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SC&I by THE NUMBERS

2014 SC&I FACULTY & STAFF
FIFTY9
APPROXIMATELY
100

FULL-TIME FACULTY

SIXTY6
DOCTORAL STUDENTS WITH ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2014 SC&I STUDENTS
1,839
MAJORS

UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL

FORTY2
FULL- & PART-TIME STAFF

GRADUATE LEVEL

498
STUDENTS
MESSAGE FROM THE Dean

Every day we do at the School of Communication and Information (SC&I) revolves around interactions: our research on conversation analysis, studies of message design and social media, courses on human computer interaction and seminars on how the social environment influences behavior. Our scholars are focused on how we communicate, interact with the public and how we find, create and disseminate information and build knowledge. In a digital age of extreme and rapid change, it’s incumbent on universities to help society make sense of the new ways messages are made, interpreted and reach an audience.

Information and communication form the bedrock of a civil society. Without open access to information and the opportunities that free speech afford, we would not have a democratic nation. It is critical that we defend and promote the various ways we exercise free speech and a free press within the framework of social responsibility. Through our interactions with students, representatives of industry and New Jersey municipalities, we teach future generations about the responsible ways that communication and information can help in decision-making, planning and exercising the potential of individuals and organizations. Libraries and information centers are providing more service than ever before, and those with information and communication skills are in demand. The many citizen journalists who author new media forms influence and have impact as only a select few news anchors did in the past. These are changing times. SC&I faculty and staff interact with our Rutgers alumni and community partners to ensure that the skills, theories and knowledge embedded in our courses are current and taught through active learning, and yes, interactions.

No longer is the education model here based on the sole faculty member merely lecturing to a passive class of students.

We at SC&I are convinced that communication and information are integral to the health and well-being of people and communities, and hence, we pursue research in how to promote health, beneficial lifestyles and interactions among health care professionals and patients. We view the role of communication and information in health decision-making as key to living an energetic and quality life. In this spirit, we educate those who will be leaders in public communication and in the ethical use of information in both the private and public sphere, not only in health care, but also in many other societal contexts.

With this issue, the SC&I community launches interaction, a new publication to help us stay in touch with alumni, communicate the scope of our accomplishments to those on campus and beyond, and showcase the work being done in the school. We urge those connected with SC&I to give us suggestions for features, profiles and news items. Suggestions can be forwarded to pr@comminfo.rutgers.edu.

With all good wishes,

Claire McInerney

Claire McInerney

ACTING DEAN, SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION
School Library ‘Rock Star’ Joins Rutgers School of Communication and Information

An early adopter of helping children to create a “robust academic digital footprint,” Joyce Valenza joined SC&I earlier this year. Valenza, dubbed a “rock star librarian” by School Library Journal, is using her extensive experience in education and technology to lead courses in school media, social media and learning, and digital youth in SC&I’s undergraduate, graduate and Ph.D. programs.

“At this challenging and exciting time for education and libraries, I am thrilled to join Rutgers’ dedicated faculty, and honored to be invited to contribute to the future of its highly respected School Library Media program,” said Valenza.

Valenza is a former high school teacher-librarian at the Springfield Township High School Library and Philadelphia Inquirer tech columnist. She currently blogs for School Library Journal and contributes to VOYA magazine and Inside Higher Ed’s “Technology and Learning” blog. In 2011, she earned the Edublog Awards Lifetime Achievement Award.

Valenza looks forward to exploring critical research questions relating to libraries, young people and learning.

Joyce Valenza

“Valenza looks forward to exploring critical research questions relating to libraries, young people and learning.”

Lisa Mikesell’s Research Lies at the Intersection of Communication Practices and Mental Health

Assistant Professor Lisa Mikesell is a new member of the communication department, and is excited to be a part of the Rutgers community. She investigates communication and social practices used to negotiate everyday interactions. She is particularly interested in using qualitative methods to understand human action and human meaning when communication-based problems arise in health and mental health contexts.

Mikesell has explored the communication practices and interactions of psychiatric disorders (human action) and how these practices contribute to the development of clinical categories and perceptions (human meaning). She aims to illuminate previously neglected dimensions of human experience, participation and therapeutic decision-making in mental health and psychiatric research, including how patients understand their participation in community and perceive their own social functioning.
Philip Napoli Joins the JMS Department

SC&I is proud to welcome Philip Napoli to the JMS Department. Napoli’s research interests include media institutions, media policy and audience measurement.

After receiving his Ph.D. from Northwestern University, Napoli first worked at Rutgers. He then moved on to the Graduate School of Business at Fordham University, where he taught courses on the economic and strategic dimensions of new media for almost 15 years.

When the opportunity came to return to Rutgers, he didn’t hesitate. “It almost feels like I never left,” Napoli said. “There are still a lot of people here who were here 15 years ago, and the campus is a lot like I remember it. It’s been very easy to get right back into the swing of things.”

Mary Chayko Joins SC&I as Director of Undergraduate Interdisciplinary Studies

Mary Chayko has devoted her academic career to studying the impact of digital technology on society, and she wants to inspire the same enthusiasm for this wide-ranging field among Rutgers undergraduates.

Chayko joined SC&I in January as teaching professor and director of undergraduate interdisciplinary studies. She administers and teaches in SC&I’s digital communication, information and media minor.

“I’m hoping to convey to members of the Rutgers community just how exciting the program is, and how relevant it is for students in all majors looking to develop skills and find jobs in digital environments,” Chayko said.

Chayko has authored several books, including “Portable Communities: The Social Dynamics of Online and Mobile Connectedness,” and “Connecting: How We Form Social Bonds and Communities in the Internet Age.”

Meet Melissa Aronczyk

Melissa Aronczyk, who joined us last September as an assistant professor, was drawn to SC&I “specifically because of the high quality and diversity of faculty research and publications” and because she was “impressed with [the] collegiality and commitment of the JMS graduate students.”


Learn more about her research and teaching interests on her website, melissaaronczyk.com.

Lauren Feldman: What Kind of News Do You Watch?

It’s 11 p.m. The nightly news is on, but you tune in to the “The Colbert Report.” Sound like a familiar scenario?

While most people feel that they choose newer forms of entertainment news over traditional programs, “one widespread fallacy is that this is an either/or proposition,” said new JMS Assistant Professor Lauren Feldman. “In actuality, people who watch satire programs are also likely to consume other forms of political information, including traditional news.”

According to Feldman, although we prefer to be entertained by the comedy of satirical programs, we won’t grasp the jokes unless we know the context.

However, this does not mean we cannot use these programs to help form our political opinions once we have that understanding.

Householder Brings Experience, Loyalty to Director of Undergraduate Studies Position

Newly appointed Director of Undergraduate Studies in Communication Brian Householder brings a unique skill set and educational philosophy to Rutgers that stems from more than 20 years of being an educator.

In addition to overseeing undergraduate curriculum, providing support for instructors and serving as an advocate for undergrads, Householder wants to be the channel for the flow of information among students and instructors.

Explaining his teaching philosophy, he said that an unbiased environment is “paramount” in leading a successful classroom.
**Faculty Spotlight**

**LIS Professor Studies Collaborative Information Seeking**

A group project for school. Researching information about a parent diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes. Co-authoring a scholarly article. They’re all situations where people have to work together to find and synthesize information — otherwise known as collaborative information seeking — the principal research area of LIS Assistant Professor Chirag Shah.

He wants to know how people can collaborate more easily and effectively in a Web 2.0 environment. In the past three years since joining SC&I, Shah has focused on the subject, presenting workshops at three conferences and publishing a book last summer.

"In education specifically, collaboration is an important skill for students to have, but it’s often not clear how to encourage that," he adds. "For example, in group projects, one student often ends up taking the lead and doing most of the work."

While Shah approaches collaborative information seeking from a library science and communication perspective, he notes that the issue is interdisciplinary, which is spurring him toward future projects that will approach it from different perspectives. These include a new book that he will edit with chapters from researchers from diverse fields.

**Meet Todd Wolfson**

JMS Associate Professor Todd Wolfson discovered his passion for journalism and media studies while completing his doctoral research on social movements.

“I am interested in media and social movements because in my read of history, real change has come through mass-based social movements,” Wolfson explained. “This understanding, coupled with the growing importance of media in the informational age, has made the intersection of media and social movements a rich area of research and action. I think this has become increasingly clear in light of Occupy Wall Street and the rebellions and revolutions across North Africa and the Middle East.”

Wolfson also helped to create his own media-based social movement by co-founding the Media Mobilizing Project. The project’s mission is to “build a media, education and organizing infrastructure that will cohere and amplify the growing movement to end poverty.”

Communication Students Help Shape a Healthier New Jersey

When state officials called Professor Jennifer Warren to help with a federally funded program to combat obesity in New Jersey, she saw it as a teachable moment.

Instead of working alone with ShapingNJ — a public-private partnership of more than 200 organizations — to identify some of the barriers to healthy living, Warren turned the project into a class assignment.

Students in Communication and Social Change spent the spring semester talking to staff members at a hospital, day care center, high school, YMCA and Rutgers Dining Services about innovative ways to promote healthy eating.

The state is reviewing their report for ideas that its partners can use to combat obesity.

(Article courtesy of Rutgers Today and written by Andrea Alexander, assistant managing editor.)
Katz’s New Book Explores ‘Kids in the Middle’

Vikki Katz’s new book, “Kids in the Middle: How Children of Immigrants Negotiate Community Interactions for their Families” (Rutgers University Press), draws on four years of fieldwork, and explores how children of immigrants broker language, cultural norms and communication technologies for their families at home and in local schools, health care facilities and social services. Katz focuses on how children influence their families’ local experiences and social integration, as well as how family responsibilities affect children’s developmental trajectories.

Katz is an assistant professor of communication. She is interested in how immigrant parents and their children address communication challenges related to their social integration in the United States.

The Piracy Crusade

Assistant Professor Aram Sinnreich’s most recent book, “The Piracy Crusade,” discusses the cultural impact of digital media and Internet file sharing. The book describes how increasing incidents of Internet piracy have compelled media organizations to further restrict the flow of information, such as lyrical content. Sinnreich argues that the overbearing presence of copyright laws and restrictions impedes democratic society and freedom of speech.

Brandi ng the Nation: Creating Global Identities

India, Malaysia and every country to host the Olympic Games have all launched campaigns to brand themselves in a positive light. We’re used to hearing about marketing techniques used to promote everyday products — but how does one brand a country?

JMS Assistant Professor Melissa Aronczyk knows how. Her new book, “Branding the Nation: The Global Business of National Identity,” evaluates 11 case studies to answer questions about the cultural, economic and political implications of nation branding — including why some efforts succeed and others fail.

Shedding Some Light on the Darkness


The book examines widely divergent organizations, including Earth First!, the Church of Scientology, AA, the KKK, Skull and Bones, U.S. special missions units, Anonymous, men’s bathhouses and even a hidden business right here in New Jersey.

Scott explores their members’ desire to conceal their identities and activities, while challenging readers to question their conceptions of these shadowy groups.

“National governments see nation branding as a way for their territory to ‘stand out’ in the global market/media.”
Greenberg Discusses the ASA’s Decision to Boycott Israel

The American Studies Association recently voted to boycott Israel, thereby preventing its members from cooperating with Israeli institutions of higher education. JMS Associate Professor David Greenberg explored the implications of this vote in a Dec. 19, 2013, New Republic article.

Despite the furor caused by the ASA’s decision, Greenberg proposes that the vote will not have much impact. He addresses how the boycott might affect ASA members and how the ASA managed the boycott voting process.

Deepa Kumar Weighs in on Revival of NYPD’s Stop-and-Frisk Policy

The stop-and-frisk policy enforced by the New York Police Department (NYPD) has been a topic of great controversy and debate for some time. U.S. District Court Judge Shira Scheindlin ruled to terminate this policy in August 2013, but her ruling was recently reversed and the policy is being enforced once again.

JMS Associate Professor Deepa Kumar had the chance to discuss this ruling during an interview with Abby Martin on RT’s “Breaking the Set” news program. Kumar has done extensive research on the topic of racism, and in her opinion, the reversal of the ruling was the result of “the establishment trying to push back against a judge who did the right thing.” Watch the interview (youtu.be/lZmtygf9phQ) to get Kumar’s complete analysis and opinions of the situation and solutions to the issues of stereotyping and racism the policy raises.

“‘This is not what young people should have to worry about.’”

SC&I Develops New PR Certificate Program for Early-Career PR Professionals

With the job growth of public relations managers forecasted to grow 16 percent by 2020, SC&I understands that today’s PR professionals are looking for new ways to demonstrate their value as they seek promotions or outside opportunities.

The online Public Relations Certificate is a non-credit program designed for early- to mid-career communications and PR professionals looking to gain crucial knowledge, skills and leadership that can advance them to the next level. Offered by SC&I’s Professional Development Studies, the certificate program launched last September, and is taught by PR industry experts and SC&I faculty.

“We are extremely pleased to offer this new, targeted program designed to advance the careers of public relations professionals,” said Claire McInerney, acting dean at SC&I. “Through this program, Rutgers faculty and PR industry experts can also assist businesses in need of highly effective training for their PR and communication teams.”

The program curriculum allows PR and communications professionals, career changers and job seekers to hone their knowledge of developing comprehensive strategic PR plans; create an integrated approach to PR that includes branding and social media; measure PR campaigns to demonstrate value; manage crisis communications; and become effective leaders and spokespeople.
Is Technology Making Us Less Social in Public?

We often hear that people were much friendlier in public 10, 20, 30 years ago—before the plethora of hand-held technologies. But is it really true? Communication Associate Professor Keith Hampton decided to find out, and he was surprised by his results.

It turns out we are not less social in public than we were 30 years ago. In a Jan. 17, 2013, New York Times Magazine article, Hampton discussed his research, which compared video footage he and his team of 11 students collected in Bryant Park in New York City with footage collected there 30 years ago by sociologist William H. Whyte.

Hampton’s study showed that technology does not make us any more “atomized” in social spaces than we were prior to the introduction of “ubiquitous Internet access.”

Steven Voorhees Examines CNN’s Obamacare Reporting Mistake

In today’s digital age, media outlets race to be the first to break news using social media. However, as we have seen recently with the misidentification of the gunman in the Newtown tragedy and the inaccurate reporting on the Supreme Court’s Obamacare decision, speed does not equal accuracy. Doctoral student Steven Voorhees examines where CNN went wrong reporting the Obamacare decision in an article published in the fall edition of Media Ethics magazine. In the 12 minutes that CNN took to correct its initial tweet about the verdict, The New York Times waited, reviewed the decision, then posted the outcome online.

Twitter Goes Public. What Does It Mean for Free Speech?

Twitter has always been an open platform, allowing all types of content despite many requests to take down posts. But last November, Twitter became a publicly traded company.

JMS Assistant Professor Aram Sinnreich noted in a Foreign Policy article that “being publicly traded opens your organization up to a degree of scrutiny and critique that private organizations don’t usually see.”
**Vikki Katz Receives Funding to Study Connections Between Technology and Learning Among U.S. Latino Families**

A family’s lack of access to technology can impact their children’s education and health care, as well as the family’s ability to become fully integrated into their local communities. Among the Americans who currently lack broad access to technology (computers, iPads, broadband) are low-income U.S. Latino families.

**Vikki Katz,** assistant professor of communication, is spearheading a new research project that aims to help remedy this situation. Her proposal, “Leveraging Technology for Learning in U.S. Latino Families,” received a $623,035 grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

“Our goal is to enable national and local leaders to make more informed decisions and develop policies that can fulfill the promise of learning technologies for our nation’s most vulnerable students and their families,” said Katz.

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**JMS Professor Jack Bratich Earns Warren I. Susman Award**

Winner of the Warren I. Susman Award for Excellence in Teaching, JMS Department Chair and Associate Professor **Jack Bratich** shows outstanding commitment to the department.

“Winning the Susman award is the highest award one can get for teaching at Rutgers,” said Bratich. “Knowing what I know about what other professors do for teaching, it really does humble me. It’s an overwhelming sense of support.”

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**LIS Profs Win Google Research Award to Study Searcher Intentions**

Rutgers LIS Distinguished Professor **Nicholas Belkin** and Assistant Professor **Chirag Shah** received a Google Research Award for their study, “Automatic Identification of Information Searcher Intentions During an Information-Seeking Session.”

**‘Mover & Shaker’ Nicole Cooke Receives ALISE Award**

One of Library Journal’s 2007 “Movers & Shakers,” MLIS alumna **Nicole A. Cooke,** received the 2013 Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE)/Norman Horrocks Leadership Award for outstanding leadership in ALISE activities.

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**RU Sure? Campaign Part of State Grant**

Rutgers’ project to reduce drinking and drug use among university students received new funding from the NJ Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services. The project’s principal investigator, Communication Professor **Lea Stewart,** is also Livingston Campus dean and director of the Center for Communication and Health Issues.
Maggie Boyraz Receives Multiple Honors in 2013

Summer 2013 was an exciting time for Maggie Boyraz, a doctoral student in communication. She was awarded a Kosciuszko Scholarship, which enabled her to focus on writing her dissertation research proposal.

In June, one of Boyraz’s papers received two awards from the International Communication Association. She also traveled to Finland to assist researchers from Aalto University in their work on student and organizational virtual teams.

SC&I recognized Boyraz with a “Top Continuing Ph.D. Student” award in May and appointed her to a teaching assistantship for the 2013-2014 year.

JMS Sophomore Wins $10,000 Scholarship

JMS student Brooke Sassman received a $10,000 Ruth Whitney Scholarship from Glamour magazine at the 2013 Matrix Awards, hosted by New York Women in Communications, Inc. The award recognized her leadership skills, academic achievement and community service. Sassman expects to graduate in May 2015 with a major in journalism and media studies, and looks forward to working in television or for a magazine.

Doctoral Student Lora Appel Receives UHN Fund

Lora Appel received a $50,000 University Health Network (UHN) award for her research project “Put a Face to a Name.” The project explores how photographic aids can improve familiarity between patients and providers to enhance patient satisfaction.

“It’s an easy, intuitive concept requiring a relatively inexpensive intervention which can greatly impact a patient’s hospital experience,” said Appel.

COM Student Projects Win Big With ‘Healthy Kids’ Community Partnership

Assistant Professor Jennifer Warren’s undergraduate Health Communication class united with the New Jersey Partnership for Healthy Kids-Trenton in fall 2012 to create a healthy eating initiative at stores in Trenton.

Awards were presented to students who created the most unique initiatives, including Emily Amador, Ali Harriston, Michael Buczynski, Mark Shwartsman, Eric Siu, Marie Blondin, Abhilasha Kumar, Atiksha Jhaveri, Avanti Suresh, Courtney Tilton, Kelly Pettinicchi, Jamilah Dix, Brandon Sarna, Donator Fanelle and Jordan Sciabica.

PRWeek Names JMS Student Kristina Amaral PR Student of the Year

Kristina Amaral’s interactive U.S. Marine Corps campaign “To the Marine in Me” received top honors when PRWeek named her 2013 PR Student of the Year. She took home a $5,000 grand prize and paid internship with Hill+Knowlton Strategies.

Amaral’s campaign was designed to help the U.S. Marine Corps attract potential Gen Y recruits, and included an interactive museum demonstrating the daily routine of Marines on and off the battlefield.

SC&I Student Filmmakers Take Cannes and Hollywood by Storm

Over the last year, two JMS majors, Zack Morrison and Jean Paul Isaacs, produced award-winning films that landed them in the midst of the biggest celebrations in the international film industry.

Morrison flew to France to attend the screening of his short film, “Don’t Make Me Sing,” a musical comedy, at the 2013 Cannes Film Festival.

Thanks to his short film, “The Youth,” Isaacs will attend the 2014 Cannes Film Festival, which comes on the heels of winning another video contest that landed him on the stage of the 2014 Academy Awards ceremony.
**FEATURED ALUMNI**

**From Rutgers to Space: David and Arleen McGlade Return to SC&I**

In the late 1970s, David McGlade, a communication major, could be spotted in the library hauling a load of books or walking down College Avenue with his girlfriend, Arleen. Today, he is chairman and CEO of Intelsat, the world’s largest satellite provider — and he married that Rutgers girlfriend. McGlade returned to Rutgers in October 2013 to present “From Rutgers to Space” and discuss his career journey.

“My key (professional) interests in school became my lifelong career of over 30 years, and still going,” said McGlade.

Alumna Arleen McGlade was an executive producer of the documentary “Matt Shepard Is a Friend of Mine.” She also served on the Martha’s Vineyard Film Festival board of directors and formed Derby Road Productions, which develops films written, produced and/or directed by women.

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**MLIS Alum Trevor Dawes Assumes ACRL Presidency**

At the 2013 American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference, MLIS alumnus Trevor A. Dawes became president of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) for a one-year term. His campaign theme was “Literacy, Accessibility and Accountability.” This theme dovetails with ACRL’s initiative to demonstrate that academic libraries can lead to student success while also contributing to the research and scholarly activities of faculty.

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**Alum Wins Mitchell Scholarship**

After making history by becoming the first Rutgers student to participate in the Luce Scholarship program, alumnus Matthew Cortland also is the first Rutgers recipient of the prestigious Mitchell Scholarship. The scholarship will enable Cortland to do a year of graduate study at the Dublin Institute of Technology.
SC&I Participates in Free Speech Week
During Free Speech Week in October 2013, SC&I hosted several events, including a screening of the film “Trumbo”; a panel discussion on academic freedom; a competition between two nationally ranked debate teams; and a contest for students to share short YouTube videos about the meaning of the First Amendment.

JMS Holds Second Annual Tailgate Reunion
JMS alumni gathered on Saturday, Oct. 26, for the second annual JMS tailgate reunion at the Rutgers/Houston Homecoming Day Football Game. JMS awarded the Second Annual Lifetime Achievement Award to Marsha Bergman in honor of her 32 years of service.

The Impact of Media on Social Movements
The November 2013 JMS Symposium, “From Occupy to Indignants: The Role of Media in Social Movements,” explored how social change is happening around the world, and the role of media in implementing these changes.

Extending Play
The “Extending Play” conference was held at Rutgers in April 2013. It was developed by SC&I graduate students to explore play as a key factor in today’s technologically mediated world.

Copyright Beyond Print
The first MLIS colloquium of the 2014 spring semester, “Copyright Beyond Print,” featured a discussion with JMS Assistant Professor Aram Sinnreich and Greg Lastowka, professor of law, Rutgers-Camden.

Gloria Steinem Says Communication Matters in Changing Country
In February, Gloria Steinem presented the Annual Susan and Michael J. Angelides Lecture that honors pathbreaking women leaders. The program was part of the Women, Media & Tech Initiative.

SC&I Has Asian Archivists, Librarians and Journalists
SC&I recently hosted a group from the Shanghai Municipal Archives (SMA) Program, including 18 government archivists and librarians. They attended interpreter-mediated training sessions given by faculty and staff from JMS and Rutgers University Libraries.

“While governmental rules and requirements are quite different in China and the United States, many of the challenges regarding archiving collections and records administration are similar,” said Acting Dean Claire McInerney. “We appreciate the mutual benefits of sharing information and knowledge with international colleagues.”

Ten Korean journalists also visited SC&I to enhance their knowledge about trends in the U.S. media industry. Hosted by JMS Lecturer Ron Miskoff, they spent five days meeting with experts in the field.

2013 Scholarship Reception Features Alum Harry Cicma, Amy Hill Hearth
The 2013 Scholarship Awards Reception was held last November for SC&I faculty, scholarship donors and recipients. New York Times bestselling author Amy Hill Hearth and NBC Channel 4 sportscaster and alumnus Harry Cicma were featured speakers.

Cicma, who graduated from SC&I in 2004, gave a shoutout to two of his former SC&I professors, Tim Espar and Steve Miller. He credited his accomplishments and current “dream job” to his Rutgers education.

Guests received an autographed copy of Hearth’s most recent novel, “Miss Dreamsville and the Collier County Women’s Literary Society.”

Harry Cicma, Claire McInerney and Amy Hill Hearth
SC&I Mourns the Loss of Richard Heffner

Richard Heffner, a longtime professor at SC&I, died Dec. 17, 2013. He was 88. Since 1964, Heffner was University Professor of Communications and Public Policy, a position endowed by the Dowling family.

“Dick Heffner was a valued member of our community who taught generations of students in communication, journalism and media studies,” said SC&I Acting Dean Claire McInerney. “He was a major contributor to the understanding of media and their role in a democratic society.”

Heffner’s collaboration “Conversations With Elie Wiesel” was published in 2001. Heffner began his career in media in 1953 at WMCA in New York and ABC. He later worked at NBC and CBS. While teaching at Rutgers, he served as chair of the board and administrator of the motion picture industry’s voluntary film classification and rating system from 1974 to 1994.

Friedrich House Adds Space for Faculty and Doctoral Students

SC&I’s faculty and doctoral students acquired some much-needed office space in January with the opening of a 3,500-square-foot addition to SC&I’s annex at 192 College Ave. It has been named “Friedrich House” in honor of former SC&I Dean and Professor Emeritus Gustav “Gus” Friedrich, who led the school from 1998 to 2008.

The addition provides offices for 12 faculty members, a large open space that can accommodate up to 25 doctoral students, and a meeting room.

SC&I Is Developing a Strategic Plan to Align With Rutgers

A strategic plan for SC&I is in development following the lead of the university, which recently adopted a comprehensive plan designed to move Rutgers ahead in the ranks of the nation’s premier public universities.

“We are using the integrating themes developed at the university level so that the SC&I plan will align well with the Rutgers strategic plan,” said SC&I Acting Dean Claire McInerney. Those themes include Cultures, Diversity and Inequality (Local and Global); Improving Health and Wellness of Individuals and Populations; Creating a Sustainable World Through Innovation, Engineering and Technology; Educating Involved Citizens and Effective Leaders for a Dynamic World; and Creative Expression and the Human Experience.

The dean’s advisory committee is leading the plan’s final development. Meetings also have been held with faculty and senior staff to gather and refine ideas. A town hall meeting for students is planned “so that we can hear their voices as well,” McInerney said.
Barham Foundation Supports Graduate Studies in School Librarianship

Carole Barham earned a Master’s in Library Science (MLIS) in 1975 and enjoyed a fulfilling career as a school librarian. Ever since, Barham has remained passionate about her profession.

She has funneled her enthusiasm into a vital cause, helping a new generation of MLIS and library science doctoral students achieve their career goals.

The Carole A. and Norman Barham Foundation is a generous supporter of SC&I’s Center for International Scholarship in School Libraries (CISSL), the leading scholarly center dedicated to school libraries worldwide.

The foundation’s contributions have helped launch the academic careers of former Barham Scholars Emily Knox and Marianne Martens, Ph.D., now assistant professors at the University of Illinois and Kent State University, respectively, and current doctoral student Punit Dadlani.

Additionally, the foundation’s Beverly E. Schoen Research Fellowship supports MLIS students enrolled in the school library specialization.

Dadlani shares Barham’s enthusiasm for the field. He said, “School libraries are bastions of community values and a symbol of the freedom of innovation. Perhaps the most central source of technology and technical knowledge for teachers comes from school libraries.”

Todd Hunt’s Legacy Continues at SC&I

Professor Emeritus and former Acting Dean Todd Hunt has again bestowed on SC&I his philanthropic generosity through a charitable gift of $80,000. Hunt’s donation will benefit the PRSSA student organization and the Todd Hunt Public Student Service Endowment Prize, and will also support a new program in Strategic Public Communication and Public Relations.

Hunt arrived at Rutgers in 1968 and served on the faculty for 30 years, teaching journalism, public relations and communication. He was the director of the MCIS program, and later helped start the school’s first distance education classes, designing and teaching three Internet courses in public relations and organizational communication. Hunt was acting dean at SC&I for one year before retiring in 1998.

His many achievements include starting the public relations program and writing two leading textbooks on public relations. Most recently, the Rutgers Chapter of PRSSA was renamed “The Todd Hunt Chapter of PRSSA” Hunt is also the founding director of the Retired Faculty Association of Rutgers University, which has more than 200 members.

We are truly grateful for Hunt’s support and the impact it will have on our students, faculty and outreach programs.

“Many thanks to Professor Hunt for his commitment to SC&I.”
“Three Intersecting Fields, One Community.”