

THE LINK

Indiana University of PA Department of Communications Media Alumni Newsletter

Fall 2011



Semester Events

Saturday,
October 1 **IUP Homecoming**

Thursday/Friday
October 13 & 14 **Laurel Highlands
Communications
Conference**

Monday,
November 21 **Thanksgiving Break
Begins**

Monday,
December 12 **Classes End**



Changing of the Guard

In the spring of this year, the Department of Communications Media bid a fond farewell to its leader of 25 years. Department Chair Dr. Kurt Dudt announced his retirement in May after 29 years of faithful service to the department that he helped to build.

Many who have worked with Kurt, or have been a student in one of his classes, know that he has a genuine love of learning and is interested in a variety of topics, both professionally and personally. Whether he is studying theology or farming, gardening or literature, Kurt seems to be happiest when he is engaged in the world around him. Over the years, he has even worked abroad, most notably working with the Christian community in India, helping to start 13 businesses and build a group home for the aging as well as for handicapped children.

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Dr. Mark Piwinsky Named Department Chair

The Department of Communications Media is pleased to announce the election of Dr. Mark Piwinsky as the new department chair. Dr. Piwinsky has been with the department since 2007. He was IUP's chief information technology officer prior to joining the department.



Is there a Doctor in the House?

Communications Media & Instructional Technology Ph.D. Program Graduates Five Students

Hard work, determination and sacrifice have paid off for five recent Ph.D. graduates from the department's CMIT Program. Doctors Mark King, Matthew McKeague, Karl Roeper, Chad Sherman and Bradley Wiggins were the first to successfully defend their dissertations and earn their Ph.D. from the program that was created in 2008.

"We are extremely proud of these students," said CMIT Program Coordinator Dr. B. Gail Wilson at a recent recognition event for the five students. "This is a milestone in their lives and a milestone in the

development of this Ph.D. program," Wilson added.

The CMIT Ph.D. program currently supports four cohorts, which includes 62 students. The newest cohort, Cohort 4, will begin this September.

Dissertation Topics

Mark T. King, Ph.D. –
"Effectiveness of Marwell and Schmitt's Compliance-Gaining Techniques with Online Political Communication"

Chair: Dr. B. Gail Wilson

Matthew T. McKeague, Ph.D. –
"The 21st Century Addiction: User Generated Content Dependency and Media Aesthetic Expectations as Experienced Through YouTube"

Chair: Dr. Mary Beth Leidman

Karl F. Roeper, Ph.D. –
"Identification of the Institutional Factors Within State System of Higher Education in the Middle Eastern States Region for the Adoption of Webinars"

Chair: Dr. Kurt P. Dudd

Chad D. Sherman, Ph.D. – "The Relationship of Pre-Service Education Majors' Multiple Intelligence Learning Styles to Their Level of Digital Literacy"

Chair: Dr. James Lenze

Bradley E Wiggins, Ph.D. –
"The Impact of Cultural Dimensions and the Coherence Principle of Multimedia Instruction on the Achievement of Educational Objectives within an Online Learning Environment"

Chair: Dr. Allen Partridge

Pictured above from left to right: Karl Roeper, Bradley Wiggins, Chad Sherman and Mark King

Interested in the CMIT Ph.D. program?

The program's curriculum is similar to many Ph.D. programs across the country offering coursework in communication theory, cultural seminars, and rigorous training in quantitative and qualitative research.

It is the added emphasis and expertise within IUP's Communications Media Department in media production that differentiates and enhances the program, going beyond the study of media impact to the generation of research and production of new media.



Contact Dr. B. Gail Wilson,
Ph.D. Program Coordinator
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Laurel Highlands Communication Conference

October 13 – 14, 2011
at the Rustic Lodge in Indiana, PA

The Communications Media Department's own scholarly conference, showcasing student and professional research

The Laurel Highlands Communications Conference is the place to be this October to hear the latest in student and faculty research in the communications field. Featuring more than 40 presentations, panel discussions and workshops, the LHCC offers something for everyone's area of interest.

Currently in its third year, the LHCC provides an opportunity for the community, alumni and undergraduate students to attend a full communications conference, for relatively little cost, right in Indiana. At the same time, the conference provides a venue for graduate students, professors, and other academic professionals to showcase some of their current research.

The conference will be held at the Rustic Lodge, located on Oakland Avenue in Indiana. Registration is just \$25 for non-students, \$20 for graduate students and \$10 for undergraduate students.

Join Us!

Registration Information

Email: LHC-CONF@iup.edu or
 Call: 724-357-2492

A Sampling of 2011 Conference Topics

Healing Through Motion: Medicine & Instructional Design

Send Me a Sign: The Utilization of Social Media During Crisis Communication

Irwin Altman and Dalmás Taylor: History of the Social Penetration Theory

The Kiski Virtual School for Boys: An Overview of the Project and Involvement by IUP's Virtual Environments Research Group in Education

Panel Discussion: Fair Use, Free Speech and Freedom of Expression

The Illusion of Social Constructivism in a Graduate Technology Intensive Cohort Setting

Changing Habits of Cyber Communications Usage Among College Freshman

Digital Trash Talking: Gossip and Bullying in Cyberspace

The Jackal Redux: A Post-Marxist Perspective on the Life and Crimes of Carlos the Jackal

The Medium or the Message? The First 100 Years of Marshall McLuhan

Perceptions of Academic Excellence: A Qualitative Analysis of Six Distinguished Faculty

Using Facebook for Library Outreach and Education: A Synthesis of the Literature

Alumni Update

We recently caught up with two Comm. Media graduates to see where they are now – AND what they miss most from their IUP days...

Trey Davenport – Class of 2004

Currently lives in Dallas, Texas

Works as a producer for Gearbox Software's central animation and central design departments. Gearbox Software is an award-winning, independent developer of interactive entertainment based in Plano, TX.

Favorite IUP Memory:

"The TV station and all of the people involved with creating news shows and fun programming

One thing he knows now that he wishes he knew back in college:

"Game engines like Unreal Engine. If I knew the tools to create games back in college, I would have been making side projects and understanding the pipeline way ahead of the curve."



Brad Kohlenstein – Class of 1999

Currently lives in Silver Spring, Maryland

Works for the Science Channel (Discovery Networks) as a Senior Director of Development

Favorite IUP Memory:

"It's 7 AM on a Sunday morning. I roll over, turn the radio on to 90.1, and hear nothing but dead air. It takes a few moments before I remember that, no matter what time I left Culpeppers the night before, it is my responsibility to fix problems like theses. By 7:13 I am in the studio making my best guess as to what a gospel radio show sounds like."

One thing he knows now that he wishes he knew back in college:

"Success doesn't go to the people with the best ideas. It goes to those who find a way to get the job done."

Faculty Focus

Recognizing two outstanding Faculty on their retirements.



Richard Lamberski, Ph.D. in Instructional Systems, Pennsylvania State University

Dr. Lamberski has been with IUP since 1981. His specialties include media product design, development and delivery; training programs; product and program evaluation; organizational promotions; and survey and focus group research.

His curriculum development, survey research, media creative works, and professional service at IUP have gained him university and national recognition. He has been recognized for his leadership roles in mentoring students and professionals, in developing innovative programs, and for his accomplishments as a teacher-scholar.

He provided organizational and project expertise for Pennsylvania's nine-year

statewide initiative to introduce technology into K-12 education (the \$186 million Link-to-Learn project). He has received prestigious lifetime awards, which exemplify these achievements. Some of the more notable honors are Distinguished Faculty Award for Teaching (IUP 2008), Outstanding Leadership and Service Award from the College of Education – Alumni Society (PSU 2008), and Outstanding Achievement in Research (IUP 2002).

His most recent professional efforts focused on personal/organizational marketing, consulting practices, online learning, advising/mentoring systems, and experiential education partnerships.

Dudt *(Changing of the Guard).... Continued from page 1*

So what did the professor learn during his tenure at IUP? Surprisingly, he says the one thing that really stands out is how many things actually stayed the same over time, specifically the students. While Kurt has seen his share of student fashion changes over the years, the impact of various political ideologies, and changing economic conditions, the one thing that he says always stayed the same was the commonalities in what students face in college.

Some of the departmental accomplishments that he considers highlights of his time at IUP include the creation of the AECT Master's program (now in its 15th year), the introduction of the CMIT Ph.D. program in 2008, and the current complement of department faculty (most of which were hired under his tenure).

Kurt has produced four documentaries that are in national distribution and has done

dozens of publications and presentations that focus on production technologies, particularly as they relate to education.

Among his publications and presentations are those that address issues such as religious programming on university radio stations (with Dr. Gail Wilson), public access programming and religious/political messages (with Dr. Jay Start), ethics and evaluation in distance education, and diversity.

So what is next for Kurt? While he feels amazingly blessed to have been able to work at what he loved for nearly 30 years, Kurt is looking forward to continue his journey of personal growth by devoting time to all of the things he enjoys, including horseback riding, fly fishing and raising chickens – well, once the home “honey-do” projects get taken care of. that is.

Stay Connected with IUP & the Communications Media Department!

We want to know what is going on with you!

As alumni, we know that you want to be kept in the loop of what is happening back at campus with your alma mater – but we also want to know what is happening with you too! Help keep us connected. Send us your news and announcements so that we can share them with all of your fellow hawks around the globe through The LINK!

The LINK is posted online on the department's web page and updated three times per year. Send your news items to dmock@iup.edu.

We'll See You in The LINK!

Your Department Needs Your Support!

When the IUP Foundation comes calling this year,
*designate your donation to your favorite
IUP Communications Media program!*

Put your annual contribution to work directly for the programs that you participated in during your years here at IUP. Alumni donations are an important key to the department's continued success. Your support will help ensure that generations of future communicators have the tools and technology they need to prepare them for rewarding careers in the communications field. Use the following Foundation codes to designate contributions to specific departmental programs.

Foundation Code	Departmental Program
224663	General Communications Media Support
224722	IUP-TV Support
224765	Communications Media Journal & Conference
225302	Doctoral Scholarship & Research
228431	WIUP-FM Radio Support
228551	IUP-TV Sports Webcasting

Thank you for your generous support!

