

Let's Talk About It

Bloomsburg University Department of Communication Studies

Spring 2019 Newsletter

Bloom U's 'best-kept secret'

Future looks bright for NCASC after winning Organization of the Year

MONICA DIETZ
Communication Studies

This year I had the honor of being in National Communication Association Student Club (NCASC) here at Bloomsburg University. The NCASC is mostly populated by Communication Studies majors, but as I have learned, it can be a huge benefit regardless of which major you are part of.

Interviewing Dr. Shavonne Shorter (advisor from 2014-2018) provided me with even more knowledge of the club and the wonderful things it does for our campus.

One exciting event that the club participates in is Comm Day, a fantastic way for students to meet people and make connections. Comm Day is a one-day research conference where alumni, professors, etc come to present on communication and their experiences. Throughout the years,

Comm Day has gotten bigger and better, and had over 30 different connections at last year's event.

The NCASC hosts a multitude of panels at its meetings over the course of the academic year. These panels include guest speakers such as alumni, professors from the department or employees outside of the university. There's even a panel specifically for students who want to study abroad.

The NCASC has grown so much through the years, growing in size and popularity. Last year the club even had the great honor of winning Organization of the Year after plenty of hard work and dedication. Not only from Dr. Shorter and Dr. Hopec but other professors as well and most of all from the students who strive to make the organization successful.

After winning Organization of the Year, NCASC got the recognition it deserved. Since then, the



NCASC is all smiles after winning Organization of the Year.

club has made significant strides and accomplished many things such as the expansion of the club in hopes of enhancing the club and winning that title again.

The NCASC is said to be the "best-kept-secret" here at Bloom U, according to Dr. Shorter. So, open the doors and come on in – let's shine some more light on NCASC!

Faculty profile:

Dr. Janet Bodenman

MADISON HEINTZELMAN
Communication Studies

Dr. Janet Reynolds Bodenman is from Los Angeles, CA. She studied at The Pennsylvania State University where she earned her Ph.D. in Organizational Communication.

She loves everything she teaches because she is passionate about communication and in particular anything that is applied and focuses on communications skills. She believes these skills might help someone be more successful in finding and securing a career job, having marketable skills for their careers, and having fulfilling, satisfying, and healthy relationships with others.



Dr. Janet Bodenman joined the Bloomsburg University faculty in 1991.

Her most frequent courses include Leadership and Teambuilding, Interviewing, Public Speaking, Interpersonal Communication, Organizational Communication Theory and Communication in the Family.

Since Dr. Bodenman is a very dedicated mother, educator, and wife, when asked what she enjoys doing in her free time she responded, "Free time? HA! I'm a mom, so.... attend games, shows, performances, etc. involving my three young adult offspring."

"Volunteer as youth group leader at my church, sing in the choir, and lead mission trips in the summer. I love to travel, watch movies or theatre, go out to eat, shop with friends... but I don't find I have much time to do these things."

Even though Dr. Bodenman is incredibly busy, she loves what she does and is always ready to help students reach their goals.

Why joining Lambda Pi Eta is an honor

TIFFANY MUSSER
Communication Studies

Are you doing well in all of your classes but feel like you aren't involved? Are you trying to get one more thing to put on your resume to really put yourself at the top? Lambda Pi Eta just might be for you!

Lambda Pi Eta is the honor society for the Communication Studies! Their purpose is "to recognize, foster, and reward outstanding scholastic achievement in Communication Studies."

To be inducted into the honors society, you must have completed 60 semester hours, 12 hours

in Communication Studies, have a cumulative GPA of 3.0, and a GPA of 3.25 in Communication Studies. Members of Lambda Pi Eta have to earn ten points each semester by attending meetings, service projects, bake sales, and other events.

One of the events they host is the Speakers Forum. This semester's Speakers Forum was held on Nov. 12. The topic was "What grinds your gears?"

Four students spoke along with a keynote speaker. The keynote speaker was Albra Wheeler, an alumni of Bloomsburg University. She spoke on the hesitation women feel when express-

ing anger.

The other four speakers included Lindsey Ganel on mental health, Gabriel Miller on the misreading of texts, Carissa Phillips on walking outside of social norms, and Thomas Weber on the absurdity of life.

The Speakers Forum is always something many Communication Studies majors look forward to participating in or attending. Even if you don't like to speak, it is a good way to see firsthand how other students apply their public speaking skills.

Want to join? Lambda Pi Eta inducts new members every spring!

Giving students some credit

Department begins new one-credit initiative

KRISTA PEACHEY
Communication Studies

As of the Fall 2018 semester, the Communication Studies Department has implemented three new one-credit courses for students to take. These courses begin mid-way through the semester and go on for the duration of the semester.

The department created these courses to help students who withdraw from a class during the semester, and then realize this with-



Dr. Mary King teaches a one-credit class in Contemporary Romantic Relationships.

draw has put them off track for graduation. The courses offered this semester were Impromptu Speaking, taught by Dr. Tim Rumbough, Contemporary Romantic Relationships, taught by Dr. Mary King and Stress Management and Coping, taught by Dr. Skye Chernicky-Karcher.

I have personally taken Dr. Chernicky-Karcher's one-credit class and I have learned valuable coping methods to deal with my everyday stress.

This new department initiative is just one of many ways the Com-



Dr. Skye Chernicky-Karcher and Dr. Tim Rumbough are among the faculty teaching one-credit classes.

munication Studies Department faculty go above and beyond for their students.

Symposium shows best of BU's COLA

MADISON HEINTZELMAN AND
JORDAN WEBB
*Communication Studies and
Psychology*

Every fall semester, the College of Liberal Arts hosts an annual Symposium that features alumni panels, Bloomsburg University faculty and even a few students.

This semester's Symposium ran from Thursday, Oct. 4 to Friday, Oct. 5, highlighted by a keynote address from Yale University's Dr. Elijah Anderson.

The College of Liberal Arts presented nearly 30 different sessions, ranging from a Theatre alumni panel to Graphic Design, to career paths for Psychology majors. The main purpose of this

event is to educate students about topics that may be beneficial or interesting to them.

Students from the Event Planning class in the Communication Studies department assisted in the organization of the Symposium.

The class was divided into teams and assigned to specific tasks to complete in order to make the Liberal Arts Symposium (LAS) successful and as smoothly-run as possible. Some of their tasks were marketing the event, confirming speakers and classroom bookings, organizing parking for the event and arranging the technology for the event.

This gave these students a real-life look into what goes into planning an event, making the LAS a tremendous benefit for both the organizers and attendees.



Dr. Elijah Anderson's keynote discussion focused on civility and race relations.

Meet our secretary!

KRISTA PEACHEY
Communication Studies

Rachel Shaffer has been the secretary of the Communication Studies Department since January of 2018. She is an alumnus of Bloomsburg University who majored in History.

Rachel worked as a student worker with the prior secretary Karen Diltz for three years and went on to take over the position. Her favorite part about the Communication Studies Department is the how much the faculty cares for the students of Bloomsburg University.

In her free time, Rachel enjoys volunteering at the Columbia County Historical Society where she is a member of the publishing committee.

Preparing tomorrow's professionals

TIFFANY MUSSER AND
JOSHUA LLOYD
Communication Studies

If there is a great way to make connections with potential employers, it's Professional U! Professional U is a program at Bloomsburg University that helps students to connect with alumni, employers, and other opportunities that help students get professional experience in "real world" settings.

Students build confidence and skills needed to prepare them for their success personally and professionally for post-graduation. Professional U has a four-year plan to help students become successful in a complex global environment.

They use Handshake to help students make connections that could potentially lead to a job. Their plan is to have you "Get Ready, Get Experience, Get Connected, and Get Hired."

They want you to participate in workshops, write a resume, and learn how to dress in proper business attire. Then, they want you to get experience through job shadowing, internships, and academic research.

The next step is networking to get to know alumni and professionals that could help you into a career.

Finally, they want to get you hired! They want you to attend career fairs or attend interviews on campus. This helps you to practice your interviews while meeting important people that

would potentially want to hire you. They also can recruit you for internships or graduate school! ProfessionalU is a great way to make sure you are on the right track to success!

We got in touch with Professional Development Manager Lauren Polinski, who has lots to say about the Career Intensive Boot Camp, one of Professional U's biggest events.

What makes the Career Intensive Boot Camp unique among Bloomsburg University's professional experiences?

The Career Intensive Boot Camp (CIBC) is about helping students prepare for the transition from student to professional through the expertise of alumni and professionals in the field. We bring back over 40 alumni and professionals to each CIBC from a variety of industries, backgrounds, and class years to provide students with diverse perspectives.

What was the total attendance for students and alumni this past September? How does that compare to other semesters?

We had 46 alumni and professionals lead over 45 students through the program. This is average for the program. We have a maximum of 60 student participants.

Roughly how many Communications Studies majors attend each semester compared to students of other majors?

Communication Studies has been one of our leading majors for the CIBC. We typically see between 10-15 Communication Studies students participate each semester.

Why do you think this event is attractive to Comm. Studies majors?

I think that the CIBC is attractive to Communication Studies majors because it is an opportunity to learn how to apply the diverse skills set and competencies learned through Communication Studies coursework.

Because Communication Studies majors have a variety of fields that they can go into, the CIBC is an opportunity to learn about those fields and opportunities and connect with alumni and professionals that can help propel them into their desired industry.

What do students say is most helpful about the Boot Camp? What do alumni say is the most beneficial part?

Students say that the CIBC has helped them prepare for life after graduation, really understand the job search process, and increase their professional network. Alumni enjoy working with students and giving back to the university in a way that is meaningful and impactful to them.

They also enjoy the opportunity to help connect students with opportunities, provide mentorship, and lend advice on career

and professional development.

How does the CPDCE try to adapt and update the Boot Camp each semester?

Alumni and Professional Engagement takes the feedback from both students and volunteers to continuously improve the program. In addition to suggested areas of improvement, we also have proposed sessions submitted each semester from volunteers to highlight special topics and keep content current.

How does the Boot Camp further the goals of Professional U?

CIBC furthers the Professional U initiative by providing a high impact experience for students in their Junior or Senior year. It helps students get connected to opportunities for the remainder of their time at BU and as graduates, allows students to feel prepared both personally and professionally for life after BU, and enhances skills that employers are looking for in candidates!

When and where will the Boot Camp be held this Spring?

Spring CIBC is set for March 1, 2, 3 at The Greenly Center. Students can register at: https://bloomu.joinhandshake.com/events/203459/share_preview.



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