Central Michigan University's spacious Park Library houses many of the resources utilized by Journalism Department students and staff. Coupled with the Caponigro, the Park Library has everything a Journalism major needs for developing skills and completing coursework.

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Annual Department of Journalism Luncheon
Tom Montgomery has been with the Cass City Chronicle for more than 22 years and is a graduate of CMU's Department of Journalism. In April, he was honored as the 2009 CMU Journalism Alumnus of the Year.

Montgomery wrote for CM Life during his time at CMU and also did freelance work for The Morning Sun. His first job in journalism after graduation was with the Leelanau Enterprise and Tribune, a weekly newspaper northwest of Traverse City. It was a difficult but worthwhile experience for Montgomery.

“It was definitely a learning experience for a young, green reporter,” he said. “I worked very long hours for very little money.”

Montgomery started out at the Chronicle as a staff writer. He then worked his way up to news editor, then to editor. The titles, in Montgomery’s mind, mean little at a small, weekly newspaper. The paper employs only three full-time and two part-time workers, so a large amount of the burden is put on his shoulders. He covers every beat, with the exception of sports.

“Today, we average 14 pages a week, which may not seem like much, but when you have to fill eight of those pages by yourself, it can be,” he said about his role with the Chronicle, which has been in existence since the late 1800s.

Even in a small town like Cass City, Montgomery has found himself covering a range of news throughout his career.

One of his favorite memories at the paper involved covering the FBI raid of a farm belonging to Jim Nichols, in which Terry Nichols and Timothy McVeigh had both stayed. Both played a role in the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing. The farm was believed to have been used for testing fuel oil and fertilizer explosives. Montgomery had in fact met McVeigh in town just a few years earlier.

“It looked like an army had landed around the Nichols' farm, and there were reporters from everywhere—Detroit to northern Michigan,” Montgomery said about the raid. “When I got back to the office, I had phone messages from the biggest dailies in New York, Washington, D.C., California—you name it.”

He won a Michigan Press Association award for his coverage of a Ku Klux Klan meeting in Caro, Mich. However, the experience still haunts him.

“I really never really saw the face of hate until that day,” he said.

Montgomery attributes much of his success to the CMU Department of Journalism, particularly Professor John Palen’s reporting class, which he says played an important role in his development as a journalist.

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The 2008 inductees include:

- Michelle Bearden (1976 graduate)
- Mike Green (1975-1980)
- Sheila Gruber McLean (1982 graduate)
- Jim Reindl (1978 graduate)
- Randy Lovely (1986 graduate)
- Richard Milliman (Honorary)

2008 Young Journalist of the Year:

- Chad Livengood
With newspapers folding and print media on a steady decline, Central Michigan University’s Department of Journalism is taking a dive into the wave of electronic media. A new Online Journalism major has been approved by the university and will be implemented in the fall, an attempt to keep the program up to date with the changing news industry. In addition, photojournalism will be available as a major as well as a concentration.

Professor Kent Miller is one of the faculty members leading the transition and feels that it is necessary to adapt to changing times. “The industry is in transition between print and online,” Miller said. “CMU’s journalism department is in transition as well to meet the needs of students entering a changing industry.”

New courses added for the specific online major include JRN 340: Introduction to Online Journalism; JRN 440: Advanced Online Journalism; JRN 441: Computer-Assisted Reporting; and JRN 445: Multimedia Reporting, all of which will be required for students to graduate with the new major. Students will be asked to choose between an internship (JRN 540) and practicum (JRN 549) to gain further experience in the field.

In anticipation of the new online program, Moore 424 was transformed during summer 2008 into a multimedia lab called the Caponigro Multimedia Lab with brand new Mac computers, and the media resource room in Moore 444 was converted into a multimedia resource center.

Costs for each new program will remain constant—at about $20,000 a year—while program revenue is expected to increase each year with anticipated increased enrollment.

Miller expressed the need for students to be able to do more in the world of journalism today. “For photojournalism students, it is not enough for me to teach still photography,” he said. “My students are also learning video.”

Dr. Lori F. Breist, who teaches online courses as well as some of the department’s courses in the University Program, said today’s journalism students need to be able to write and edit copy, do audio and video, upload images and podcasts, use social networking tools and generally serve as “backpack journalists.”

Many newspapers across the country have been feeling the effect of decreased advertising revenue in challenging economic times, leaving news agencies no choice but to lay off employees and move to the Internet, or shut down completely.

The Detroit News and Free Press are the latest to follow suit, cutting back home delivery to three days a week and making the print copy available at newsstands. Others, such as the Ann Arbor News, have closed and launched a completely new Internet-driven model—AnnArbor.com.

Faculty member Ronald Marmarelli is on board with the transition into digitalized news. “Journalism is done in all sorts of venues in addition to newspapers,” he said. “As has been noted by several commentators recently, we do not need paper to do news.”

Reinforcing the digital age, referred to as a fad by many executives just 10 years ago, CMU hosted a 313 Digital forum on April 7 with electronic gurus from different outlets such as Hulu.com, CBSsports.com, Chrysler LLC and AOL. One common theme during the event was the fact that major corporations are allocating more money than ever before to the digital side.

While admittedly not an expert on the electronic wave, journalism faculty member Timothy Boudreau admits that the new direction is important for the future. “In addition to the courses offered, it’s another option for students,” he said. “It’s essential.”

Although just in the beginning stages, online journalism will become a more important staple in the department’s instruction going forward. “The journalism department is working on meeting students’ needs for both print and online,” Miller said. “However, I do believe as the transition continues, our department will move more and more toward teaching online journalism.”
A alumni from all over Michigan returned to their alma mater during Central Michigan University’s Journalism Homecoming Days April 7 and 8.

The event, put on by Jim Wojick’s public relations seminar class, brought back alumni from the journalism department to speak to students in journalism classes about careers. This was the first year for CMU’s Homecoming Days and the event was planned almost completely by the students in Wojick’s JRN 556 class. The event was the focus of the course.

“A lot went into planning,” JRN 556 student Gregory Winsatt said, “Most time consuming was getting in touch with the alumni. There were a lot of phone calls and follow-up phone calls.”

Alumni showed up and shared their experiences in various journalism classes on Tuesday, April 7, and Wednesday, April 8. The students felt was beneficial for both the alumni and the students to participate in an event like this.

“It’s not every day that you get to see what you could be one day and sometimes it’s not something you’re looking to get into,” Winsatt said. “It’s fun to see all the different possibilities that are out there.”

The alums covered many topics such as reporting, editing/design, new media, public relations and photography.

Alumna Cheryl Wade was one of the many who spoke during Homecoming Days.

“I’m flattered and honored that my little bit of experience is valuable to someone. I feel like I better make it count and make it relevant,” said Wade. Wade graduated from CMU in 1977 with a journalism major and a minor in psychology.

“I was one class away from having a double
major. I just couldn’t do it!” Wade said. Wade is a reporter for the Midland Daily News and spends most of her time covering businesses and county government. “It’s a lot of fun,” she said. “It’s a different type of writing, and it’s just a lot of fun.”

Wade spoke to two JRN 202 classes Wednesday, April 8, about reporting.

“I hope that I can help them with something besides the nuts and bolts of being a journalist,” she said. “I hope that I can help them understand how to make mundane things seem meaningful by being the right person and the right story teller wherever they go.”

Wade also offered interesting experience to those of the blind community.

“I’m totally blind,” she said. “Always have been, so it’s normal for me.” Wade used readers throughout college to help her do research and get documentation. Now, technology has made advances for the blind community so they can keep up with some of the newest trends.

“There are many tools for access now for blind people we can tweet and surf the web,” Wade said.

Ryan Wood, a visiting alumna from the Midland Daily News, graduated 22 years after Wade, pursuing a career in journalism with a photo concentration. Wood spent his afternoon speaking to Lisa Jonaitis’ JRN 220 class and Kent Miller’s JRN 423 class.

“It’s definitely not dead. I think it’s a strong and powerful way to communicate. I believe in the power of it. It’s not about taking pictures; it’s about getting to know people and sharing their story.”

Wood had applied at several newspapers before landing at the Midland Daily News after graduation.

“I was nervous about finding a job after graduation,” he said. “It was better than it is now. But it was still tough. A position at the Morning Sun opened up and I ended up taking that job. I kept looking that year and applied twice to the Midland Daily before I got in.”

One of the key factors Wood attributed to his successful graduation was the CMU learning community.

“The combination of instructors, working with professional photographers, CM Life, soaking in the atmosphere, learning from other students, sharing contacts…really the opportunities and the whole experience help prepare you for the real world,” he said.

Wood hoped to offer similar inspiration to students that the alumni offered him when he was a student. Looking back, Wood said, “You get caught up in appointments and meetings and family and looking back it was a really fun time. It was really a free time. Take advantage of it. Don’t feel rushed.”

Jim Wojick’s JRN 556, public relations seminar class, and the student body alike, benefitted from the experience just as Wood had hoped.

“I feel that every department should have Homecoming Days,” Wojick said. Wojick said he believes it is important for all students to see what real-world professionals are doing today, and what their future could have in store for them. “If I am teaching JRN 556 again next spring, I’ll have them do Homecoming Days then as well,” said Wojick.
The CMU Journalism Hall of Fame welcomed six new members in 2008–2009, five of whom had served as staff members at CM Life during their years on campus as students.

The induction ceremony was held Oct. 25, 2008, at the Soaring Eagle Inn & Conference Center in Mount Pleasant. The 2008 Hall of Fame class included CMU alumni employed in a range of professions, from writing and reporting to handling the business side of mass communications. The inductees were as follows:

Michelle Bearden, a 1976 alumna who, after stops at the Alma Daily Record-Leader, the Morning Sun in Mount Pleasant, the Kalamazoo Gazette, the Phoenix Gazette, and the St. Petersburg Times, covers the religion beat for the Tampa Tribune. Over the course of her career, Bearden has covered four papal tours in the United States, Bosnia, and Cuba, and interviewed such prominent faith figures as Billy Graham and Mother Teresa. Her reporting on financial irregularities at a Tampa mega-church led to an investigation by the U.S. Senate.

Additionally, Bearden writes a weekly column for the paper and does a weekly segment on faith-related issues for WFLA-TV called “Keeping the Faith.”

“It’s a fabulous beat,” said Bearden of her subject. “It’s a fascinating subject; I learn something new every day.”

Michael Green, a photojournalist who attended CMU from 1975–1980 and who is currently employed by the Associated Press Chicago bureau. Green has covered a variety of subjects throughout his career, from the fall of communism in Poland to NFL football. He won the 1987 Hal Boyle Press Club Award for his photographs that accompanied the story “AIDS: A Killer Stalks the Globe.”

His specialty, however, has been politics: Green has covered every US president since Gerald Ford, including the presidential campaign of Barack Obama.

“You have to have a passion for storytelling, passion for people and (passion) for the news business itself,” said Green. “I’m as excited about my job today as the day I started it.”


“Most of my career as a reporter was spent on investigative, hard-hitting stuff,” McLean said.

“There were changes in policy due to many of my stories, some even resulting in criminal charges.”

McLean now resides in Washington, D.C., where she is the senior vice president/co-leader of the Global ECO Network at Manning Selvage & Lee, one of the world’s largest communications firms. She has spent years working with the auto industry to promote awareness of alternative fuels and technology. She also helps maintain a network of CMU journalism alumni.

“I’ve used every opportunity I had throughout my career to hire and mentor Chips,” McLean said.

James Reindl, a 1978 alum and former CM Life editor-in-chief who is the director of major accounts at the Associated Press in Chicago, handling clients such as the New York Times and the Tribune Company. Prior to working for the AP, Reindl spent three years as a reporter at the Muskegon Chronicle and also served as an editor and bureau chief before moving to the business side of communications.

“It might seem like there is nothing better than reading your name in print on the front page, but true satisfaction is found in shaping how the rest of the world is learning about events,” Reindl said.

Randy Lovely, a 1986 graduate and current editor and vice president of news at the Arizona Republic, the nation’s 10th largest newspaper. In a time of massive changes for newspapers, Lovely is credited with transforming the Republic into a multi-platform company, integrating the online staff with the rest of the paper’s staff and aggressively training all 400 of his staff members in technology advances such as the use of digital cameras, posting to the Web, and blogging.

“As a journalist, you’re not just a print journalist – you’re a multi-platform journalist,” Lovely said.

Richard Milliman, a former CMU instructor and longtime advocate of community journalism, was inducted into the Hall of Fame as an honorary member. Milliman has been involved with journalism since graduating from high school and founded the Michigan Press Association Foundation, which has awarded more than $200,000 in scholarships to 130 college students since 1990.

“It’s always been important to me to encourage young, talented people to get into journalism,” Milliman said.

Milliman has also served on the board of directors for The State News at Michigan State for intermittent periods over the past four decades. His son, Dirk, a CMU journalism alum, currently serves on the CMU Student Media Board of Directors.

“I think he epitomizes what community journalism is all about,” Jim Wojcik, an associate professor of journalism at CMU, said of the elder Milliman.

Chad Livengood, a 2005 CMU graduate now working as a political reporter for the News-Leader in Springfield, Mo., was honored as the 2008 Young Journalist of the Year award winner.
SPOTLIGHT ON FACULTY

Professor Palen retires

Dr. John Palen, a faculty member in the Department of Journalism since 1983, retired at the end of the 2008-2009 academic year.

Palen taught courses in both the core journalism and the news-editorial concentration. These included courses such as Reporting, Public Affairs Reporting, and Current Issues in Mass Communication.

He coordinated the department’s summer workshops and internships, advised the campus chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, played a key role in curriculum and accreditation, and in recent year, the revision of the bylaws. Palen also served as department chair from 1993 to 1996.

Former Chair Jim Wieghart once wrote, “Palen’s commitment to excellence has strengthened the department.”

Before coming to CMU, Palen worked for a daily newspaper in the Midwest for 20 years as a reporter, copy editor, city editor and editor.

He received his bachelor’s degree in English from Washington University in St. Louis, his master’s in journalism from Michigan State University and his doctorate in American Studies from MSU.

Outside of the time he spent teaching at CMU, Palen used his time to pursue his interest in journalism. Palen is a charter academic member of the Society of Environmental Journalists. He also published six volumes of poetry. Since 1998, he has been producing a monthly newsletter.

Palen’s monthly newsletter, Midland Issues provides readers with an in-depth view of the Midland political scene and community issues. Palen plans to spend his time working more on his publication and spending more time with his family.

SPOTLIGHT ON NEW FACULTY

New faculty join department

Central Michigan University’s Dept. of Journalism welcomes two new members to its faculty this fall.

Sean Baker and Elina V. Erzikova are the two new professors. Baker is an associate professor from Towson University in Towson, MD.

Erzikova recently earned her doctorate in the College of Communication and Information Sciences from the University of Alabama.

Erzikova earned her bachelor of arts in journalism from Tashkent State University in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, her master of arts in journalism from the University of Alabama, and her doctorate in the College of Communication and Information Sciences from the University of Alabama.

She is the winner of several Penza regional contests of professional journalists in Russia. Erzikova is also a member of the All-Russia Journalist Union, Russian Communication Association, National Communication Association, Association for Journalism and Mass Communication, and the International Communication Association.

Baker is coming from the faculty of the Dept. of Mass Communication and Communication Studies at Towson University. He has been a member of the faculty there since the fall of 2001.

Before Towson University, Baker was a member of the faculty at the School of Journalism and Telecommunication at the University of Kentucky. He was a visiting assistant professor there for the 2000-2001 academic year. Baker was also a teaching assistant at the University of Washington in the School of Communication from 1997 to 2000.

Baker earned his bachelor’s degree in sociology from the University of Minnesota, his master’s degree in criminal justice from Michigan State University, and his doctorate in communication from the University of Washington. During Baker’s time at Towson University, he advanced new media, conducted program reviews and redeveloped the graduate program.
SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

JRN RSOs enable students to learn about careers

Central Michigan University’s journalism program has concentrations in areas such as news editorial, advertising, public relations, and photojournalism. The department also has different organizations that are available to anyone who is interested in any of the concentration areas.

One of the organizations is the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ). SPJ was established in 1909 and is one of the oldest and most broad-based journalism associations. It has been at Central for more than 25 years. SPJ is an organization for anyone who is interested in journalism, advertising, or public relations. It helps students with improving their writing skills as well as learning ethical rules of the business.

Central’s SPJ organization has between 15 and 20 members and is advised by Dr. John K. Hartman, a professor at Central Michigan University. Some of the members include Laura Danielson (president), Garret Ellison (vice president), Heidi Fenton (secretary), and Ashley Hullinger (treasurer). These individuals make up the group’s executive board.

SPJ has an annual conference that includes all of the student chapters as well as all professionals that are members of the group. This year’s conference was the weekend of April 4th in Columbus, Ohio. These conferences are very useful for students. Not only do they help make work for portfolios but there are hundreds of professionals there with whom students can network, and there are also seminars they are able to attend. Some of the seminars this year included social media-Twitter, job offerings, and blogging.

This year, the CMU SPJ chapter won 13 awards at the annual conference. The conference and all award winners were mentioned in the April 6 issue of CM Life.

The American Advertising Foundation, better known as Ad club around campus, is another organization students can join to get real-world experience. Ad club meets every Tuesday night and works on a campaign for a client that they are given at the beginning of the year. This year was different though. Instead of getting a product to advertise, the group had so make a Public Service Announcement against binge drinking.

Ad club also has annual get-togethers. There is a national conference, a national competition, and an advertising expo, just to name a few. To make it to the national competition the club first competes in a district and regional competition, which was held April 17.

The Central chapter of AAF has about 15 to 20 members and is advised by Doug Berry. President Courtney Housener runs the meetings.

The Central Press Photographers Association (CPPA) is a student organization that is fairly new at Central Michigan University; it is one of the many college chapters of the National Press Photographers Association (NPPA), which was established in 1946.

CPPA is made up of 63 students, advised by Professor Kent Miller. Though it seems to be a large group, the executive board is made up of only four people, Jessica Scott (president), Jake May (vice president), Matt Stephens (trustee), and Holly Brosier (trustee).

Many of the members in the group aren’t here just to ‘take pictures’. One of CPPA’s goals is to tell a story through the pictures that they take, along with learning ethics about the business, getting real-world experience and pieces for their portfolios.

The Michigan Press Photographers Association holds regional conferences and competitions so the professionals in the area along with the college students can meet, network, and show off their pictures. The conference is usually held in Lansing, Mich., in February. This past year CPPA had great success! Sarah Miller won College Photographer of the Year, which is an award that CMU has not won in several years. Alex Stawinski placed third in CPOY and Dan Stewart won HM COPY.

The CPPA members also won four other awards, competing with professionals from across the state. One of the best accomplishments though was new member Libby March, who is a beginner at photojournalism, placed first in photo illustration.

In the fall, MPPA holds another conference in Lansing but this one is more for fun. It is called the Chili Seminar. Everyone brings chili and discusses a topic, which is different every year; this year’s topic was about multi-media.

Lastly, at the end of the year, CPPA holds a senior photojournalism exhibit that takes place on the fourth floor of the Moore building. Each senior gets to take, mat, frame, and hang a picture in the hallway, and the pictures stay up for the whole following year.

The group is going to grow because according to Vice President Jake May, “visual storytelling is going to lead the way in the future.”
Twenty years after the establishment of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA), in 1968 Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) was established. The main purpose of making a student society was to cultivate a favorable and mutually advantageous relationship between students and professional public relations practitioners.

PRSSA on the Central campus is a very large group which is led by the executive board that is made up of Christine Kunde (president), Lindsay Elias (vice president), Kevin Thiel (treasurer), Angela Hernandez (secretary), Kalena Chapel (P.R. director), Sara Bohan (Historian), Rachel Esterline (SGA representative), and lastly Lacy Quinlan (P.R. Central president).

The executive board members run the meetings that are held every other Tuesday on campus. Though they run the meetings, Professor Ed Hutchison is the PRSSA adviser.

PRSSA opens many doors when it comes to the professional world. There are many times within the year that students get to meet and network with professionals as well as do several portfolio reviews.

Most recently, PRSSA members had the option to go to the PRSSA National Conference which was held in Detroit in October. At the conference, the members got to sit in a many different seminars regarding the professional world of a public relations practitioner.

PRSSA opens doors to PR Central, a student-run PR firm on campus. The group gets a handful of clients from around the area and they make PR campaigns for them. It is a requirement to have a 2.7 or better GPA and you must be a paid member of PRSSA to be able to work for PR Central.

There is also another completely student-run organization, and that is the Grand Central Magazine. Grand Central Magazine is an online news site completely run by students. It has information and news stories from all across Michigan in areas from breaking news to sports, even blogs.

Grand Central is a product of the Central Online News Association, which is a college chapter of Online News Association (ONA). This student organization is a perfect place to learn the ups and downs of the real business world. The staff of Grand Central is made up of 15 talented and hard-working writers.

One of the newest student journalism organizations to some to Central’s campus is the Society of News Design (SND). This organization is advised by journalism Professor Betsy Rau.

SND encourages high standards of journalism through design, and it works to recognize excellence and strengthen visual journalism as a profession. There are a total of 2,600 members worldwide and the members consist of professionals from editors, to art directors, to web designers, to students and faculty.

The CMU chapter of SND just started during the fall semester of 2008. The group originated in Betsy Rau’s Journalism 308 class and they meet every Monday at 9 p.m. in Moore 444. There are a few conferences and competitions that SND holds throughout the year, but Central’s chapter did not participate this year because members are trying to get on their feet as a student organization.

The SND chapter has eight members, five of whom are on the executive board. The members are; Amelia Eramya (president), Jacob Schaefer (vice president), Megan Taylor (secretary), Brendan McGaughey (treasurer), and Amanda Mehalko, Kristina Bialaszewski, Lisa Pietrandrea.

President Amelia Eramya seemed excited for this year next year: “We plan to continue growing as a group in the fall of 2009,” she said. “We plan on attending a conference and do a few competitions next year if everything goes as planned.”

The CMU chapter of SND held a kick-off event on Feb. 4. The group also participated in the Relay for Life in March. Central’s chapter receives the SND quarterly journal. The students get the opportunity to submit portfolios for professional feedback.

These seven journalism organizations that Central has on campus are nationally recognized and highly respected. Most professionals look highly among the students that go the active step to learn about their careers. Joining one of these organizations not only looks good, but it is good because of all the real-life experience and networking opportunities.
China Daily editor, Zhigang Xing, spent the spring semester 2009, from January to May, as a visiting professor in the Department of Journalism as well as being a student in other units.

He guest-lectured in various journalism classes and sat in on international relations and political science classes, interacting with students at Central Michigan, and learning first-hand about the American culture in order to draw experience to take back to the China Daily.

“As an English-language newspaper mainly targeting foreign readers, the China Daily has a lot to learn from the U.S. newspapers in terms of management, news agenda-setting as well as the use of new technology,” Xing stated.

Xing discussed the idea that journalists across the globe are facing their biggest challenge yet, given the rapid globalization and emerging new media. His four-month stay at Central Michigan has given him an opportunity to learn more about American people, society, culture, and media.

“A journalist, for instance, needs a global perspective more often than not to ensure a more comprehensive and balanced report even when he or she is covering a domestic issue,” he said.

Xing noted that American newspapers are much more professional than those in China, in terms of news planning, in-depth reporting, and integration of new media with traditional media.

To hopeful journalists at Central Michigan or at any other university, he offered much insight: “For those who aspire to work as a journalist, it will prove rewarding if they pay more attention to international learning and experience while in university.”

Xing’s main purpose here was to not only gather experience and information to serve at the China Daily, but also to promote a better understanding about China’s social and media development among Central Michigan students and staff. In totality, Xing’s stay at Central Michigan offered him much benefit.

“I should say my first-hand experience has taught me much more than I had learned from what the Chinese media and books have said about America, which I think will continue to benefit me in my future career,” he said. “The tolerance of the American people toward different cultures in society and the internationalization of your country have impressed me a lot.”

**China Daily editor enjoys time at CMU**

**2009 Summer internship opportunities**

Central Michigan University offers industry placement and internship assistance to many individuals seeking a broad-based education. Each semester, local and cross-country opportunities for internships become available for dedicated journalism majors.

The following is the list of interns and their internships during summer 2009.

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<th>NAME</th>
<th>PAPER/COMPANY</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<td>Advance Newspapers</td>
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<td>Bottomless Toy Chest</td>
<td>Birmingham, MI</td>
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N/E: News/Editorial; PR: Public Relations; ADV: Advertising; Photo: Photojournalism.

*not for credit*
Virtual reality: new lab benefits many

This was the first year the Caponigro Multimedia Lab was in full swing for journalism students and professors at CMU.

The multimedia lab is a gateway of interaction between student, professor, and media. The lab seems to be a hit with just about everyone who comes into contact with it.

The Caponigro lab, located in Moore 424, consists of 18 Mac computers with a host of multimedia software programs for every type of journalism student. Also, the high-tech aesthetics of the lab make students feel they are keeping up with the constant changes and advancements of the media world.

Paige Calamari, a Gaylord junior, explained her first impression of the new lab: “Wow! It has a beautiful modern look and up-to-date technology. Awesome.” Calamari liked the lab’s set-up, saying “I like the personal feel of the room.”

Along with the computers available, a conference room setting is established by having tables with movable chairs in a rectangular shape with the professor’s desk at the head of the classroom, so students can come face to face with each other and interact.

Kristen Newhouse, a Three Rivers junior, likes the lab set-up. “I think this classroom setting helps students in many ways. The computers being available is necessary for classes that are computer-based and the set-up takes students away from the computers when they aren’t using them, so they aren’t distracted by Twitter or Facebook. It gives them table space to work.”

The lab hopes to benefit both the professor and the students by enabling both to be involved with hands-on learning. Classes like JRN 202, JRN 203 and JRN 220, among others, can do this through the software on the computers.

Photo editing software not available on many other campus and student computers can be found on the Macs in the multimedia lab. Students can familiarize themselves with the programs and really use them to advance their skills.

Students agree that this would be a huge benefit to the journalism program at CMU to have more labs like the Caponigro.

Lindsey Knake, Ray junior, agrees with the idea of another multimedia lab.

“I think the department could benefit from another because journalism is all going online. Students need to learn how to use multimedia.”

Other students would like to see lab hours for the multimedia lab.

Milford senior Matthew Stephens says, “There should be lab hours for students to come in and work on projects outside of class.”

Overall, the new Caponigro Multimedia Lab is a success for students, professors and everyone else involved in the development, building and operation of the new lab.
SPOTLIGHT ON ANNUAL LUNCHEON

Students encouraged to embrace change

Dr. Maria Marron delivered the welcome speech at the ninth Annual Department of Journalism Awards Luncheon, advising young journalists to “realize what you know and don’t know” in this “challenging and revolutionary moment in media history.”

On April 15, 2009, Journalism students, faculty, and distinguished alumni gathered for the presentation of journalism awards and scholarships.

The 2006 Lem Tucker Scholar, Angela Hernandez, encouraged her peers, the “leaders of the newspaper industry,” to view these times as an opportunity to be the founding fathers of a new era, rather than the death of the news industry. She argued that in these changing times of user-generated content reporting, we should be embracing the changes, not fighting them.

Kyle Goodall, the 2008 Lem Tucker Scholar, agreed, saying that he wanted to “save the world,” and introduce a new type of journalism: one that “inspires, educates, and enlightens.”

Patricia Emenpour, the 2007 Lem Tucker Scholarship recipient, expressed the concern that most believe the journalism industry is a “dying field.” She called on the award winners and scholarship recipients to remain positive, because people still want the news, and “the need for journalism will never die.”

The 2009 Distinguished Alumnus Award went to Tom Montgomery, editor of the Cass City Chronicle. Tom brought hope to the award-winning journalists, stating that sometimes big news lands in small towns. He urged students to treat every story as if it is the most important thing they have ever covered, because you never know what you are going to get.

The 2009 Journalism Awards Luncheon attendees included the award winners from the Michigan Collegiate Press Association (Division 1), The Society of Professional Journalists (Region 4), the Michigan Press Photographers Association, the College Newspaper Business and Advertising Managers Inc., as well as the Department of Journalism Scholarships and Endowments.

Dr. John Palen, who was retiring at the end of the 2008-2009 academic year, was recognized for his work with the Department of Journalism. He has been a faculty member of the CMU Department of Journalism since 1984, and previously worked at daily Midwest newspapers as a reporter, copy editor, city editor, and editor for 20 years.

SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARD RECIPIENTS

Lem Tucker Scholars
2006: Angela Hernandez
2007: Patricia Emenpour
2008: Kyle Goodall

Gilbert O. Maienknacht Scholarship
J. William (Jake) May
Kelly Morse

Media Design, Production and Technology Scholarship
Brian Manzullo

McCabe Scholarship
Jillian Pekel
Ashley Kennett

Study Abroad Scholarship
Laura Danielson

Jim and Carol Wojcik Scholarship
Garret M. Ellison

Charles Anthony Endowed Award
James Falls

George and Vivian Malewska Endowed Award
Sarah Schuch

Edwin Ellis Journalism Award
Brendan W. McGaughey
Carly Mills
Neil Blake

Friends of Journalism Scholarship
Nicolas Persons

Pam Klein Memorial Scholarship
David Veselenak

Leadership Award
J. William (Jake) May

Journalism Scholar of the Year
Brendan W. McGaughey

Outstanding Senior
Rachael Saatio

Chair’s Award for Outstanding Achievement
Todd Balazovic

2009 Distinguished Alumnus
Tom Montgomery
Michigan Collegiate Press Association Division 1

General Excellence: 1st Place: Staff, CM Life
Overall Newspaper Design: 2nd Place: Staff, CM Life
News Page Design: 1st Place: Staff, CM Life
Sports Page Design: 1st Place: Staff, CM Life
News Special Section: 1st Place: Staff, CM Life, “Motor City Bowl”; 3rd Place: Staff, CM Life, “Trophy Hunter”
Journalist of the Year: 1st Place: Alex Piazza
Non-Deadline Story: 1st Place: Alex Piazza, “Nooses Found in Classroom”; 3rd Place: Brysen Bernstein, “Pita Pit Owes”
Investigative Reporting: 3rd Place: Daniel Monson, “Athletics in Dark”
Feature Story: 1st Place: Caitlin Foyt, “Growing up With the Dead”; 2nd Place: Phil Hornshaw, “Art of the Approach”
Editorial: 1st Place: David Harris, “Blame Games”; 2nd Place: Brian McClean, “Hearing Lennox”; 3rd Place: Mike Ellis, “Rubber Stamp Man”
Original Cartoon: 2nd Place: Evan Shaner, “Snapshtos from College”
Feature Photo: 1st Place: Dan Stewart, “Couples on Campus”; 2nd Place: Alexander Stawinski, “Not Horsing Around”
B&W Ad, More Than ½ PG: 1st Place: Elizabeth Presson, “Copper Beech”; 3rd Place: Andrew Myczkowski, “Diversity”
Spot Color Display Ad: 1st Place: Alison Claerhout, “Goodwill”; 2nd Place: Aaron Elkins, “Skate War 2”
Display Ad Promotion: 1st Place: Aaron Elkins, “Push Play”
Marketing and Promotion: 1st Place: M. Kish and R. Beeler, “Wares Fare”
Student Manager of the Year: 1st Place: Jessica Lutey
Online Newspaper: 1st Place: Staff, CM Life
Society of Professional Journalists Region 4
Best All-Around Non-Daily Student Newspaper: 1st Place: Staff, CM Life
In-Depth Reporting: 2nd Place: Heidi Fenton, “Faculty Contract Series”
Feature Writing: 1st Place: Brian McLean, “Coping With Bipolar Disorder”; 2nd Place: Heidi Fenton, “A Perceptive Pair”
Editorial Writing: 1st Place: Brian McLean, “Editorial Collection”
Editorial Cartooning: 3rd Place: Chris Tamlyn, “Central Square”
Breaking News Photography: 2nd Place: Sarah Miller, “Truck Catches Fire…”
General News Photography: 1st Place: Joshua Kodus, “No Homes Go To Heaven”

Michigan Press Photographers Association
College Photographer of the Year: 1st Place: Sarah Miller; 3rd Place: Alexander Stawinski; Honorable Mention: Dan Stewart
Illustration: 1st Place: Libby March, “Pisces Brought to Life”; 2nd Place: Patrick Siller, “High Heels in High School”
Landscape/Nature/Wildlife: 3rd Place: Sarah Miller, “Anole”
Spot News: 1st Place: Dan Stewart, “House Fire”

College Newspaper Business and Advertising Managers Inc.
Best Display Ad/Color: 1st Place: Andrew Myczkowski, “Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe/MLK Day”
Best Display Ad/B&W: 3rd Place: Paige Winans, “Clean Scene: Is Your Laundry Piling Up?”
Best Newspaper Promotion/B&W: 2nd Place: Staff, CM Life, “Multimedia Help Wanted”
Best Newspaper Promotion Campaign: 1st Place: Staff, CM Life, “Full Color Ad Campaign for reprints@cmlife.com”
Best Classified Group Promotion: 1st Place: Staff, CM Life, “Valentine’s Day Love Lines”
Best Sales Incentive Program: 2nd Place: Staff, CM Life, “Hoops Promotion”
Best Electronic Banner Ad/Display: 2nd Place: Lacy Quinlan, “United Apartments”
Best Electronic Banner Ad/House: 1st Place: Staff, CM Life, “Employment at CM Life”

Hearst Journalism Awards
Personality/Profile Writing: 14th Place: Dan Monson, “Hidden Pain”; 18th Place: Brian Manzullo, “A Passer’s Perseverance”
I would like to support the Department of Journalism’s outreach programs.

Name: ________________________________
Address: ________________________________
City: _________ State: _________ Zip: _________
Phone: (____) ____ - _________ E-mail: ____________________________

Payment:
☐ Check (Payable to Central Michigan University)
Credit Card (Check one) ☐ Mastercard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ American Express
Amount: _________ Card #: ____________________________ Exp. Date: ___ / ___

Thank you for your contribution! CMU, an AA/EO institution, strongly and actively strives to increase diversity within its community (see www.cmich.edu/aaeo.html).