

SPEAK EASY

A Publication of the Department of Speech Communication — Southern Illinois University Carbondale

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CUTTING EDGE SCHOLARSHIP: GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND COMMUNICATION EMERGES AS NEW AREA

Responding to developing interest in gender and communication studies, the SIUC Speech Communication Department created a new graduate area in Gender, Sexuality, and Communication beginning with the 2006-2007 school year. "This is a cutting-edge area of research for many of our faculty and students," said Department Chair **Nathan Stucky**; "our established faculty as well as new faculty members have been researching and publishing in this area, and we've enhanced the curriculum to reflect this growing area of interest." **Ronald Pelias**, Director of Graduate Studies, explained that, "we have so many faculty members who are interested in these discussions within their work... it reflects who we are as a department." Commenting on the critical mass that was already in place in the department before the area's introduction, Pelias stated that the department had already developed a substantial program in this area, "it was present, but just hadn't been named."

Associate Professor **Suzanne Daughton**, said, "This new area allows us to extend the communication and gender course work that Professor **Lenore Langsdorf** and others of us have been offering." Both Daughton and Langsdorf hold cross-appointments with the Women's Studies program, and a number of the department courses have been cross-listed.

According to Dr. Stucky, the number of graduate students who are doing some form of communication related to gender or sexuality studies has grown over the past ten years. "We've had a number of dissertations and theses on communication and gender by students working within one of the existing areas: Rhetoric and Philosophy of Communication, Intercultural Communication, Performance Studies, Communication Pedagogy, and Interpersonal Communication. Stucky stated, "this new area answers an important curricular need."

When asked about the popularity of gender and sexuality research in the department and how he assessed overall interest in the new subject area, Pelias stated, "we needed only look to the number of performances and dissertations that have had gender and sexuality as central themes in the last few years."

Associate professor **Craig Gingrich-Philbrook** looks forward to the new possibilities the area will open up for research and discussion. "It consolidates and extends our work in an area that many of us have interdisciplinary



*Charles Parrott, pictured enroute to perform at the opening night of *The Phrenologist's Daughter*, was awarded the Kleinau Theatre's Graduate Student Newcomer Award*

investments in, allowing us to provide interested students a more integrated experience. I also anticipate that it will occasion more discussion among us as faculty in the area, and I certainly look forward to that."

SPEECH COMMUNICATION STUDENTS RESPOND TO HURRICANE KATRINA

Five days after Hurricane Katrina obliterated neighborhoods, altered the course of life for millions of people, and buried more than 90 square miles of land under water, speech communication students were desperately thinking of ways to help. "We learned that the Red Cross, in conjunction with Camp WOW in Kentucky, was expecting 125 survivors to arrive on buses within a few hours," recalls **Denise Kaye (Ph.D. '06)**. "They needed assistance and we went there to help," said Kaye, one of several speech communication graduate students who went into immediate action collecting relief clothing and support to bring to the camp.



Antoinette L. McDonald holds a Hurricane Katrina survivor at Camp WOW. The baby girl was born just hours after her mother had arrived at the camp.

Later, department students created a performance in order to raise funds and awareness to support the hurricane survivors. **Kim Lampron, Antoinette L. McDonald, Sabrina Worsham,** and Kaye visited Camp WOW several times and then told their stories through a live performance. *Word from the Hurricane* was a performance organized by the Africana Theater Lab and Speech Communication graduate student **Rachel Hastings**. These performances helped raise over \$600 in relief funds for hurricane survivors.

Kaye, McDonald and Worsham also shared their research from camp WOW at the Central States Communication Association Conference. Their panel entitled "Identities Transforming Through Cultural Displacement: Narratives From Within New Orleans" was extremely well received as timely and meaningful scholarship.

2005-2006 Graduate Student Research, Awards and Productivity

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ALUMNI NOTES

Sue Glasco (B.S. '55, M.S. '72) has compiled a collection of her newspaper columns which appeared in the 1960's. The resulting book *Down On the Farm: One American Family's Dream*; tells the story of a young family starting to farm in Southern Illinois. Her book is available at www.PublishAmerica.com, Amazon.com and at local book stores.

Patricia Yates Russel (B.S. '59) is the Senior English as a Second Language Specialist at the American Language Institute, University of Toledo. At the program's inception in 1977, she was the first teacher to be employed. The DuQuoin, Illinois native recently co-authored a book with Professor Rajinder Garcha entitled, *Islam: A Selected Annotated Bibliography*.



John Carrol (B.S. '74) is an artist, photographer and writer living and working in Washington, D.C. He is working on a book of photography of the male form. He has won awards for his work in water color, acrylic, drawing and photography.

Sandra Herndon (Ph.D. '75) has retired from Ithaca College after 29 years. She and her husband have settled close to her son, Alex Fish, in Washington State.

Karen Mitchell (M.S. '77) is Professor of Communication Studies at the University of Northern Iowa. She was named Director of the Graduate Program for the department in May 2005, and continues as the Artistic Director for UNI Interpreter's Theater.

Michael A. White (B.S. '78) has worked with Interpark/G.E. Capital for 16 years.

Cara L. Day (B.S. '86) after ten years as a meeting planner and continuing education coordinator, is following her passion and is now working in broadcast at WICD-TV. She also volunteers with the Champaign-Urbana Theater Company.

Tim J. Enright (B.A. '82) is SBC's Regional Sales Director. His wife Donna is an SIU alumni. He, his wife and three children live in Woodridge, Illinois where he coaches soccer and basketball and is Vice President of the Booster Club.

Scherrie Giamanco (B.A. '86) is currently the Acting Chief of the USDA-FSA Illinois Price Support Program. She is also Outside Director for First National Bank of Wokomis, and a member of the SIU College of Agriculture Advisory Group.

Larry S. Clifton (Ph.D. '87) is a professor at Walters State Community College. He is Associate Producer and Historian of the recent feature film, *Bell Witch: The Movie* that premiered September 24, 2005 in Nashville, Tennessee. He is a scene artist for Cinemarr Entertainment, and his fourth book: *Cinema of Fright* was released Fall 2005.

Ron W. Davis (B.A. '87) is living in Rockaway, New Jersey. He has been working in marketing, human resources and customer relations.

Becky Teets (B.A. '89) is a mother of twin 2-year-old boys and a 5-year-old daughter. She reports that she is also an aspiring screenwriter looking to break into Hollywood. "Go Salukis!"

Wendy Krajewski (M.S. '93) is currently the Director of Community Outreach for North Metro Fire and Rescue. She is President of Emergency Services Public Information offices of Colorado.

Jim Mitchell (B.A. '93) lives and works in DeKalb, Illinois. He is the owner of Home James, Inc. Elected in 2003, he is a member of the DeKalb School Board #428 and Vice President for the Children's Community Theater.

Jim Ferris (Ph.D. '94) has been elected President of the Society for Disability Studies, the leading scholarly organization in Disability Studies. An award-winning poet, Ferris teaches in the Department of Communication Arts at the University of Wisconsin – Madison.

H. Gene Biby (Ph.D. '99) is Assistant Professor of Communication and Theater Arts at University of Wisconsin, Rock County.

Matthew Friedman (B.A. '99) graduated in Public Relations and now works as a Trade-Sales Representative for Pella Windows & Doors in Chicago, Illinois.

Belinda Anderson (B.A. '00) accepted a position with the Muscular Dystrophy Association in May 2005. Previously, Anderson worked as an executive for the Boy Scouts of America for over two years handling fundraising, recruitment and promotions. As Program Coordinator for MDA of the Quad Cities, she is responsible for marketing, public relations, event planning, fundraising and staff supervision.

Jessica Bertulis (B.S. '01) is working for the Style and Authentic Entertainment Company in Los Angeles. She helped produce from beginning to end a new television program *Wedding Altered 3* (premier date June 10th on the Style Network).

Rich Plummer (Ph.D. '01) chairs the Theater program at West Shore Community College and directs a 20-event Performing Arts Series. He recently toured nationally with his own one-man play, *Live From the Front: Byline Ernie Pyle*, which celebrates the heroism of the honored World War II correspondent and the courage and sacrifice of the "Greatest Generation." Rich lives and works in Ludington, Michigan.

Stephanie A. Anderson (B.S. '02) is currently with St. Mary's Good Samaritan hospital in Centralia, Illinois. During the interview Stephanie reported, "the director made a comment that the rest of the department should have a degree in Speech Communication."

Dana C. Sprehe (B.S. '03) works at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida in guest relations for Disney's Animal Kingdom. She is the VIP Tour Guide. "Working for Disney, I used to have my home town on my name tag. I had 'Carbondale' on mine and I loved getting recognized as a Saluki!"

Morgan Look (B.S. '03) and **James Michael Babb** (B.S. '03) were married in Matteson, Illinois. Morgan and Mike met in **Maurice Hall's** SPCM 483 class. Morgan's degree was in public relations, while Mike's was in organizational communication. They currently live in Palos Hills, Illinois. Morgan works for the Federal Signal Corporation as Marketing Coordinator for the Fire Division. Mike is a Firefighter/Paramedic for Lincolnshire-Riverside, Illinois.

Laura Borger, (M.S. '03) a Speech teacher at Carbondale High School, was named one of the "Heartland's Best Teachers" by KFVS12. This award is designed to honor those unsung heroes who've meant so much to so many students. Ms. Borger was nominated by CCHS Senior, Jessica Woolard who wrote an essay praising Ms. Borger and her classes.



GREETINGS FROM THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR



Sometimes the Department of Speech Communication at SIUC seems like an oasis in a troubled world. But the sojourners at this oasis remain committed to the real world both within and outside the university. Our faculty and students find nourishment in the scholarly and artistic work of the communication discipline within the academic sphere, and they work hard to maintain connections to the wider world. This year our Pyramid Public Relations students accepted the College of Liberal Arts as a client with sterling results. Other undergraduates

produced original research and creative scholarship and landed important internships. Our graduate students presented papers, created performances and published essays in addition to excellent work toward their degrees. Our faculty continue to research, publish, and create, and they achieve excellence in classrooms where the education of each individual matters. We live in a world that needs the clarity and sensitivity of effective communication. The study of human communication has never been more important. I'm immensely proud that we're continuing a tradition of excellence in our integrated and connected "real-world oasis."

--Nathan Stucky, Chair

SPEAKERS FORUM DRAWS CROWDS TO DISCUSS PROFILING AND THE WAR ON DRUGS

Democracy is not possible without public discourse. With this in mind, *The Student Speakers Forum* has continued to bring hundreds of students together each semester to consider social issues and honor the democratic right of free speech. Since its beginning four years ago, over 4,000 students have attended and participated in the forum. In the fall of 2005, a diverse set of undergraduate speakers addressed the topic: *What role should profiling play in maintaining a civil society?* A veteran



spoke about his repeated experiences being detained at the airport, followed by an SIUC engineering major who spoke about his experience being followed through a wealthy neighborhood because of his gender and ethnicity. The spring 2006 topic, *Is Anyone Winning "The War On Drugs?"* drew a crowd that filled the main ballroom in the Student Center. Student presentations informed the audience about local and national drug use and the related problems of policy and crime. A lively debate ensued following the formal student speeches, which built logical arguments from personal narratives and researched statistics.

THE MARION KLEINAU THEATRE STAGES WIDE-RANGING SEASON

The Marion Kleinau Theatre produced a wide range of performances across issues of healing, activism, dreams, art, family biography, revolution, resistance, depleted uranium and phrenology. Nicole Defenbaugh started the season by exploring the multifaceted dance of chronic illness in her solo show, *It Takes Guts [Colon] Spelling (with) Dis-ease*, co-directed with Scott Ireland. Nicole shared the bill with Diana Tigerlily who wrote and performed *Depleting Patriarchy*, a rich tapestry of "ecolage" that uncovered "the Pentagon's biggest radioactive secret." Chris Collins and Jake Simmons blurred the lines between awake and asleep with *Expression Pig: A Dancing Lucid Dream*, and Elyse Lamm Pineau performed her act of narrative homesteading, sharing moments from her childhood in the Canadian wilderness in *Shadowboxing: Myths and Miniatures of Home*. In *Metamorphosis: A Revolutionary Nomad Comes Undone*, written and directed by Rachel Hastings, an ensemble cast pondered the balance of personal sacrifice for collective unification. Janet Donoghue and Alison Fisher, kept with the theme of social change in *On The Line: Exploring Resistance and Possibility*, a show that questioned the many lines that exist around and within us. *The Phrenologist's Daughter (or Potato's Night Out)*, featured an eclectic cast directed by Craig Gingrich-Philbrook. The production was a devilish delight of indeterminacy that included: a spider, a head, a potato and zombies as some of its characters.

TRANSITIONS

Brett Lloyd Aldridge (M.A. '03) born August 27, 1976 in Wagoner, Oklahoma, passed away Tuesday, February 28, 2006, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, at the age of 29 years. Brett graced the Kleinau stage in numerous productions and his infectious laugh and sense of humor raised spirits at SIUC and beyond. Brett taught speech and drama at the Tulsa Community College and also worked as a tutor for the Kaplan Studios. One of his students, Elise McCaffery, remembers, "I never missed a single one of his classes, and this is why--Brett not only taught you, he made each day brighter. He challenged us to think outside the box, and pushed us further when we were on the right track. There was an amazing energy when he walked into the room and began to speak, and my classmates and I never knew what to expect from his wonderfully sharp wit."



Dorothy Higginbotham (Ph.D. Northwestern University) passed away on February 22, 2006 at the age of 77. She served in the department teaching language and communication development at SIUC in the 1960s, directed 12 doctoral dissertations, and served on the editorial boards of *Communication Education* and *The Quarterly Journal of Speech*. She served as the Associate Dean of College of Arts and Sciences for the University of Oklahoma from 1988 until her retirement in 1991.



Pictured: The spider, the head, and zombies in *The Phrenologist's Daughter*.

“NEW FACULTY MEMBER” DR. ROBYN REMKE BRINGS ORGANIZATIONAL COMMUNICATION EXPERTISE TO SIUC

Robyn Remke, a new addition to the department faculty, earned her Ph.D. from Purdue University in organizational communication. Her scholarship addresses how organizational members respond to organizational irrationality (paradox, irony, and contradiction). She uses feminist and critical/postmodern theory to guide her research. Her recent work centers on rural poverty and reflects her concern for social justice. Dr. Remke has developed a new course in organizational communication and has already been at work revising the curriculum. She is excited about the new graduate area in Gender, Sexuality and Communication. “I would love to teach the course ‘Sex and the Workplace,’” she said. Although she found small-town Carbondale a bit of an adjustment, Dr. Remke says, “I cannot imagine a friendlier and more inspiring department. The enthusiasm and dedication of the faculty and students is contagious and it inspires me to think about my own research and teaching in new and different ways.”



FACULTY UPDATES

Nilanjana Bardhan is actively involved in teaching more courses in intercultural communication, both at the graduate and undergraduate levels. She continues to enjoy teaching public relations and serving as faculty advisor for PRSSA. She has one book chapter in press and another article accepted for publication by the *MICA Communication Review* (Ahmedabad, India).

Bryan Crow was honored with a plaque at the May 2006 meeting of the WSIU Friends Board, in recognition of 15 years of his public radio program “Celtic Connections.” He was also recognized at the 2006 Southern Illinois Irish Festival as one of three people who have been instrumental in bringing Irish music and culture to this region and beyond.

Suzanne Daughton, on sabbatical leave in fall 2005, presented a talk on her research to faculty and students at the University of Wales, Swansea, UK. She has been conducting interviews with birthing women and their caregivers as part of an ongoing research project on how we talk about birth. She continues to serve on the editorial boards of the *Quarterly Journal of Speech* and *Women’s Studies in Communication*.

Todd Graham and the Saluki Debate team made the transition from policy to parliamentary debate this year. The team had substantial success landing invitations to three selective tournaments, and had a first-place win against teams from Notre Dame, University of Missouri, and Loyola.

Jonathan Gray was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure this year. He remains Basic Course Director. He published an essay in *Communication Teacher*, was the featured performer at the Conference on Communication and the Environment (COCE), and has been performing, *Trail Mix: A Sojourn on the Muddy Divide Between Nature and Culture* at various conferences and universities throughout the year.

Craig Gingrich-Philbrook’s essays “Ambition and Inflation in the Poetry of Jorie Graham” and “Autoethnography’s Family Values: Easy Access to Compulsory Experiences” appeared in *Text and Performance Quarterly* this year. His performance work included *Exit Strategy*, a solo performance for the St. Cloud State Festival; *Flag*,

a solo performance video document that appeared in *Liminalities: A Journal of Performance Studies*; and *The Phrenologist’s Daughter*, a group show staged in the Kleinau Theatre.

Mary Hinchcliff-Pelias continues to teach and do research in the area of intercultural communication. She is especially interested in issues related to intercultural couples, and pedagogical concerns in teaching communication to diverse student populations. She spent most of last summer in France and will return there again in summer 2006 to teach at the American University in Paris.

Tim Hood served as a lecturer covering a variety of courses including several in organizational communication.

Josh Houston continued to serve as a lecturer teaching courses primarily in public relations. He offered a special topics course in Sports and Public Relations.

Kim Kline presented four projects at NCA in the fall including “Taking our Pulse: Theoretical and Applied Contributions of Critical and Interpretive Approaches to the Health Communication Discipline,” “Self-help as Invitational Rhetoric: Re-visioning the Potential of Self-help for Empowerment,” and “Cultural Sensitivity and Health Promotion: Assessing Breast Cancer Education Pamphlets Designed for African American Women.”

Richard Lanigan presented papers at the International Summer School for Semiotic and Structural Studies at the ISI in Helsinki, Finland, as well as presentations at international conferences in Mexico. He published an article “Paradigm Shifts: Recalling the Early ICA and the Later PHILCOM” in *The Communication Review*.

Lenore Langsdorf presented papers at the Alta Argumentation conference, the Duquesne University Phenomenology Symposium, the Society for Phenomenology and the Human Sciences, the Wake Forest Argumentation Conference, and NCA during the current academic year. She received an award from the Duquesne University Communication and Rhetorical Studies Department and presented an address on that occasion. She continues to serve as editor for the *Human Studies* journal and a book series.

Cheryl L. Nicholas teaches courses in intercultural communication and ethnography. She presented competitive papers at NCA, SSCA, ICA and at the International Congress for Qualitative Inquiry. She plans to spend summer 2006 in Malaysia doing an ethnography on Malaysian queer identity. The ethnography is partially funded by a grant from the Women’s Studies Department and the University Women’s Professional Association.

Ron Pelias is working on two book projects, one entitled, *The Critic’s Performance*, and the other called, *Writing Through Improvisation*. His essay, “A Personal History of Lust on Bourbon Street,” published in *Text and Performance Quarterly* has generated a number of responses.

Elyse Lamm Pineau gave a keynote performance at the University of Washington’s Symposium on Children and Wartime Art. In December her solo autoethnographic performance, *Shadowboxing: Myths and Miniatures of Home*, explored the relationship between familial biography and a cultural myth. The production braided family narratives and historical artifacts to tell the story of her parents’ lives as wilderness resort owners and environmental activists in Canada.

Nathan Stucky, Department Chair, published “Performing Master Han” in *Cultural Studies* <--> *Critical Methodologies*, performed selections from Homer’s, *The Iliad* in an evening of faculty performances and, during his sabbatical leave in the fall, conducted research and presented a paper at the Center for Performance Research at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, UK.

“NEW FACULTY MEMBER” DR. NAIDA ZUKIC
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Naida Zukic joined the faculty in the Fall 2005 term as Assistant Professor of Intercultural Communication with a Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota and a masters degree from Arizona State University. Dr. Zukic's courses introduce students to theories and research in intercultural communication, with a goal of underscoring the intersections of theory and practice, emphasizing the connections between embodied lived experiences and the critical cultural theories that reflect these practices. Her scholarship has largely focused on the political construction of subjectivity through media discourse (i.e., cyber discourses), and more directly on intercultural encounters. Her experience joining the SIUC community has been a warm one. “I look forward to coming to work and interacting with the faculty and students.” Dr. Zukic stated, “There is an unprecedented and compelling sense of community within both the faculty and student cultures – we foster a strong intellectual tradition, encourage exceptional and competitive scholarship, and we take good care of each other.”



SPEECH COMMUNICATION
ORGANIZATION OF GRADUATE
STUDENTS HOLDS AUCTION

The Speech Communication Organization, or SCO, worked this year to shift its elections from the end of the spring to the start of the fall term so that new students could participate. This spring, upon a donation of a computer and other items by Michiyo Okawa (M.S. 1992), SCO held a fundraising silent auction. SCO members were important in facilitating the annual Storytelling Festival held on the SIUC campus. This activity has become a tradition that graduate students appear to love just as much as the children who attend the festival.



NATIONAL COMMUNICATION
ASSOCIATION STUDENT CLUB
BUILDS SKILLS FOR LOCAL
MEMBERS

The National Communication Association Student Club (NCASC) is a group of undergraduates from all majors who are interested in communication as a discipline and as a networking tool. In the 2005-2006 school year, the students volunteered for local events such as the Carbondale “Pig Out” in the fall and “Relay for Life” in the spring. They also organized social events at local restaurants and athletic activities. During both semesters, the group sent representatives to the national and regional communication conferences to learn more about this field, traveling to Boston and Indianapolis. The students also developed their professional skills through presentations that included tips on how to improve résumés and cover letters as well as information on how to put together a portfolio. The Faculty advisors Dr. Jonathan Gray and Dr. Bryan Crow, and graduate student advisor Elizabeth Petre complimented the group for their excellent co-sponsorship of the spring picnic with the graduate students at Evergreen Park. The newly elected executive board members are looking forward to a productive and exciting year for NCASC in the fall.

PUBLIC RELATIONS
CREATES A MODEL CHAPTER

The Raymond D. Wiley PRSSA chapter entered the new academic year with much energy and a great attitude. President Sarah Schalmo, Pyramid Vice President of Operations Stephanie Sparks, and the entire executive board demonstrated excellent leadership skills. Faculty advisor Nilanjana Bardhan, faculty co-advisor Kim Kline, professional advisor Greg Scott, and graduate assistant Jim Petre provided quality guidance and assistance.

The list of PRSSA activities includes the first annual Volley For The Earth volleyball tournament/fundraiser, a gala alumni banquet, and the third annual Haunted Trail Halloween fundraiser, with a key role played by Treasurer and Fundraising Chair Bradley Wilkins. Although a hurricane threat cancelled the national conference, the members attended regional conferences hosted by St. Louis University and Illinois State University as well as the monthly professional luncheons hosted by the St. Louis parent PRSA chapter. The mentorship program paired students with members of the St. Louis PRSA chapter.

Pyramid Public Relation is also about to become the ninth nationally-affiliated PRSSA firm in the nation, a designation reserved only for those student-run firms that demonstrate the highest quality of work and professionalism. PRSSA continues to be such a success that other Illinois PRSSA chapters are looking at our program as a model.

DEBATE TEAM ACHIEVES WINS
AND TOP TEN INVITATIONS

Under the leadership of coach Dr. Todd Graham, the Saluki Debate team racked up a number of successes in the 2005-2006 season including a first-place win over teams from Notre Dame, the University of Missouri and Loyola at the William Jewel College tournament, and invitations to three exclusive round robin tournaments that only brought in schools among the top ten. Now a member of the National Parliamentary Debate Association (NPDA), the Salukis demonstrated that no matter the style of debate, SIUC will rise to the top. The debate team of Justin Hingtgen and Kasey Gardner was the top seated team at the Colorado College Debate Tournament with a perfect record of 6 wins and no losses. Next year several veteran members are returning and will be joined by outstanding new recruits who look to extend the Saluki Debate success.

STUDENTS CONTINUE THE DEPARTMENT'S TRADITION OF RESPONSIBLE SOCIAL ACTION

The department tradition of student involvement in significant affairs of the day stretches back several generations from **Dr. Tom Pace's** take on Texas politics in the 1960's to the Calipre Theatre productions directed by **Dr. Marion Kleinau**. Every year the PRSSA students work through "Adopt-A-Spot" to help keep Carbondale clean, and the PRSSA Community Service Committee has done the local publicity for the Relay-For-Life program of the American Cancer Society. Associate Professor and faculty advisor **Nilanjana Bardhan** reported that Pyramid Public Relations designed a campaign against domestic violence this year for their client, the Jackson County Health Department.

This past year, several meaningful performances and presentations have been carried beyond the Kleinau stage and Speech Communication conferences. These presentations and performances have raised funds and support for relief work for Hurricane Katrina victims and given donations to the local Carbondale Women's Center and Peace Coalition. "Things are really happening in that department," commented Elaine Ramsyer, owner of the local Longbranch coffee house after hosting two standing-room only performances by the *BombsAway Collective*, a performance troop comprised of Speech Communication graduate students **Alison Fisher**, **Diana Tigerlily**, **Janet Donoghue**, **Amber Zimmerman**, **Nicole Defenbaugh** and **Melinda Yeomans**. Fisher and Donoghue also have formed a two-person group, *The Composters*, that tours to raise awareness of environmental and social justice issues.

VISITING ARTISTS ENHANCE STUDENT EXPERIENCES

By combining Speech Communication resources with the Student Fine Arts Activity Fee sponsorship, the department continues to bring a variety of guest artists, speakers, and noted scholars to campus each year. Visiting New York performance artist **Stephanie Heyl Juno** brought workshops and a performance to the department in October 2005. Juno's performance, *Swallowed Whole: Stories From Inside the Painting*, took her audience on a journey through poetic, totemic moments from her work in the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

"I won't forget her performance," said doctoral student **Janet Donoghue**, "but most of all her professionalism mixed with fun and genuine passion for her art." Juno guided her workshop participants in techniques for marking and mapping "landscapes" for their performances. Juno visited classes in the department, went to dinner with students, and allowed them to participate in her preparation and process as an artist.

Professor **Della Pollock** of the Department of Communication Studies and Director of Cultural Studies at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill spent a week at SIUC in February meeting with students, guest-lecturing in classes, consulting on student research, and presenting a performance/lecture entitled *The Performative I*. Speaking in **Dr. Ron Pelias'** autoethnography class, Pollock asserted that "the self is always emerging, written and rewritten in the process of writing." Pollock commented on the feeling of community and warmth with which she was received by the Speech Communication Department.

Dr. Paul Edwards from the Department of Performance Studies at Northwestern University and **Dr. Mary Agnes Doyle**, Director of Play Talks for Steppenwolf Theatre in Chicago visited SIUC in April 2006. Edwards presented an elaborate slide show investigating the many variations and techniques for the adaptation of Flaubert's *Madame Bovary* on stage and in film. Doyle's presentation, "Dramaturgical Signatures: The Case of Theresienstadt," provided commentary on the Nazi's "Theresienstadt Village" and the cultural production within it by interned artists and intellectuals.



The BombsAway Collective performed twice this year to standing-room only crowds at the Longbranch coffee house.

Pictured: Bombs Away Collective members posing.

ALUMNI & FRIENDS

Your comments and contributions are welcome. If you would like to make a difference for the students in the Department of Speech Communication, visit our website at:

www.siu.edu/departments/cola/spcm

You may also wish to contact the **SIU Foundation** to make a tax deductible donation to our department.

Phone: 618-453-4900

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The Speech Communication Activities Fund supports all of the department programs.

Speak Easy 2006

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Faculty Advisor: Nathan Stucky

Thanks to all who contributed to this newsletter

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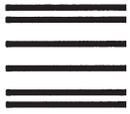


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