Throughout my years at SCSU as a faculty advisor, the competitive speech coach, an internship director and now as department chair, I have had the privilege of advising hundreds (and hundreds) of students. Some come to me already knowing their post-graduate goals. But most do not. All of these students are attracted to the discipline, they feel a ‘fit,’ and they are committed to the importance of their chosen field of study. But inevitably nearly all will ask: “What can I do with a Communication Studies degree?”

This issue of CMST Connect features the successes of our students and alumni as they explore just what one can do with a Communication Studies degree. Those highlighted in this issue offer a sample of the varied avenues of exploration--from the classroom, to the workplace, to the community.

We are proud of our students. In this issue you will hear from students engaged in community service learning projects and participating in our newest student organization--Conflict Resolution Services for Students. The “Spotlight on CMST Student Groups” underscores the continued involvement of our students in critical social issues and their development of leadership, community engagement, and communication skills. And our student writers under the editorial guidance of the fall Communication Studies Public Relations intern, Anton Reichl, bring this issue of Connect to you.

We are proud of our graduates. In this issue we have the opportunity to hear from a number of graduates. You will read about Jackie Schuh who is currently an attorney with Gray Plant Mooty Law Firm and a member of the Communication Studies Advisory Council. Graduates Vanessa DeLaire, Suzette Urs, Robert Sturtz, Thomas Endres and Erica Martin share with readers their personal and professional explorations since their years at SCSU.

As you read you will notice that no one story is exactly like the other. Each student, each graduate, has taken their individual path. But all share one characteristic—for these students the Communication Studies degree opens the world of possibility, of potential for personal awareness, professional growth and contribution to their world.

We thank you, our alumni, students and friends for your continued support of the work of our department and our students. Since our last e-newsletter and open house, a number of you have contacted the department, and many have offered to speak to our classes, mentor our students or contribute to the different alumni funds. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Roseanna Gaye Ross, Ph.D.
Professor, Department Chair
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Spotlight on CSMT Student Groups

Communication Studies Club

During the fall semester, Communication Studies Club focused on building members’ professional/career skills, fundraising and more. Our annual Trick-or-Can event this year started our group off with a bang! We are now fundraising for our group, putting on a food and coat drive until fall semester ends. We have fantastic new members this year who have all stepped up to work together. We look forward to the next semester where we can continue to build our skills as professionals, create a cohesive student group within the department and have a good time!

Conflict Resolution Services for Students

If you are a student having problems with your roommate, a co-worker or a friend then you might want to visit the website Conflict Resolution Services for Students created this fall. While CRS for Students still provides free mediation and conflict coaching services to SCSU students, the website is another resource for those experiencing conflict. The site features some of the common conflicts college students experience on a daily basis with tips to manage such conflicts. CRS-sponsored workshops include “Identify your Conflict Style,” “Unraveling Layers of Conflict,” and “Compromise or Collaboration--What’s the difference?” Visit http://scsuresolveit.weebly.com/, see the feature article in this newsletter page 8 for more information.

Lambda Pi Eta

On October 21st, 2010, Lambda Pi Eta (LPH) co-sponsored a research presentation by SCSU Communication Studies graduate Dr. Judy Pearson of North Dakota State University. Dr. Pearson has taught communication courses on all levels throughout colleges and universities in the Midwest. She has written 34 books, 80 professional articles, and has presented over 300 professional papers. She has also served as a past president of the National Communication Association. Approximately 86 people were in attendance including current St. Cloud State University Communication Studies faculty, alumni, and students (both communication studies majors as well as non majors). The presentation was extremely well received. In December LPH hosted the second annual graduate school discussion panel for students interested in graduate school. A variety of professors from the Communication Studies department were on hand to answer questions. Finally, a recruitment call will be sent out early in the Spring, 2011 semester for potential new inductees.

Players Performance Group

Players Performance Group is a public forum for contemporary social and cultural issues. Members are provided a space to explore intellectual and educational growth by cultivating critical engagement with various social problems. Players addresses such problems through aesthetic means and a commitment to dialogic communication between self, other, and society. On November 9 and 10, Players presented “Consumption,” an original collaborative performance. In this performance, we explored the power of desire in consumer culture. The script was created weaving Teolindo Gersao’s short story, “The Red Fox Fur Coat” with student-written monologues and other texts. Players was also pleased to host two faculty performances. Dr. Tami Spry performed “Call It Swing,” her autoethnography reflecting on her father’s life as a jazz musician and the intersections of race and privilege in that life. Dr. Jennifer Tudor presented “Suicide Punchline,” an original solo performance examining her experience of surviving her father’s suicide. Our Fall 2010 season was a success and we look forward to working with visiting professor Dr. Jonathan Wyatt, the Director of Professional Development at Oxford and an expert in collaborative writing. For further information, please contact Dr. Jen Tudor, Director of the Players Performance Group.

Forensics--Talking Huskies

The St. Cloud State University Talking Huskies (speech & debate program) has had another great start to their season. We welcomed three new volunteer coaches: Jocelyn Walsh, Noureen Sajid, and Onome Egi. With a great group of returning members and new members, several students have already advanced to final rounds at tournaments this fall. When the team is not on the road, the students have continued to make connections with the larger community. The team hosted a public Showcase in December. In addition, the SCSU Talking Huskies hosts a high school speech camp every summer. The team is planning to sponsor its first high school workshop in mid-January. The students in the program also volunteer to judge at several high school tournaments throughout the year. The SCSU Forensics team is looking forward to the spring semester of competition. To learn more about the Talking Huskies and our happenings, please visit our website (http://studentorg.stcloudstate.edu/forensics/forensics.html) or find us on Facebook (SCSU Forensics Alumni).
Q: Why did you choose to attend college at St Cloud State University?
JS: My family was located in St Cloud and I grew up here. I applied and was accepted at public and private colleges, but I knew I could complete a good education at St Cloud State and pay for it myself.

Q: Why did you choose Communication Studies as your area of study?
JS: I fell into it. I was a pre-law student, which at that time meant either a Political Science or English major, and I didn’t really care for either. So I ended up in geography for a while and almost finished a geography major, then fell into a communication course and loved it. It was a lot of fun; I enjoyed the courses and each was very hands on and practical.

Q: What was your favorite Communication Studies Class?
JS: Oh that’s tough. I liked the Listening course and the Interpersonal Communication courses the best. I also enjoyed the Public Speaking course too, but it was much more challenging. Those three really stand out for me. I don’t really have a favorite among those three, because I really value all three for the different things they taught me. Listening and Interpersonal were a lot of fun, and Public Speaking, not so much. But it was a real growing time for me—challenging me to face my fears about public speaking, so for that reason, the Public Speaking course is also near and dear to me.

Q: What are some of the most influential things you recall about the CMST department?
JS: The one-on-one relationships that I developed with professors, some of whom are still friends. This was really significant to me in a lot of ways; they were mentors and very encouraging. I recall each class also offered opportunities to examine my personal communication skills. Knowing that I was going into law, I really wanted to master the art of public speaking. And when I started law school, my first year, I could immediately tell the difference between Communication Studies and other majors. We had significant advantages in a comfort level of speaking, both in class and in practicums.

Q: Would you say that public speaking is your most beneficial skill? If not, what have you gained from your education in communication studies?
JS: I will answer that in two respects. First, I have always been mostly a litigation lawyer, so I love the courtroom a lot and the ability to speak in public is essential for litigation attorneys. Second, my strongest asset is my people skills, which I attribute to my Communication major as I gained a great deal of confidence and self-esteem in my courses and from the feedback of my professors. My strongest attribute as a lawyer and gift as a person comes in my ability to communicate effectively with all types of individuals, whether in interpersonal settings, group settings, or the courtroom.

Q: What other areas interested you as an undergraduate?

Q: You went to law school at William Mitchell College of Law. What influenced you to go there?
JS: I applied at Pepperdine, Notre Dame and William Mitchell. I was accepted to Pepperdine, was on a waiting list at Notre Dame because they had many, many students and I applied late. Then, to be honest, I had been dating a guy in outstate Minnesota and decided to stay in Minnesota. At the last minute, I applied and was accepted to Mitchell. It was a good decision though as my mother had always suffered with serious illness and my father had some health issues during that time which necessitated me staying in state. Also, Mitchell had a good reputation.
Q: In researching you, I have found that you have some military background?
JS: Yes, I was a member of the Minnesota Guard. I was in the Army Guard for 14 years and the Air Guard for my last six years before I retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. I was a lawyer in the military.

Q: When did you become involved in the military and what influenced you to do that?
JS: I went in the National Guard between my first and second year of law school. Really I just wanted to go through basic training. I was not allowed to do that, so I enlisted for 6 years. I completed basic training and really loved it. It was a lot of fun. After training, I did one weekend a month, two weeks a year. I enjoyed that and just kept going. I ended up on the 20 year plan! Of course following Desert Storm, it was more like a 3 weekend a month job and then many hours on the phone and internet during the week. It was a second full-time job. I retired as Lieutenant Colonel about two years ago.

Q: You are also a JAG officer. Can you please explain to me what that is?
JS: A JAG officer is a military attorney. Judge Advocate General, that’s what JAG stands for. You must be a lawyer and you practice military and international law. Throughout the years I did a lot of different types of practice: prosecution, defense, environmental, infrastructure protection. When I moved to the Air Guard, I practiced more international and estate planning law, but I did estate planning consistently throughout my military practice. There are many areas you have to be knowledgeable in, and the military has its own education system. Every time one moves up in rank, one has to take 1-3 years of education, equivalent to college courses. And typically that is a combination of education in your field (like law) with education in battle (battle and war concepts). I did a lot of things in the military that I would have never done in the civilian world.

Q: You also have done some teaching. How long have you been teaching?
JS: Since 1992 and I mostly taught Communication Studies. I have also taught a few courses in Criminal Justice and then a couple of courses in Political Science. The last time I taught was probably Fall semester, a year ago.

Q: Why did you want to start teaching?
JS: Two reasons. It looked like a lot of fun, though I would never want to do it full time. And it is an opportunity to go back and give back to others. I wanted to turn around and help the people who were coming up behind me. Giving back has always been important in my family. It’s great to be able to go back and teach other students as a way of personal giving.

Q: What in this world is most important to you?
JS: Family and friends.

Q: What three words would you use to describe yourself?
JS: I hope others would say I am honest, reliable and kind.

Q: What do you want your legacy to be?
JS: I would want my legacy to be what my mom wanted for me. The only thing that she ever wanted for the four kids in my family was that we would be decent people; anything beyond that is a bonus. So to me that translates to being honest, reliable, hard working and kind.

Are you a Communication Studies Alumni who has news to share?
Had a child? Have you become involved with your community?
Recent wedding? Made a major career transition?
Update the Communication Studies Department about your life moments. Email the updates to us at cmst@stcloudstate.edu
Impacting our Community,
Communication Studies’ Students Make a Difference

Classrooms may be where lessons are taught, but they are not the only place where lessons are learned. Communication Studies is an engaged discipline providing many opportunities for applied and experiential learning. Fall semester Communication Studies students have been engaging the greater St. Cloud community through their class’ service learning projects.

Service learning is an experiential approach that provides students the opportunity to apply and explore course content through community involvement and volunteering. Featured in this article are three classes representative of a number of Communication Studies class opportunities that actively engage students in community issues. These projects have different goals, appropriate to the learning objectives of the course, but they all teach one important lesson: Communication Studies students can and do make a difference in their communities.

Several students reflected on the lessons they learned:

“I see myself using this experience for the rest of my life and in my future career,” said Ernest Langston, a St. Cloud State student who took part in the Communicating Common Ground project. Under the guidance of Professor Eddah Mutua-Kombo of the CMST department, 25 or so college students visit high schools throughout the St. Cloud, Rice and Sauk-Rapids area to help facilitate high school students’ conversations on difference, social justice, acceptance and equality.

“We would go to a high school every two weeks and have different activities for the kids to do. We tried to have projects and engaging activities that were relatable to the students. Our hope was that students would gain an understanding that people are just people and we are one,” said Langston.

Langston and other students used the activities and projects to help the high school students to feel comfortable talking about topics such as diversity and equality.

“One of my favorite memories is when we played the song ‘Imagine’ by John Lennon for the high school kids. After the song we asked the kids if they could imagine a world where people could all live as one. Imagine a world that is equal and socially just,” said Langston, “And I remember a Muslim girl talking about how people are all just people. We all have the same issues. That was a powerful day.”

From high schools to assisted living centers, CMST students have been helping our community. This semester a Health Communication class, under the guidance of Professor Pam L. Seckin, opened the door for students to explore the challenges of living with health problems.

The project was a volunteering experience to show the students first hand the struggles that come with living with chronic problems or ailments. The 20 students in the class were able to volunteer at nursing homes, assisted living centers, the Veterans Administration Hospital and rehabilitation centers.

“I volunteered at the V.A. Hospital for my project. After volunteering I have a completely new perspective on how our veterans’ affairs are handled,” said Nicole Wohlleber.
From this project Wohlleber has become very passionate about volunteering with our Service men and woman. “Since completing this project I am actually looking into the area of health communication for a career. Hopefully I can get a job working with veterans, because this was something that I really enjoyed and something that I want to do,” said Wohlleber. Wohlleber was able to do more than just work activities she was able to create interpersonal connections with the veterans at the hospital.

“I volunteered in the Adult Day Health Care Center. This is working with veterans who are not disabled and do not live on site, but they come here for socialization with other veterans,” said Wohlleber, “We did have activities like BINGO, but I just really enjoyed being able to talk with the veterans and hear their stories. They are amazing people who have done so much.” Wohlleber plans to continue to volunteer at the St. Cloud V.A. Hospital even though her project is completed. These projects have had great influence on both students and community. Another outstanding class project comes from an organizational communication course, under the guidance of Professor Matthew Vorell. In this course students were asked by the St. Cloud Chamber of Commerce to help answer problems that arise in the business community. Student groups answer a problem posed by the Chamber, research the problem and solutions, and then create a 10 minute video for the chamber to view with the results or answers.

“My group worked on the importance of graphic design in the business world,” said Jenny Beckman, a student of the organizational communication course. The questions from the Chamber focused on basic business practices and inquiries. These questions were asked so that the class could assist the Chamber in supporting business professionals and others to understand the importance of certain services for businesses. “To create our DVD my group had to develop professional networks. Not only did we work with the Graphic Design department on campus, we also communicated with design firms in the Twin Cities and the St. Cloud area,” said Beckman. As difficult as the project was, Beckman believes that it was one of the most beneficial projects she has ever accomplished during her college career. “I think this is a lot like the business world. For instance, we had to edit our DVD. No one in my group knew how to do that, so we had to learn. In the ‘real world’ we may often be asked to complete tasks that we may not know how to complete, but we will just have to learn,” said Beckman.

After completion the videos were given to the Chamber of Commerce. “I think the Chamber used the DVDs as a quick reference for businesses on topics they may not have been sure about or did not have a definite answer for. I know that after my group gave our project to the Chamber, we also gave them a list of resources and contact networks for graphic design. We did this so in case any of the businesses wanted to contact persons or firms from our video, they had that option,” said Beckman, “This was probably one of the most challenging, but most rewarding projects. Just knowing that you are helping out your community is a good thing.” High school students, business owners, veterans and the elderly--all of these groups have impacted and have been impacted by the work of Communication Studies students this semester. Service learning is one strategy for deepening the lessons that are taught in a classroom. These projects are a way of helping our students grow and learn by helping their community.

The Communication Studies Department logo features three words: Career, Relationships, Citizenship. These are the areas of students’ lives that the department sees as being enriched through the study and practice of effective communication. These student service projects definitely support that mission.

A study conducted by SCSU’s Career Services asked prospective Minnesota employers to rank the Top 10 Skills Most Important for Students to Possess

1. Communication (verbal and written)
2. Honesty/integrity
3. Strong work ethic
4. Motivation/initiative
5. Interpersonal (relates well to others)
6. Teamwork (works well with others)
7. Flexibility/adaptability
8. Customer Service
9. Ability to acquire learning
10. Professionalism/etiquette

*Rated on a scale of 1 to 5 with 1= not at all important and 5= extremely important
Are you a student who is experiencing conflicts with your roommate, a co-worker, a friend or someone you know? Don’t Panic! Conflict Resolution Services (CRS) is here to help the students of Saint Cloud State University. The Conflict Resolution Club has two main services which include conflict coaching and free mediation. These services are provided by student mediators who are trained and qualified. The CRS Club also provides Conflict Resolution Workshops where they help individuals become aware of their conflict management style.

Any student can become a member and get involved if they choose. Members tend to fall into two categories: students who are trained mediators and those who are not but are interested in the topic and the club’s mission. According to the graduate assistant of the club, Sujita Gyawaly, “A lot of members join CRS to gain a different kind of leadership experience. A good leader should know how to manage conflicts effectively and CRS members work together with faculty mediators and conflict coaches to organize conflict resolution workshops and seminars and while doing so get to learn about conflict management skills.”

Conflict Coaching is the first step of the conflict resolution. This is where a student meets with a qualified mediator and has a face to face conversation about the conflict that has been affecting them. They can be positive that anything they choose to discuss with their mediator will be completely confidential. After the mediator has heard what has been bothering the student, they then guide the student to consider mediation.

The second service CRS Club offers is free mediation. This is the second step of the conflict resolution. Mediation is a facilitated dispute resolution process that supports the parties to discuss issues and mutually negotiating a resolution. Both of the parties involved in the conflict meet with two qualified student mediators who help both of the students discuss their conflict and the desired outcomes. Mediators do not decide for the parties but instead empower the parties involved to design their own mutual agreement.

The CRS Club also provides Conflict Resolution Workshops. According to the CRS Club website, “The purpose of this workshop is to help individuals be aware of their conflict management style. The workshop features an exercise to which participants provide responses. Based on their responses their common conflict style will be determined. The workshop focuses on five common conflict styles—Avoiding, Accommodating, Competing, Compromising, and Collaborating. After gaining insight about their typical approaches to conflict, the participants discuss the implications of each style during conflict resolution.

Beth Miller, Treasurer of the Conflict Resolution Club states, “I feel CRS is an under utilized student service here at SCSU. CRS provides great services for those who need mediation and conflict resolution help.” The CRS Club has been receiving some referrals from professors and students, but would love to see more students show up at their door! If you are a student and are experiencing conflicts with your roommate, a co-worker, a friend or someone you know, don’t be shy; the CRS Club is here to help you.
In brief

Retirements
The Communication Studies Department announces the retirement of Joanna Pucel and Erika Vora in May 2011. These two amazing professors have graced us with over 30 years each of teaching, advising and friendship. We wish them the very best as they embark on the next phase of their life journey.

Dean’s List
We would like to acknowledge these CMST majors who achieved academic excellence and met the requirements for recognition on the Dean’s List for Spring 2010.

Christina M. Best  Kylie Wojahn
Jacquelyn Doty  Sarah Striegel
Alyssa Ketchmark  Sara Soukop (intended major)
Brianne Perreten  Katheriga Veermani (intended major)
Heidi Robling  Erin Sufka

Scholarship Recipient
Andrew Tri, a CMST major, is the recipient of the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship awarded by the Institute of International Education. Andrew was selected as one of 850 scholarship winners chosen from an applicant pool of 2,900 students. The scholarship offers financial support for students to help pay for a study abroad program. Andrew was awarded $5,000 for his study abroad experience in Japan.

In Memoriam
Missy (Haught) Hansen, a Communication Studies faculty member from 1981-1988, passed away May 8th, 2010. While teaching here, Missy served as the assistant director of the Forensics team and as co-advisor for the Communication Studies Club. Missy was 63 years old.
**Vanessa DeLaire** (2001)

Upon graduation from St Cloud State in May of 2001, I started my career in the hospitality industry as a Catering Sales Manager at BayView Events Center and Charter Cruises in Excelsior, MN. I planned hundreds of weddings and also planned dozens of corporate events with various companies around the Twin Cities. I then transitioned into another catering sales position at a hotel in Bloomington, MN --the Mall of America Grand Hotel-- also specializing in weddings and corporate events for up to approximately 300 people. I was notified in the Spring of 2004 that our hotel was going to be torn down due to the international flight path of Northwest Airlines; therefore the mad job hunt began! I decided that I wanted to relocate to another city within the US, and Los Angeles it was! I moved to LA in the summer of 2004. I had the opportunity to work for an upscale boutique hotel company, Viceroy Hotel Group (VHG) and was a Group Sales Manager contracting such events as the ESPN Xgames. I worked with various travel agents organizing accommodations for numerous artists/bands/DJ's and also booked a variety of events in the banking, financial and insurance industries, primarily out of the East Coast. During my tenure with VHG, I also had the honor to work on a task force project at a 5 star property, The Jefferson, in Washington DC, just 4 blocks away from the White House. Magical! In 2008 (after about 3 years of employment with the Viceroy Hotel Group), I was offered a senior position for another well-established boutique hotel company called Andre Balazs Properties with headquarters in New York City. I again was booking events/groups in the Entertainment, Sports and Corporate industries at the Standard, Downtown LA. This allotted me the opportunity to work with such clientele as Disney (ESPN, host hotel to the ESPY Awards in 2008 and 2009) as well as working with various companies, artists and their management for the Grammy's, Teen Choice Awards, Emmy's, A LIST Bravo Awards, Xgames/DC Shoes, Nike, and Microsoft. I had great exposure to the citywide conventions being held in Downtown LA with close proximity to the Convention Center and the Staples Center. To date, I have had the great pleasure of returning to the Viceroy Hotel Group based out of Los Angeles, working at the Sheraton Delfina in Santa Monica. I am working on various sales and marketing projects as they pertain to the procurement of entertainment in our hotel's lobby lounge and creating plans as they relate to social media outlets within Twitter, Facebook, and Four Square.

In my personal time, I enjoy being with my loved ones (my family), known as the ‘first family of jazz in Minnesota,’ The Petersons. This allows me to see and hear live music on a regular basis as well as perform with them on occasion (singing). Additionally, I am a part time make up artist. I also love to travel! Inspired by the movie, “Eat Pray Love,” I am planning a trip to Bali with focus on meditation, yoga, the Hindu culture, and the beautiful and inspiring scenery. (The book and the movie definitely struck a chord with me!) I have plans to travel to Buenos Aires, Argentina, Dublin, Ireland, and return to Copenhagen, Denmark where I spent much of my youth going to school and immersing myself in the Danish culture. My passion lies with event production, music, food and beverage and I am hopeful within the next year or two that I am able to pursue my dream of opening up my own lounge, location to be determined!

---

**Suzette Urs** (1980)

I am a visual artist and I have been directing my own gallery for the past 16 years: Urs Art Studio Gallery in Boynton Beach, FL 33435. This year I made a change due to economic demands. We divided the gallery in half and built out a third apartment. Also I now spend 50 hrs. per month as an ordained minister. My experiences in the Speech Department have aided me greatly in my door to door ministry speaking with people of richly mixed cultural backgrounds. Dr. Erika Vora was my mentor and I am grateful every day for her innovative class.

Are you a Communication Studies Alumni who has exciting news or just want to update the department? Update the department about your personal or professional life moments. Email the updates to cmst@stcloudstate.edu
I am practicing law as a partner attorney with Goldman, Sturtz & Halvorsen, Albert Lea, Minnesota. I have been in practice since graduating from Hamline University School of Law in 1987, and SCSU in 1984 with degrees in Mass Communication (Public Relations) and Speech Communication. I was a teaching assistant in Mass Communications Law for Michael Vadnie in 1984. He encouraged me to go to law school and wrote a letter for me to be admitted.

My wife Lisa and I have four children: Rachael is a '05 grad of Winona State University and lives with her husband and son in Manhattan, KS. Anna is a senior at Mankato State University, William is a junior at the University of Minnesota and Jack is a freshman at the University of Minnesota.

I enjoy golf, fishing, vacationing, and trips to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. I am an avid sports fan when it comes to the Vikings, Wild, Twins, Wolves and Gopher sports.

I graduated from SCSU in 1982. I then went on to earn an MA from the University of Illinois and a PhD from University of Minnesota in 1986 in Communication. I served as Director of Forensics at St. Olaf College, then taught for 13 years at the University of St. Thomas, where I served as department chair for nine years. In 2000 I also earned an MA in Pastoral Studies from the St. Paul Seminary School of Divinity, and authored the 2002 book “Sturgis Stories: Celebrating the People of the World’s Largest Motorcycle Rally.” I am currently a Professor of Communication Studies and Director of the School of Communication at the University of Northern Colorado. I recently inaugurated the school’s faculty-led summer study abroad program by taking a group of students to practice international living skills in Barcelona, Spain.

Robert D. Sturtz (1984)

After graduation I was offered a position with a small marketing firm in St. Paul. It was a good foot-in-the-door into the marketing industry. After getting my feet wet for 2 1/2 years, I took a position with the third largest law firm in Minnesota, Fredikson and Byron, as their marketing coordinator. I did a lot of writing for the firm and also planned all of their conferences, seminars, and client events. It was a fabulous job. After having two daughters I took some time off. In early 2010 I joined The Work Connection -- a professional employer organization -- where I support our sales staff with their marketing initiatives. I love my job. I have the best of both worlds now -- during the day I am part of an organization where I add professional value -- and at home, I’m a mom.

Erica Martin (1999)

Thomas Endres (1982)

Communication Studies’ New Historic Home!

Following the highly successful renovation of the historic Riverview building here on the St Cloud State University campus, the building has been recognized with awards at both the state and local level. Riverview received a 2010 Restoration/Rehabilitation Award presented by the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota. The St. Cloud Heritage Preservation Commission also awarded Riverview the 2010 Annual Historic Preservation Award. The Communication Studies Department is honored to be the steward of this historic building.
Career Relationships Citizenship

CMST Department Mission and Goals

Mission Statement: We are a community of scholars who participate in the creation, discovery, and dissemination of knowledge about communication. We are committed to communication as central to self and community. We demonstrate that commitment in the following ways:

We educate students in the theories and principles of human communication so that they become competent and responsible communicators and critical thinkers.

We maintain a working environment within the department that respects the tensions between individual professional pursuits and departmental needs and goals.

We shape and respond to the needs of the campus, community, and society through exchanges of expertise and promotion of the discipline.

We address throughout our curriculum the need for understanding diverse ideas and cultural experiences.

Special Thank You To

Advisory Council

The purpose of the Advisory Council is to advise the department on matters of curriculum, programs, community service, student recruitment, intern and graduate placement.

Katie Harms- CMST Alumni
Leighton Broadcasting

Greg Murray- Geography Alumni
Mahowald Insurance

Chad Roggeman- CMST Alumni
Roggeman Law Office

Kati Rothstein- CMST Alumni
Target Corporation

Jacqueline Schuh- CMST Alumni
Gray Plant Mooty Law Firm

Stacie Vos- Community Partner
Technical High School

Thomas Opatz- CMST Student Representative

R. Bruce Hyde- CMST Faculty

Matthew Vorell- CMST Faculty

Bassey Eyo- CMST Faculty

Roseanna Ross- CMST Chair

Paula Tompkins- CMST Faculty

Scholarship and Alumni Foundation Donors

CMST scholarship and foundation donors provide departmental support and opportunities for recognition to the best of our student graduates. Your confidence in our students and your support is most appreciated!

Mollie Young Marinovich Outstanding Internship Award
Mary Ahles Adams Scholarship
Robert and Alice Wick Scholarship
Charles and Carol Vick Scholarship

Arthur and Barb Grachek Scholarship
Ray Pederson Scholarship
Kendall Ethics Award

Sikkink Library & Speaker Fund

Alumni Fund

Communication Studies Fund

The Communication Studies Department provides several opportunities for you to financially support our students and programs. For information on how you can contribute to our scholarship and alumni accounts, contact the Foundation office at (320) 308-3177 or email foundation@stcloudstate.edu.
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION STUDIES

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Suzanne Stangl-Erkens
Renee Strom
Paula Tompkins
Jennifer Tuder
Erika Vora
Matthew Vorell
Dave Warne
Scott Wells
Dan Wildeson

PART-TIME FACULTY
David Bastien
Brittney Buttweiler
Goran Mitrovich
Kathie Kallevig
Beverly Knudsen
Laurie McClintock
Jodi Norri-Janati
Paul Oehlke
Jeff Palm

STAFF
Diana Leither
Nancy Michael

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Editor: Anton Reichl (2010)
Editorial contact: Roseanna Ross
Email: rgross@stcloudstate.edu
(320) 308-2217

ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY

720 Fourth Avenue South     St. Cloud, MN 56301-4498

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