Last year we presented 5 research papers at regional and national conferences, we won 2 national speaking center awards, and our consultant training program became one of just 3 that is certified by the National Association of Communication Centers. This year, there are many things that are new and some that remain the same.

NEW

* We have partnered with UNCG’s FFL program in providing support for speakers working on group and individual speech assignments. Freshmen in FFL classes are getting the feedback they desire while learning, first hand, that support is available!

* We have further expanded the Online Speaking Center services to include helping speakers set goals for their next in-class speech. We do this by viewing recorded speeches previously presented in class.

* We will be open more hours during exam week.

* We are speaking with Mayor Robbie Perkins about our support for citizens who are looking to address their bodies of government in public forums.

NOT NEW

* We continue to offer public speaking, group, and interpersonal communication consultations.

* The number of speakers seeking support via the resources on our Web page continues to grow.

* We provide a safe place for non-native speakers of English to practice conversation with native speakers.

* We offer extended support via online chat! Send us your quick questions during our regular hours of operation.

Google Talk/AIM: UNCGSpeaking Or visit our Web page.

* We continue to offer speakers the option of being recorded digitally as they practice their speeches. We can send the recording via e-mail to the speaker for future viewing.

*Due to the spoken nature of our work we still require appointments. It is never too early to call for an appointment. It can, however, be too late. Appointments need to take place two or more days before the final presentation date.

*We are taking requests for our interactive oral communication workshops. We can facilitate these workshops in your space or the Speaking Center Training Facility in McEwen.

*During a consultation, speakers work one-on-one with a communication consultant trained to offer peer-to-peer guidance. Each individual session will last thirty minutes while a group session lasts one hour. We can assist you at any stage of your presentation, from invention to organization to delivery.

*Our services are open and available to the entire campus community, and through our community outreach, not-for-profit off-campus communities as well.

*Want to join our team of consultants? To learn how, check out speakingcenter.uncg.edu/staff/

VITAL STATISTICS
Locations: 3211 MHRA (Consultations)
21 McEwen Building
Underground (Workshops)
Phone: (336) 256 1346
Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 10am to 5pm
Friday 9am to 3pm
Sunday 5pm to 8pm
Web: http://speakingcenter.uncg.edu
Email: UNCGSpeaking

UNCG Speaking Center Newsletter

Uncertainty Slain; Never Forgotten
By Johnny Tater
Every day is a test, yes.
At times you find it’s hard to try
To always bring your best.
So what about the rest?
What about the rest?
The truth, you see, is you and me
Miss out on opportunities.
So reign on opportunities.
Is it regret? This draw of comfort
May be your one and only bender!

Jargon the pain deep in your brain
And find a mind that’s not insane.
Although your fear will still remain,
Still better, you never will have to explain.

So what is my purpose?
And why do I write?
To show you you’re worthless, yet inspire, despite.

Fools comfort, for freedom;
For darkness, holy light.
In search of a self believer and always be right.

Flashback
By Brent Fridge
Two minutes before my presentation,
My blood pressure rose to a new elevation,
I’ve drank all my water, I keep getting hotter,
I traverse my steps, start getting breathless,
Look at the audience size and start to realize,
That I don’t know what it takes to look them in the eye.

“Public Speaking My demise.
Practice I despise.”

So with speeches I wing it, no one ever sees it.
I’ve done it all my life from minutes to five.
No need for note cards, a big waste of time.
One minute “til, my nerves rushing still,
I think, should’ve practiced since this time’s for real.

Not about a grade, now it’s about getting paid.
My boss walks in, giving me a grin
So what is my purpose? And why do I write?
I hope you land this deal,
You’ve only got thirty min.”

Flashback College
When I got this knowledge,
My speeches- Never flawless,
Your thing—The cause,
Anxiety, Outlines, Conversation, and Practice.

With Facebook on my phone I never had time for this.

Flashback from Cooper
the world of my teacher
Of a place that was free, helping people like me,
Who couldn’t gather their thoughts or had memory flaws.
When presenting on a stage in front of people slow,
That now is too late, my audience they wait.
I stand front and center too anxious to deliver.
Next time I’ll remember to visit the Speaking Center.

It’s commonly said that communication is the key to success. It’s a simple saying, but it’s one that we value at the UNCG Speaking Center since deep down we know that it applies to nearly every aspect of our mission at the Speaking Center.

Speaking Center is to support speakers in their ongoing process of becoming more confident and competent communicators. For help with organization and practice, we provide students with a step-by-step outline as a guide to help them improve their presentations. For groups, we focus on how members can manage conflict and be more cohesive as a whole. For non-native English speakers, we break the ice by letting them lead us in conversations. But no matter what the speaker needs, our feedback is always unbiased and is always motivational. Communication is the key to success, and for this reason it’s our inner mission to reach out to as many people as we possibly can—no matter who you are or where you came from. We are simply here to help, so why not consider a visit to the Speaking Center?
We all have that one friend who loves to tell us stories, and whose stories are always interesting. We also all know that one person who loves to tell stories, but whose stories never make sense. This individual is probably suffering from poor organization skills. Everything they say connects in their mind, but all listeners hear is a collection of random events and facts. This phenomenon can happen with speeches as well! In your mind, your speech may seem like the smoothest flowing and most easily comprehensible presentation ever given, but to your audience the presentation may sound like a bunch of unimportant, unrelated pieces of information. A lack of organization can increase your anxiety, confuse your audience, and leave you wondering what went wrong.

One trick that I’ve learned is to imagine that I am a tour guide, and that by giving a speech I will be taking my audience on a tour. First, we must tell them where we are going to (introduction), then we take them there (body), and at the end we remind them where we have been (conclusion). Listening to a disorganized speech is like going on a tour with a lazy tour guide who just drives you around a city and shows you buildings without ever telling you what you’re looking at. A good tour guide doesn’t just tell you where you are, but they also tell you how it all connects.

Having an organized speech can indeed reduce anxiety and increase confidence. Audiences feel more relaxed when they know what to expect. Making a speech outline is an effective way to plan your speech. A speech outline is like a roadmap. It makes sure you won’t get lost once you’ve hit the road, because once you do hit the road and start giving your speech you aren’t allowed to stop, especially to ask others for directions! This means that your ‘map’ will be the only way for you to get to your destination.

A well organized speech is similar to an essay in that it has an introduction, body, and conclusion. At the Speaking Center we encourage the use of other important speech elements such as transitions, attention-getting devices, lasting impressions, and other techniques that will help your speech stand out! We also have tip sheets that explain how to use these techniques, and we are more than happy to provide them to our speakers. If you set up an appointment, we can look at your outline and give you feedback, or we can even help you organize your speech from the very beginning!

**Public Speaking & S.I. Courses**

CST 105: many of us have been there, waiting for our turn to speak in front of the class. At this point I’m sure many non-communication studies majors are wondering why they are being put through this excruciating experience. Well, the answer is simple: Public speaking is all around us! Regardless of our major, it is inevitable that we will need some form of communication proficiency to succeed in our respective fields.

The role that public speaking competencies play for communication studies majors is fairly obvious. Many communication studies majors have dreams of more vocal careers such as public relations, media representation, or even teaching communication skills to others. However, what about other majors like art, biology, information systems, or even mathematics? In these majors, communication competencies are used in subtle but no less important ways. Being an effective public speaker will help to fine-tune your skill at presenting in front of large audiences, at conferences, and even in non-one-on-one settings. Regardless of your post-graduation plans, there is no doubt that you will have to express your ideas, opinions, and values to obtain employment and stand out from the pack. Public speaking competencies are a huge career booster!

Aside from the career advantages that come with being an effective public speaker, there are also personal advantages. Hopefully by this point in our college experience we have begun to build friendships that will last a lifetime. At some point we may be called upon to deliver a toast, a eulogy, or even to present an award for a friend or a colleague. These are perfect opportunities to utilize the skills that we’ve learned in speaking-intensive courses here at UNCG. Also let’s not forget those handy persuasive techniques we’ve picked up that could be used in multiple situations, from persuading parents to purchase the perfect graduation gift to negotiating a bargain!

So the next time that you find yourself preparing for a speaking engagement, remember: public speaking is a natural part of life that should be embraced and used to your advantage!

**Meet Our New Assistant Director**

Erin D. Ellis

This semester, Erin Ellis, a former Graduate Assistant at the University Speaking Center, has been promoted to the position of Assistant Director. In addition to managing the Speaking Center’s program of course-specific workshops from her office in 22 Mciver, Ellis is also a faculty member in the Department of Communication Studies. Ellis’ co-authored research paper with Dr. Roy Schwartzmann, Catering to Customers or Cultivating Communicators? Divergent Educational Roles of Communication Centers, was also recently published in the Journal of Humanities and Social Science.

**By Shakiesha Moore**

A few of our graduating seniors

Bri Escobedo: BA Communication Studies

Brent Frogate: BA Communication Studies

Lara Amshay: BA Media Studies

Shakiesha Moore: BA Communication Studies

**Speaking From The Center**

2011 CCA Conference Presentations

At the 2011 Carolina’s Communication Association conference hosted at the Hawthorn Inn & Conference Center in Winston Salem, Speaking Center Graduate Assistant Alyssa Davis presented her research paper “Peer Tutoring and Relationship Development Online,” while Speaking Center Director Kim Curry, former Speaking Center Assistant Director Hemalatha Naidu, and community activist Dr. Marnie Thompson presented their co-authored paper “Speaking For Change: Leveraging the Art of Public Speaking to Support Marginalized Voices.” Additionally, Senior Managing Consultant Casey Mann presented her research paper “Communication Activism: A Break from Tradition.”

Meet Our New Assistant Director