As I come to the end of my interim administration, I am pleased to see how the College of Communications and Information Studies has grown and succeeded over the past year.

Students and faculty are producing timely, thought-provoking work. Ph.D. student Adel Iskandar published a book about the impact of Middle Eastern news media in the current world situation (see page 3). Dr. Richard Labunski is coming out with a book on maximizing the college experience and has started work on his fifth book (see page 4). Congratulations go out to Drs. David Johnson, Jim Andrews and Donald Case and Ph.D. student Suzie Allard for their Top Three paper award from the International Communication Association (see page 5)!

Be sure to check out the story on new faculty member Dr. Sorin Matei on page 4.

The end of the academic year always brings many changes. We recently had elections for the new Graduate Student Association officers. Last year's officers did a fine job of enriching the graduate experience for all our students with colloquia, socials, and the annual symposium (see page 3). Next year's co-chairs will be Maria Spirenkova and John Strada. Mia Lustria will be secretary, and Suzanne Hall will be treasurer. We look forward to see what exciting plans they have for the future.

I'm sure we all are also looking forward to the return of Dr. Roy Moore as Associate Dean for Graduate Studies. I know first hand how busy he will be when he gets back! I have enjoyed the opportunity to "fill in" for Dr. Moore, and I will miss interacting with the fine people of our College. Dr. Moore has been studying administration at the University of Georgia on a prestigious American Council on Education Fellowship. He will resume his work here on June 1.

As we say our good byes, we must recognize one more "graduate." Dr. Ramona Rush will be finishing her time at UK after 33 years of quality teaching, research and administration in higher education. Thank you, Dr. Rush for your untiring compassion for outsiders and criticism of the status quo (see page 4)!

And so the time has come for me to say my farewell. It's been fun to rejoin the College world for a bit, but I must answer a higher call. Fishing season has arrived!

As we change seasons...

Finally, Suzie was involved in the following presentations:
- "Student Performance, the Library Media Center and the Information Technology Environment" presentation requested by the Shelby County Public School Librarians, November 2001. It was a review of the research findings from the White and Allard study of CATS scores and Library Media Center reports.
- Leadership Development Workshop--"Focused Talk: Learning What Your Organization's Members are Thinking." Session designed to help organizational leaders hone skills to gather information from membership to aid in strategic planning decisions. Presented at the ASIST Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., November 2001.

Maria Brann was awarded a NIMH-sponsored predoctoral research traineeship in Medical Behavioral Science for 2002-2003. She also was elected Graduate Student Representative for the Health Communication Division for NCA, where she serves on the Health Communication Pre-conference Planning Committee. She is also an ad hoc reviewer for the Journal of Communication Studies. Maria was invited to give a lecture at Lexington Community College titled: "Unmasking Sexism in R&B/Hip-Hop Music: A Rhetorical Analysis of Hegemonic Masculinity in the Top 20 Songs." She has two forthcoming publications: "Toward a Typology of Confidentiality Breaches in Health Care Communication: An Ethic of Care Analysis of Provider Practices and Patient Perceptions" in Health Communication and "Managed Care and the Paradox of Patient Confidentiality: A Case Study Analysis from a Communication Boundary Management Perspective" in Communication Studies.

Tim Buckingham will present two papers at the Hawaii International Conference on Social Sciences in Waikiki this summer: "How Quiet Can
Screaming Be? A Critical Analysis of Straightedge Song Lyrics” and “Marxism: The Impact of the Individual.” After that, he’ll be married on October 12, 2002!

Doctoral Candidate Ann Forsythe has accepted a position with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Environmental Health, Office of Communications, Office of the Director in Atlanta, Ga. As a Health Communications Specialist, she will provide technical and scientific expertise for the planning, implementation, analysis and evaluation of health communications and social marketing efforts and will participate in the development of program-specific plans that include conducting formative research, developing strategies and messages, and conducting process and impact evaluations. She will also coordinate risk communications plans on bio-monitoring and bioterrorism in collaboration with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Adel Iskandar presented his book, Al-Jazeera: How the Free Arab News Network Scooped the World and Changed the Middle East, at the Carnegie Council for Ethics and International Affairs in New York city on April 15. The presentation will be featured on C-Span’s BookTV.

Will Jenkins presented “Shooting in the Dark: Attribution and the Invisibility of White Violence” at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Mid-winter Conference in Atlanta in February. In his spare time, he is leading local seminars on understanding international conflict and conflict resolution from a faith perspective.

Nicholas Alexander Benham Skidmore was born on March 4 to Amanda Joy Benham Skidmore and Warren Christopher Benham Skidmore. “We selected the name ‘Nicholas’ because we were told it meant ‘victory of the people’ and chose ‘Alexander’ because we were led to believe that it carried a connotative meaning of ‘servant of humanity.’”

Donna Wills presented “Assessing Teacher Training: How Mentoring and Support Affect New Teacher Adjustment” at the Third Annual Symposium on the Scholarship of Teaching at UK in March.

John Youngblood presented “Shout Glory: An Ethnography of True Forgiveness Holiness Church” at the Southern States Communication Association in April.

Perhaps the most significant accomplishment for GSA this year was the growth and expansion of our largest event: the annual symposium. Co-chairs of the symposium committee, Amy Akers and Erin Foley-Reynolds, did an outstanding job securing a reputable keynote speaker, Dr. Susan Bordo, as well as making this the most successful symposium to date.

At this point in the semester, the GSA council changes guards by electing the new officers for the next academic year. We are pleased to announce that your new GSA co-chairs will be Maria Spirenkova and John Strada. Mia Lustria will be serving as the incoming secretary while Suzanne Hall will be fulfilling the duties of treasurer. We congratulate them for their election and wish them luck in serving graduate students over the next year.

Looking back at the year past, we are both honored to have served graduate students as co-chairs. With the help of students, faculty and staff, it has been a most rewarding experience in every respect. We also wish to send a special token of gratitude to Dr. Baseheart, the acting director for graduate studies for his ongoing support for GSA and its members. We would like to thank all those who have helped make GSA the vibrant organization that it is throughout the year and hope they will renew their commitment to it in the year to come.

THANKS VERY MUCH
Your Co-chairs,

Adel Iskandar Maria Brann
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The Faculty

L
ike the sun, I slowly move west. Dr. Sorin Matei mused upon his journeys from Romania, where he reported for the BBC and Radio Free Europe, to New York and then California, where he taught. The inertia almost took him to Hawaii, but instead he turned to Kentucky, drawn by U.K.'s vision for top 20 status and well-funded research.

M
atei's own research explores how individuals and communities use information technologies to sustain life, both locally and globally. The world he sees is a mediated network of informational, cultural, and symbolic flows between people and institutions at the local and international levels. Globalization makes this network denser. Matei is interested in studying which nations are at that network's center and what happens when the network gets too dense. His new class this fall will examine the evolution of virtual communities and their impact on society.

Gerry Benoit wrote a book chapter "Data Mining" in the Annual Review of Information Science & Technology (v. 36). Other forthcoming publications include "Towards a Critical Theoretic Perspective in Information Systems" in Library Quarterly and "Data Discretization for Interactive Information Visualization" in the Journal of the American Society for Information Science & Technology. He will present a paper, "Applying Communicative Action to Intergroup Reconciliation," at the International Communications Association in Seoul, Korea, this summer. His poster session presentation, "Interactive Visualization for Resource Co-Location," was accepted by the American Medical Library Association. Dr. Benoit is pursuing some on-going work with human-computer interaction-communication models to support reasoning "through" the interface, an application of communicative action.

Doug Boyd presented "The Future of Digital Radio Broadcasting in the Developing World" at the annual meeting of the Broadcast Education Association in Las Vegas on April 5.

Alan DeSantis and Susan Morgan (of Rutgers University) have had a manuscript--"Sometimes a Cigar [Magazine] is More Than Just a Cigar [Magazine]: Pro-Smoking Arguments in Cigar Aficionado, 1992-2001"--accepted for publication in the Journal of Health Communication. The work examines the role of the commercial press in supplying at-risk cigar smokers with defensive, pro-smoking messages that serve not only to rebuke the medical establishment's health warnings, but to also relieve cognitive dissonance.

Dr. DeSantis has been invited to present his research on at-risk cigar use at the Tobacco Control Policy Research Summit. He is also in the process of writing a book on the social construction of gender in the Greek System. Specifically, he is interested in the ways fraternities and sororities reinforce and/or challenge traditional notions of masculinity and femininity.

Nancy Harrington, Leola McClure, Jim Andrews, and Gretchen Norling are collaborating with researchers from the College of Pharmacy and the Martin School on a grant funded through the CDC to study ways to reduce medication errors. Dr. Harrington has also collaborated on the following papers with various members of the university:


Richard Labunski was a guest twice on Bill Goodman’s radio program. He discussed Shays-Meehan and campaign finance reform and later the public financing of gubernatorial campaigns in Kentucky and the state budget. Dr. Labunski also participated in a debate at the UK Law School, where he argued in favor of campaign finance reform. His book, The Second Constitutional Convention, discusses how to make elections more competitive and fair. (www.secondconvention.org) Dr. Labunski’s latest book, The Educated Student: Getting the Most Out of Your College Years, will be published this July. The book is for students and parents and is about how to succeed academically in college. (www.marleyandbeck.com)

Dr. Labunski has begun work on a book on James Madison and the Bill of Rights. He was recently awarded a Mellon Research Fellowship from the Virginia Historical Society to support research for the book. He will complete the fellowship this summer. He was also awarded a UK Research Committee grant for the book. The Madison book, his fifth, will require travel to Virginia and Washington, D.C. to review materials in research libraries, archives, and historical societies.

How do old and new media connections influence people’s perception of their neighborhoods? What role do these types of media play in community integration and civic health? The Lexington Civic Mapping project, directed by Sorin Matei, will explore these issues starting next fall. Those interested in working on this project or who want to learn more about it are welcome to contact Dr. Matei.

Farewell to longtime faculty member Ramona R. Rush. She is retiring in May, 2002, after 33 years of teaching, research, service, and administration in higher education. She was the first dean of the new U.K. College of Communications in 1977, with prior administrative and faculty positions at the University of Florida, Tulsa University, and Kansas State University. Rush will have a post-retirement appointment at U.K. during fall semester 2002 to complete funded research and a book about that research.

She sends this note: “I plan to have an omnium gatherum (party, y’all) for former students the raison d’être in my academic career, in early fall 2002. Please send me your updated email address and tell me that you have sleeping bag, will travel . . . to Kentucky in the fall.”
Gaelle Pitcherit (’00) and Kirk Duthler (’01) had a baby boy Tristan Picherit Duthler on October 27.

Congratulations to our newest Master’s graduates:

- Michelle Blaney
- Timothy Buckingham
- Spencer Christensen
- Elizabeth Garofalo
- Will Jenkins
- Katie Neisen
- Cartwright Stephens
- Christopher Thuringer

Job well done!!

Phil Palmgreen has collaborated on the following papers with various members of the college and university:

- **Ramona R. Rush**, Carol E. Oukrop, Kansas State University, and Pam Creedon. Kent State University will co-edit a book, Still Waters Run Deep: The Sojourn and Saga of Women in Journalism and Mass Communication Education. The book is the result of research funded by the Knight Foundation and Freedom Forum with Rush and Oukrop as co-principal investigators and more than 20 women in the U.S. and other countries as research associates. The research will be reported by Rush and Oukrop at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication in Miami in August, with the final report completed by December 2002. Rush is also co-editor of a special issue of the Journal of International Communication concerning research on communication and events surrounding 9/11.

**Fall 2002 Calendar**
- August 28: First day of classes
- September 2: Labor Day - Academic Holiday
- September 18: Last day to drop a course without it appearing on transcript.
- October 4: Fall Break - Holiday
- October 10: Last day for doctoral candidates for a December degree to submit a Notification of Intent to schedule a final examination.
- October 25: Last day to withdraw from a course.
- November 21: Last day for candidates for a December degree to schedule a final examination.
- November 28-30: Thanksgiving Holiday
- December 4-11: Add/Drop for registered students for the 2003 Spring Semester
- December 5: Last day for candidates for a December degree to sit for a final exam.
- December 13: Last day of classes
- December 16-20: Final Examinations
- December 20: Last day for candidates for a December degree to submit a thesis/dissertation.

**Destination Master’s in Communication**

The new Destination Master’s degree is a degree aimed at nontraditional students, especially communication professionals. This terminal M.A. degree focuses on applied communication theory and research through course work in three specific areas of interest: Communication Law and Policy; Information Systems, Communication and Technology; and Health Communication. Students who graduate from the program should be able to find positions in a broad cross-section of the media, particularly in management and policymaking, or to obtain promotions in their current positions.

**Health Communications Certificate**

The Graduate Program in Communication now offers a 12-hour Certificate in Health Communications for Communication M.A. and Ph.D. students, Ph.D. students from other UK programs, and post baccalaureate students. Requirements include CJT 671, 771, 775, and an elective.

During the last 15 years, the Graduate Faculty in Communication (of which at least 1/3 are active in health communication research) have obtained $25 million in federal grants in health communication. The doctoral program has been ranked 11th in the country for health communication research.