



The COMM Husker

University of Nebraska – Lincoln
Department of Communication Studies Newsletter

From the Chair's Chair

Greetings Current Faculty and Students, Alumni, and Friends of UNL Communication Studies.

If you are reading this letter, you are more than likely a valued colleague, alum, student, or friend of the department. As some of you already know, this past spring the dean told me "Bill, you have been chair too long." I wasn't sure exactly what he was trying to tell me. But in retrospect it has been 21 years, which is a long time for anyone to be chair of an academic department. The years have gone by way too quickly and I will go back to what I was first hired to do and that is to be a professor. Except for the constant looming budget cuts and the potential elimination of the department in my second year as chair it has been a fun ride. What I am most proud of is the success of our alums. I wish I could name all of them and thank each one for representing our program and Nebraska so well. I admire the faculty, staff, and students that have been associated with our program over the years.

I will never forget the day Dean John Peters (now President of Northern Illinois University) came to me in late summer of 1990 and asked me to be chair starting in the fall. I immediately responded with a resounding "no thank you!" I knew what the job entailed because I saw how hard Gus Friedrich, Jim Klump, and Jack Kay worked and I wasn't sure that I had their motivation or even desire to work as hard as they did. But Dean Peters insisted that I take the job and with a few nudges here and there--the rest is history.

I wish to introduce the incoming chair, Dr. Ron Lee. I hired Ron in spring to teach in the fall of 1991. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Iowa and was one of three hires that year. The other two hires were Drs. Kathleen Krone and Kathryn Carter. Little did I know nor did they that after being on the faculty for a little over two weeks that the department would be considered for elimination. It was an exciting time for all of us to say the least. The department since 1992 has established itself as a thriving and extremely well respected department. I believe Ron has all the prerequisite leadership abilities to move the department to the next level. The department continues to improve and under Ron's leadership I suspect there will be many more good things to come. So, please give him your support when he takes over on January 1, 2011.

I wish to thank each and every one of you for your support over the years. It truly has been my pleasure to work & serve so many terrific people. I have to admit I did a darn fine job of getting some of the best people in the country. I must give a special thanks to my administrative assistant Donelle Moormeier. She has been terrific to work with over the years. I also give a huge special thanks to Kathi, my wife, for her love, her understanding of my job and for the wonderful fall picnics and holiday gatherings that she did at our home for so many years.

So thanks to all of you for your loyalty and support over the 21 years. Now back to business.

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*Newsletter Editors:
Tiffany R. Wang &
Dawn O. Braithwaite*

From the Chair's Chair

Fund raising is always a delicate subject to bring up especially during these economic times but the department needs your financial support more than ever. As many you know it has been so important to the success of our program. Please, please consider supporting the department; see page 3 of the newsletter for more details on how and why to contribute. Thank you!



Please keep us posted on your news. And if you should return to Lincoln, please make sure that you stop by and visit us.

Bill Seiler

Dr. Bill Seiler
Professor and Chair

COMM Club Update

UNL's Communication Studies Club is off to a great start this fall! With many of our members graduating last spring, our primary focus this year has been on recruitment. At our first meeting on October 4th, we welcomed nearly 20 new members from a variety of majors, including Advertising, Business, Education, Interior Design, and Journalism. Currently, we are planning several activities that center around our departmental mission. Our members are particularly interested in guest speakers that can share information about careers and internships in communication. Alumni, this means you! We would love to have you tell us about what you are doing with your degree in communication. Comm Club meetings take place on the first Monday of every month and are open to all majors. Please email us at commclub.unl@gmail.com if you would like additional information.

Kristen Carr & Sara Baker, Comm Club Advisors

From the Desk of the Graduate Director

One great opportunity I have had as President of the National Communication Association is to speak at different conferences and visit with a wide variety of scholars. I hear over and over how impressed our national colleagues are with UNL and the excellence of our graduate students. I never disagree with anyone who says this about us! We are very proud of our current graduate students and our alumni who continue to represent us so well.

Our new graduate students are off and running this fall. We continue to recruit and enroll top quality scholars with a national profile. In my analysis we admitted only about 12% of doctoral applicants and 5% of M.A. applicants, admitting top students with a national profile. Our new students hail from University of Alabama, San Diego State, Central Michigan, George Mason, University of Montana, and University of Central Florida. These students had conference papers, research experience, and came highly recommended from top scholars in the discipline. They are doing very well this fall, and from what I can see on

Facebook, they have happily discovered Nebraska Football and are enjoying Lincoln.

Our returning students are also distinguishing themselves. We have named our first three Phyllis Japp Scholars for 2010-2011: Scott Church, Haley Kranstuber, and Sarah Steimel (read more about the Phyllis Japp Scholars on page 5). Scott Church and Tiffany Wang were among the 31 students selected to attend the NCA Doctoral Honors Seminar this past summer (it was a highly competitive field of 90+ applicants). In recent months students have had publications accepted, presented papers at conferences (several Top Papers), and won awards. You'll see news about some of these

accomplishments in this newsletter.

We do appreciate those alumni who support our current students, giving financial support, helping with data collections, giving advice on the job market, and reading dissertation chapters.



Dr. Braithwaite takes in a Newport Beach sunset

Dawn O. Braithwaite

Dr. Dawn O. Braithwaite
Willia Cather Professor and
Director of Graduate Studies

Spotlight on Graduate Alumnus Dr. Thomas Hollihan



1) During which years were you a student at UNL? Which degree(s) did you earn at UNL? When did you graduate?

I studied at UNL from 1975 until 1978 and graduated with my Ph.D. in December, 1978.

2) Why did you choose a degree in Communication Studies?

The department was called Speech Communication when I studied at UNL. I had been interested in speech since I was in junior high school. I participated on the debate team and discovered that giving speeches was actually something I was pretty good at, at least compared to my athletic abilities. I stuck with debate all through high school and college and that drew me into the discipline.

3) What brought you to study Communication at UNL?

The assistantship offer! Both my spouse Patti Riley and I were seeking doctorate, and we were actually going to have to live on our graduate stipends. Even though it was pretty meager, the UNL offer was more generous than the offer from

Northwestern and the rent in Lincoln was much cheaper than the rent in Evanston. I also knew the work of several members of the faculty including the debate coach at the time, Jackson Harrell, and I thought I would enjoy working with him. Of course, Harrell left UNL before I even arrived. His move worked out for me though as my undergraduate debate coach and M.A. thesis advisor Jim Klumpp was hired to replace him. Let there be no doubt that Klumpp chose Nebraska so he could continue to work with me!

4) What have you been doing since leaving UNL?

I spent two years (1978-1980) as an assistant professor at Illinois State. I moved to USC as an assistant professor and as the director of forensics in 1980. I have been here ever since. I got out of forensics in 1990, but then served as department chair for six years and as an associate dean for ten years.

5) What is a favorite memory of your time in Communication Studies at UNL?

I recall most the camaraderie between the students and faculty members. It was common for us to gather for social events on the weekend and to dine together. I met colleagues who would become lifelong friends. I remember the pre-game and post-game football parties, the margaritas at Tico's, prime rib at Misty's, and pizza at Valentino's. Don't everyone's best memories revolve around food and drink?

6) In what ways can alumni support our department and students?

One, of course, is by offering financial contributions to ensure that today's

students enjoy the best educational experience possible, including access to world class professors, cutting edge communication technologies, research funds, and opportunities for travel to conferences. All states are experiencing financial challenges today and as a result university budgets are being cut. Every contribution, no matter how small, helps. UNL has always suffered under tight budgets and the available funds have never matched the ambitions of the faculty and students. Surely these ambitions will grow still further as the university begins to compare itself to its peer institutions in the Big 10 conference. All alumni should want UNL to compete as successfully in academics as it will in athletics. Second, alumni can give back by promoting the department through their networking efforts. Alumni can offer to mentor a current student, help fellow graduates find employment, or recommend their own best students for admission to graduate study at UNL.

7) What advice do you have for current undergraduate/graduate students in our department?

Work hard and play hard. Understand that your college years are brief and you should therefore take advantage of as many opportunities as you can. Attend as many public lectures and events as possible. Ask lots of questions. Seek out and meet people from different disciplines, cultures, and professional backgrounds. Try to be open-minded, curious, ambitious and disciplined. Focus on your personal and professional goals but also on your ability to help shape the society in which you and someday your children and grandchildren will live.

You Can Make a Difference!

We appreciate our undergraduate alumni and their parents and our graduate alumni who have expressed their thanks to the department and faculty. We are especially thankful for those who are donating to the department. We do need your help and are extremely grateful.

Your financial support is important to our program and is of direct help to graduate and undergraduate students: support the Communication Studies Club, help students attend professional conferences, recruit undergraduate majors and graduate students, or host our reception at the NCA annual meeting.

Phyllis Japp Student Development Fund: The fund honors Dr. Phyllis Japp who retired from UNL this year. Thanks to our donors we named our first three Phyllis Japp Scholars this fall. Please help us honor her and help top students with research and conference expenses. We'll need ongoing donations to keep giving awards. Two alumni

colleagues each contributing \$20 per month will support one Phyllis Japp Scholar next year. Together we can make a real difference for students.

DONATING IS EASY:

We need financial donations, both big and small. It takes just a few minutes to set up an automatic monthly donation or make a one-time donation. Go to <http://nufoundation.org/Page.aspx?pid=450> and click "Give Now" and choose "one-time gift" or "recurring gift" Also, we welcome "in-kind" support. Donors have invited students to room with them at conferences or paid hotel rooms for students. Others have donated help with our website or departmental brochures, or been a guest speaker at a Communication Studies Club meeting.

Contact us to discuss how you can make a financial or in-kind donation. We assure you that all of your support means so much. There is No Place Like Nebraska. **Go Big Red!**

Spotlight on Undergraduate Alumna Amanda McGill



1) During which years were you a student at UNL? Which degree(s) did you earn at UNL? When did you graduate?

I was a student at UNL from 1998 to December 2002 and earned degrees in Broadcasting and Political Science, with a minor in Communication Studies.

2) Why did you choose a minor in Communication Studies?

I knew that to share my views with society and make an impact, I would have to communicate effectively. Even more than my Communication classes, working with the Forensics team taught me how to organize my ideas, speak with passion, and grow from constructive criticism.

3) What brought you to study Communication at UNL?

I started on the Forensics team as a freshman and learned that to understand the art of communication on a deeper level I needed to take classes in my areas of interest, like political communication.

4) What have you been doing since leaving UNL?

I have been serving in the Nebraska Legislature for four years representing Legislative District 26. Before that, I was a television journalist for two and a half years directly out of college.

5) What has communication brought to your career?

Communication plays a critical role in politics, whether I am campaigning or sharing my ideas with my colleagues. My time practicing public speaking as an undergrad prepared me to deliver speeches and participate in debates over pending legislation.

6) What is a favorite memory of your time in Communication Studies at UNL?

Primarily, I remember the supportive family I had within the Communication Studies Department and the Forensics Team.

7) In what ways can alumni support our department and students?

Continue to support UNL Forensics. Out of my entire time in college, nothing taught me more than the one-on-one coaching I received and competitions I participated in around the country. It can be costly for the team to travel, so you can donate to the forensics fund or create a scholarship for students. You can also volunteer to judge when UNL hosts its annual tournament.

8) What advice do you have for current students?

Participate in activities outside of the classroom. You will make life-long friends and learn to apply the ideas and concepts you study.

UNL Reception at NCA San Francisco

Those attending the National Communication Association meeting in San Francisco are cordially invited to join us for our annual reception:

Monday, November 15th, 7:30-9:00 pm

To be held in NCA President Dr. Dawn O. Braithwaite's suite
(Hilton San Francisco State Suite, Room #1952, 19th Floor, Tower 3)

Visit with old friends and meet new ones! See you there!

Forensics Team Triumphs Again at State Tournament

The speech team placed 9th in the nation at American Forensics Association's National Individual Events Tournament. Senior communication major Allison Ronnau was the national runner-up in informative speaking and senior Taylor Sloey placed 4th in prose interpretation.

The team also had a strong showing at the National Forensics Association tournament where the debate team finished 11th. At the state level the team achieved the rare

feat of winning the state speech title, the state debate title, and the overall title. This is the 5th consecutive year the team has won the state speech title and the first time in more than a decade the team has won the state debate title.

This year promises to continue the long tradition of Husker forensics success. The team welcomes two new assistant coaches David Tuck and Darrel Farmer. The season kicks off September 25th-26th at Sterling College.

Introducing the 2010 Phyllis Japp Scholars



**SCOTT
CHURCH**

Classification: 3rd
Year Ph.D. Student

Hometown:

Sandy, UT

B.A.: Brigham Young
Univ.

M.A.: Southern Utah Univ.

Primary Area: Rhetoric & Culture

Secondary Area: Interpersonal &
Family

Research Interests: rhetoric and
public culture, aesthetics and digital
media, remix culture, popular culture,
media ecology

Dissertation Title: All living things
are DJs: A rhetorical approach to remix
culture



**HALEY
KRANSTUBER**

Classification: 3rd
Year Ph.D. Student

Hometown:

Westfield Center, OH

B.A.: Miami Univ.

M.A.: Miami Univ.

Primary Area: Interpersonal & Family

Secondary Area: Instructional

Research Interests: narratives,
adoptive families, family messages
and childhood obesity, transmission
of family stories and messages

Dissertation Title: The relationship
between family socialization practices
and adult well-being: A narrative
approach to investigating health
socialization in relation to childhood
obesity



**SARAH
STEIMEL**

Classification: 4th
Year Ph.D. Candidate

Hometown:

Arlington, TX

B.B.A.: Univ. of
Oklahoma

M.A.: Kansas State Univ.

M.A.: Kansas State Univ.

Primary Area: Organizational

Secondary Area: Rhetoric & Culture

Research Interests: how people
internal/external to the organization
experience/manage tensions as they
communicate across traditional
organizational boundaries

Dissertation Title: Negotiating
tensions across organizational
boundaries: Communication and
refugee resettlement organizations

Cheryl Kruid Bids Farewell



My life here in the Comm Studies Department has been the best 9 1/2 years that I have ever experienced in the workforce. It is

because the people here ARE THE BEST! (hard to find words just now...lump in throat). This department has the best faculty, grad students, staff (Donelle is awesome!), adjunct staff and student workers in the whole of UNL! I have grown to cherish each and every one and it has been such a pleasure to have met and worked with you all, watch your families grow and be a part of your lives in this way. I will miss you tremendously!

When I started, I had only intended to work here for 5 years. It became such a pleasurable experience that I

began to think I'd never leave. You know, I was starting to think about retiring from UNL! LOL! I have to tell you that I had no idea what it was like to work at a university before coming here. When it came time for my first round of grad students to leave, I totally didn't understand! As they received job offers and began leaving, I wondered why they were leaving such a great place. Besides, I was attached to them! Little did I know, they were done with their studies and the object of coming to grad school was to get a degree and go elsewhere and teach or get a job in their field. I had NO IDEA! My heart had some serious adjusting to do... Well, as we all know, it gets easier, but it's still so hard! It's even a little difficult for me when our work study students graduate! I don't care how many times it happens... I'm still like a mother hen seeing her chicks go

off on their own adventures, starting new chapters in their lives.... And now, I'm doing the very same thing! Off to Saipan, a 47 square mile tropical island of 40,000 people, east of the Philippines in the Pacific Ocean.

I have a philosophy about the workplace... your workplace IS what YOU make it! I definitely wanted my workplace to be an enjoyable experience and thus, I tried to make it so! I hope I succeeded! I believe in making a difference wherever you go, even if it's a small one! I am going to really miss my Comm Studies family and UNL buds! (Tears as I write this).... My heart is full! I am blessed by you all. Please keep in touch! I'm on Facebook and my email address is clkruid@aol.com. Hafa Adai (hello in the native language in Saipan)! Until we meet again my friends..... Cheryl

Alumni Updates: Personal & Professional Endeavors

Davis Anderson (B.A., 2003): I joined the Navy after college and became a journalist. During my time so far, I have traveled around the circumference of the globe and deployed to Iraq, the Persian Gulf, and Asia. I have written about 200 stories, communicating the Navy's message to internal and external audiences. I also shoot photographs and video for the Navy. I recently moved to Millington, Tennessee and am currently traveling across the United States documenting Navy Weeks. My wife and I welcomed our second son into the world May 12, 2010.

Melissa L. Beall (B.A., M.A., Ph.D., 1982): I was recently elected to my sixth consecutive term on the Executive Board of the World Communication Association (Vice-President, North America).

Karla Mason Bergan (Ph.D., 2006): Professionally, I have

had two new publications this year. Bergen, K. M. (2010). Negotiating a 'questionable' identity: Commuter wives and social networks. *Southern Communication Journal*, 75, 35-56. Bergen, K. M. (2010). Accounting for difference: Commuter wives and the master narrative of marriage. *Journal of Applied Communication Research*, 38, 47-64. I continue to be active in NCA and CSCA and hope to see many of you at conferences this fall and spring. I am enjoying my stint as a member of the Editorial Board for the Journal of Family Communication. On campus, I've been appointed to the Core Curriculum Task Force to review and make recommendations regarding the College of Saint Mary's core curriculum requirements and will be attending the Association for General and Liberal Studies conference in Austin in October with several other CSM colleagues I've also been tasked with starting a Toastmaster's club on campus, and am pleasantly surprised

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about what I've learned about Toastmasters, in contrast to the negative light in which the group tends to be regarded by many communication scholars. Personally, I am enjoying decorating our new townhome less than 2 miles from campus that we purchased this summer in Omaha. I am looking forward to celebrating some family milestones this fall and winter. My mom will be turning 90 on October 25 and celebrated early by purchasing a laptop computer! My granddaughter, Ava Rose, (who many of you know is the apple of my eye!) will be turning two in December. Ava's mama, my daughter, Ann, will be graduating from UNL with her M.A. in Educational Leadership in December. Ann teaches 2nd grade in Gothenburg, NE, where she lives with her husband, Mark, and Ava.

Linda B. Dickmeyer (Ph.D., 1998): Linda just received the WKBT Everyday Hero for September. She was nominated by a student for her contributions to students and to the department as chair. She is featured on the news and on the local television station website. In addition, there will be a dinner in her honor at HEROES restaurant in La Crosse, WI at the end of September.

Christina Foust (M.A., 2000): In June, 2010, my first book "Transgression as a Mode of Resistance: Rethinking Social Movement in an Era of Corporate Globalization" was published with Lexington Books. The book charts two major theoretical perspectives which have accompanied the vibrant practice of social change since industrialization: hegemony and transgression. It considers the ways in which anarchist and autonomous resistance challenge traditional social movement theory, through rich historical case studies and a variety of scholarly debates.

Mary Gill (Ph.D., 1991): After serving as Associate Dean of Faculty for seven years at Buena Vista University, I am

returning to full-time teaching for the spring semester, 2011 after completing a leave of absence this fall.

Meredith (Marko) Harrigan (Ph.D., 2006): Along with co-author, Dawn O. Braithwaite, Meredith had an article titled "Discursive Struggles in Families Formed through Visible Adoption: An Exploration of Dialectical Unity" published in the *Journal of Applied Communication Research*, 38, 127-144. Meredith is also serving as the Chair of ECA's Interpersonal Interest Group for the spring 2011 conference.



UNL Ph.D. Grad Emily Lamb Normand (2010) with co-advisor Dr. Dawn O. Braithwaite at graduation day 2010

Kerk F. Kee (B.A., 2000): I got my bachelor's from UNL, and then went to San Diego State for my master's and the University of Texas at Austin for my Ph.D. I just completed my Ph.D. on Aug 16, 2010 and immediately started teaching on Aug 30, 2010 at Chapman University in Orange County as a tenure track assistant professor in the Department of Communication Studies.

Tracy Levine (B.A., MS 1994): Since graduation, I moved back to my home state of New York and worked in Human Resources for 6 years. After that I went back to school and earned a M.S. degree in Elementary Education. I switched careers and became a teacher. I got married and have a 5 year old daughter. In 2010, I moved to Florida with my family and am currently teaching kindergarten.



UNL Ph.D. Grad Jason Thompson (2008) at Beijing National Stadium (also known as The Birds' Nest)

Aimee Miller (Ph.D., 2007): Engaged to Christopher Ott of Guilford, CT, to be married in June 2011. Elected program planner for ECA Interpersonal Communication division for 2012 conference in Cambridge, MA. Elected member of NCA's Committee on Committees. Won recent Innovations in Teaching and Learning award at University of Hartford for her work on undergraduate research projects in her Research Methods class.

Cheri Niedzwiecki (BS, Ph.D., 1986): Cheri was honored with an award from National Residence Hall Honorary.

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UNL Ph.D. Grads Erika Kirby (2000), Karla Mason Bergen (2006), and Chad McBride (2003) at Creighton

Emily Lamb Normand (Ph.D., 2010): I finally graduated with my Ph.D. this May 2010. Under the direction of Drs. Dawn Braithwaite and Jordan Soliz, I completed my dissertation: "The Experience and Expression of Emotion within Stepsibling Relationships: Politeness of Expression and Stepfamily Functioning." I am currently an Assistant Professor of Communication at Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais, IL. I live in Elwood, IL with my husband Bill, two year old daughter Adeline and we are expecting our second child any day now.

Matt Pickering (B.A., 1994): Following graduation from UNL, I worked in the Oklahoma State University Athletic Department from 1994-1997 earning a MS from OSU in 1996. From 1997-2007, I worked in the Texas Tech University Athletic Department in the Athletic Academic Support program. During this time, I earned a Master's of Divinity in 2006 from Lubbock Christian University. In 2007 I began a yearlong residency with Alegent Health in Omaha, NE. Reported for active duty in 2008 and currently a US Navy Chaplain stationed in Norfolk, VA assigned to the Helicopter Sea Combat Wing Atlantic Fleet.

Marcus A. Powers (JD, 2005): Graduated from UNL College of Law in 2008, focusing on water law issues. Employed by the Nebraska Attorney General's Office as an Assistant Attorney General. Argued before the Nebraska Supreme Court in September 2010.

James Putz (Ph.D., 1997): Dr. James Putz was recently honored as the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Instructional Academic Staff Member Award for Excellence in Service. Jim has been a valued member on campus for his efforts with the basic course, his work with Murphy Library,

and his contributions to the Communication Studies Department

Cynthia L. Robinson (Ph.D., 2005): Assistant Professor in the School of Communication. Tenure date 2012. Areas of emphasis: Interpersonal Communication, Identity, Race, Culture

Jack E. Sargent (Ph.D., 2000): Published this spring with Dr. Sandra Petronio an article titled "Disclosure Predicaments Arising During the Course of Patient Care: Nurses' Privacy Management" in *Health Communication*. Also published with Dr. Ann Burnett and Dr. Diane Badzinski an article titled "Using Multiple Coding Schemes to Understand Argument in In The Jury Room" in the journal *Communication Methods and Measures*.



UNL B.A. Grad Davis Anderson (2003) at Navy Week at Fenway Park in Boston

Scott Titsworth (Ph.D., 1999): Named the Director of the School of Communication Studies at Ohio University

Jason Thompson (Ph.D., 2008): I was a faculty member selected to teach in the CUNY-Brooklyn College study abroad program in China this year (May 28-June 23). It was a great experience.

Shawn T. Wahl (Ph.D., 2003): Shawn Wahl's new textbook, *Business and Professional Excellence: KEYS for Workplace Excellence*, published by Sage comes out this fall



UNL Ph.D. Grad Loreen N. Olson (2000) with twins Keaton and Kenyon

Department of Communication Studies

Departmental Accomplishments

Academic Year 2009/2010



Kathi Seiler, Cheryl Kruid, and Dr. Bill Seiler at Cheryl's going away reception

FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

UNL Communication Studies Faculty published 2 books:

- **Braithwaite, D. O.**, & Wood, J. T. (2011). *Casing interpersonal communication: Case studies in personal and social relationships*. Dubuque, IA: Kendall/Hunt.
- **Seiler, W. J.**, & Beall, M. L. (2011). *Communication: Making connections* (8th ed.). Boston: Pearson.

They published 17 refereed articles in journals, including:

- *Argumentation & Advocacy*
- *Communication Quarterly*
- *Communication Studies*
- *Communication Teacher*
- *Journal of Applied Communication Research*
- *Journal of Family Communication*
- *Journal of Language & Social Psychology*
- *Journal of Marriage & Family*
- *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*
- *Management Communication Quarterly*
- *Personal Relationships*
- *Women's Studies in Communication*

Additionally, they published 10 book chapters in volumes such as:

- *Casing Interpersonal Communication: Case Studies in Personal and Social Relationships*
- *Feeling Hurt in Close Relationships*
- *Handbook of Communication Science*
- *Intercultural Communication: A Reader*
- *Making Connections: Readings in Relational Communication*
- *New Directions in Interpersonal Communication*

- *Parents and Children Communicating with Society: Managing Relationships Outside of Home*
- *The Dark Side of Close Relationships II*

They have been recognized for their research and teaching excellence, including:

- Charles A. Braithwaite, Best Anthology (with B. Glasrud), The Nebraska Center for the Book
- Dawn O. Braithwaite, Top Paper (with P. Schrodt), Family Communication Division, NCA
- Kristen Lucas, Central States Communication Association Outstanding New Teacher Award
- Kristen Lucas, Feminist Scholarship Award Nominee (with S. Steimel), Executive Officers of the Organization for Research on Women in Communication.
- Damien Pfister, Spotlight Panel, Critical/Cultural Studies Division, NCA
- Jordan Soliz, Top Four Papers (with C. E. Rittenour & C. A. Fowler), Communication and Aging Division, NCA
- Jordan Soliz, Top Three Papers (with C. A. Fowler), Communication and Aging Division, NCA

UNL Faculty serve in leadership roles in our professional associations, including:

- Dawn O. Braithwaite, President, NCA



2010-2011 UNL Faculty and Graduate Students

GRAD STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

UNL Graduate Students published 1 book:

- Ward, J., Campbell, K., & **Nichols, Z.** (2010). *Essentials of Business and Professional Communications*. Southlake, TX: Fountainhead Press.

They published 9 refereed articles in journals, including:

- *Communication Quarterly*
- *Communication Reports* ...continued on next page



Dr. Dawn O. Braithwaite and graduate student Tiffany Wang (front row, third and second from right) at the 2010 NCA Doctoral Honors Seminar

- *Communication Studies*
- *International Journal of Communication*
- *Journal of Family Communication*
- *Journal of Information Technology & Politics*
- *Journal of Refugee Studies*
- *The Journal of Continuing Higher Education*
- *Women's Studies in Communication*

Additionally, they published 4 book chapters in volumes such as:

- *Casing Interpersonal Communication: Case Studies in Personal and Social Relationships*
- *Labyrinth Paths: Women's Leadership Development and Communicative Praxis in the Twenty-first Century*
- *Making Connections: Readings in Relational Communication*
- *The Dark Side of Close Relationships II*

They have been recognized for their research and teaching excellence, including:

- Arleen Bejerano, Sarah Dirks, Haley Kranstuber, Sai Sato Mumm, and Travis Bartosh, Top Panel, Training and Development Division, NCA
- Kristen Carr, Top Four Papers (with P. Schrodt), Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Interest Group, CSCA
- Kristen Carr and Tiffany Wang, Top Student Paper, Family Communication Division, NCA
- Scott Church, Top Four Papers, Media Studies Interest Group, WSCA
- Scott Church, NCA Doctoral Honors Seminar
- Colleen Warner Colaner, Top Panel, Communication Education Interest Group, CSCA
- Colleen Warner Colaner, University of Nebraska Graduate Fellowship
- Colleen Warner Colaner and Haley Kranstuber, Top Student Paper, Family Communication Division, NCA
- Sarah Dirks, Top Student Paper, Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Interest Group, CSCA

- Sarah Steimel, Feminist Scholarship Award Nominee (with K. Lucas), Executive Officers of the Organization for Research on Women in Communication.
- Sarah Steimel, Top Five Papers, Organizational and Professional Communication Interest Group, CSCA
- Tiffany Wang, Faculty Impact Award, UNL Academy of National Hispanic Scholars
- Tiffany Wang, NCA Doctoral Honors Seminar
- Tiffany Wang, Top Three Papers (with P. Schrodt), Communication Education Interest Group, CSCA

UNL Graduate Students serve in leadership roles in our professional associations, including:

- Tiffany Wang, Membership Working Committee, NCA

FORENSICS TEAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The UNL Forensics Team added many wins to its list of accomplishments, including:

- 12 out-round events at American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament (AFA NIET) 2010
- 9th place finish at AFA NIET 2010
- National runner-up informative speaking AFA NIET 2010
- Broke 29 events to finals at Nebraska Intercollegiate Forensics Association Individual Events Tournament (NIFA IET)
- 2010 NIFA IET Speech, Debate, and Team Champions
- 2010 NIFA IET Overall Combined Title for Speech and Debate Sweepstakes Award
- 5 state championships in communication analysis, extemporaneous speaking, duo interpretation, parliamentary debate, and pentathlon
- Sophomore **Nick Herink** named top overall speaker in the state of Nebraska for combined speech and debate
- Senior **Taylor Sloey** and Junior **Mallory Marsh** recognized for contributions to the forensics community with the Spirit of NIFA Award



UNL Forensics Team

Department of Communication Studies Faculty

Dr. William J. Seiler, Professor and Chair, Instructional
Communication

Dr. Dawn O. Braithwaite, Willa Cather Professor and
Director of Graduate Studies, Interpersonal & Family
Communication

Dr. Jody Koenig Kellas, Associate Professor and Director of
Undergraduate Studies, Interpersonal & Family
Communication

Dr. Kathleen Krone, Professor, Organizational
Communication

Dr. Ronald Lee, Professor, Rhetorical Theory, Political
Communication, and Critical Study of Contemporary Public
Discourse

Dr. Kristen Lucas, Assistant Professor, Organizational
Communication

Dr. Damien Pfister, Assistant Professor, Public Deliberation,
Digital Media, Network Culture, and Rhetorical Theory

Dr. Jordan Soliz, Associate Professor, Interpersonal & Family
Communication

Dr. Charles Braithwaite, Research Professor

Dr. Karen Lee, Professor of Practice

Carly Woods, Instructor, Rhetorical History and Theory,
Cultural Criticism, Gender and Sexuality Studies, and
Argumentation

Dr. Dennis Bormann, Professor Emeritus, Rhetorical Theory,
Historical-Critical Study of Public Discourse

Dr. Vince Di Salvo, Professor Emeritus, Organizational
Consulting & Training

Dr. Phyllis Japp, Professor Emeritus, Contemporary
Rhetorical Theory, Critical Research Methods, Cultural
Studies, and Communication & Gender

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