

# COMMUNICATION STUDIES

s o m e t h i n g   t o   t a l k   a b o u t

interpersonal/organizational | rhetoric | performance

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## HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO EVERYONE!

As the Holidays are among us, we would like to send out a special "Happy Holidays" to all of our Communication Studies Community! Please Join us in GAB 301 for a Holiday Party on December 4th.

We hope you all have a joyous and wonderful Holiday season!!

# FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

## Dr. Suzanne Enck kicks off the Women’s and Gender Studies Program’s New Lecture Series



On Tuesday, October 21, Dr. Suzanne Enck inaugurated the UNT Women’s and Gender Studies Program’s new lecture series for a room packed with eager students and faculty, primed to ask thought-provoking questions about Suzanne’s talk, “How Ray Rice Discourse Distracts Us From Domestic Violence.” In this lecture, Dr. Enck critiqued how we culturally make sense of football player Ray Rice’s widely publicized abuse of his partner, Janay. Suzanne placed into conversation textual fragments from disparate corners of the social media landscape, along with official press conferences sponsored by the Baltimore Ravens and National Football League, and news media accounts of Ray Rice’s abuse. Ultimately, Dr. Enck wove together

an argument that asked her audience to consider the larger contexts of domestic violence as a system of power and control that are ignored when we focus specifically on high-profile sports stars—especially stars who are racially marked as Other and compete in physically aggressive contact sports—who are exposed for exceptional episodes of physical abuse against intimate partners. Dr. Enck asked her audience to take seriously the charge of disrupting larger structures of patriarchy that reward hegemonic masculinity and perpetuate cycles of power and control in intimate relationships, while not scapegoating individual victims of abuse, or crystalizing our understanding of abusive partners as being hyper-masculine, physically threatening men.

# ALUMNI NEWS



Kristen Freis is an experienced communications professional who currently works with Allstate Insurance Company, managing internal and external communications to promote Allstate’s reputation and brand in the marketplace. Prior to this role, she worked for a strategic business communications firm in public

affairs, issues management and public relations. She enjoys shaping a company’s message from executive positioning to media relationships. In my personal life, she is married to her husband, Chris and they have two adorable dogs, Allie and Zoey.

When asked how her Communication Studies degree has benefited her currently she replied, “I use my communications studies degree every day. At work, I interact with a variety of people from various disciplines. The ability to understand how to best communicate to different audiences is key. In addition, my performance studies classes taught me how to think outside of the box and put a little bit of creativity into the corporate world. The UNT communications department has some of the best professors in the field, take advantage of their knowledge to gain a new perspective on the discipline. There is not one way to succeed or one way achieve – let them help you find your path.”

# UNT DEBATE

## 6th John S. Gossett Debate



### Southlake Takes Tops at 6<sup>th</sup> John S. Gossett Tournament

Halloween night and the first of November around 400 high school students joined UNT Debate at the 6<sup>th</sup> annual John S. Gossett Memorial High School Speech and Debate Tournament. The competition, which was renamed in 2009, features competition in cross-ex debate, Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum, Congress, international exempt, domestic exempt, dramatic interpretation, prose, impromptu, duet acting, original

oratory, novice exempt, humorous interpretation, original oratory. The Mark DeLoach debate champion was Moore High School, while Coppell High took the debate sweepstakes prize. Southlake Carroll High, under newly named director and UNT Alum Jason Sykes, took home the grand sweepstakes prize as well as the individual events sweepstakes winning or placing in eight different events. Special thanks to UNT Alum Karen Gosset and debate coach Josh Hamilton for hosting the event at Guyer high school as UNT was unable hold the event on campus for the second year in row due to on-campus costs.

*-Written by & photos courtesy of Dr. Brian Lain*




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## STUDENT ACTIVITIES

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### Lambda Pi Eta

#### LPH Induction Ceremony

This induction has been the largest we have had in at least three semesters with a total of 18 students! Five of those students who were inducted are also



graduating in December and they received their honors cords to wear with their regalia. Two of those five graduating seniors are

also officers (President, Rhett Richardson, and Vice President of Philanthropy, David Harris). Thank you all for your hard work this semester. We are encouraging new and interested folks who want to join, to consider running for these two open positions in the spring.



### LPH Comedy Event

The event went very well with about 20 people in attendance. We had UNT Improv Officers, Jason Pollard and Colten Winburn, run through “Support Exercises” with all of the Comm. Students. All of the exercises that we did were aimed towards supporting someone’s idea and adding your own. This gave all of the participants a chance to be creative and start performing. Once the tutorial session ended, we started performing a “Jam” which allowed all students

to apply what they learned in long form scenes. We concluded with a focus on always supporting your scene partner and the fun of thinking your feet.

*-Cotton Hensley LPH VP Social Programming*

### NCA Future Pros

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Dr. Brian Richardson conducted a meeting about the UNT Communication Studies Internship Program. He discussed how students can use their skills that they are developing in their comm courses now for the their career in the future!

Jessica Jones, a UNT COMM Alumnus, spoke at the most recent NCA meeting. According to a current Communication Studies



undergrad, Alyssa Jenkins, "She was very helpful to our current students by suggesting resume building, sharpening your interview skills, even down to what to wear in an interview. She also explained the importance of grabbing internship opportunities now to get your foot in the door!"

## PIGS

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The Wednesday before Halloween the PIGS hosted a Murder Mystery Halloween Party. Chelsea Lindblad, the PIGS Vice President, wrote the murder mystery herself with help from a brainstorming session with the club. They had 6 suspects, Chelsea included. The story was that Scruppy, our school's mascot, had been kidnapped and the school was missing millions of dollars. A reporter came to the party to investigate these two stories and was killed for it. During the party, the 6 suspects argued with the reporter and after they all

argued with him he "died." Dr. Holley Vaughn then separated the suspects around the room so the guests could interview everyone. Dr. Vaughn searched the body and periodically found clues to reveal more about each suspect. At the end of the party the guests talked it over and decided on who to arrest for the murder. They ended up arresting Chelsea after they found out that she kidnapped Scruppy and was using him to extort money from the school.

*-It was a really fun night and we look forward to more things! We are going to have a holiday party later this semester where we will put on a short play, December 3rd, 7pm in the Black Box Theatre!*

*-Written by Chelsea Lindblad, PIGS Vice President*

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# AROUND TOWN & OTHER NEWS

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## COMM Homecoming Tailgating

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A wonderful time with Alumni, Current Students, Faculty and Staff. Thank you to all that came out to enjoy this day with us, it was great catching up!! We hope to see you all again soon!



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# LOOKING FORWARD

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Look for our Newsletter next month for the December 2014 edition.

Keep in contact with us through our website [www.communication.unt.edu](http://www.communication.unt.edu)

### Dates to Remember:

*Rwandan Debate, Willis Library Forum: December 2nd, 3-5pm*

*PIGS Holiday Event, Black Box Theatre: December 3rd, 7pm*

*COMM Holiday Party, COMM Library: December 4th, 12pm-4pm*

Finals Week: December 8th - December 12th

*Graduate Hooding and Senior Recognition Ceremony, Willis Library Forum: December 12th,  
12:30pm-2:30pm*

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