



**THE
GRADUATE
GAZETTE**

SPRING 2004, ISSUE 43

**UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION STUDIES
106 GREHAN BUILDING, LEXINGTON, KY 40506-0042**

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A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR GRADUATE STUDIES



Another academic year has come and gone all too quickly, and what a year it has been! A number of significant changes have been made in our Graduate Program in Communication as well as the Graduate School

policies, and more changes are on the way. We have had several highly successful events, including the 8th Annual Graduate Student Association Communication Symposium, the Visiting Students Weekend, the Spring Graduate Faculty Retreat, and the End of the Year GSA Picnic. I have been extremely pleased this year with the excellent leadership and work of the GSA. I have worked with our GSA for more than 15 years, and this has clearly been the best. My special thanks to Co-Chairs **Deborah Stigall** and **Judy Taylor** and the other officers, including Secretary **Nikki Floyd** and Treasurer **Carla Bevins**. Deborah and Carla, along with **Mary Lee Matuza**, also did fine work as graduate student representatives on the Program Committee.

Among the changes enacted this year are (1) a new doctoral qualifying exam policy, (2) a new CJT 790 ("Research Problems in Communication") policy statement, (3) a three-year projected schedule (through Fall 2007), and (4) a new college policy establishing release time for faculty for service on graduate committees, including master's theses, doctoral dissertations, and independent research. **Dr. Phil Palmgreen** worked with the College Personnel Committee, which I chaired, to develop a final version that was unanimously approved by both the Graduate Faculty and the College Assembly. The Graduate Faculty and the Graduate Council also approved phasing out the Destination Master's Program. Those students who are currently in the program will be permitted to continue, but no new students will be admitted beginning this fall. The decision arose from discussion at the Spring Graduate Faculty Retreat that, with the

prospect of declining resources, we should focus our efforts on the traditional theory and research-based master's program. Effective fall 2004, all master's students will now be required to take either the "Proseminar in Interpersonal Communication" (CJT 631) or the "Proseminar in Mass Communication Theory" (CJT 645) course. There were other curriculum changes, but these were the major ones. Finally, there is only one deadline for applications now--February 1. The Admissions and Financial Aid Committee will no longer consider applications in October.

Dr. Derek Lane chaired a committee this year to conduct a periodic review of the Graduate Program. I want to thank Dr. Lane and the other members of the committee--**Dr. Phil Palmgreen, Dr. Chike Anyaegbunam, Dr. Donald Case, Wai Cheah, and Deborah Stigall**--for all of the time and effort they spent in conducting a thorough and thoughtful review. **Dr. Don Cegala**, Professor of Communication and Family Medicine at Ohio State University, served

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EDITOR....DEBORAH J. STIGALL

A Message, continued

as the outside consultant. He spent two days on campus visiting with graduate students, faculty, staff, and **Dean J. David Johnson**. The Committee's final report, which includes Dr. Cegala's review and recommendations, will be made available on the Graduate Program website (www.uky.edu/CommInfoStudies/GRAD). Dr. Cegala and the committee made several recommendations that deserve careful consideration. If you have comments or observations, please feel free to share them with Dr. Lane via e-mail at drlane@uky.edu. This is a significant juncture in the progress of the Graduate Program, and the report provides a road map for the future.

You can expect to see major changes in the future in graduate education, both at the university level and at the program level, including new time limits for the master's, new doctoral residency credit options and closer supervision and more comprehensive assessment of teaching assistant performance.

As you read the rest of this issue of *The Graduate Gazette*, please notice all of the many accomplishments and awards of our graduate faculty, students, and alumni. Our resources, especially state support, continue to decline, as they have for programs all over the country. These cuts hurt all programs, including the Graduate Program in Communication at UK, but we must continue on our positive trajectory. Please do your part by turning to page 12, completing the form and sending us your contribution.

Have a great summer!



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KENTUCKY CONFERENCE ON HEALTH COMMUNICATION HELD APRIL 15-17

KCHC 2004 began on Thursday with a day of pre-conference sessions on "Health Communication and Health Psychology: Common Themes, Unique Contributions." The conference on Friday and Saturday addressed *The Future of Health Communication: Bridging Across Disciplines*. On Friday, paper sessions were held in the morning and afternoon. A panel on the National Cancer Institute's Cancer Information Service discussed opportunities for collaborative research through NCI and CIS. During Friday's luncheon, Gary Kreps, the winner of the 2004 Donohew Health Communication Scholar award, presented "Hints about Information Dissemination: The Health Information National Trends Survey."

On Saturday, several participants presented papers and a panel of distinguished health communication scholars presented models of programs and issues in graduate education in health communication. The conference wrapped up with an address by Michael Slater, Colorado State University.

Congratulations Graduates!**Doctoral Degree**

Ritta Abel
Maria Brann
Wai Hsien Cheah
John Seibert-Davis
Regina Francies
Jeff Groeling
Ajilina Karamehic
Laura Hayes Needham
John Youngblood
Stephen Yungbluth

Master's Degree

Simidele Adeagbo
Laura Deaton
Erika Harney
Keli Reynolds
Rebecca Warren

