first place for his presentation on Ford's Crisis Communication. Megan Finnerty was awarded second place for her work on IKEA's Sustainability. Abigail O'Connell was awarded third place for her findings on Monsanto's Ethics.

"All the presenters delivered excellent presentations and handled questions professionally," said Margaret Mullan, one of the two Business & Professional course directors, "students provided insightful analyses of how companies practice corporate social responsibility, sustainability, or crisis communication in ethical ways."
3rd Annual Undergraduate Research Colloquium

On Friday, April 22, 2016, Jill Purcell, Brianna Sullivan, and Rachel Reynolds presented scholarly papers at the 3rd Undergraduate Research Colloquium sponsored by the Department of Communication & Rhetorical Studies.

This event seeks to strengthen undergraduate student connections with liberal arts scholarship, by "walking the humanities into the marketplace" as academic ideas inform practices enacted in professional business contexts.

Purcell and Sullivan will be graduating in 2017 and Reynolds this May. Purcell is majoring in Corporate Communication and History, Sullivan is majoring in Integrated Marketing Communication, and Reynolds is majoring in Corporate Communication.

Scholars presented papers that were uniquely tied to their majors and interest areas. In "Communication and Same Sex Marriage," Purcell engaged the question of whether adoption is a basic human right. Sullivan's "Communication Ethics and Making a Murder" provided a conflict analysis of documentary filmmaking. Reynolds, in "Exploring the Wage Gap: A Communicative Analysis of How Social Identity Theory Reinforces the Gender Wage Gap," discussed the how social identity theory informs an understanding of the wage gap in the marketplace.

"The Undergraduate Research Colloquium provides an opportunity to present outstanding academic work in a research and development context," said Sarah Flinko, Director of Recruitment and Professional Development, "Our students learn the importance of research that translates into applicable outcomes that further enrich their educational experiences and preparation for the marketplace."
On Friday, April 8, six finalists participated in the Duquesne University Department of Communication & Rhetorical Studies Public Speaking Contest to celebrate and showcase the communication skills of students of all majors.

Friday's competitors qualified from a round of fourteen students held earlier in the week.

- First place - Stephanie Franciscus, sophomore Pharmacy major, for "Music Therapy Can Be More Effective than Prescription Medication"
- Second place - Malinda Pistininei, sophomore Psychology major, for "Why We Should Allow Students to Choose What They Read"
- Third place - Taylor Suszynsky, freshman Pharmacy major, for "The Mistreatment of United States Veterans by the VA Healthcare System"

Additional finalists included:

- Brendon Donovan, junior IMC major
- Joseph Uzar, senior Philosophy major
- Hugo Wijn, freshman Music major

According to Duquesne University Ph.D. student Susan Mancino, one of the Public Speaking course directors and a judge for Friday's event, the Public Speaking Contest occurs every semester and gives students a chance to develop their public speaking skills.
Debating Society Wins Team and Individual Awards at National Competition

The Duquesne Debating Society has continued its streak of success at the national level by winning four awards and seeing one team member named to the All-American Debate Team at the 2016 National Education Debate Association’s (NEDA) National Championship held earlier this month in Fullerton, Calif.

Sophomore Mary Halyama, freshman Noah Martens, freshman Chloe Mortenson, senior Janae Stacier and freshman Edward Stumm represented Duquesne at the competition. Stacier and Halyama and Martens and Mortenson each competed as respective two-person teams in the Open Policy Division. Stumm competed as an individual—also called competing as a maverick—in the Open Crossfire Division, which is an abbreviated version of the one-hour-plus Open Policy rounds.

Duquesne’s final results from the NEDA championship included:

- Stacier and Halyama won second place in the Open Policy division.
- Stacier won first place and Halyama won third place for their individual performances in the Open Policy division.
- The five University students won third place overall in the Team Sweepstakes competition in which they competed together.
- Stacier was named to the 2016 NEDA All-American Debate Team in recognition of her competitive results and leadership over the entire course of her debate career.

Martens and Mortenson narrowly missed the semi-finals, and Stumm was a semi-finalist in his division.

The topic for this year’s NEDA tournament was "The United States federal government should significantly raise the minimum wage." Participants competed in six preliminary rounds of competition during which they had to argue both for and against the topic, which meant they had to switch tactics and arguments from one round to the next. The top teams after the preliminary rounds then competed to determine tournament champions in each division.

"Our students performed very well at NEDA nationals this year," said Dr. John Rief, visiting professor in the communication and rhetorical studies department and coach of the Debate Society. "They demonstrated that practice and collaboration can take you to the highest levels of competition."
In 2015, Duquesne had the top speaker in the Crossfire division, and in 2014, Duquesne won the national championship in the Open Policy division.

**City Dialogues Upcoming Event**

On Tuesday, April 5th, 2016, students from the Department of Communication & Rhetorical Studies will visit the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre as part of the "City Dialogues" series. Employees of the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre will discuss topics such as corporate communication, graphic design, event planning, and advertising. Afterwards, students are invited to stay and watch a rehearsal for the upcoming ballet, Le Corsaire. "City Dialogues" is a marketplace series of extracurricular experiences that provide an opportunity for communication majors to visit local businesses and practitioners to observe how communication is embodied in various organizations.

**Bridging Opportunities: Professional Meet & Greet Event**

PITTSBURGH - On February 23, 2016, 57 Duquesne University undergraduate and graduate students met with representatives from eight local organizations representing a diverse selection of industry sectors in the "Bridging Opportunities: Professional Meet & Greet Event" sponsored by the Duquesne University Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) and Ad Club (American Advertising Federation).

For Michael Iannello, junior Corporate Communication major and Duquesne PRSSA president, the event was an informal way for students to get to know organizations. Students met with organizations in a series of six twelve-minute rounds of "speed-networking" that allowed them to ask questions, make connections, and learn about potential career paths open to them as communication majors.

"The event allowed students to meet organizations one-on-one without a resume," Iannello said, adding that it was "more relaxed than a job fair."

Erin Caughey, junior IMC major and Duquesne PRSSA treasurer and AdClub vice president, was proud of the organizations' efforts. "The members of the society got hands-on event planning experience," she said, "while the university students were able network with top-tier local professional that have the ability to change the students' future professional lives."

Organizations in attendance were:

- *Brunnerworks*, a top US advertising and interactive agency that creates powerful solutions for all media channels and platforms
- *DHS Office of Community Relations*, an organization responsible for public education efforts and strategic communication
- *Edelman*, an organization bringing a public affairs perspective to all aspects of its work
- *Gatesman+Dave*, a nationally ranked, independent, multidiscipline marketing communications agency
- *Leukemia & Lymphoma Society*, an organization acting as the voice for all blood cancer patients and working to ensure access to treatments for all blood cancer patients
- *MARC USA*, a national full-service integrated marketing communications firm known for uncovering radical insights that incite powerful reactions
• **Pittsburgh Trust**, an organization that has helped to transform a downtrodden section of Downtown into a world-class Cultural District

• **UPMC Health Plan**, a network of more than 100 hospitals and 11,500 physicians in a 47-country region, with award winning customer service and wellness programs

Erin Schwille, Senior Account Supervisor at Edelman, gave a keynote address on the state of the Public Relations Industry.

Student photographers were also available during the event to take headshots of attending students.

"This was a great event that provided students with opportunities to establish valuable connections with local organizations and learn about their career possibilities," said Dr. Craig Maier, co-director of the undergraduate program in the Department of Communication & Rhetorical studies and faculty advisor to both Duquesne PRSSA and Ad Club. "Our student pre-professional organizations are an important part of our program, and this event really showed how they can be a ‘classroom beyond the classroom.'"

For more information on Duquesne PRSSA, Ad Club or the undergraduate program, please email Dr. Maier at maier551@duq.edu.

**Spring 2016 Preview Day Announcement**

The Department of Communication & Rhetorical Studies at Duquesne University is pleased to announce the McAnulty College of Liberal Arts' [Spring Preview Day](#) on Saturday, March 19th, 2016, 9:30 AM-2:30 PM.

The Spring Preview Day welcomes all accepted liberal arts students and their families. All attendees have the opportunity to meet with academic departments, learning communities, and student services. Campus tours are also available. We encourage accepted students to attend, meet our faculty members, hear about our programs, and learn about all of the exciting opportunities at Duquesne.

**Faculty David Deluliiis, Ph.D., Received Award for Excellence in Scholarship:**

**David Deluliiis**, PhD (Duquesne, 2015), is one of the recipients of the Duquesne University Graduate School Award for Excellence in Scholarship for the McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts. Dr. Deluliiis is currently Visiting Instructor at Duquesne University. The Department of Communication & Rhetorical Studies congratulates Dr. Deluliiis for his exemplary scholarship!
Feb 10 - The Department of Communication & Rhetorical Studies held an internship colloquium to discuss professional development opportunities available through the internship program. Students from the Department shared their experiences working as interns at The Event Group, Pittsburgh Magazine, Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, Steeltown Entertainment Project, and the Allegheny County DHS Office of Community Relations.

For information on internship opportunities, please email Sarah Flinko, Director of Recruitment and Professional Development.

Alumnus Brent Sleasman Named President of Winebrenner Theological Seminary & Published Edited Book:

Brent Sleasman, PhD (Duquesne, 2007), has been named President of Winebrenner Theological Seminary in Findlay, Ohio. Additionally, his edited book, Creating Albert Camus: Foundations and Explorations of His Philosophy of Communication, has been published by Fairleigh Dickinson University Press. The Department of Communication & Rhetorical Studies congratulates Rev. Dr. Sleasman!