

SPEAKING FROM THE CENTER

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THE DIRECTOR'S PODIUM

BY KIM CUNY



Last semester we presented an original paper, and participated in multiple panel discussions at national and regional conferences. This semester, there are many things that are new and some that remain the same.

NEW

*We have a new book chapter in press.

*We are teaching critical thinking by way of our new *bring a friend to your video viewing sessions*.

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 English speakers to practice conversation with native speakers.

*We offer extended support via online chat! Send us your quick questions during our regular hours of operation. GoogleTalk/AIM: UNCGSpeaking Or visit our Web page.

*Speakers who need to be recorded when they come to practice can be recorded to their own electronic device or we can use our devices. If we record to one of our devices we'll share by Google Drive before the consultation ends.

*Due to the process nature of our work & space limitations,

we 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.

*During a consultation, speakers work one-on-one with a communication consultant trained to offer guidance & feedback. Each individual session lasts 30 minutes while a group session lasts 60. We can assist you at any stage of your presentation, from discovery to organization to delivery.

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

VITAL STATISTICS

Location: 3211 MHRA

Phone: (336) 256 1346

Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 10am to 7pm

Friday 9am to 12pm

Sunday 5pm to 8pm

Web: <http://speakingcenter.uncg.edu>

Gmail: UNCGSpeaking

Summer: Check Web for hours

You're a Freshman Huh? By Mai Vang

I entered UNCG in 2011 lacking interpersonal skills. It was very easy to tell I was a Freshman; I was reserved, quiet, and I always hid my eyes from making any eye contact, just to avoid small talk. Now, it's 2015 and I can effectively communicate with my peers and superiors and strive with group work. Though the Speaking Center started off as a required visit, I learned a lot about communication and nonverbal elements in those 30 minutes. After my time being a consultant for the Speaking Center, I gained the necessary interpersonal skills that have enhanced my life since. I highly encourage other visitors, required or not, to enjoy the friendly and respectful environment the Speaking Center brings to life every day. It is a one of a kind place, for one of a kind individuals.

BECOMING A CONSULTANT

Students interested in becoming a Consultant first complete CST 390. To apply for CST 390 admission, you'll need to provide proof of a 3.0 G.P.A. or higher, a faculty recommendation letter, and a letter of personal interest that indicates (after you complete CST 390) a minimum of a one-year commitment to a part time paid position or a one-semester, 90-hour internship (CST 412). Learn more at: <http://speakingcenter.uncg.edu/staff/index.php>

ANNUAL NACC CONFERENCE



Each year, Communication Center directors, students, and staff from around the United States have a chance to meet at the annual National Association of Communication Centers conference.

Located in Fredericksburg, Virginia, The University of Mary Washington hosted the 2015 conference where the UNCG Speaking Center

had a large presence. We were able to take 14 undergraduate students, 1 graduate assistant, 2 alumni, and 2 directors with us to the conference.

By selling donuts in the lobby of MHRA and receiving travel money from various campus departments along with UNCG's Davidson fund, every person who attended was fully funded.

Our directors attend this conference every year, but students rarely get to attend either because the location is too far away or because there is little to no travel money available.

BY ERIN ELLIS

Not only did we have a large attendance at the conference, but every person representing UNCG either presented on a panel, presented a case study, or wrote a research paper.

We were able to take home two awards this year: Graduate tutor of the year and top Faculty paper!

Even if the conference is further away next year, we hope to still have a strong presence allowing UNCG to continue to be a leader among Communication Centers.

A VOICE FROM THE CENTER

BY SHAQ SUGGS

Beginning in Fall of 2011, the Speaking Center became the first job I ever had—*ever*. In my experience there, I truly learned what it means to have a voice at UNCG. Whether I was a trainee, a consultant, a manager, a Graduate Assistant, or a Graduate Assistant Director—I learned to find my voice and to help other students find theirs. Through team building activities with the staff, hosting community service events that allow students to voice their opinions, facilitating workshops for faculty around campus,

and of course, through consulting with a diverse group of speakers—I became less nervous and less shy. Looking back, I am thankful the Speaking Center gives us opportunities to step up and make a difference.

I felt I had no verbal way of expressing myself, but then I worked with speakers who felt the same way—and something about *their* need for a voice helped me find my own. Then I realized how my roles in the Speaking Center helped in every area of my life. I

learned to speak up in the office, in the classroom, and even in every day conversations. In addition to the confidence and courage I gained, the lessons and relationships shall always be valuable to me.

I cannot say what my future holds, but my goal is to create a space where my students or employees can transform in the same ways that the Speaking Center transformed me. It is because I am holding onto the countless, wonderful

experiences that I refuse to say goodbye to our people and to our work. It got me to where I am and I am grateful to be here. Like everything in life, becoming a confident and competent speaker is a process. You can be shy, nervous, or even confused. All I knew in my interview for the Speaking Center was that I wanted to help people. I see now that when you help people find their voice, you can help yourself find yours.

OUR GRADUATING COMMUNICATORS



Arshad: Managing Consultant
Major: Communication Studies
Minor: English



Kim H.: Managing Consultant
Major: Communication Studies



Rebekah: Managing Consultant
Major: Elementary Education



Chanese: Managing Consultant
Major: Social Work



Mai: Managing Consultant
Major: Psychology



Shaq: Graduate Assistant Director
Major: Masters of Arts in English



Hannah : Managing Consultant
Major: International and Global Affairs/Development and Psychology



Moriah S.: Managing Consultant
Major: Elementary Education



Ty: Managing Consultant
Major: Spanish and Human Development & Family Studies



Javiette: Senior Consultant
Major: Communication Studies
Minor: Sociology

CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL OF OUR
SENIORS!



Mariah G.: Managing Consultant
Major: Communication Studies

OUR FUTURE IS BRIGHT

Words from our newest student-consultants upon completing the speaking center theory and practice course

“Being in the CST 390 class I’ve learned so much about myself and how I can more effectively help UNCG students become better speakers! I am really excited to become a part of the Speaking Center team and to learn more about speaking than I know now!”

-Bre

“CST390 has been an amazing experience. It has allowed me to become more analytical and diligent in my work as well as sharpen my communication skills. I hope to be able to take what I learned in CST 390 and apply it in the Speaking Center to benefit me as well as others”.

-Corey

“Being in CST 390 has enhanced my communication skills and leadership capabilities, and allowed me to join the Speaking Center family.”

-Emily

“Working as a Junior Consultant in the Speaking Center has been one of the best things to happen to me in my three years at UNCG. The encouragement, support and family that you have every time you walk into the Speaking Center can turn the worst of days into the best!”

-Kyra