

A publication for alumni of the College of Communication

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Radio DePaul: 25 years young and rich in programming

Live broadcasts of DePaul's basketball and soccer games and newly added programs, such as "News at Noon" and "Politics 101," are generating lots of excitement among the staff and listeners of Radio DePaul. "We're called Chicago's college connection for a reason," says Programming Manager Joe Anderson, capturing the sentiment felt around campus.

While the student-run radio station has a new, fresh-faced appeal, it actually goes back 25 years, when it was more like a record club broadcast on a closed-circuit cable system, says Scott Vyverman, Radio DePaul's faculty manager.

Today, the station broadcasts 24/7 through online streaming. "At radio.depaul.edu, we're heard around the world," Vyverman says. The station is one of 135 college radio stations carried on iTunes, which helps boost its global reach and draws about 60 percent of its listeners.

The expansion and diversification of programming grew out of several goals set by the Radio DePaul Advisory Board. "We wanted to get more students involved, and we wanted to make certain that all of the air time was covered," explains Associate Dean Don Martin, who chairs the board. "Most important," he adds, "was establishing a tighter curricular relationship between what students at the station are doing and what's going on in the classroom."

Martin credits Vyverman with transforming Radio DePaul from a music-heavy station into a rich mix of entertainment and information programming. "There were times during the day when there was an insufficient number of DJs to cover all the [airtime] slots," Martin says. "Now there's news, community affairs, live coverage of DePaul athletics, radio plays."

The college sees the station as a teaching vehicle and a place for students to learn a great deal, says Vyverman, a former DJ and newscaster who has worked at Chicago stations WLIT-FM and WLS-AM. "There's been a shift in thinking about the role Radio DePaul could serve and what a nice job we could do if given the opportunity."

In 2009, Radio DePaul was a finalist in two categories-Best DJ and Best Sports Reporting-of the College Broadcasters Inc. (CBI) National Student Production Awards. The station has received seven production nominations from CBI over the last four years.

"Compared to most college radio stations, there's more creative freedom here," says Anderson, a junior majoring in communication and media. DJs are free to use their own playlists or use their iPods or laptops to stream, explains Anderson, who hosts his own music show, "Haters to the Left," on Tuesday nights. "We're the atypical college radio station."



Radio DePaul News Director Charles Haines (left) and Assistant News Director Lars Weborg prepare to go on air. Haines is an undergraduate student in the College of Communication. Weborg is a graduate student in the journalism program.

Even as the station continues expanding its program offerings, it stays focused on promoting Chicago, the college and the university. "The DePaul Author Series" showcases the published works of faculty members. In the fall, Radio DePaul partnered with Richard Giraldi, a graduate journalism student and founder-editor of the music blog Loud Loop Press, on a weekly two-hour radio show. The partnership, Vyverman says, typifies what many media professionals are doing with converged products. "We're promoting [Giraldi], and he's promoting us."

Other plans in the works include broadcasting School of Music performances and establishing Radio DePaul internships, Vyverman says.

As the basketball season rolls on, student and faculty Blue Demon fans are positively ecstatic about hearing games live. Vyverman beams about the e-mail Dean Jacqueline Taylor sent around the college exclaiming how great everybody sounds in the broadcasts.

A self-described "lifelong fan of DePaul basketball," Vyverman can brag about another DePaul sport now. "We even managed to make a traditional TV sport like soccer sound good on the radio."

College's performance space creates new opportunities

When he first came to the College of Communication, Assistant Professor Dustin Goltz had to scurry around campus looking for classrooms and lecture halls that he could reserve for his students to create and rehearse performance pieces.

"There was never a stage or any rehearsal facilities specific to our needs," says Goltz, who arrived in fall 2008 and teaches courses in performance of literature, performance for social change and the rhetoric of popular culture. "We just had to hope space was available, and we didn't have any place for students to consistently develop their own ideas."

All that changed this fall, with the opening of a tailor-made performance space in the new college facilities at 14 E. Jackson Blvd. The 88-seat theatre (which can accommodate up to 100 with some extra chairs) is "a beautiful, intimate theatre for small-scale productions and movie screenings," says Dean Jacqueline Taylor. Her academic specialty is performance studies, and she has long felt the need for the kind of facilities that the new theatre will provide.

Performance work is different from theatre, and its requirements are at the same time less elaborate and more specialized. It can pull from other performing arts, dipping into dance and music as needed. There's no need for scenery or sets—perhaps a table and a couple of chairs at most—and stage lighting can be relatively simple. But performance pieces often incorporate sophisticated audio and video technology, for example, projecting film or images behind the performer.

"Performance work at the college really varies," Taylor says. "People create adaptations from literature or ethnographic fieldwork, autobiographical pieces, portrayals of historic figures. It all depends on how the teacher shapes the class." The theatre also has first-class film screening equipment that will benefit the college's media and cinema studies program.

The new space attracted an enthusiastic audience in November when it hosted a reception and performances in connection with a meeting of the National



College of Communication students rehearse a performance piece in the new 88-seat theatre in the 14 E. Jackson Blvd. building.

Communication Association (NCA), the oldest scholarly organization for the communication field. The NCA fall convention was a few blocks away at the Chicago Hilton and Towers, and the College of Communication presented two nights of performances, featuring faculty members Goltz and instructor Stephanie Howell, as well as two nationally known scholar/performers, Terry Galloway and Lynn C. Miller.

"It was a tremendous amount of fun," says Goltz. "Everyone said it was a perfect performance studies theatre," says Taylor.

The college has four full-time faculty members who teach performance, along with occasional visiting professors who also will use the new space. Goltz is working with students to develop a performance troupe dedicated to exploring ideas about gender identity and what it means to be masculine or feminine. He is hoping to use the performance space to preview the troupe's work for the university faculty and eventual performances for other DePaul classes. His long-term goals are to build a performance studies group that develops both solo and collaborative shows and to present a series of performances in the new space every quarter.

"Before, when we held events, we were never in the same space twice," Goltz says. "This theatre creates a center that will help us attract more students and provide the students with a sense of ownership and community."

Jacqueline Taylor

We need your help

We can't do it without you. In these pages, we bring you stories about what we have done and are doing to better educate students in a broad array of communication fields. For the first time in our history, our students work in state-of-the-art facilities. Our curriculum has expanded to include a broader array of courses and degree options than at any previous point in DePaul's history. Our young, energetic, dynamic college is growing in quality and reputation.

While we are a college moving fast and always evolving, at our core, we remain committed to the same formula that has always distinguished DePaul's communication programs—outstanding and caring teachers working closely in the classroom and one-on-one to help our students build the knowledge, critical-thinking skills and practical skills necessary for professional success and a rich life.

Most of the readers of this newsletter were once students in our college. Others are longtime friends of DePaul or parents of our current students. If you have direct experience with our classes, then you already know about our dedicated faculty.

We're growing and building a great college here. You're already a part of it.

Maybe Don Martin regaled you with some of his wild stories while driving home a critical point about organizational communication. Perhaps Lexa Murphy drew you into a service-learning project that gave you a sense of your own ability to make a difference in the world. Bruce Evensen may have illustrated his lecture on the history of journalism with clips from his vast personal collection. Carolyn Bronstein changed the way you look at advertising. Doug Long helped you overcome your stage fright and strengthen your public speaking skills. Under Jay Beck's guidance, you learned to see film with new eyes and a new vocabulary. Or some other caring teacher I haven't named lived out DePaul's promise as an institution where students gain confidence and knowledge as they prepare to make a difference in the world.

If DePaul's communication programs made a difference for you, help us help the next generation of students. The first and most important thing you can do is to tell your story. As a lover of DePaul and our communication programs, you can encourage your friends to think about DePaul for themselves or their family. You can make sure others know about the great education you received with us. If you have not already done so, you can drop us a note and let us know how you are doing.

This might also be the year you decide to make a gift to the college to help the next generation of students. Everyone knows that we are in tough economic times. A larger portion of DePaul students than ever before are in need of financial aid. If you are not yet giving to the college, you do not need to wait until you have made your fortune. Small gifts add up to make a real difference. We're growing and building a great college here. You're already a part of it. Please help us as we build on our history of excellent teaching and continue preparing students to be accomplished communicators and engaged citizens.

If you would like to make a contribution, please contact Wendy Irvine, director of development for the College of Communication, at 312.362.7135.



New internship director to develop programs relevant in today's market

Early in her career, Graciela Kenig learned the value of on-the-job experience. She found that real-world experiences complemented her formal education. Then, in her professional life, she found her calling: helping others who are looking for work and internship opportunities.

Since September, Kenig has been on the job as the College of Communication's director of internships. Her goal is to grow the college's internship program and embrace new models for internships, says Associate Dean Don Martin, who founded the college's internship program.

"We have the traditional bases covered—journalism, PR, advertising," Martin explains. "We're interested in developing more internships in the organizational and multicultural communication areas, which can take the form of management consulting, training, or jobs in human resources that involve diversity. Graciela is experienced in most of these areas and has experience at the university level working with students across a wide variety of disciplines."

To that Kenig adds: "I'm also developing programs that are relevant to what's going on in today's economy and job market."

In her first few months in her new job, Kenig, a former career management consultant, has relied heavily on her own multifaceted work experiences as she scouted new internship opportunities and adapted the course You, Your Work and the World, borrowed largely from the university-wide internship program, to the communication field. Enrollment in the course is a requirement toward fulfilling a College of Communication internship. She's also developing a separate course for graduate students. Interns in the program must work a minimum of 10 hours a week or a total of 100 hours during an academic quarter.

Before a student begins an internship, Kenig must approve the employer offering the internship and the project the student will complete while on the job. For the winter quarter, she approved internships at some of



Chicago's biggest firms: WGN-TV, NBC Universal, WXRT-FM, Bloomingdale's, Broadway in Chicago and Comcast Sports.

Kenig was born in Argentina and graduated from Kent State University with a degree in literature. She never had

a formal internship when she was a student, she says. "But, I always found a way of learning to do something by seeking experiences."

Kenig moved to Chicago and began freelancing. She drew on her bilingual skills, picking up writing assignments in Spanish and English for the Chicago Sun-Times. Later, she spent 10 years as the Careers columnist for the Chicago Tribune's Spanish-language weekly, ¡Exito!. Kenig also did PR work for the Latino Institute and taught career management courses at major corporations. The wealth of experience and knowledge she gained informed her book, "Best Careers for Bilingual Latinos," published in 1998.

During the first few days of the winter quarter, Kenig was busy meeting with students who came to her office seeking advice and guidance on internships. While she clearly enjoys relating to students and helping them find internships, she doesn't match them to a particular organization. She sees her role as helping them write résumés and giving them advice on interviewing and networking. Lately, she's been keen on urging them to make the most of their social media connections.

"They already have a presence on social networking sites [Facebook, Twitter, MySpace]," she says. Her newest internship search tip sometimes takes students by surprise, she adds. And what is that? "They should indicate in their status update that they're looking for an internship."

Ron Nagy (B.A. '92)

Adobe senior evangelist believes nearly all of his classes helped him

Residence:

San Jose, Calif.

Occupation:

Nagy works at Adobe Systems Inc. as senior evangelist for the Adobe@Adobe program. He meets with customers and potential customers and shows them how Adobe uses its own technology to run its business. When people think about Adobe, the programs Adobe Photoshop or Adobe Acrobat are what come to mind, but the company also makes a number of enterprise software tools. Nagy also manages a number of the solutions Adobe has built internally, such as an employee directory that runs on Adobe AIR—an application that is also used by the White House.

Education:

Nagy graduated from Shrine High School in suburban Detroit. His father owned a manufacturing company where he worked for a year as he attended a local community college. He transferred to DePaul for his junior and senior years from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. "DePaul provided the best environment for me to succeed," he says. "I enjoyed being active in student groups in my role as student government vice president and executive editor of The DePaulia."

Vital stats:

"When I left DePaul with a communication degree, I really didn't know where it could take me," says Nagy. His first job was working as an English teacher in Japan in a program administered through the education ministry. "Having taken Japanese my last year at DePaul, I was well prepared for the small northern Japanese town," he says. He later worked in the IT department at Arthur Andersen. He moved to Silicon Valley to find a job where he could use both his Japanese and IT skills. He landed at Adobe, where he's worked for more than 12 years in a variety of roles, including desktop support, managing an IT team in Tokyo supporting the Asia-Pacific region, and his current role as senior evangelist. He and his wife, Judy, have two children: Maxwell, 4, and Allison, 2.

What I like best about my job is:

"Adobe is an incredible company with exceptional people. The technology we create touches everyone. I get to interact with customers to learn how they would like to solve business process challenges or move their business into different areas. I get to then show them how we've solved similar problems with solutions built with Adobe technology. I get to inspire people. Every day I work with the technology and the people behind the technology that I've loved since I was at DePaul."

The biggest challenge I face in my job is:

"There is never enough time. Technology creates huge opportunities, but it also can create challenges to keep up. However, I'm encouraged by new social media trends making their ways into companies that help everyone stay connected without undue impact on our time."

My College of Communication experience helped me by:

"It's crazy, but nearly every class I took at DePaul has helped me. I had this great business writing class, a fantastic public speaking class that made me realize I really like public speaking, and linguistics classes (thanks, Dr. Speicher!) that helped me forge a love of language, leading to my taking Japanese at DePaul. My skills in building engaging presentations can be directly related to DePaul course work as well. I took this insanely great class where we acted out prose or poems. That class helped me think about how to convey language, even abstract concepts, as actions. There are so many examples—I am really fortunate to have had so many excellent professors at DePaul."

The words I live by are:

"In the words of Henry David Thoreau, 'I know of no more encouraging fact than the unquestionable ability of man to elevate his life through conscious endeavor."



PRSSA chapter honored: DePaul's chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) received an award for Outstanding Regional Activity at the 2009 PRSSA National Conference in San Diego. Co-hosted with Valparaiso University, the award-winning event, "A Taste of Chicago PR," was held at DePaul's Loop Campus in February 2009 and keynoted by Cheryl Procter-Rogers, vice president for Public Relations and Communications at DePaul and former national PRSA president. The remainder of the day consisted of professional development sessions led by top Chicago-area communication professionals, a professional panel that represented various facets of the public relations industry, and a public relations job/internship fair. The event was attended by nearly 130 students from 20 PRSSA chapters in the Midwest, including Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Iowa and Wisconsin. "It was such an honor to receive a Dr. Frederick Teahan Chapter Award for Outstanding Regional Activity,"



Liz Leismer, Alyssa Bronikowski and Hana Li from the DePaul PRSSA Chapter

said Alyssa Bronikowski, current DePaul PRSSA president. "Our chapter, along with Valparaiso's, worked very hard planning and designing this regional activity. We feel it was a success, and the event truly provided pre-professional PR development."

College adds five new tenure-track faculty

Four tenure-track faculty joined the College of Communication this academic year, and an existing instructor was promoted—each bringing with them diverse expertise and novel course offerings.

Assistant Professors Paul Booth, Sean Horan, and Suchitra Shenoy, as well as instructor Kimberlee Pérez, all came to DePaul in September. Assistant Professor Kelly Kessler began teaching in 2008 and was hired in a tenure-track position this year.

"We really brought in top-tier people with our hires," Dean Jacqueline Taylor says.

Booth earned his doctorate at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. His research examines new media and digital technology from a cultural perspective. Booth's Communication, Technology and Society course explores the historical roots of new media. For example, the class traces Wikipedia back to encyclopedias and delves into concepts like "group think" and "collective knowledge."

"I do find students seem to enjoy my classes because we cover things they are familiar with, like Facebook," Booth says. Shenoy, who earned her doctoral degree at Purdue University, teaches courses in organizational and multicultural communication and will offer a new course called Socialization to Work in spring quarter. Her expertise is in the areas of organizational socialization and assimilation, meanings of work and careers, and diversity in the workplace.



"I find my students are hard-working and actively engaged in their learning process," Shenoy says. "They are in college for the right reasons, and that's the kind of student body I want to teach."

Pérez comes to DePaul from Arizona State University, where she is completing her Ph.D. Her teaching and research focuses

on intercultural communication, globalization, feminism, critical race theory and whiteness.

Horan's work explores communication that occurs in romantic relationships, including the predictors of initial attraction, workplace romance, commitment and satisfaction in relationships, and deception and transgressions. He earned his Ph.D. at West Virginia University.

"Our students are responding to the influx of talent and energy," Taylor says of the new faculty. "Thanks to these hires, we've been able to enrich our curriculum and provide cutting-edge courses."

Award-winning author: Associate Professor Daniel Makagon won the National Communication Association (NCA) Ethnography Division's Best Book Award for a book he co-authored on the use of audio documentary in ethnographic research.



"Recording Culture: Audio
Documentary and the
Ethnographic Experience,"
co-authored with Mark
Neumann from Northern
Arizona University,
was praised for its quality
of writing, accessibility,
usability, readability,
significance and originality.
"Recording Culture"

explores how researchers can use audio documentary to reach academic and popular audiences and provide more opportunities for collaborative work in the pursuit and representation of knowledge and experience. It is the first book to explore audio documentary as a research method. "It's a real honor to receive this award, especially given the quality books that have been published in this area," Makagon said. "We hope that readers will be inspired to explore audio documentary as a creative outlet for fieldwork and work closely with community partners on citizen storytelling efforts."

Enrollment record: Despite the troubled economy, DePaul University set a record for enrollment this fall, surpassing 25,000 for the first time. This year, the College of Communication enrolled 1,382 undergraduate and 209 graduate students, compared with 1,230 undergraduate and 178 graduate students for fall 2008. Total university enrollment increased nearly 3 percent to 25,072 this year.

Alumni Center opens at Lincoln Park: The new DePaul University Alumni Center is now open on the Lincoln Park Campus, giving graduates a definitive on-campus space to call home. Alumni can meet and connect with one another in the center's lounge area, which features free wireless access and desktop computers with printing capability. The space also includes offices for Alumni Relations staff, who will be on hand to answer questions and offer their assistance to visiting alumni. The center is located in the new University Welcome Center at 2400 N. Sheffield Ave., a welcome center for prospective students and home to all admission-related offices on campus.

A walk down memory lane: More than 700 alumni and their guests descended on the Loop and Lincoln Park campuses from Oct. 16 to 18 to reconnect with one another during Reunion Weekend 2009. As in previous years, the reunion luncheon honored the 50th anniversary class and beyond. However, this year's luncheon featured the first-ever DePaul 50-Year Club induction ceremony. More than 150 alumni were welcomed into the club and received a certificate and pin in recognition of this milestone. Recent graduates gathered for the young alumni reunion at Hub 51 on Friday evening. Alumni and guests came together for the reunion dinner and celebration at The Drake Hotel on Saturday. Members of the reunion classes enjoyed a cocktail reception downstairs, while alumni from The DePaulia and from DePaul's study-abroad programs gathered at two similar receptions upstairs. Following the receptions, everyone met in the Grand Ballroom for dinner. The Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, C.M., president, shared notable university news and thanked everyone in attendance for coming back "home" to show their school pride.

Olympic experience: As the world turned its attention to the 2010 Winter Olympics in February, five students and two recent graduates from the College of Communication's journalism program were amid the action. The group interned for the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) in Vancouver, where they ran the press room, produced a daily newsletter for reporters and performed other press-related duties, such as interviewing athletes. The students were invited to Vancouver as a result of their work during the USOC's Olympic Team Media Summit, which took place in September in Chicago, according to journalism instructor Mike Conklin. "The USOC, in all its history, has never relied on a university to supply interns to do such important work at an Olympics," he said. "It's a credit to their performance here last September at the summit and to what is happening in the College of Communication."



PR/AD students visit Ogilvy: Students in Associate Professor Carolyn Bronstein's Critical Perspectives on Public Relations and Advertising seminar, along with students in the public relations and advertising graduate program, enjoy an on-site visit to the Ogilvy & Mather advertising agency. The students toured the agency and met members of Ogilvy's creative team. (Photo courtesy of Emily Opalski)



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Conversations

We welcome your story ideas, questions or comments. Please call Ruhan Memishi, editor, at 312.362.8629 or write to her at rmemishi@depaul.edu.

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The **Conversations** editorial board consists of Dean Jacqueline Taylor, Jay Beck, Carolyn Bronstein, Tim Cole, Bruce Evensen, Alexandra Murphy and Lisa Pecot-Hébert of the College of Communication; Wendy Irvine and Vukoni Lupa-Lasaga of Advancement; and Deborah Snow-Humiston, Ruhan Memishi, Carol Sadtler and Jocelyn Sims of University Relations. Copy editor is Maria Hench.

news bites



Simon El Hage guest lecture: Simon El Hage, senior vice president of multicultural segments at DraftFCB, gave a guest lecture to the students in Associate Professor Carolyn Bronstein's Critical Perspectives on Public Relations and Advertising seminar. El Hage discussed the evolution of cross-cultural advertising with an emphasis on the maturation of the Latino market. Front row, third from right: El Hage. Back row, left: DraftFCB account planner Curtis Munk. Back row, middle: Carolyn Bronstein. (Photo courtesy of Emily Opalski) **Save the date:** Journalism Professor Bruce Evensen will deliver the Distinguished Faculty Lecture at 6 p.m. on Monday, April 5, titled "Digital Humanity: The Crisis of Compassion in Haiti." The event will take place in Room 1128 of the 14 E. Jackson Blvd. building.



Open house: The College of Communication celebrated its move to the 14 E. Jackson Blvd. building with an Oct. 16 reception and open house for alumni, students, faculty and friends. Guests toured the new state-of-the-art facilities, and alumni had a chance to catch up with each other and faculty members.

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