Early on in the 2017 spring semester, Bloomsburg University held its 11th annual Husky Student Leadership Summit. This annual leadership conference is presented by the Center for Leadership & Engagement. Participants were an array of groups including BU Alumni, faculty, staff, and student leaders. Dr. Elizabeth Petre and Dr. Kai Kuang served on the HSLS planning committee and helped promote the summit around campus.

The leadership summit is a great opportunity for students to network with BU Alumni, enhance their leadership skills, learn more about ways to get involved in campus life, and engage in workshops for their CLE Leadership Certification Program. The Summit’s focus is on professional development. Participants received the opportunity to engage in mock interviews, resume review sessions, personal branding consultation meetings, professional headshots, panel discussions, a career fair, and a networking leadership luncheon.

Communication Studies seniors Amy Loftus, Kaelin McMenamy, and Suzanne Noll presented their session entitled “Fearless Connections”. The session was initially developed in Dr. Elizabeth Petre’s Leadership and Team Building course during the Fall 2016 semester and was selected for presentation at the summit. It was designated as a Level 2 workshop for the Leadership Certification Program sponsored by the Center for Leadership & Engagement. “Fearless Connections” focused on improving interpersonal and online communication skills so students can feel confident about networking and connecting with professionals when they apply for jobs and internships. As a whole, the Husky Student Leadership Summit was a great success this year!

Written by Alexis Freer
National Communication Association Student Club

The National Communication Association Student Club (NCASC) is a professional organization for students. The NCASC holds bi-weekly meetings that are open to anyone regardless of their major. This past semester, the NCASC had numerous guest speakers at its meetings and sponsored a few bake sales and campus events.

Referring to guest speakers, Brandi Boatner was kind enough to Skype with the club to provide insight on her experiences with interviewing for IBM, including how to answer tricky interview questions and what a typical day at IBM looks like for her. The NCASC also invited guest speaker Dr. Jim Petre to a meeting to discuss student loans, including the various methods in which students could pay their loans back, and how to mitigate the stress that comes along with figuring out student loans.

Speaking of fundraising and events, the NCASC held Valentine’s Day and St. Patrick’s Day bake sales to raise money for the club, in addition to holding multiple fundraisers at Wendy’s, where a percentage of what you spent there on a certain date would go towards the NCASC. The NCASC also planned the university event known as Communication Day, where we host several guest speakers to discuss various Communication Studies-related topics in an engaging and open fashion.

This club gives students the opportunity to learn, grow, and develop professionally within their coursework and career paths. The versatility of the degree is emphasized within this organization, and it focuses on providing its members with numerous opportunities and plentiful insight when it comes to both personal and career development.

Written by Shelby Minier

Lambda Pi Eta

Lambda Pi Eta is the official Communication Studies honor society of the National Communication Association. The honor society’s purpose is to recognize, foster and reward outstanding scholastic achievement in Communication Studies. In order to become a member of Lambda Pi Eta, students must have a 3.0 cumulative GPA with 60 credit hours completed and a 3.25 GPA for Communication Studies courses. Students will be invited to join this club if they reach the given requirements. As a member of LPE, students are required to earn 10 points each semester by participating in events, paying dues, and attending monthly meetings.

This past year, LPE had many guest speakers who discussed helpful information that students will need after graduation. Dr. Jim Petre was one of the guest speakers. He spoke to the club about how to manage loans, grants, and the best tactics to use in order to successfully manage finances.

Dr. Bodenman was another guest speaker. She gave many helpful hints on how to make a good first impression, how to successfully engage in interviews, and what to do and what not to do during an interview. This past year, there was a guest speaker at every other meeting. Members of the club learned a lot of valuable information.

Written by Sara Hagen

NCASC Team

Written by Sara Hagen

Lambda Pi Eta Board

Written by Shelby Minier
The 108th Eastern Communication Association Convention was hosted in Boston, Massachusetts. It took place at the Omni Parker House from March 29th to April 2nd. This year’s theme was “Freedom To... Freedom From...,” which lead to opportunities for scholars to broaden their perspectives of thinking and be open to others. Scholars from all over came to attend and present at this convention.

Five students flew to Boston they are Jenna Mapes, Amy Loftus, Kasey Sullivan, Kaitlyn Rhine, and Nicole Kelly. They presented on Individual Romantic Experiences of Unplanned Pregnancy. This topic stemmed from Dr. King’s Relational Communication class.

Professors of Bloomsburg University also attended the ECA and many even presented. Dr. Shorter presented on a few topics such as, “Managing Private Discourse in the Interpersonal and Family Communication Classroom: Exploring Social Media With Communication Privacy Management.” Dr. King and her co-author Dr. Theiss received the Eastern Communication Association Article of the Year award for their article titled “The Communicative and Physiological Manifestations of Relational Turbulence During the Empty-nest Phase of Marital Relationships”, which can be found in Communication Quarterly.

The 109th Eastern Communication Association Convention will be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 2018.

Communication Day

Each spring, The National Communication Association Student Club, or more popularly known as the NCASC, hosts an annual Communication Day. Communication Day is a one day conference where students, faculty, staff, and alumni speakers present communication research. The NCASC takes pride in this event that brought together 21 presenters from across the university to present to the student body. The showcase for Communication Day consists of a number of different panels and speakers presenting on topics that they are passionate about. Dr. Shorter discussed “Communicating Intentionally” and using Communication Studies to one’s advantage. Dr. King shared her topic “Liking, Swiping, and Flirting: A Practical Approach to Successful Romantic Relationship Initiation”, which was a highly popular presentation. Communication Day is one of the many great opportunities that the NCASC offers in order to provide information and skills for the students of the University.
The annual Career Connections Expo is organized and hosted by the Center for Professional Development and Career Experience and is held in the Nelson Field House each fall and spring semester. The expo is an event that allows students to explore and network with potential full and part-time employment opportunities, internship opportunities, graduate programs and even job shadowing experiences in all of the majors that Bloomsburg University offers. There were over 100 organizations in attendance in the fair this past spring semester including Crayola, UPS, CVS Pharmacy, Enterprise Holdings, Knoebels Amusement Resort and all areas and agencies.

The expo is open to all students in all majors. Before the expo, it is important for students to prepare in advance to increase their chances of a positive and successful experience. Business-professional attire is a requirement for the expo. During the expo, students can expect to speak with several recruiters and campus representatives throughout the day. Students can bring a portfolio to gather information and take notes about specific organizations that interest them. Students are encouraged to greet recruiters with a confident smile and handshake as well as thanking them at the end of the conversation.

Students may think their work is finished once the career expo ends, not realizing that networking does not end there. Keeping in touch and following up with recruiters is a good way to seek out potential job and internship opportunities. Following up with an email or handwritten “thank you” within 24 hours is a great way to leave an impact on representatives that students meet during the expo. Lastly, students should take the time to thoroughly complete applications and send in their resumes to recruiters that interested them during the expo. Feedback from students that attended the expo was overwhelmingly positive.

Written By Sami Kraeutler