The Communique

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Messiah College Hosts Humanities Symposium - By Nathan Taylor

The School of the Humanities, including the Communication Department, will be hosting the annual Humanities Symposium on February 20th through the 27th. Considering the incredible range of disciplines included under the umbrella of the humanities, this is quite an undertaking. Accordingly, the symposium's theme, entitled The Power of Human Imagination is something all disciplines can participate in.

Dr. Wendy Wright, the John C. Keneflick Faculty Chair in the Humanities at Creighton University, will provide the keynote address on Wednesday, February 22nd, at 8:00PM in Hostetter Chapel. Her presentation, entitled Faith and the “Poetic” Imagination: Formation in the Gracious, Grace-Filled Life, will be an exceptional time to dialogue about the intersection of faith and imagination.

In addition to various members of Messiah’s academic community, the Communication Department will be sending several presenters to this year’s symposium. Danielle Forney, a senior Communication major will be presenting her lecture, entitled Imagining the Homeless, on Wednesday the 22nd in Boyer 131 at 4:00PM. Additionally, Professor Simmons, in conjunction with the Politics Department’s Dr. Laurermann, will present Popular Imagination: How Buffy the Vampire Slayer is Reshaping Culture and Media on Monday, February 20th in Boyer 138 at 4:30.

To be sure, the symposium is not an occasion to be missed. Our faculty and students have worked long and hard in preparation for this event and all communication students are encouraged to attend any of the various lectures and presentations. “This is a way for the humanities to connect around a common theme and encourage dialogue,” says communication professor, Dr. Simcox, who helped organize the Symposium. Keeping that in mind, attend a few of the discussions or presentations that most interest you. Dialogue with your friends about practical ways to utilize imagination and communication. As we explore the potential of human imagination, we will come to a better understanding of effective communication and possibilities therein.

Humanities Chapel With Keith Blaisdell - by Carla Briggs

Super-seniors and first-year students alike struggle with questions about vocation and calling. What will I do after Messiah? is a question that directs many of our college decisions. Whether you are currently losing sleep over this question or not, you will ask it eventually.

That is why the upcoming School of Humanities chapel is for you. On March 9 the School of Humanities will partner with the Alumni and Parent Relations office to bring three Messiah College alumni back to campus for a panel on vocation. The Communication Department is proud to host one of its own—Keith Blaisdell, News Director for ABC27 News.

This chapel will give humanities students a glimpse into life after Messiah College. Dr. Joseph Huffman, Dean of the School of Humanities, sees this chapel as a valuable opportunity for students to connect their vocational calling with what they are doing at Messiah. He envisions it as way to stimulate conversations which will benefit both the students and the alumni.

Blaisdell will speak about his vocational path and how his education at Messiah laid the foundation for the integration of faith with his work. While at Messiah, Blaisdell majored in Communication with a focus in business and journalism. “I have enjoyed immensely contact with the Communication and Arts departments at Messiah College,” says Blaisdell. He is excited to come back to Messiah, and looks forward to meeting current communication students. Additionally, he values the opportunity to speak about his career path as a way of showing that while you never know what you will be doing 10 or 20 years after graduation, your time at Messiah College will give you a strong base to work from.
On campus opportunities:

Looking for an Internship?

New job/internship postings since January 1, 2006
American Lung Association of PA (Camp Hill)
Army Heritage Foundation (Carlisle)
CBS 3, KYW-TV (Philadelphia)
CURE International (Camp Hill)
Fox 29 WTXF (Philadelphia)
PA Chamber of Business & Industry (Harrisburg)
PA Dutch Visitors and Convention Bureau (Lancaster)
Sacunas Stoessel (Harrisburg)
The Communication Gym (Shiremanstown)
University of Pennsylvania Health System (Philadelphia)

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, contact Mike True in the internship office at extension 5099

Strong Writing Skills a Must
All communication related fields necessitate good writing skills. If you want to improve yours, check out these tips for good writing from the Random House Guide to Good Writing:

Read. The best way to learn good writing skills is to see how other people do it well.
Practice. While practice may not make you a perfect writer, it will help to hone your skills.
Think. Before you start to write, decide what your purpose is and who your audiences are; then write appropriately.

An additional resource to improve your writing is the Writing Center, which provides free help with all stages of the writing process.

Interested in Going to Grad school?

Here are some links to help you get started.
http://www.gradschools.com/search.html
http://www.petersons.com/
http://www-personal.umich.edu/~danhorn/graduate.html
http://www.admissionessays.com/
http://www.princetonreview.com/college/default.asp

For more information on grad school, visit the Career Center.

Resources:
The world wide web is a scary place. But don’t worry yourself, we have faced the onslaught of spam and google-eyed confusion, bringing you some interesting communication related sites. Check out http://www.theory.org.uk/ to find an amusing website detailing various popular media theories. The site offers solid overviews of said theories and is fun to explore, if only to come to a better understanding of our mediated world.

Another helpful site can be found at http://www.aber.ac.uk/media/. This site contains links, arranged by topic, to various academic articles about communication theories.

“Self-expression must pass into communication for its fulfillment.”
~ Pearl Buck

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