

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITY SPEAKING CENTER

SPEAKING FROM THE CENTER

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 2 SPRING, 2018

THE DIRECTOR'S PODIUM



Last semester, we traveled to the annual meeting of the National Communication Association (NCA) where Erin Harrison, our Associate Director, took on the leadership of the Communication Center Section. As I rotated out as Student Advocate our Coordinator, Jenny Southard took over. Later, one of our alum, Rachel Sieczkowski was elected as the secretary. While at NCA, I was honored with the Turner Award for Communication Center Advocacy. I am proud of the impact we are having both locally and nationally. You should be too.

This semester, we produced a new [fact sheet](#) with UNCG employees as our intended

audience. We are celebrating new additions to the Center as well as time-honored features.

NEW

*We published a few manuscripts in Volume 4 of [Communication Center Journal](#).

* We can come to your classroom, during class time, to support your students as they prepare for group presentations. This works, we have published research to that end.

*We are regularly offering communicating science workshops with the Graduate School.

*We are developing new workshops for in-classroom delivery. Topics include TedTalks, Storytelling, Mock Trails, Improv, Elevator Pitches, Shark Tanks, the 3 minute speech, & Poetry Slams.

NOT NEW

*We do not have a one-size-fits-all perspective.

BY KIM CUNY

*We offer support for public speaking, group, and interpersonal communication.

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

*We require appointments. It's never too early to call for an appointment. It can be too late. Appointments need to take place 2 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 and feedback. Each individual session lasts 30 minutes while a group session lasts 60. We can assist speakers at any stage of their presentation, from discovery to organization to delivery.

*We support Faculty & staff!

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

Our Academic News

Erika Forslund & Caroline Bolin were honored with student excellence awards.

Keviele McBride had an essay published.

Kara Stomp was inducted into Lambda Pi Eta, the communication studies honor society.

Brianna Ferraro Took 3rd place at the undergraduate research expo for her research under the direction of **Dr Schwartzman**, our faculty fellow.

Abby Thomas, Olivia Tarpley, Rachel Digman, Kara Stomp, Kellar Poeteat, & Ali Ramirez Garibay were inducted to UNCG's Golden Chain Honor Society.

Brianna Ferraro is our Allan Fellow this semester.

Bruce Kirchoff, our faculty fellow, presented a poster about our work at SciTalk19.

IN THE NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT



In March we hosted the 18th Annual Excellence at the Center Conference, for the 3rd time. It was planned over the course of many months by our director with heavy support from two Managing Consultant Interns, Erika Forslund and Gabriela Torello.

The conference opened with a keynote address by UNCG alumna Joy Cook, of Joy Cook Public Relations Group, LLC, and featured 50 sessions with representatives from communications centers across the country.

Student attendees were heavily represented with UNCG leader in this area as 23

of our undergraduates presented on a single panel, 7 on two, and 1 chaired two panels. Additionally, Bri Ferraro and Kara Stomp, were featured in competitive paper sessions and Erika Forslund presented a non-competitive paper. Our Graduate Assistants chaired a total of 5 panels and were panelists on 2 more.

The SC was also well represented by our faculty. Kim Cuny, Center Director, was a presenter in multiple sessions, including a manuscript. Erin Harrison, Associate Director, was on one panel and presented a manuscript. Jenny Southard, Center Coordinator, chaired four panels and led the Student Forum. Dr. Roy Schwartzman, Faculty Fellow, was the co-author with Ferraro in the faculty paper competition and presented on another panel. Dr. Bruce Kirchoff, Faculty Fellow, was a presenter on one panel

BY JENNY SOUTHARD

and facilitated two workshops. UNCG was also represented by others from across the campus community including CST Basic Course Director-Dr. Jessica McCall, Library Faculty -Rachel Olsen, CST Teaching Assistants, and professionals from other UNCG offices.

The conference culminated in an alumnus gathering and discussion where no less than 16 graduates discussed the role the SC played in their lives and how it has translated in their post UNCG personal, professional, and public lives.

The conference was deemed a success by all in attendance and that can be credited to the outstanding work by the entire UCNG Speaking Center staff and supporters from across campus!

Erin Harrison will return to writing this section for fall 2019.

BECOMING A CONSULTANT

Students interested in becoming a Consultant must 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>

A VOICE FROM THE CENTER

I am from Concord (and, before that, Michigan). I came to UNCG for its History program, and stayed for Greensboro. I have really enjoyed working with Interlink students who are in an English language learning program here at UNCG. I must include those consultations as part of my favorite memories from being at the Speaking Center.

There are many things I love about the Speaking Center, but overall, I love the people who work here and the accessibility of our work environment. The level of emotion-

al investment makes the Speaking Center a unique assistantship environment; it can be draining, but in the long run, it is very rewarding.

I was motivated to come to graduate school and choose the program that I am graduating from because I love History, and wanted to share that love with others. That desire to communicate my passion with other people is the kind of thing that the Speaking Center facilitates.

As a Graduate Assistant, I would say my main duty is facilitating work-

shops, but I also pick up the tasks in between; sometimes I am a manager and sometimes I get to be a consultant. Graduate Assistants are members of the leadership team in the center and so we stand ready to be and do whatever is needed in the moment!

After graduation, I plan to take a break. I have been in school for most of my 24 years on this Earth. I am looking forward to a year away from it.

[My advice for future and current consultants is] Don't miss out on the opportunities the Center

BY TYLER CHRISTIAN

provides that aren't necessarily mandatory. Supporting Interlink, Peacehaven, and community outreach have been some of the most valuable experiences for me at the Center, and with the exception of Interlink, I wasn't 'required' to do any of those.



OUR GRADUATING COMMUNICATORS



Not pictured, John Essick, December Graduate

Our director has been known to boast about her front row seat to the professional development of the students who work here. These seniors provided a grand view indeed!

Each of our seniors leaves us having developed professionally as a result of the work we do. Here we share a bit of what three of them learned while enrolled in two of our optional academic courses this semester.

Erika

I discovered that event planning in an academic setting requires a lot of communication and this is key, to making sure that everyone involved is contacted. I also found that collaboration is one of the most useful things a team can do when planning such a large scale event. Throughout the entire process, I found myself developing as a professional, working

with others, and setting goals for my future. If I had to do go through this experience all over again, I think I would. This experience taught me so much and I think I would want to have that experience again and continue to grow from such a hands-on learning process. I found myself reflecting on this experience a lot during my interviews for graduate school, and I can only hope that I will have an opportunity to be involved with similar experiences in my future. Because of this experience, I now have the ability to discuss the ways I can problem solve, crisis manage, and plan. I also now have the ability to share the way I was able to work with a team and emerge as a leader. This independent study was more than choosing to dive deeper into a subject area I was interested in, it involved me becoming a bigger part of my workplace, and really fine tuning my professionalism.

Gabbi

What [this independent study] has really taught me is the value of having a strong base wherever you are, somewhere where you have consistent friends and consistent work that you know you can count on. I learned a lot about myself this semes-

ter, how I manage people, how I handle stress, and how I plan my time, but I think the biggest lesson I learned is that I don't have to do everything alone even though I will always try to. That it's okay to ask for help or to not know what you're doing sometimes and to need to lean on people for support, especially when those people are Speaking Center people.

The most important thing that I learned throughout the conference planning is the value of communication. Without a constant stream of communication there would be so many things left out and so many pieces left unfinished. Having effective and direct communication throughout the process allowed us to succeed in the way that we did. I'm beyond proud to have been part of this process and of what we accomplished. There were times when I was stressed out of my mind and worried we weren't doing things right, but at the end of the day we made something amazing and I couldn't be happier!

Rachel

In the end working here gives our student-employees a better understanding of self, greater professionalism, plus increased competencies in mindfulness, tolerance, and relational communication.

OUR FUTURE IS BRIGHT

Words from our newest student-consultants upon completing the Speaking Center Theory and Practice course

My favorite part has to be the people- both in 390 and the speaking center!
~Enelida Brito

My favorite part has to be getting to know everyone in 390 and becoming close
~Shanelle Ypema

My favorite memory was doing the workshop with my group. We experienced group cohesion, I go to know my group members really well. I also got to know the entire class really well.
~Hunter Evans

My favorite memory is getting to know my 390 friends and becoming closer as the semester came to an end. We all had each other's backs and became a close group of friends. I also enjoyed being around my shift family. Not only did they teach me how to be a consultant they taught me how to make the best out of every situation. Everyone was so nice and since day 1 I've always felt accepted.
~Summer Wise

I think my favorite memory from the 390 would have to be the class preparing for the national Excellence at the Center conference and being able to go together and talk on a panel. Spending time with them and learning more about people and improving communicating broadly.
~Shimya Patterson