Thirty-Six Communication Seniors to Graduate - By Carla Briggs

In May, the communication department will be losing thirty-six students to graduation. At the same time, thirty-six communication alumni will begin to represent the department in the “real world.”

What will these students be doing when they leave Messiah? They will be entering a variety of career and educational settings to further their vocational goals.

One senior who plans to enter graduate school is Ashley Huffman. She will join the Shippensburg University staff as a full-time RD graduate student. Ashley knew that she wanted to further her education, but was undecided about whether to get a job first or go straight to graduate school. When Shippensburg offered her the RD job she accepted the position as well as the free tuition that comes with it.

At the completion of her three-year program she will obtain a Masters in Counseling. Ashley also plans to continue studying communication with her elective credits. Her ultimate goal is to obtain a doctorate degree and become a professor of communication or a study abroad programs director.

Lindsey Marthouse, will take a different path by accepting a full-time job with Felicita Garden Resort and Spa in Harrisburg. Lindsey will be a sales associate and wedding coordinator at the resort. This job offer grew out of a year-long internship that Lindsey held with the company.

In the future, Lindsey would like to continue to work with people, but possibly in a different industry. She has also considered attending graduate school.

Time Zones and Hyper-connectivity - By Nathan Taylor

In our increasingly interconnected world, distance has been all but obliterated. New Media, meaning the internet and digital wireless communication in particular, have given rise to a state of hyper-connectivity which will only increase as time goes on.

Unless you have been living in a cave, I’m sure you are aware that the vast majority of international communication is accomplished through the use of these new media. Whether this be multi-corporate video conferencing or a two person chat-fest, the internet has become vital to daily international communication.

This phenomenon has even invaded the classroom. It is not uncommon for professors from other countries to employ podcasts, online discussions, and virtual classrooms to teach those across the street or across the pond (Atlantic).

The technology has progressed so fast that things like time zones and day light savings time often leave professionals tripping over these chronographic stumbling blocks. In Europe, they make the daylight savings change a whole week ahead of time. Understandably, this pointless continental time-change wreaks havoc on online meeting schedules, virtual class rooms and even corporate business agendas.

As new technologies continue to proliferate the internet throughout the world, pre-modern constructions of time will cease to exist; meaning that time will no longer be closely linked to the cycles of the natural world.

It would follow that the concept of time zones and a basic “daytime/nighttime” understanding of days will slowly become obsolete as everyone increasingly becomes virtually present with each other. Of course, standard concepts of time will continue to exist but these constructions will become increasingly interwoven into a web of differing time realities.

For more information on the deconstruction of time zones, research the work of Soraj Hongladarom.
Alumni Highlight
Tina Buehler Prins is a 1993 graduate of Messiah College. She has spent many years in communications and marketing related jobs, receiving 20 awards for her work from the International Association of Business Communicators and the Public Relation Society of America. In January of 2006 Prins started her own marketing and advertising firm in Mechanicsburg, PA. Her company, Stratega Marketing, Inc. currently serves eight clients. Prins credits her education in communication with providing strong writing skills and knowledge of business tactics.

Alumni Highlight
Katy Oliver is working as an assistant to the Executive Director for Spirit Wind Ministries in Elliston, VA. Her responsibilities include coordinating internal and external communications. Additionally, she is the editor for the weekly staff newsletter, as well as the creator of the majority of their publications. Spirit Wind Ministries is currently in a Capital Campaign raising funds to build a year round Camp and Conference Center facility. Oliver serves on the Cabinet for this campaign and is the leading campaign event planner. In addition to her office duties, Oliver is currently working with a professional production company that is producing our new promotional. She especially uses what she learned from Prof. McCown. “I am constantly strategizing on how we can more effectively communicate our message to the public. Its very challenging to work in the non profit world but I find it rewarding.” She advises students to, “Use spell check! Develop a critical eye for mis-spellings and grammatical errors. Keep your writing fresh, concise, accurate and news worthy. Never compromise your convictions for another persons approval. Don't let pride get in the way of you learning from other people.”

Opportunities
Essay Contest
Www.iliberty.org is hosting an annual essay contest encouraging student to reflect on the role of individual rights and responsibilities in a peaceful and prosperous society. First prize is $2500 dollars. Go to www.iliberty.org/essaycontests for application information.

Internship
The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture is looking for a Communications Assistant. The individual will provide administrative and technological support for the organization’s press office. He or She should be able to write in many formats, operate a digital camera, utilize high-tech software, understand current agricultural issues, and communicate effectively in a variety of settings. Any interested parties can contact Dr. Arke at earke@messiah.edu.