



Spring Quarter 2013

Dear friend,



One of the best things about being a Department Chair is that I get a good sense of the scope and quality of research, teaching, and service contributions by all of our faculty, staff and students. I can see much more of the full field of our activities than I could glimpse as an individual faculty member before becoming Chair. From this vista, here's what I know: We have a group of truly superb and diverse people in our community.

I want to take a moment to share just one insight. [Read more.](#)

► Undergrad Deanna Isaacs to shoot documentary



Learning about different cultures, English, writing, and science are all interests of journalism student Deanna Isaacs; and she found a way to bring them all together by producing documentaries.

Isaacs began writing for The Daily after becoming a journalism major. It was during her second article that involved biology professor Peter Ward that wheels started to turn about becoming a documentarian. Ward was inspired by a talk given by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service about a mysterious marine creature called the Nautilus, of which they did a three-year study finding that more than 500,000 shells were being imported to the U.S. alone for material purposes. Ward has traveled to Australia, the Philippines, and America Samoa to conduct research on these squid-like cephalopods. He's going back to the Philippines in June and asked Isaacs to come along as the expedition's communication person.

Shooting on their documentary, "[Plight of the Nautilus.](#)" is set to debut the summer of 2014. [Read more.](#)

► Henderson retiring after 19 years



When students think about UW's journalism program, one particular lecturer comes to mind. This educator is Mike Henderson, known for his unique sense of humor and ability to impart knowledge to students, thereby creating better writers. After a 19-year tenure, Henderson has decided to retire from teaching at the University of Washington.

Henderson has contributed heavily in his teaching career at the UW. Most years he's taught eight to ten courses, including summer quarter. In 2007, Henderson got involved in the Department of Communication's Rome program, teaching a cultural matters course that covered food, cinema, and travel.

"Having worked professionally parts of every year for nearly half a century, I'd say I'm an excellent candidate for retirement. I'll be well-occupied ghost-writing on a blog for a progressive organization," he said. "What I value

the most about the work? I'd say that it's the fact that I've been afforded the chance to meet many (mostly) young people I otherwise never would've gotten to know." [Read more.](#)

► Communication Leadership Screen Summit

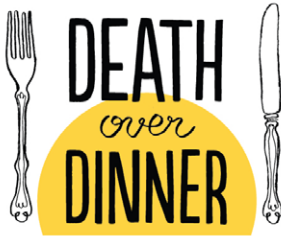


This June, we are hosting the third annual networking event to showcase the amazing work students have done and continue to do in the MCDM. The third annual MCDM Screen Summit will be held on Friday, June 14th, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in South Lake Union.

The bulk of the Screen Summit will be an opportunity for our students to present their work on the screen of their choice, be it smart phone, tablet, or laptop. The work they present could be a particular project they are especially proud of, or a culminating portfolio of their best work from their time in the Communication Leadership program. The focus will be on mingling and networking with alumni, faculty, and community members, with each student presenter stationed at a table (think poster session with screens instead of posters).

Learn more by visiting our website: www.cl.uw.edu

► "Death over Dinner" examines end-of-life



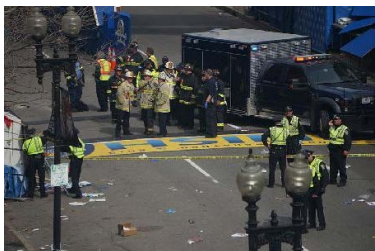
It sounds controversial, right? Well that's kind of the point. The UW Communication Leadership program announced the official launch of Let's Have Dinner and Talk about Death, "a project created to foster proactive and constructive conversations about end-of-life decisions," bringing to the forefront a topic that is not frequently talked about.

The discussion takes place around an actual dinner table, while students and healthcare professionals eat an organic meal, sip on wine, and one more thing...talk about human life and death. The idea began with Michael Hebb, inaugural MCDM Teaching Fellow, and MCDM Associate Director Scott Macklin in their effort to "rethink the role the internet plays in embodied human experience." [Read more.](#)

► "The Long Ride Home" screening, May 15

Recent alumnus Brett Bowker (B.A., 2010) is bringing us his first film as a producer and cinematographer called "The Long Ride Home." The film premiered last year at the Seattle International Film Festival earning a 'Best of Fest' selection, and also winning at the Santa Rosa International Film Festival VetsFest. The special screening will take place in CMU 120 on Wednesday, May 15 from 6 to 8 with a Q&A session with Bowker and director Thomas Lee Wright immediately following the film. [Read more.](#)

► "If Tragedy Strikes" prepares student journalists



On Friday, April 26, 20 students took part in a "If Tragedy Strikes" workshop where they grappled with how they'd cover a shooting on campus. Divided into teams of reporters, editors, photographers, and crisis managers, they were led in a simulation by publisher and editorial adviser Diana Kramer. Kramer and professor Randy Beam planned the workshop, inviting several coaches to mentor the students, including multiplatform content manager at KING-TV Kellie Cheadle, associate vice president of media relations and communication at UW Norm Arkans, and UW Police Commander Steve Rittreiser. Mike Fancher, former executive

editor of *The Seattle Times* debriefed the students on ethical issues. [Find out what the students learned, and how they would deal with a real-life campus tragedy.](#)

► Four Peaks TV on NWCN

Are you watching Four Peaks TV on Northwest Cable News? Want to see interviews with the top leaders in the Northwest? Catch new episodes on NWCN (Channel 2, Comcast Cable) Saturdays at 4 p.m. and Sundays at 9 p.m.



Four Peaks is a monthly current affairs show that taps into the Pacific Northwest's rich endowment of idea generators, influential activists, business visionaries and inspired storytellers. Emmy Award-winning TV journalist and host Hanson Hosein interviews these creative leaders who have made it to the top of their respective "Peaks" of Innovation, Community, Entrepreneurship and Entertainment. In partnership with the University of Washington's Communication Leadership program, Four Peaks is a provocative show that collides the views of our best and brightest. [Read more.](#)

► Department Updates

- With the generous support of our alumni, friends and partners, [our auction](#) brought in \$38k. Thank you!
- Professor Matt McGarrity is teaching a free online course in public speaking on Coursera. [Sign up!](#)
- [Edgar Gonzalez](#) (BA, '04) was awarded the 2012 UWComm Outstanding Early Career Award.
- Professor [Lance Bennett](#) won the ICA Outstanding Article Award with co-author Segerberg.
- MCDM students Matt Davis and Ryan Risenmay worked with John du Pre Gauntt in an Independent Study to develop a [Transmedia Playbook](#).
- Fenwick McKelvey, SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow at UWComm, has been hired at Concordia University in a tenure-track position.
- Justin Reedy (MA, '08; PhD, '13) has accepted a tenure-track assistant professor position at the University of Oklahoma in the Department of Communication. He will also be a research associate in the Center for Risk, Crisis & Resilience, a center focused on public policy, risk perception, and crisis management.
- First year grad student, [Mary Joyce](#), was awarded a graduate research fellowship from the National Science Foundation.
- John Crowley (PhD, '12) won the Outstanding Dissertation Award from the Interpersonal Communication Division of NCA.
- Anjali Vats (PhD, '13) has won an American Association of University Women Dissertation Fellowship.
- Undergrads [Samra Mengistu and Azeb Madebo](#) are among the 40 students who will be attending the first National Communication Association (NCA) Undergraduate Honors Conference at American University in Washington D.C. on May 16 to 19.
- Some exciting new internship opportunities have come our way, thanks to [PRR](#) and the [Microsoft Alumni Foundation!](#)
- The Association for Women in Communications (AWC) 2013 membership drive has begun. [Learn more!](#)

THIS NEWSLETTER WAS SENT BY:
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