Kudos and Celebrations

New Jobs, Positions, and Promotions:

Please congratulate newly-tenured Associate Professor Craig Engstrom! This semester marks his first since being officially promoted and awarded tenure.

Dr. Lacey Brown began her new position as Professor of Instruction in the Department of Speech, Theatre, and Dance at The University of Tampa after receiving her Ph.D. in the summer.

Dr. Nilanjana Bardhan has been selected to serve on the diversity council of the SIUC campus and as one of SIUC’s representatives to the Diversity Action Committee. Both bodies are working on improving the diversity of SIU’s campuses.

Angela Duggins has been elected as the Junior Co-chair of the Graduate Student Subcommittee of the Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE).

Kevin McCarty has been elected as the very first Graduate Student Representative of the International Association for Communication & Sport (IACS), an organization dedicated to the academic inter-disciplinary study of communication and sport.

Recent and Upcoming Presentations and Publications:

Congratulations to Tao Zhang for her upcoming presentation of four individual paper submissions at November’s NCA conference in Baltimore, Maryland. Two of her presentations will be adaptations from her preliminary exams.

Congratulations to Dr. Craig Engstrom for his article publication titled Hiring Managers’ Impressions of Business Communication’s Legitimacy” in July’s Business and Professional Quarterly

Service and Teaching Here at Home:

Congratulations to Jonny Gray on his art quilt being showcased in the University Art Museum’s ongoing “Labor Day Art and Media” exhibition. Anyone looking to find the quilt would be advised that the title is “Second Shift Upcycle”; the medium is fabric, surface design, quilting; and the dimensions are 43.25” (H) x 28.25” (W). The exhibition is ongoing, from August 29th through September 27th.

Congratulations to Graduate Assistants United (GAU) president Anna Wilcoxen and the other members of the GAU executive committee (Alex Davenport, Robert Fiedler, Alex Lockwood, Dianah McGreehan) for their work in securing a substantial fee reduction and contract extension for GAs.

Important Dates*

- 9/14: Body Maps, devised by the Tim Miller workshop participants.
- 9/18: SIU Day
- 9/26-9/28: Nourish (directed by Christos Patelis and Rebecca Walker)
- 9/26-9/29: The Yellow Wallpaper (Starring Elyse Pineau)
- 9/28-9/29: Saluki-Con

*For more information on these and other events, please refer to the “Important Dates” list distributed by Darren Valenta on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.
Service and Teaching Beyond SIU:

In July, Professor Emeritus Elyse Pineau led her third study abroad cohort to Oxford England where students engaged in independent research with Oxford University tutors, and spent the month immersed in the culture and history of the ‘City of Dreaming Spires.’ Elyse taught her course on J.R.R. Tolkien’s life and work, while conducting archival research in the Bodleian Library’s Tolkien Collection.

Student Communication Organization Elections:

Congratulations to our new SCO executive board and committee representatives who will conduct official business over the course of this academic year, including:

- Shelby Swafford—President
- Caleb McKinley-Portee—Vice-President
- Janine Armstrong—Secretary
- OJ Duncan—Treasurer
- Alex Lockwood—Librarian/Historian
- Dianah McGreehan—Social Director
- Maddie Wiles—Intercultural Relations Officer
- Kenny Beeker—Undergraduate Committee Representative
- Scott Jarmon and Maddie Wiles—Graduate Committee Representatives
- Devin Collins—Planning and Development Committee Representative
- Anna Wilcoxen and Christos Patelis—Personnel Committee Nominees
- Janine Armstrong—COLA Council
- OJ Duncan—GAU Departmental Steward

Thank Yous:

Thank you to everyone who attended and participated in the clean-up of the Marion Kleinau Theatre on August 24th. Everyone’s hard work insured the Kleinau stage is ready for what will surely be another wonderful season of shows.