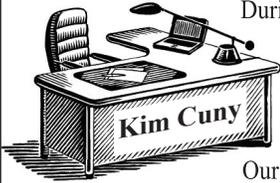


The official newsletter of the University Speaking Center

University Speaking Center Mission:

To support our clients in their ongoing process of becoming more confident and competent communicators.

From the Desk of the Director

During our fourth year of operation, the University Speaking Center is busy helping clients in their ongoing process of becoming more confident and competent oral communicators. We continue to offer our signature consultation and workshop services to UNCG students, faculty, employees, and Greensboro's nonprofit community. We offer assistance in the preparation and delivery of speeches, development of knowledge and skills in interpersonal communication, and overall success in group or team communication situations.

Our consultation services, which require an appointment, are designed to respond to the needs of each individual client. In the center, undergraduate *Communication Consultants* work with clients who are seeking to build upon their knowledge and skills in public, interpersonal, and group communication. Faculty members from Business, Broadcasting and Cinema, Classical Studies, Interior Architecture, English, and Communication Studies have told me that, during classroom presentations, they can tell which students have come to the center to receive help.

Our workshop services take the form of dynamic and interactive training sessions on a variety of oral communication topics. I am especially proud of the workshops we have developed because they are more dynamic and activity driven than ever before. We also sponsor a free evening workshops series *Strictly Speaking*.

For individual clients and groups that cannot take advantage of our services, we continue to add new *Tip Sheets* to our Web page at <http://speakingcenter.uncg.edu>. These Tip Sheets cover a variety of public, interpersonal, and group communication topics. Some of our most popular tip sheets include *How to Outline a Speech*, *How to Conduct an Interview*, and *How to Incorporate Group Project Contracts* to ensure greater group work success.

This is an exciting time to be a part of our growing staff. The university capital campaign includes a sizable line for supporting our student staff in research and conference pursuits as well as team building events. We are involved in an awesome array of community oral communication outreach projects (which staff members are opting to do as service-learning projects for academic credit). Our past record of peer consultations offered in a single semester has just doubled. Soon we hope to start offering our services (for a fee) to the public and corporate sectors. Plus, we will move into a brand new building next semester!

Our services are free and available to the entire university community. Please call us at 336-256-1346 to schedule an appointment, have a Communication Consultant offer your class or group an informative orientation of our services, to request a workshop, or to arrange for us to help with tip sheets. How can we help you?

“Anyone with anxiety about speaking would do themselves a favor by coming here.”

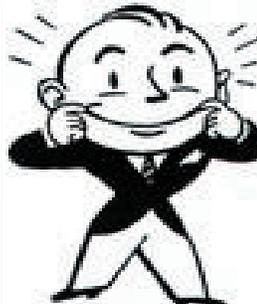
“I recommend this to others because it can not only prepare you for a speaking intensive class,
but also public speaking in the real world.”

“I benefited from their constructive criticism.”

Smile, It's Contagious!

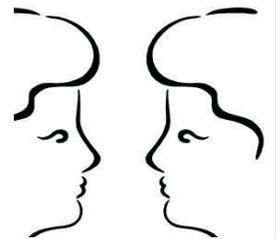
Amanda Cook

We all experience public speaking anxiety in some form, so the University Speaking Center is on a mission to help UNCG students develop the skills necessary to tame their anxiety when speaking in front of a group. We offer many wonderful strategies in the University Speaking Center on everything from how to practice your speech effectively to what to eat and drink the day of your presentation, but it's also important to remember to keep it simple. The first and easiest step toward feeling less anxious and more confident is to SMILE. The fact is that when people are smiling at you it's hard not to smile back, and when you're smiling you can't help but feel positive. This is a great cycle. If a speaker smiles at the audience, the audience will inevitably smile back, and the cycle will continue. It works both ways. So remember, also, to be a friendly audience member and give the speaker a boost of positive energy with your smile. Mother Theresa said, “We shall never know all the good that a simple smile can do.” So next time you stand up to present, in class or in public, be sure you are dressed completely, and that means wearing your biggest and brightest SMILE!

**Let's Make It Personal**

Sherry McDowell

Within the study of communication, there are many things designed to help us in the realm of teaching, training and so forth; but the one that I have found to be the most helpful is immediacy, or the perception of openness and approachability between a presenter and his/her audience. Having immediacy affects the way the learner behaves, learns, and evaluates their experience after the training. There are fourteen categories of immediacy including such behaviors as appearance, gestures and movement, eye and facial behaviors, vocal behaviors, and use of space and time. These behaviors create a learning environment that is not only interactive – a new activity facilitated every 8-10 minutes - but also provides a comfortable environment for the audience.



Research has found that a presenter's incorporation of immediacy behaviors or those actions that communicate openness and approachability, can affect audience members' interest in learning, responsibility for their own learning, and the managing of poor audience behaviors. You are probably familiar with and utilize many of these behaviors already, but for some fresh ideas or for confirmation of what you are already doing that is working, you can come into the Speaking Center and receive a consultation, request a workshop, or get a copy of a two-part essay by our director Kim Cuny and our assistant director Sarah Wilde.



Chris Barton
Communication
Consultant
CST Major



Neubia Williams
Communication
Consultant
CST Major



Steven Stein
Senior
Consultant
CST Major



Sherry McDowell
Senior
Consultant
PSC Major



Ron Williams
Senior
Consultant
PSC Major



April Reece
Managing
Consultant
ENG Major

The View from a 390 Angle!
 Brandi Johnson

You're invited! You're invited to make a commitment to our mission of supporting our clients in their ongoing process of becoming more confident and competent communicators. Becoming a Communication Consultant with the University Speaking Center has been one of the most phenomenal experiences in my lifetime. I'm in CST 390 and I absolutely love working at the Speaking Center! You will need three things to RSVP to this invitation:

1. Proof of a 3.0 GPA or higher that can be verified by an official transcript
2. Letter of recommendation from a faculty member
3. Letter of personal interest that indicates a minimum of a one year commitment to a paid position **or** a one semester 90-hour internship, **and** your contact information

Upon submission of the following materials, an interview will be scheduled with our director, Kimberly Cuny, or our graduate assistant. After your interview and the completion of all your paperwork, you can register for CST 390. The class prepares you for our work to fulfill the center's Mission! Upon successful completion of the course, you will work based on your availability as either a paid consultant for a year or as an intern earning 400 level academic credit for a semester! We are a family of over forty consultants representing over fifteen majors, including members of each classification, from all different walks of life. We strive for perfection but maintain a standard of excellence! If you enjoy working with others, wish to expand your leadership skills, and take pride in professional development, then this position is for you! I look forward to working with **YOU** next semester!



! Reminder !

The University Speaking Center is available to the entire UNCG community. That includes Faculty, staff, and students!

What to Expect During a Consultation

Christen Hanley

Upon entering into a consultation, a knowledgeable, professional consultant will ask the client what they hope to accomplish from the visit. The consultant then evaluates the strengths and weaknesses of the client's presentation skills by having the client perform their presentation, or viewing a previously recorded presentation and providing feedback. Or, the client may choose to receive help on the organization and content of their speech without presenting. The consultant then offers some ways to improve the problem areas; this is done verbally and through tip sheets (handouts that summarize methods). The client leaves with lowered anxiety and more confidence about their capabilities.

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What is the Workshop Series?

Lauren Honeycutt

If you don't know what the workshop series is, then you're definitely missing out on a great opportunity! Here at the Speaking Center, we offer a variety of workshops for anyone in the UNCG community at no cost. That's right; you get to attend helpful interactive workshops for FREE! The only thing you have to do is go online to our website and click on "Events" to register for any of the workshops. Don't miss out on the amazing workshops we're offering this semester.

Successfully Communicating in the Workplace – Tuesday April 4th
@ 7:00pm
Communication in Relationships – Wednesday April 26th @ 6pm

A Remarkable Semester

Lucas Bryant

In an era of broken records surrounded by controversy and doping scandals, rest assured there are still some broken records that do not require an asterisk. Some of these records include those broken by the University Speaking Center this spring. The center saw its number of consultations in the first week increase by a whopping 287% compared to the spring 2005 semester. In just the first week the center held 112 consultations, while last year it took more than three weeks to reach that plateau. So please don't argue that the Speaking center is breaking records by using performance enhancing drugs, it's simply students helping students.



Visit us at our website: <http://speakingcenter.uncg.edu>

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