



BGSU Issue 1, Volume 1: Fall 2008

WELCOME... to the

Department of Interpersonal Communication (IPC). The department is situated in the School of Communication Studies within the College of Arts & Sciences, and is housed in 302 West Hall.



The Department is pleased to introduce our new Department Chair, Dr. Laura Lengel. Dr. Lengel brings an enthusiasm and energy to this key leadership position which is vital for the exciting changes that are underway in the major. Her research interests focus on issues of gender and identity in transnational performance studies. This past year, Dr. Lengel was a presenting delegate at the United Nations World Summit on the Information Society in Tunisia. Recently, she was chosen to serve on the National Selection Committee for Fulbright scholarships at the Institute for International Education Fulbright U.S. Student Program Office in New York City.



Curriculum Changes

The Department of Interpersonal Communication has been hard at work refreshing our course offerings to give our students opportunities for hands-on knowledge. With an emphasis on service learning, the following three areas will allow students to gain skills in their chosen tracks of specialized study: Relational Communication, Rhetoric/Public Advocacy, and Intercultural/Global Communication. Moreover, the areas will highlight themes and/or issues that courses for their major will offer. "These changes will provide a refreshed sense of unity and direction to our department, which I'm really excited about," stated Dr. Lengel.

Showcase: Dr. Stephen Croucher

Recently served as guest editor for the National Forensic Journal, and its special issue on *Communication Theory and Forensics/Argumentation*.





Dr. Michael Butterworth:
INVESTIGATING SPORT

While serving as the current Associate Director of the School Of Communication Studies, Dr.

Butterworth continues to examine the ties between culture, democratic policy, and various identities in and through sport. His work is steeped in the rhetorical tradition thereby offering a unique perspective regarding current issues that are played out in multiple social arenas.

Dr. Butterworth's blog can be accessed @:

theagon.blogspot.com

**BGSU Debate
Team Sweeps Nationals**

The Bowling Green State University Falcon Forensics, Speech and Debate Team placed first in the nation at the National Comprehensive Tournament (NCT), held in St. Louis Missouri on March 7-9, 2008.

Out of 51 colleges and universities, BGSU placed first overall in individual events, capturing three national champion titles as well as top speaker (Pentathlon) at the tournament.

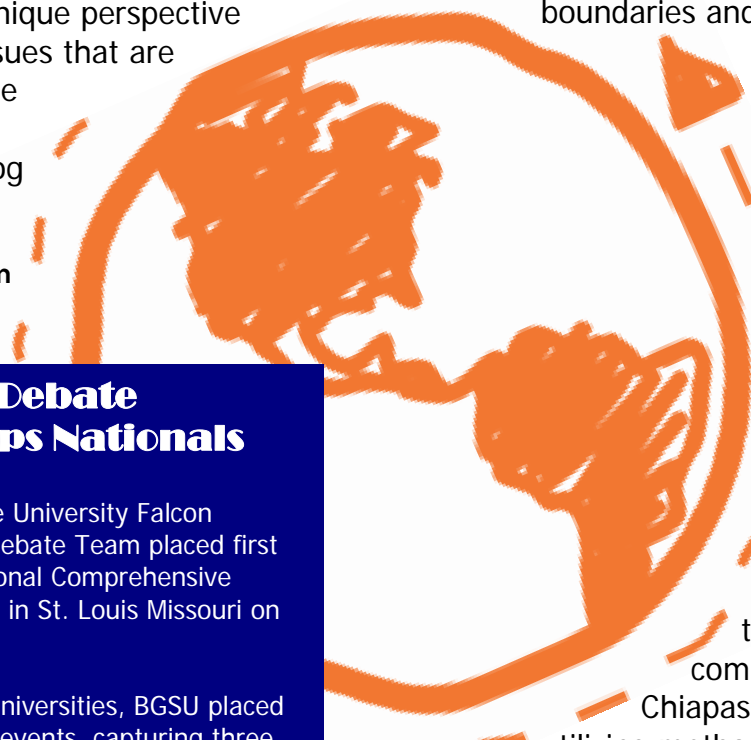
**Congratulations To
All Involved!**

Exploring Social Movements

Dr. Josh Atkinson has been addressing and continues to explore current social movements (amongst various other topics) within his work. Two of his up and coming studies entitled: "Networked activists in search of resistance: Exploring an alternative media pilgrimage across the boundaries and borderlands of globalization," and

"Networked activism and the broken multiplex: Exploring fractures in the resistance performance paradigm" address the activism initiatives of groups like the Zapatista communities in Chiapas, Mexico. By

utilizing methods such as ethnographic narrative excavation and fantasy theme analysis, Atkinson reveals the rhetorical visions of the groups studied. Interestingly, Dr. Atkinson will also be instructing a graduate class in the Spring 2009 semester pertinent to this topic.



Best of Luck to Paul Alday,
Director of Forensics & Debate,
and the 2008-09 BGSU Falcon
Forensics Speech & Debate team:
[www.bgsu.edu/departments
/ipc/forensics/index.html](http://www.bgsu.edu/departments/ipc/forensics/index.html)



Emerging Research

Dr. Canchu Lin and Dr. Louisa Ha recently published a study entitled: "Subcultures and Use of Communication Information in Higher Education Institutions." The study investigated the role of socialization, training, management support, etc., as they applied to the shaping of one specific campus-wide technology advancement: the Blackboard web portal. By utilizing a normative and utility approach to media/mass communication (along with other organizational factors), the study discussed the implications of Blackboard at BGSU's campus. Significantly, Lin and Ha presented their findings during the first Graduate Colloquium on October 21 and conveyed their findings: that cohesiveness is conducive to subcultural technology use.



Conference on Media, War & Conflict Resolution 2008

Spear-headed by our own Dr. E. Gorsevski, with the assistance of many dedicated staff and volunteers, this exciting scholarly event featured renowned keynote speakers, faculty members, graduate and undergraduate students, and conference participants from the U.S. and abroad. The subjects discussed explored themes about the media's role in the current geopolitical context. Various media representatives addressed the relationship among media, war, and conflict resolution historically and as they relate to current events nationally and internationally.



Panelists (including BGSU grad student Primus Igboaka) present during the session on Child Soldiers, Drugs, and Terror on day two of the MWCR conference. (Armentrout 2008)



BGSU Issue 1, Volume 1, p. 4: Fall 2008

Alums: Keep Us Posted!

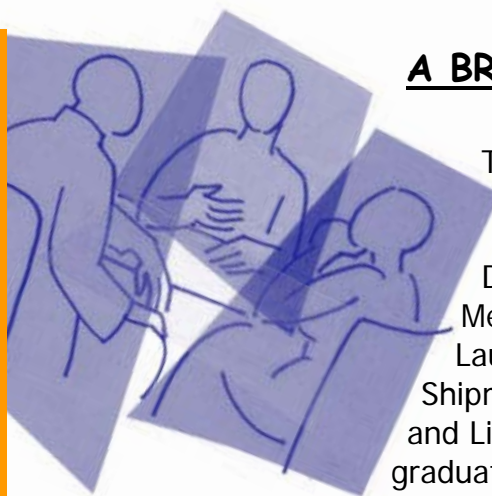
Please send us your most current e-mail and address so that job postings and other news about the department can be sent to you.

We're very proud of our Alumni. Keep us posted as to your career, Facebook, or MySpace links, and other cool things that are going on in your life! Send us your pictures, too!

Your BGSU e-mail address will end 6 months after your graduation.

We'd love to hear from you...

Department of IP Communication
302 West Hall
Bowling Green, OH 43403-0234
419-372-7653
comm@BGSU.edu



A BRIEF GREETING...

To Jenny Armentrout, Travis Hawkley, Manda Hicks, Brian Krol, Dan Li, Christopher Medjesky, Erin Osborne, Laura Rawlins, Cynthia Shipman, Christian Vukasovich, and Linda Ziberi; our newest graduate assistant additions.

BGSU Faculty Mentoring Grant Awarded 2008-09

Dr. Sandra Faulkner (under the direction of Dr. Gajjala) was recently approved for funding to foster external writing and support of a collaborative project with BGSU students and Adelante (Latino Resource Center in Toledo, OH) entitled *Latino Relationships: Sexuality, Health and Quality of Life*. Dr. Faulkner will work in close proximity with Adelante director Sonia Troche.



FOR MORE NEWS PLEASE VISIT:

<http://www.bgsu.edu/departments/scs/NewsEvents/>

Editor & Content:
Jenny A. Armentrout

Ph.D. Student
School of Communication Studies
Bowling Green State University
Email: jennya@bgsu.edu

Managing Editor:

Dr. Ellen W. Gorsevski

Department of IP Communication
School of Communication Studies
Bowling Green State University
Email: elleng@bgsu.edu