

COMMunity News



Fall Quarter 2013

Dear Friend,



For decades, the University of Washington's communication program offered one of the nation's premier student debate groups. Students participated in friendly intra-department competitions, held public performances for locals around the Northwest, traveled to collegiate competitions and often won, and deeply shaped the lives of all who were involved. But cutbacks in resources — dollars, people, and space — led to the dissolution of the program in the 1990s.

But now, debate is back in UW Communication. And we're already *en fuego*.

Last year we launched the Department of Communication's Debate Union, a collection of students and faculty interested in debate. Mostly, folks talked about debate communications and hosted a couple public debates on issues of importance during the election season. This autumn quarter we dived in deep with three departmental debates involving students—in which students from undergraduate courses presented, defended, were questioned, questioned others, and had winning teams chosen. We also are building a group of students who are interested in creating a competitive debate team, which will practice, host and travel to competitions starting next year. [Read more words from the Chair.](#)

► Celebrating Gerry Philipsen

Professor [Gerry Philipsen](#) has been an asset to the University of Washington for 35 years. A distinguished member of the Department of Communication faculty, former department chair, graduate program coordinator, and mentor to students and colleagues, Dr. Philipsen has also served the greater University community as chair of the Faculty Senate, Secretary of the Faculty, and director of the UW's Center for Local Strategies Research. Less than 10 years into his career at the UW he received the Distinguished Teaching Award and in 2000 was the first faculty to receive the Faculty Distinguished Contribution to Lifelong Learning. He has chaired 35 completed Ph.D. recipients, some of whom are pictured here with Philipsen at the NCA conference in Washington D.C.



To add to his long list of honors and awards, Philipsen was chosen as a 2013 NCA Distinguished Scholar for his career-long record of outstanding scholarly work. The Department honored his retirement last week with a reception. [Read more and watch a podcast](#), where Philipsen looks back on the crucial moments of his career and predicts what retirement will look like for him. (Hint: It includes lots of walking.)

► Seattle Globalist and UW Comm offer Startup Media Workshops



Communication to offer Startup Media Workshops designed for online media makers. On three Saturday's in late winter, Seattle Globalist journalists will teach motion graphics, crowd funding, and online writing in an interactive classroom environment on the UW Seattle campus.

Find out more information about the instructors, class descriptions, dates, times, and price [here](#). Register now, as spaces will fill up.

► Comm Lead: Four Peaks, 2013 Orientation, SIC

The Communication Leadership program continues to grow and impress the community with its quality team that is teaching innovative thinkers. They [welcomed 76 students to Cohort 13](#) (their largest group yet) from places all over the world, including China and Mexico. On their current affairs interview program [Four Peaks](#), they [landed interviews](#) with CEO of Amazon Jeff Bezos, CEO of Starbucks Howard Schultz, former Mariners star Edgar Martinez, and more for a series called "The Innovators." Comm Lead also had a large representation at the Seattle Interactive Conference this year. [Read more.](#)



► Behind-the-scenes with Chef Josh Henderson

The Communication Department had the unique opportunity to go behind-the-scenes with renowned Seattle restaurateur Josh Henderson at his water-inspired establishment Westward. A small group of alumni, students, and close friends of the Department listened to Henderson's personal story of failures and successes as they munched on savory dishes prepared by Henderson and his crew. [Read more.](#)

► Department Updates

- The 2013 Alumni Hall of Fame ceremony was a huge success, complete with a performance by Jack Gladstone and a "Hello, Dawg fans!" from Lou Gellermann. [See videos of all the inductees and a photo slideshow of the event.](#)
- The Department of Communication, the City of Seattle Race & Social Justice Initiative, the Pacific Science Center, and the *Seattle Times* teamed up to talk about race in conjunction with the PSC's exhibit "RACE: Are We So Different?" that looks at the changing face of race around the region. Journalism students are contributing to a blog on the *Seattle Times* website to further public discussion. [Read more.](#)
- Learn more about the seven new faculty members in the Department! Who played Division I NCAA soccer, which one used to be a radio DJ, and who lived in Ethiopia for part of high school? [Find out.](#)
- In the newly formed Inaugural Lecture series, recently promoted full professors and principal lecturers in the Department of Communication offer reflective, autobiographical lectures on the questions and ideas that motivate their scholarship, and the people and ideas that inspire them. Leah Ceccarelli kicked off the series in September, with Phil Howard following in October. Lisa Coutu will deliver the final lecture this year on February 12, 2014. [Read more.](#)
- Read more about the recently published books from Professor [Leah Ceccarelli](#) and Professor [Lance Bennett](#).
- The Communication Alumni Board is making some changes for the upcoming academic year, including creating a position for new alumni outreach. [Read more.](#)
- Associate Professor Gina Neff is co-Principal Investigator of a research group that received \$430,000 from the National Science Foundation. [Read more.](#)
- We had lots of visiting speakers and mentors this quarter! Special thanks to: Ellen Forney, Cynthia Moses, [Kimberly Harden](#), Robert McChesney, Jack Gladstone, and from our Career Kickstart professional development workshops: [Brandon Vaughan](#), [Deanna Blanchfield-Heinrich](#), [Ruchika Tulshyan](#), [Edgar Gonzalez](#), [Sabrina Oldham](#), [Jennifer Simmons O'Connor](#), and [KC Ficken](#).

▶ #WeAreEverywhere

- Director of Comm Lead Hanson Hosein has traveled to New York City, toured Facebook in San Francisco while visiting an alumna, and headed to Brussels this month to present a series of storytelling sessions to the European Commission and to the International Association of Business Communicators.
- Chair David Domke and Outreach Manager Victoria Sprang met with alumni in New York City, New Jersey, and Washington D.C. as they made their way to the 2013 National Communication Association Convention.
- Associate Professor Ralina Joseph was in Los Angeles with the Office of Minority Affairs & Diversity last month to talk about her book "Transcending Blackness" at an alumni networking event.
- The Department will take a select group of students to L.A. for a career exploration experience in February. [Last year's trip was eye-opening and memorable!](#)

THIS NEWSLETTER WAS SENT BY:

UW Department of Communication, Box 353740, Seattle, WA 98125-3740

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