Communication Success Stories!

Ashley Henry

Ashley Henry will be graduating May 2014. She is currently the Editor-in-Chief for the campus student newspaper, The Journal. After graduation she will be working at ULine as a junior copywriter writing copyright materials in the Creative Department in Content Group. Ashley heard about the position at ULine through researching local organizations. Then she applied and was offered the position after three months.

Her most rewarding experience was working for the Journal and moving up the ladder. She was trained by the newspaper’s Advisor, Debra Landis on ethics and AP style.

Writing the newspaper gave her real-world experience that was necessary for her position at ULine.

“It’s a great opportunity to get experience and to learn publications,” she said. Ashley lists characteristics that one needs to be successful at the campus newspaper: time management, AP style editing skills, people skills, experience writing and interviewing as a journalist, and building relationships with faculty and students. Her greatest achievement has been passing her courses and submitting the documents required for graduation. Ashley’s Public Relations course with Dr. Michael Cheney prepared her for the position at ULine, as did her working with a local agency as a writer. Other interests that occupy Ashley’s time include traveling home, watching Interior Design and HGTV.

In the next five to 10 years, Ashley would like to continue working at ULine to gain more experience. She would also like to gain hands-on experience in the technology-based communication field. Her short-term goals are to finish school and buy a house next year. Long term, she’d like to establish herself in her profession and let it blossom into a career.

Christina Martinez

The Communication Department’s own 2006 master’s graduate, Christina M. Martinez, will return to UIS in November to speak to the UIS Organization for Latin American Students Christina M. Martinez. She also attended Benedictine University at Springfield and the University of Illinois graduating with received a Bachelor’s degree in social work and sociology and a Master’s degree in 2006 in communications with a focus in interpersonal relations.

A resident of the Valley of the Sun, Christina is the Owner and CEO of Adelante Public Affairs and Communications, a company specializing in corporate and community positioning, government advocacy and multi-media marketing solutions at the local and national level for Fortune 100 and 500 companies, issue-campaigns and non-profit organizations. A product of the military, Christina’s father served 23 years in the U.S. Army affording many life experiences abroad and throughout the United States.

On Monday, Nov. 4, from 5-7 p.m., in the PAC Restaurant, Martinez will speak on issues she went through as a Latina during her time at UIS in the early 2000’s. On Monday, November 4th, from 5-7:00 p.m. in the PAC Restaurant, Ms. Martinez will be discussing issues she went through as a Latina during her time at UIS in the early 2000’s. Christina will also be giving tips on how to deal with issues Latinos face today. She will share her amazing journey after UIS and how she became owner and CEO of Adelante Public Affairs and Communications.

Throughout her success, Christina has earned numerous awards which include: the Illinois Governor’s Award for Excellence in Community Service, the National Image Inc., Presidents Awards, the Chicanos Por La Causa 40 Hispanic Leaders Under 40 Award, the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute, William C. Velasquez Volunteer of the Year Award, the Arizona Capitol Times Leaders of the Year in Public Policy Award and the Valle del Sol Profiles of Success Exemplary Leadership Award.

Zach Bright

Zach Bright was accepted into the only Master’s program at San Diego State. He works in the Communications Department, teaching three sections of Oral Communication and serves as a teaching assistant for a professor who teaches intercultural communication to undergrads. Patience, compassion and ambition are traits that Zach thinks a person need in order to be successful as a teaching assistant.

He believes the role of a teaching assistant is to serve as support to faculty teaching lower division courses and to work side-by-side with tenure-track professors and lecturers in research and presentations. His courses at UIS helped him in his assistantship because he got to hone his speaking and presentation skills, as well as provide content he taught in his classroom. He would recommend being a teaching assistant because of the valuable teaching experience and tuition coverage. His involvement on campus presented him with networking opportunities and the possibility of collaboration on projects. His most rewarding college experience was interning at Lincoln Memorial Gardens where he felt very fortunate for the opportunity to work there, he said.

After school in San Diego, he is considering the Ph.D. program in Communications at U of I Urbana-Champaign. In the five to 10 years, Zach plans on either working for a company as a communications officer or teaching full time. One of his short-term goals is to discover his research interests and preferred research method. Other than teaching and getting involved on campus, his hobbies include cycling, both on and off-road trails and spending time with his fellow cohort members at social events and events for the Communication Graduate Student Organization (COMGSO).
Brian Arterbridge, G.A., will begin UIUC’s Master’s of Social Work Outreach Program in January 2014.

Dr. Michael Cheney spoke at George Harrison on Sept. 21. He also spoke on 50 Years and 10,000 hours - Beatlemania Starts to the UIS SAGE association.

Dr. Kathy Jamison was invited to show her digital photography work at the Jacksonville Public Library, as part of the Downtown Gallery Hop, throughout October.


Ricardo Perez, Oral Communication Instructor, was selected to participate on the panel for the UIS Academy on Teaching Excellence.

Dr. Beth Ribarsky was invited to present at the University of Notre Dame on Nov. 14.

Dr. Hazel Rozema and Ann Strahle presented at a Diversity Conference at Richland Community College.

Assistant Professor Ann Strahle, Dr. Michael Cheney and Dr. Amie Kincaid presented on presidential politics, social media, religion and campaigns. They presented at the American Journalist Historical Association Conference in New Orleans. Their panel was titled: Presidential Campaign Coverage: Where Have We Been, and Where are We Going? Their papers were titled: "Social Media and Presidential Campaigns: The Early Years," by Dr. Michael Cheney and "How Religion is Covered in Presidential Campaigns," by Dr. Amie Kincaid and Professor Ann Strahle.

Currently, Erica Cullens, a master’s student in Communication, is a Whitney M. Young Scholar in her second year of the national fellowship program.

Carley Reynolds, a master’s student in Communication, presented a paper at the University of Illinois Communications Collaboration Conference this fall in Urbana.

Melanie Reinhardt (2005) is working as a Communications Specialist in the marketing department at Southwestern Illinois College. She and her husband just welcomed their second child, Sydney Grace, in February.

Kathryn L. Blum is an Associate Director of Planning & Policy Analysis at the University of Illinois Foundation.

Note: Send your college career achievements to Brian Arterbridge, COM GA, at barte2@uis.edu

Faculty and Staff

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UIS Communication Club

The UIS Communication Club began its second year as a new student organization on campus. The club has held several bake sales throughout the academic year to raise money for charities in the community. They teamed up with the Communication Honors Society, Lambda Pi Eta, in the Trick-or-Treat for Canned Goods Fundraiser.

LPI President Tara Hannon says: “I guess my goals for Lambda Pi Eta are just to get more involvement in the club and get our name out to the rest of the school because many people don't know it's there.”

The Communication Club and Lambda Pi Eta will volunteer at the UIS Career Center’s LinkedIn Event to help with their Picture Perfect Photo Days. Both clubs are also raising money to attend the Central States Communication Association (CSCA) conference, April 4-6, 2014. Contact Tara Hannon at thann2@uis.edu for more information on how to get involved and about the fundraising events.
Dr. Kathy Jamison and Communication Department Graduate Assistant Brian Arterbridge took five students on a communication tour to visit local businesses in the community. They visited SPARC, News Channel 20, Northwestern Mutual Financial Security, WMAY 970 AM Radio Station and Prevention First. The Communication Tour is a way for students to explore the behind-the-scenes activities and job duties of various organizations in Central Illinois. The tour also gives students a glimpse into the daily lives of communication professionals working in the field. The students were pleased with their experience and looked forward to this event reoccurring in the future.

SPARC - Their mission is to improve the daily lives of people with developmental disabilities.
WICS News Channel 20 - Your source for the latest breaking local news, sports, weather, school closings, community events, and entertainment in Central Illinois.
Prevention 1st - is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) dedicated to preventing teen drug use before it starts.
WMAY 970 AM - is the local news and talk radio station of Springfield, IL.

Bria Grant, Junior (left) and Carley Reynolds, Graduate student (right) are the student representatives chosen to support students’ voices in the Communication Department. As representatives, they are required to attend all faculty meetings and are often asked for their student perspectives. Feel free to contact them with any comments, questions, or queries. Bria Grant (bgran2@uis.edu) and Carley Reynolds (creyn2@uis.edu).

The CTL offers a series of workshops and walk-in writing help throughout the semester. CTL writing tutors are available to help students on a walk-in basis every Wednesday evening from 6:00-8:30 pm in Brookens Library. Please contact Christina Smith (csmit31@uis.edu), the Writing TA for the Center for Teaching and Learning, for assistance in organizing ideas, creating outlines, revising writing projects, researching, and placing academic sources within assignments. Her office hours are:
Monday: 9:00 am – 2:30 pm
Tuesday: Off
Wednesday: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Thursday: 12:00 pm – 5:30 pm
Friday: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

COM Department Contact Information

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Beth Ribarsky............... eriba2@uis.edu..........UHB 3016
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Ann Strahle..................... astra2@uis.edu.........UHB 3012
COM O.S.S. Sherri Richardson srich6@uis.edu.........UHB 3010
COM G.A. Brian Arterbridge...barte2@uis.edu.........UHB 3011

Need Help Writing?

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Spring 2014 COM Schedule

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<tr>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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<td>COM 341 Communication Technologies – Cavanagh</td>
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<td>Noon-1:40</td>
<td>COM 303 – Intro to Mass Media – Cavanagh</td>
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<td>COM 448 Advertising – Strahle</td>
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<td>2:00-3:40</td>
<td>COM 112 E Oral Com – Perez (2-3:15)</td>
<td>COM 471 Com Ethics – Kincaid</td>
<td>COM 112 E Oral Com – Perez (2-3:15)</td>
<td>COM 471 Com Ethics – Kincaid</td>
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<td>COM 463 Interviewing - Strahle</td>
<td>COM 463 Org Com – Rozema (blended)</td>
<td>COM 463 Interviewing - Strahle</td>
<td>(prerequisite ART 236)</td>
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<td>6:00-8:30</td>
<td>COM 112 H-Staff</td>
<td>COM 112 F Oral Com – Staff</td>
<td>COM/ART 236 Intro Digital Media - staff</td>
<td>COM 562 PR in Organization – Kains</td>
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<td>6:00-9:30</td>
<td>COM/ECCE 478 Communicating About Race</td>
<td>COM 528 Meaning and Social Structure – Kincaid</td>
<td>COM 302 Intro to Interpersonal/Org – Ribarsky</td>
<td>Com 453-Advanced Video- Strahle</td>
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<td>– Rozema</td>
<td>COM 480 Advertising/ P.R. Campaigns- Kincaid</td>
<td>COM 424/WGS 424 Gender Com – Rozema (blended)</td>
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**Special Courses/Blended/Online**

- COM 112 I Oral Com – Kincaid (online for students seeking an online degree only)
- COM 112 G Oral Com – Perez — blended: Meets on campus every T and online every R
- COM 424 Gender Com – Rozema – blended meets on campus on 1-22, 1-29, 2-12, 3-5, 4-9, 4-23, 5-14
- COM 458 Media from a Liberal Arts Perspective – Grubbs – online (second 8 weeks)
- COM 463 Org Com – Rozema – blended meets on campus on 1-22, 1-29, 2-19, 3-5, 3-26, 4-2, 4-9, 4-16, 4-23, 5-14
- COM 462 Writing for PR – Cheney - online

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**Please send comments and news to:**

Could provide details on how to contact Brian Arterbridge, Graduate Assistant.

**VISIT THE COM WEBSITE**

For the most up-to-date information on the Communication Department: [www.uis.edu/communication](http://www.uis.edu/communication)

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