

# Academe

Celebrating Academic Leadership and Christian Scholarship



## COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

Huntington University's hands-on approach prepares students for exciting careers in media communication.

Brethren Productions is the department's electronic field and post production company. Students can gain the professional experience necessary for entry level positions in the video production marketplace through practicum experience with Brethren Productions.

HTV 22 News is the department's weekly local news show. Students write, report, direct and produce the shows which air online and around campus. HTV is one of only 70 of CBS's college affiliate stations.

Students obtain hands-on broadcasting experience by announcing on the campus radio and internet outlet, WQHU-LP FM. The radio outlet includes both an on-air studio and a production newsroom facility with a multi-track digital audio workstation.

## LEARNING THROUGH EXPERIENCE

As the producer of 2 News Sunrise on NBC affiliate WDTN in Dayton, Todd Stapleton begins his day at about the same time most of us are ready to call it a night.

Sunday through Thursday, Todd arrives at the station before midnight to begin planning the show, which is broadcast from 5 to 7 a.m. His preparation includes selecting stories to cover, assigning stories and locations to reporters and cameramen, and writing most of the copy that will be read on the air by the two anchors. As the program is being broadcast, Todd stays in constant contact with the reporters on the street and ensures that everything is running according to schedule, right down to the second.

"It can be a little hectic at times, especially when there's breaking news, but I love this job," Todd says. "I'm responsible for the structure of each show, from top to bottom."

Todd's position at WDTN—he started in October—is actually his second professional gig since he earned a bachelor's degree in broadcasting in the spring of 2007. Right after graduation, he landed a job producing the morning show on WLFI, the CBS affiliate in Lafayette, Ind.

Todd credits the hands-on experience he gained as an undergrad for his employability. For four years, he was a member of the team at HTV, the university's student-led news program. He also served two internships—one with WANE-TV in Fort Wayne and another with his current employer, WDTN. Todd found both internships through the university's Enterprise Resource Center.

"With HTV, I learned the skill sets to be both a producer and a director," Todd says. "A producer creates a road map for a show, while a director is the driver that makes sure that map is followed. With HTV, I also had the opportunity to be in a leadership position early on, and that experience is already paying dividends."

Todd's first internship came during January Term of his junior year. "During that J-term with WANE-TV, I got my first exposure outside of a college setting to what a television producer does, and I think that fine-tuned my career goals," Todd continues. "My second internship, with WDTN the following summer, was longer, and I learned more about the interworkings of a newsroom and received a lot more feedback on my writing and other skills."

"An internship," Todd continues, "is a must. There's no way I would have gotten this job at WDTN—or the one in Lafayette—without having the kind of real-world experience an internship provides. Dr. Lance Clark in



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the Communication Department really emphasized the importance of internships. He said one was absolutely essential, but two would be much better."

While Todd says he still has plenty to learn in his new job, that doesn't mean he isn't focused on the future. "My goal is to keep climbing the ladder and eventually work for a top-25 market station. I'd also like to get into management some day and maybe run an entire newsroom or news organization. But right now, I'm loving what I'm doing, and it will be a long time before I get bored with it."

# FACULTY & STAFF NEWS & NOTES



• **Dr. Silvia Choi**, assistant professor of Spanish, recently earned her Ph.D. in modern languages and literature with a specialization in Spanish from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

• **Dr. Margaret Winter**, director of nursing, recently earned her Ed.D. in Instructional Technology and Distance Education from Nova Southeastern University in Florida.

• **Prof. Jim O'Donnell's** book "Letters for Lizzie" served as inspiration for a devotional by Vonette Bright. The devotional may be found at [http://thoughts-about-god.com/blog/2008/03/20/vb\\_joyjourney/](http://thoughts-about-god.com/blog/2008/03/20/vb_joyjourney/). Bright and her husband, Bill, founded Campus Crusade for Christ in the 1950s.

• **Dr. Paul Michelson**, distinguished professor of history, recently published two articles. The first, titled "Hrisovul, 1941-1947: Scholarship in a Time of Crisis," *Revista Arhivelor*, Vol. 84 (2007), Nr. 3-4, pp. 235-248, discusses the history, contents and contributions of the Romanian archival journal *Hrisovul*, which was published during World War II and after ceasing with the Communist takeover of Romania. *Revista Arhivelor* is the journal of the National Archives of Romania. His second article was

"The Historical Movement of the 19th Century and Some Considerations on the Development of Romanian Historiography," published in the *Revue des Etudes Sud-Est Europeenes*, Vol. 45 (2007), pp. 307-314. This study is part of his ongoing history of Romanian historiography from 1880 to 1947.

• **Dr. Steve Holtrop**, associate dean for graduate and adult studies, and **Dr. Rick Upchurch**, director of EXCEL Adult Degree Programs, presented in different sessions at the annual conference of the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association on April 13-14. Holtrop presented as part of a team on the subject: "Benchmarking Adult Student Learning Outcomes." Upchurch presented on "Maintaining and Expanding a Successful Degree Completion Program." The HLC is the regional accrediting body through which Huntington University is accredited. The HLC's annual conference in Chicago draws thousands of participants each year from its member institutions and offers workshops on a variety of topics in several tracks to assist higher education administrators.

• **Dr. Ruth Nalliah**, professor of chemistry, delivered the annual Forester Lecture Series faculty lecture on April 29. Nalliah was chosen for the honor after a competitive review process. She presented "From Monsters to Tree Trunks: Exploring Relationships between Faith and

Science." Her lecture explored faith-science relationships, often seen as problematic and perplexing by the general public, and identified ways in which the disciplines of theology and science can be mutually beneficial.

• **Prof. Bryan Ballinger**, assistant professor of digital media arts, gave a presentation on May 4 at the Nappanee Public Library. His lecture covered his journey for creating art for children's media. Ballinger's specialty is in the design and illustration work of digital media including 3-D computer generated imagery skills in modeling, texturing, lighting and animation.

• **Dr. Norris Friesen**, vice president and dean of the university, had a chapter he co-authored published in a book this spring. The book is "The Soul of a Christian University: A Field Guide for Educators." The title of the chapter is "Collaboration: To Labor Together," and he co-authored the chapter with Wendy Soderquist Togami. The chapter is about the collaboration between student affairs and academic affairs.

• **Dr. Mark Fairchild**, professor of Bible and religion, published a book review in the *Review of Biblical Literature*, a journal for the Society of Biblical Literature. To read the review, log on to [www.bookreviews.org/BookDetail.asp?TitleId=6131](http://www.bookreviews.org/BookDetail.asp?TitleId=6131).

## Meet the Rev. Luther Whitfield of Fort Wayne Area Youth for Christ



"The Horizon students already are plugged into volunteer activities in their area," said Luther Whitfield, senior director of urban ministries for Fort Wayne Area Youth for Christ. "We want to take those students and connect them to kids at the center so that they can be peer models, build relationships and become positive role models. We want them to pour back into the community and into students close to their age, giving them the opportunity to nurture future leaders." Whitfield also serves on Huntington University's Board of Trustees.

## HORIZON PROGRAM CHOOSES FIRST SIX *Students to arrive on campus in fall of 2008*

The interview selection committee for the Horizon Leadership Program has chosen the first six students who will enroll at Huntington University in the fall of 2008.

The Horizon Leadership Program is a partnership between Huntington University and Youth for Christ with the goal of creating a more ethnically and culturally diverse campus.

The following students will receive the Horizon Scholarship, a combination of state, federal and institutional aid that covers tuition and fees as well as room and board: Teirenney Fincher, Juan Lopez, Shar'Niese Miller and Ebony Robinson, all of Fort Wayne, Ind.; Evianna Monroe of Bronx, N.Y.; and Logan Placencia of Auburn, Ind.

The Horizon Leadership Program will encourage the holistic development of these student leaders through "CAPSS" – community service, academics, professional/leadership development, spirituality and socialization. Students in the program will be required to maintain a 2.5 grade point average, meet with the director of the program weekly and volunteer at the Primetime Center in Fort Wayne.

The Primetime Center is the urban division of Fort

Wayne Area Youth for Christ. The center features various programs, including City Life. City Life offers tutoring and assistance in economic, health, spiritual and social development. Students in the Horizon Leadership Program will work with participants in City Life.

Students will be exposed to leadership activities within Youth for Christ at various sites in the Midwest. At the end of the fall and spring semesters, they will participate in leadership cohort retreats. They will receive professional leadership training from the university's Enterprise Resource Center and the Career Development Office. In addition, students will have the option of becoming involved with the Joe Mertz Center for Volunteer Service at Huntington University.

Prior to their acceptance in the program, each student completed an application and then was invited to visit Huntington University's campus. Events for the visit days included a breakfast, question-and-answer sessions for students and parents/guardians, a campus tour, chapel, lunch and student interviews with the selection committee.

For more information about the Horizon Leadership Program, contact Amber Brown, director, at [abrown@huntington.edu](mailto:abrown@huntington.edu) (260) 359-4032.

# SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

## Baseball

A very memorable season for the Foresters was brought to a close with a disappointing 7-0 loss to Spring Arbor University in the championship game of the NAIA Region VIII Tournament on May 10. The Foresters concluded their season with a 32-14 record. The win total is the second-highest in the history of the program.



Senior Corey Grow was instrumental in leading the Foresters to a Mid-Central Conference Tournament championship with his outstanding performances in Huntington's four tournament games.

## Golf

Justin Imel posted a 221 (70, 76, 74) to tie for first in the NAIA Region VIII Championship at Rock Hollow Golf Club in Peru, Ind., on April 29. The Foresters finished fourth of 14 teams in the event with a 935. The golf team concluded its season with a record of 62-18-1.

## Tennis

The men's team finished the spring portion of its schedule with a convincing 8-1 win over Manchester College on April 23. With the win, the Foresters complete their season with an overall record of 9-8. In its final match of the season, the women's team fell 5-4 to Taylor University on April 24. The women wrap up the year with a 13-7 record.

## Softball

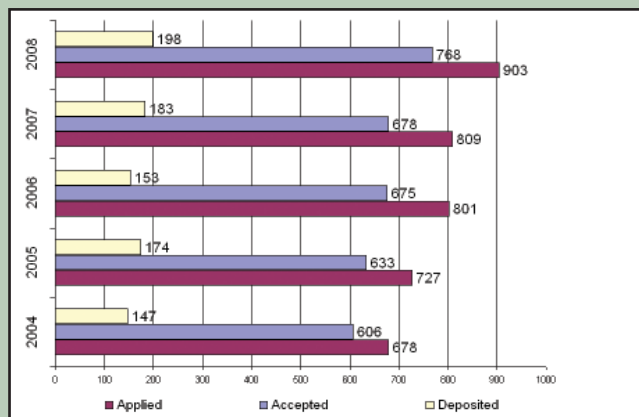
The Mid-Central Conference announced its softball post-season awards for the 2008 spring season, and four Foresters were among the list of honorees: Lauren Ward, Brittney Bateman, Brittany Gower and Kendra Stahl.

## Track & Field

On May 1, Nick Johnson qualified for the NAIA Outdoor Track and Field National Championships in St. Louis, Mo., to be held on May 22-24. He finished second in the 5000 meter run with a qualifying time of 14:56.18 at the Butler University Twilight Track Meet.

For news and up-to-date results of Forester Athletics, visit [www.huntington.edu/athletics](http://www.huntington.edu/athletics).

# ADMISSIONS UPDATE



The chart above summarizes the number of prospective students who have applied and been accepted to Huntington University for the fall 2008 semester. The bars represent year-to-date comparisons over the past five years.

# ADVANCEMENT NEWS

The month of May brings the end of another fiscal year in the Advancement Office. Through the first 11 months of this year, many friends have supported the institution with gifts totaling more than \$2.4 million. Currently, gifts to the University Fund are only 2 percent ahead of last year. This fund is vital to the university and its ability in awarding financial aid and grants to more than 90 percent of the student body. If you have not made a gift to the University Fund recently, now would be the perfect time to make a contribution. Please consider contacting the Advancement Office before May 31.

# AROUND CAMPUS...

- The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education has accepted the initial report from Huntington University's nursing program. CCNE is an independent accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education as a national accreditation agency. CCNE assesses baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs. The acceptance of the initial report by CCNE is the first step in beginning the national accreditation process. Huntington University's Department of Nursing now will prepare and submit a self-study report in the fall of 2010. CCNE will send a team for a site visit that same semester. A decision will be made in the spring of 2011 as to the status of the program's accreditation. "The initial report indicates that CCNE believes that Huntington University will have the resources for developing a quality program," said **Dr. Margaret Winter**, director of the Department of Nursing. In July 2007, the Indiana State Board of Nursing voted to grant full initial accreditation to Huntington University's nursing program.

- The Best Christian Workplaces Institute has certified Huntington University as a 2008 Best Christian Workplace. The certification is the result of Huntington University's participation in the 2008 Best Christian Workplaces Survey. Employees completed the survey at the end of 2007. Huntington was among six institutions in its category that obtained certification as a 2008 Best Christian Workplace. Criterion for certification included job satisfaction, commitment to the organization, Christian witness, supervisory effectiveness, work satisfaction, personal growth and development, management effectiveness, customer/supporter

satisfaction, teamwork, communications, and pay and benefits.

- Two Huntington University employees and an alumna were part of the planning team for a poverty simulation. **Amber Brown**, director of the Horizon Leadership Program; **Deborah Van Meter**, admissions counselor for the EXCEL Adult Degree Programs in Wabash; and **Jenna (Rodgers) Strick**, a 2006 Huntington University alumna, are all participants in the 2008 Huntington County Leadership Academy. Their project team is called Empowering Humanities, and it also includes Lisa Betzler, administrator for Kids Kampus. The team collaborated with Purdue Extension of Huntington County to host a Community Action Poverty Simulation on May 8 at Hier's Park in Huntington. This learning tool has been created as a way to help people understand the realities of poverty. During a simulation, participants role-play the lives of low-income families. The simulation was designed to sensitize those who frequently work with low-income families as well as to create a broader awareness of the realities of poverty among policy makers, community leaders and others.

- Huntington University will hold its 110th commencement exercises on May 17. **Dr. Luke Fetters**, associate professor of ministry and missions, will deliver the baccalaureate address to graduates and their parents at 10:30 a.m. in the Zurcher Auditorium of the Merrillat Centre for the Arts. The annual commencement address, held on the campus front lawn at 3 p.m., will be given by **Dr. Jerry Jenkins**, best-selling author of the "Left Behind" books

and "The Jesus Chronicles." Honorary degrees will be awarded to Jenkins, **the Rev. Russell and Mrs. Nellie Birdsall**, and **the Rev. Owen Gordon**. The public is invited to attend the commencement service.

- At the university's annual Celebration of Service on May 8, **Gary Campbell** was honored with the Staff Member of the Year award. Campbell, the university's director of technology services, was nominated by faculty and staff and chosen by the Senior Leadership Team for the honor. **Dave McEowen**, assistant professor of business, was selected as the Professor of the Year by the student body. Students also honored **Jeff Berggren**, vice president for enrollment management and marketing, as Administrator of the Year, and **Margaret Pasko**, administrative assistant to the vice president for student development, as Staff Member of the Year.



Professor Dave McEowen (left) accepts the Professor of the Year award from Dr. Norris Friesen.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			14	15	16	17
18	19	20 First Term Registration	21 First Term Classes Begin	22 Track & Field/TBA (A)	23 Track & Field/TBA (A)	24 Track & Field/TBA (A)
25	26 Memorial Day Break	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 "Godspell"/7 pm (College Park Church) www.huntington.edu/ godspell	9 "Godspell"/7 pm (New Horizons Church) www.huntington.edu/ godspell	10	11 "Godspell"/7 pm (Elem3nt Church) www.huntington.edu/ godspell	<i>For a detailed calendar of campus events, visit <a href="http://my.huntington.edu">http://my.huntington.edu</a>.</i>		

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Each year, Huntington University identifies several annual goals to pursue. It is a way to channel our attention and focus our effort on action steps leading toward the long-range objectives of our strategic plan.

One of the major goals for 2007-2008 was to lead **a year-long emphasis on our Christ-centered mission in higher education**. This initiative helped us to explore HU's defining purpose. Through book studies, small group discussions, chapels and convocations, the entire campus community engaged in reflection and renewal. A highlight was the Symposium on Christ-Centered Higher Education held March 5, 2008, featuring nationally recognized authors and speakers.

An ongoing goal for us is to **increase enrollment and retention**. This year, we enrolled a record number of students (1,153), and early projections for next fall are encouraging. We recognize that the higher education environment is changing rapidly, and we too must change. We are now hiring additional personnel to support first-year students and to strengthen retention efforts. We also are exploring new delivery systems, such as online education.

During the past year, much work was done to **implement our next capital campaign**. Trustees set a goal of \$45 million for *The Campaign for Huntington University*, which will strengthen the endowment, expand and renovate the Merillat

Complex and the Merillat Centre for the Arts, and develop a new center for digital media and the visual arts.

Also this year, we have explored strategies to **ensure an experiential learning opportunity for each student**. Currently, 90 percent of HU students participate in some form of experiential learning such as internships, job shadowing, and research opportunities.

We also worked to expand **adult and graduate education programs**. A new Master of Arts in Counseling program will begin next fall. Dr. Rick Upchurch, a gifted administrator with experience in online programs, became the new director of the EXCEL Adult Degree Programs.

In 2007-2008, we have pursued **collaborative ventures with strategic partners**. In the local community, our financial partnership with the YMCA will help open two new indoor pools adjacent to our campus. We continue to explore opportunities to work more closely with the U.S. Vice Presidential Museum.

Strategic partnerships also have helped us to pursue another goal: to **increase campus diversity**. Our collaboration with Youth For Christ will bring the first six scholarship recipients of the Horizon Leadership Program to our campus next fall. This initiative will help increase the ethnic diversity of our campus and will provide young



Dr. G. Blair Dowden  
President of Huntington University

leaders for YFC's Primetime urban ministry center in Fort Wayne. Here in the local community, I have appreciated the partnership of the Harmony Initiative Task Force, a group of local business, religious and civic leaders who are working to operationalize the city's new mission statement, which describes Huntington as "a community of civility and inclusion, where diversity is honored and differences are respected."

It has been an eventful and productive year! I am so grateful for a faithful Lord and for my colleagues of the faculty, staff and administration who have worked tirelessly this year to strengthen and expand the university.