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## UGRC set for April 11

**T**he 17th annual Undergraduate Communication Research Conference will be held April 11, 2008, on UST's Minneapolis campus. Proposals for conference presentation must be postmarked by Friday, Feb. 29, 2008. Proposals for the conference may include, but are not limited to, individual or group research projects, performance pieces and video productions in areas including communication studies and theory, rhetorical theory and criticism, and mediated communication production and criticism. Submission of completed projects is strongly recommended and given highest priority in the selection process.

Sponsored by COJO, the conference celebrates undergraduate research in all areas of the communication discipline, bringing together students and faculty from colleges and universities of the upper Midwest. The 2008 keynote speaker is Dr. Thomas K. Nakayama of the Hugh Downs School of Human Communication at Arizona State University.



## Armenian project gives travel and reporting opportunities to faculty and students

**“What are they going to do with that chicken?”**

The scene was a wedding procession; a dozen or more celebrants, including a beaming bride and groom, had with them a live rooster and two white doves. The site was the ancient church Khor Virop, in the shadow of Mt. Ararat on the Armenia side of the Turkish-Armenian border. The speaker was COJO professor **Wendy Wyatt**, who was part of a delegation to the South Caucasus nation in August that included faculty members **Mark Neuzil** and **Mike O'Donnell** and senior **Anne Marie Iddins**.

The St. Thomas visitors spent a week in Armenia as part of a program sponsored by the Cafesjian Family Foundation to work on media issues in the fledgling democracy. The group spent time with journalists at the Armenian Reporter newspaper, helped with a media literacy project at an Armenian school and did internet training and public relations strategizing with Cafesjian's museum foundation. A couple of days were left for touring the country, including visits to several religious shrines and a remodeled elementary school in a small village.

Armenia is a landlocked former Soviet republic about the size of the state of Maryland. Its population has declined since the collapse of the Soviet system to about 3 million, and it has suffered from natural disasters, war and economic difficulties in the years since. Borders with Turkey on the west and Azerbaijan on the east are closed and heavily militarized; Iran is to the south and Georgia to the north.

Armenian-American businessman Gerard L. Cafesjian, a former West Publishing Company official, endowed a foundation that funds a number of projects in the land of his ancestors, including a museum, alternative energy concerns and a multi-media company. The Rev. Dennis Dease, UST president, sits on the board of directors of the Cafesjian Foundation. The relationship between Armenia and UST also includes two Armenian clergymen, Rev. Zaven Yazichyan and Deacon Manuk

# From the Chair

by Dr. Kris Bunton



**This is an exciting time in the life of our new Communication & Journalism Department. Our first job is creating a new major and revising our curriculum. COJO faculty teams worked diligently on this task all summer and fall, and we're now putting proposals forward to the university curriculum committees.**

Our goal for the new major is to help students become competent communicators with no regard to the boundaries we used to observe between interpersonal and mediated communication. So we're creating an exciting foundational course to be called Communication & Citizenship. The new course will present theories and principles of communication in all its forms (interpersonal, intercultural, organizational, rhetorical and mass-mediated) and emphasize relationships between communication and the public realm. We'll encourage students to develop a sense of their own agency in the communication process, whether they're creating interpersonal and mediated messages as communication professionals, or receiving and evaluating messages as citizens. We'll help students recognize what inhibits individuals and groups from being full citizens, and help students discover ways of empowering those individuals and groups through communication. Finally, we'll use community-based learning projects to foster in students a commitment to being critically reflective, informed and active citizens.

Another goal for the new major is to insist our students gain competence in both writing and speaking so they are excellent interpersonal, organizational and mediated communicators. That means we're creating a second foundational course, which will be called Public Communication: Speaking & Writing. Essential writing and public speaking skills will be paired so that students will master a writing style and then convert that writing to an oral presentation,

or vice versa. In the end, students will learn how to appropriately, effectively and ethically speak and write to a variety of public audiences.

We'll end the major with yet one more course that cuts across communication boundaries. That course is our senior seminar, which will be titled Communication Ethics. We've taken our long-standing excellent course, Media Ethics, and expanded it into a seminar that will explore a range of ethical issues confronting communication professionals and audiences. Students will explore theoretical perspectives on communication ethics, work from case studies to understand professional ethical standards, discuss current ethical issues in communication, work in teams to perfect oral and written ethical analysis skills, and write an individual thesis paper.

These three courses will be ready to go in fall 2008. Soon after, we'll create additional courses and programs that cut across boundaries. For instance, we want our student media – KUST radio, the "Campus Scope" TV news magazine and The Aquin student newspaper – to regularly work together in multi-media teams that create text, sound and video, so we're looking for space to house a student media "hub" that would locate all three organizations in one place. We intend to draw our print and broadcast reporting courses together into converged courses that help students learn to report stories across media platforms, and we'll combine some advertising and public relations courses so students can cut across boundaries there, too.

We think our students will benefit from the new landscape we're creating in COJO, but what do you think? Drop an e-mail to [kebunton@stthomas.edu](mailto:kebunton@stthomas.edu), and let me know.

*Kris Bunton*

# Radio and TV get remodeled spaces



## COJO's radio and television facilities joined the 21st century this fall

**K**UST, the Internet radio station, moved from out-of-the-way digs in Loras Hall on south campus to a new space on the lower level of O'Shaughnessy Educational Center, just down the hall from the TV studio. As part of its move, KUST also bought new software and digital equipment that improve its programming capabilities. This fall, more than 50 students signed up to produce the station's slate of music, talk and news shows. Listeners can hear KUST on the internet by visiting <http://www.stthomas.edu/kust>.

The TV studio and control room were transformed from an outdated analog setup to a current digital one with

more than \$325,000 worth of remodeling and new equipment. Included in the upgrades were new digital studio cameras, flat screen teleprompters, a digital switcher, a new character generator and new software for multiscreen monitoring and production. All the new equipment is high definition-compatible. Students who work on the "Campus Scope" television news magazine show are delighted with the remodeled studio's capability. Viewers can see "Campus Scope" programs on the internet by visiting <http://www.stthomas.edu/cj/organizations/campusscope/videos/default.html>.

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Malkhasyan, who are in their second year of studies at the St. Paul Seminary School of Divinity.

Wyatt, Neuzil and Tom Rochon, UST's chief academic officer, first went to Armenia in April to explore possible collaborations, and the media project was one result.

Iddins was part of a team of UST journalism students who covered stories in the Minnesota Armenian community during the summer and fall. Included on the team were **Pam Hendrickson**, **Jeff Day**, **Stephanie Edquist** and **Jennie Betchwars**. The students were assigned to write stories for the Armenian Reporter as part of an effort to expand the newspaper's circulation in Minnesota. Topics covered by the students included an Armenian dance troupe in Minnesota, the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the University of Minnesota, an Armenian architect, a Rochester-based house for transplant patients and others. The students' work ran in issues of the newspaper that were sent free to a 650-house-



**Anne Marie Iddins works at the Armenian Reporter.**

holdmailing list in Minnesota.

Public relations students **Brandon Fredrickson** and **Bridget Jewell**, assisted by advertising professor **Craig Bryan**, worked on research and marketing efforts for the Armenian Reporter that included listening to a focus group of possible subscribers at St. Sahag Armenian Church in St. Paul and a mail survey of readers, former readers and nonreaders.

The Armenian Reporter is an English-language weekly paper with offices in Yerevan, Armenia, New

Jersey, Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles. The paper is edited and composed in Armenia, then printed on the East and West Coasts in the United States.

During the August visit to Armenia, the St. Thomas team gave a "Journalism 101" seminar to the staff, edited copy, contributed to a web redesign and looked at issues such as copy flow and page layout. O'Donnell and Neuzil reviewed computer software that the paper was considering, and Neuzil worked with the staff on a possible Associated Press membership. Iddins, from Fort Wayne, Ind., was assigned to report and write stories for the paper and other publications. O'Donnell took hundreds of photographs for use with the stories.

Witnessing an Armenian wedding procession was a highlight of the August visit, although the fate of the chicken was unknown but probably unfortunate for the bird. The UST group watched as the two doves were set free.

## Long-time adjunct becomes full-time professor

**When Craig Bryan took a tour** of the

St. Thomas campus years ago with Mark Neuzil, he immediately fell in love.

Now, after many years as an adjunct professor, Bryan is a full-time member of the COJO faculty.

Bryan said that St. Thomas “chose him.” He liked that teaching provided a change from the things he was doing in advertising and publishing for the last several years.

“St. Thomas continues to be a terrific contrast to that world out there,” Bryan said. “It [teaching] is way more fulfilling than this other stuff that I have been doing up until recently. There is also a real good opportunity for me to continue to learn and continue to explore different kinds of things.”

Not only does St. Thomas provide a contrast for Bryan, he also finds it friendly and welcoming.

“I just realized recently that there



is real, genuine encouragement to learn here; not so much in the real world,” Bryan said.

This semester, Bryan is teaching Media Writing and Advertising Copywriting. In the past, he has also taught Media Planning and Public Relations Principles. Whatever he’s teaching at St. Thomas, Bryan says students always ask him for advice.

“That’s part of the reason that I am here: to provide advice and some street sense,” Bryan said.

The advice that he gives depends on the student who’s asking. If the student is passionate about the advertising industry, Bryan is encouraging. On the other hand, if students are “on the fence” about a passion, Bryan will advise them to not pursue it.

“It is so competitive, and if you aren’t 110 percent convinced that you want to be there, the chances of you getting a good shot are slim,” Bryan said. “It’s a fun business, and once it’s in your blood it is always there – but that first job is a toughie.”

Although Bryan said he would really like some free time, he makes time to honor his passion for music. He is in a six-piece band with fellow professor Mark Neuzil and does a lot of volunteer work at a hospice.

Bryan, who is originally from northwest Iowa and now lives in Apple Valley, has taken advantage of the opportunities that the advertising business had to offer, working all over the country, including New York, Chicago and Phoenix. Luckily for Bryan, his wife is a nurse and was able to find jobs in each of those cities.

“Good thing she wasn’t an oceanographer,” Bryan joked.

Although he doesn’t have a preference about where he lives and has often followed his jobs, Bryan has lived in Minnesota four or five different times.

“Minnesota is tough to beat,” he said. “It is a terrific place for schooling.”

– Melissa Lotb '08 ■

## Alumni share success with students

**Eleven COJO alumni visited with 40 students** in Dr. Kris Bunton’s Mass Communication & Society class Oct. 3 for a session called “St. Thomas Success Stories.” In a kind of speed-dating set-up, teams of three or four students interviewed six graduates for 15 minutes each, asking about their career paths, ethical dilemmas and advice for students.

The alumni participants were **Julie Anderson** (1996), news producer for the “Extra” segments at KARE-TV Channel 11; **Anna Goeppinger** (2006), associate media relations specialist for Target Corporation; **Jen Hale** (2004), media strategist at Olson, a Minneapolis-based advertising and public relations agency; **Chris Havens** (2000), reporter at the Star Tribune newspaper; **Jon Krawczynski** (2001), sports reporter for the Associated Press Minnesota Bureau; **Rebecca Lentz** (1994), director of communication for Catholic Charities; **Matt Lindstrom** (2000), media relations specialist at Olson; **Erin McCloskey** (2002), creative services manager at KNOCK Inc., a Minneapolis firm specializing in design, brand strategy and retail advertising; **Jeremy Olson** (1995), reporter at the St. Paul Pioneer Press newspaper; **John Seidl** (1998), advertising sales representative for KS-95



Anna Goeppinger shares advice and experience with students.

and KSTP-FM radio stations; and **Chris Wareham** (1998), copy writer at Periscope, a Minneapolis-based advertising agency.

In essays they wrote after the interviews, the students were overwhelmingly glad they could meet the alumni. “It was really beneficial for us to have the alumni come in with an open mind and a willingness to discuss their professions, about which they are so enthused,” wrote one student. Another student noted, “I think that one of the most surprising things that I learned from the alumni was how many ethical dilemmas they run into. All of the alumni had a firm grip on what their beliefs were and what they would or would not do. I thought that this was great!”

## Ad professor moves from U of M to UST

**A**fter teaching as an adjunct professor at the

University of Minnesota for six years and at St. Thomas for one semester, John Purdy decided it was time for a more permanent position in the college world. Now he teaches full time in COJO's advertising area.

"In the years that I had been an adjunct, both here and at the University of Minnesota, I always felt kind of detached from campus," Purdy said. "I felt I wanted to get a little closer to the campus and a little closer to the teaching profession and do it more full time."

Once the option to teach full time at UST became available, Purdy saw nothing but a great opportunity.

"I like the campus atmosphere," Purdy said. "The University [of Minnesota] is a pretty cold and impersonal place. It's a good school, but you really have to know what you want to do and be prepared to go out and get it. Here, it's friendlier with more stuff going on that I'm aware of on campus."

Before becoming a professor, Purdy worked in business. He started in marketing research and management and then stayed in the advertising industry for 20 years. For the last seven years while he has taught part time, he has also been



doing consulting work and research.

Having been an advertising student himself, Purdy has no problem giving advice to his students and weighing in on the industry as it has changed over the years.

"It is an interesting and exciting time to be going into any form of the communications business," he said. "It presents a lot of opportunities for young people because the business has changed more in the last five years than the last 25 years."

Purdy said that these changes in technology and the advertising business make young people more versatile and that although the content has changed over time, his teaching style remains the same.

"I try to prepare students for what has been a very pleasant and happy career for me," Purdy said. "It's going to be different for them, but I hope that they get the same rewards that I got."

When Purdy isn't busy teaching his Principles of Advertising, Media Planning or Advertising Campaign Strategies classes, he enjoys golfing, biking, reading and traveling.

Having visited the Caribbean to Sweden this past summer, Purdy said that he loves to travel. He finds the Middle East particularly fascinating and has been there a couple times to visit friends in Israel and Egypt.

"We are anxious to go back as soon as it's safe," Purdy said.

— Melissa Loth '08 ■

## Liberal arts education is professor's passion



**S**tephanie Galarneault always knew that she wanted to teach at a private liberal arts school. Now she's there.

Galarneault, who grew up in Minneapolis, went to St. Olaf College for her undergraduate degree.

"My own experience at St. Olaf had been fantastic, and it was often times the unique elements of a private liberal arts that made it so fantastic," Galarneault said. "The fact that I really knew my professors and that they were really invested in me and the friendships that I formed certainly were fantastic and tremendously rewarding. The quality of the teaching was amazing, and I was always inspired by that."

Now, in her first semester at UST, Galarneault teaches Intercultural Communication and Communication in the Workplace.

"I am really enjoying the students," Galarneault said. "The students are engaged, they are thoughtful, and I am really impressed by how respectful St. Thomas students

## Student notes

**Alethea Alden** presented "Juxtaposition, an Analysis of *Harper's Pictorial History of the Civil War* by Kara Walker" to UST's Feminist Friday research series in September. Alden's research was conducted under the direction of **Professor Bernard Armada**.

**Dennis Lang**, a "Seniors Go to College" student in **Bruce Benidt's** spring 2006 Magazine Writing course, won this year's Lamar York Prize for Nonfiction. His feature article, "Social Worker," is the study of a social worker at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. It was published this summer in the venerable *Chattahoochee Literary Review*. "Social Worker" was the first story Lang wrote after completing Benidt's class, which, by the way, was also Lang's first college class in about 25 years.

A variety of students majoring in our department have returned to campus from spring 2007 semester long study abroad programs. From Australia: **Katie Deutsch**, **Kelsey Halena** and **Jonathan Hauer**; from England, **Gracia Tharp**; from France, **Diana White**; from Ireland, **Jim Moen**; from Italy, **Tiffany Orth** and **Megan Miller**; from South Africa, **Johnna Vogelbacher**; from Spain, **Maggie Christensen**, **Colleen Collins**, **Kaisa Erickson** and **Jennifer Leone**.

**Dr. Debra Petersen** and three communication studies students presented "The Apology Epidemic; Using Rhetorical Theory and Case Studies to Examine the Public Apologies of Individuals and Organizations Accused of Inappropriate Actions" Sept. 14 at the annual conference of the

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# Faculty notes

**Dr. Bernard Armada**, with co-authors Sonja K. Foss and William J.C. Waters, published “Toward a Theory of Agentic Orientation: Rhetoric and Agency in ‘Run Lola Run’ in the August issue of the journal *Communication Theory*. The article uses “the film *Run Lola Run* to explicate three agentic orientations – victim, supplicant and director – each with a different interpretation of structure, a different response to that interpretation and a different outcome.”

**Dr. Carol Bruess** provided expert answers recently for several “good question” segments on WCCO-TV news. Among them were “How do parents set curfew time?” “Why do we use nicknames?” “Why aren’t couples sharing beds?” and “Is arguing good for relationships?” After airing on the 10 p.m. news, several of the segments were picked up by the CBS network for broadcast on its Saturday morning “Early Show.”

Professors **Debra Petersen** and **Kevin Sauter** presented “Controversial Eulogies and Graduation Speeches: Using Rhetorical Theory and Case Studies to Teach Ceremonial Rhetoric” Sept. 14 at the annual conference of the Communication and Theater Association of Minnesota in Rochester.

The University of Minnesota Press has sold the translation rights to **Dr. Ellen Riordan’s** co-edited book *Sex & Money: Feminism and Political Economy of the Media* (2000), to Communication Books of Seoul; it soon will be translated into Korean.

In April, Professor **Tim Scully** received the UST Global Citizenship Award. The award recognizes members of the UST com-

munity whose personal or professional work brings the concept of global citizenship to their departments, classrooms, residence halls or student clubs. Scully was honored for his classroom and “Campus Scope” work, which helps students “create meaningful and lasting works that educate others in the community, both on and off campus.” His award nomination also noted his work for producing “several incredible videos with an intercultural focus, such as “Integrating Cultures,” which focuses on Somalis in Australia and Minnesota” and his leadership in service learning projects that “benefit nonprofit organizations and provide in-depth experience for his students.”

The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication awarded third place in its national Promising Professors contest to **Dr. Wendy Wyatt**. She received the award in August at the AEJMC annual convention in Washington, D.C. Wyatt’s nomination for the award noted, “Dr. Wyatt is an enthusiastic, clear communicator who quickly engages students in issues. She is consistently well-organized and thoughtful, and she presents an appropriate level of intellectual depth. Whether they are entry-level Media Writing students learning to write their first news story or seniors in Media Ethics working on a literature review, students in Dr. Wyatt’s courses are challenged to work hard and confront important philosophical questions.”

Hampton Press recently published **Professor Wendy Wyatt’s** book, *Critical Conversations: A Theory of Press Accountability*, which develops a philosophical framework for critical discourse between media organizations

and citizens.

Seven COJO faculty members presented a fall semester lecture series called “Media Matters: Issues in the Mass-Mediated World” to about 100 senior citizens who attend programs sponsored by UST’s Center for Senior Citizens’ Education. **Wendy Wyatt** kicked off the series with a lecture, titled “Why Do Media Matter? Examining the Role of Media in Today’s Society.” **Bob Craig** and **Ellen Riordan** followed with “Money Matters: Public Issues in Media Economics.” **Mike O’Donnell** presented “Visual Literacy: Through the Media Looking Glass,” while **Kris Buntun** presented two lectures: “Framing Families: Media Presentations of Contemporary American Family Life” and “Mixed Messages: Media and Gender.” **Dina Gavrilos** followed with “Media Representations of Racial and Ethnic Identities: Stereotypes and Other Problems,” and **Tom Connery** presented “Telling Stories, Making Sense: Journalism with a Literary Touch.” **Wendy Wyatt** closed the lecture series with “Citizen Obligations: What Do I Owe the Media?”

Five new adjunct faculty joined COJO this fall. They are: freelance graphic designer **Jessica Coulter**, who’s teaching Design Concepts; WCCO-TV news anchor **Bill Hudson**, who’s teaching Media Writing; **John Nordin**, who’s teaching Argumentation and Advocacy; freelance graphic designer **Ken Ushio**, who’s also teaching Design Concepts; and KARE-TV reporter **Greg Vandegrift**, who’s teaching Broadcast Reporting.

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are in the classroom.”

When she isn’t busy with teaching and engaging students, Galarneault spends a lot of time fixing up her Victorian house and chasing her 18-month-old son, Ben, around.

Another passion of Galarneault’s is travel. She has been all over the world to places such as Turkey, Morocco and Bogotá, where she and her husband, John, adopted Ben. They also spent a year in Amsterdam.

Galarneault said the hardest part about being a mom and a professor is the “funny hours.” She wants to be able to balance time with her students and family, and places value on being accessible to students.

“I like being at a school where you can stop by and find your professor in their office on a lot of days,” she said.

Galarneault has many goals as a professor, but the most important one is that she wants students to make connections.

“I get super excited if what I’m talking about in my class relates to

something they are talking about in their other classes,” Galarneault said. “If all of a sudden they are reading something and they see a word that they can make a connection to, I think those are the best moments – when you can make connections in your world to what you have been learning in the classroom.”

Galarneault also hopes to get people excited about culture. She encourages students to experience other cultures and believes everyone should do it, especially with the great resources that St. Thomas offers.

“If I could, I would have all my students study abroad,” she said. “You have to really immerse in a culture and experience culture shock. As painful as it is, you develop such a deeper understanding of culture and develop a better empathy for people in your own culture.”

– *Melissa Loth '08* ■

## Alumni notes

**Sarah Arnquist** (2004) is a reporter for the San Luis Obispo Tribune in California, where she specializes in covering health care and social services. The paper is a McClatchy daily with a 40,000 circulation.

**Amberly (Krogh)**

**Boerschinger** (2005) is stewardship coordinator for Resurrection Catholic Church in Green Bay, Wis. She reports that her “main focus is working with parishioners to increase the levels and awareness of the stewardship of prayer, service and sharing in their lives.” In her spare time, she’s also working as a freelance writer and, as a newlywed herself, contemplating writing a humorous book on Catholic marriage.

**Alex Cook** (2001) is a public relations supervisor at Lilja, Inc., an Eden Prairie-based agency. His clients include Barnes & Noble and Marquette Financial.

**Josiane Dixon** (1998)

passed the California Bar exam and became a deputy district attorney for Sacramento County last December.

The Post-Bulletin in Rochester, Minn., has named **Mike Dougherty** (1989) one of its three local news editors. Dougherty supervises six reporters and handles functions that were formerly handled by assistant city editors, a city editor and a feature editor.

**Kevin Duchschere** (1980), a reporter for the Star Tribune, was interviewed Sept. 25 by students in **Robert Franklin’s** and **Craig Bryan’s** reporting and

media writing classes. Duchschere talked about his coverage of the I-35W bridge collapse, southeastern Minnesota floods, documentary filmmaker Ken Burns’ visit to Luverne, Minn., and numerous other stories he recently covered.

**Kara Eliason** (2007) is an editorial assistant at MSP Communications in Minneapolis. She’s writing, editing and proofreading for several of the company’s publications, including “NWA WorldTraveler,” “Minnesota Golfer,” “Independent Banker” and “Mpls./St. Paul Magazine.”

KCRG-TV, an ABC network affiliate in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is the new professional home of **Justin Foss** (2002). In September, he left Mason City’s KIMT-TV for KCRG, where he’s a reporter and fill-in anchor. Part of his assignment is to help the station increase its web-based reporting.

**Karla Freivalds** (2003) is a producer and writer for High Noon Entertainment in Centennial, Colo. She works on the HGTV network program “My First Place,” which is shooting its third season this year in Denver and Atlanta, and is one of the network’s top 10 programs.

Political pundit **Patrick Haggerty** (1971) visited UST in October, speaking to students in an upper-level seminar in American politics. He reviewed 2006 election results and discussed how they set the stage for the 2008 elections. Haggerty has been a frequent guest on “Larry

King Live,” served as a news consultant for “Good Morning America,” worked on four presidential campaigns and was a press secretary to three members of Congress. He’s also perhaps the only UST graduate who was featured in the movie “Borat.”

Dead Boyfriends, the fourth novel by **David Housewright** (1977) featuring private investigator Rushmore McKenzie, has been published by St. Martin’s Minotaur Books.

**Stephanie Johnson** (2007) is community fund coordinator for the Minnesota Twins.

Fall semester speakers to the UST Ad Club included **Emily Kaiden** (2005) and **Christine Scherping** (2000) from the Minneapolis-based agency Colle+McVoy, and **Shawn Murnan** (1995), director of brand advertising strategy at Best Buy.

**Ashley Kersting** (2006) has launched her own graphic design business, Burleigh Day Design. Her business design projects include Web sites, business cards and logos, while her designs for individuals include wedding and event invitations and monograms. She exhibited invitation designs at a wedding fair in October.

Examples of those and her other designs can be found at her Web site, [www.burleighdaydesign.com](http://www.burleighdaydesign.com). “When I Think of Home,” a documentary produced by **Hlee Lee** (2007), premiered in September on Twin Cities Public Television.

**Lisa Joy LoMurray** (2005) has relocated to Santa Monica,

Calif., and continues to work as a camera operator for reality television shows. Lately, she has been across the country to shoot segments for “Battle of the Bands,” to Hawaii to work on “High School Reunion” and to the Dominican Republic for “The Apprentice.” She writes via e-mail, “Reality TV is training me and paying my bills, but I still want to work on projects with more social relevance – and fewer crazy reality producers.” To that end, her documentary about Minnesota peace activist Marv Davidov premiered in October on Twin Cities Public Television.

**Brigid Power** (2003) finished a master’s degree in communication studies at the University of Minnesota last spring. She’s now teaching eighth grade language arts and directing the extended day program at St. Peter’s Catholic School in North St. Paul.

**Kate Renner** (2007), who is now a general assignment reporter for KREX-TV, the CBS affiliate station in Grand Junction, Colo., was nominated for an Emmy in the college news competition sponsored by the Upper Midwest Chapter of the National Television Academy.

**Jenny Rose Ryan** (2002) has taken a new position as annual fund associate at the Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture in Seattle. She’s also continuing freelance work, writing her fourth article for Bust magazine, which is published in New York City. This most recent arti-

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Communication and Theater Association of Minnesota in Rochester. The student presenters and their topics were **Jessica Marx**, “Comedian Michael Richards Isn’t Funny: An Analysis of Richards’ Apology for Racist Remarks Toward Audience Members at a Los Angeles Comedy Club”; **John Skalko**, “When ‘E Quotes’ Go Bad: Pope Benedict XVI’s

Apology to Muslims”; and **Susan Larson**, “‘I’ve Said, Burn North High School Down!’: Minneapolis City Council Member Don Samuels’ Attempts to Apologize to a North Minneapolis Community.”

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cle was about cross-country skiing for beginners.

Former Star Tribune capitol bureau reporter **Dane Smith** (1977) took one of the newspaper's buyout offers last spring and is now directing the Growth & Justice group, which describes itself as "a progressive economic think tank focused on developing and communicating public policy strategies and agendas to make Minnesota's economy simultaneously more prosperous, fair, and environmentally sustainable." In September, Smith and Growth & Justice teamed up with Minnesota Public Radio to co-host a public forum that asked what the state should be spending to insure citizens' safety and security in the wake of events such as the I-35W bridge collapse and 9/11.

**Jen (Matthees) Sondag** (2006) is completing a master's degree at North Dakota State University, where she's teaching classes in public speaking and media writing. She says her master's

thesis is likely to continue the topic she began studying in her UST Media Ethics research project – childhood obesity and advertising campaigns – but will also include teen audiences.

**Marcy Stech** (2007) is communications coordinator for the Don Ness for Mayor Campaign in Duluth.

After several years as an assigning editor at the St. Paul Pioneer Press, **Jack Sullivan** (1993) took one of that paper's buyouts this summer. In September, he entered the University of Minnesota Law School. He writes via e-mail, "I feel extremely fortunate to be leaving the most rewarding and challenging position I've ever held in order to do something I am sure will be even more challenging and even more rewarding."

Saint Cloud State University Professor **Michael Vadnie** (1970) received the Al McIntosh Distinguished Service to Journalism Award for his work as professor and mentor to students. The award was presented by the

board of directors of the Minnesota Newspaper Association. Vadnie, who worked for six years for the Grand Forks (N.D.) Herald is a licensed attorney who practices in St. Cloud, in addition to teaching at SCSU. He teaches news writing, editorial writing, mass communication law, print journalism principles and methods, public affairs reporting, and some ethics and history courses. He is co-adviser of the Society of Professional Journalists student chapter, coordinator for the university's news-editorial sequence, chairman of the Department of Mass Communications scholarship committee, and senior consultant for the First Amendment Forum for students and professional journalists held annually at SCSU. He is also adviser for the University Chronicle student newspaper. ■



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