

---

# SACS

## *Speaking Across the Curriculum*

Issue #21, May 2000

Robert O. Weiss, Editor

### **WE GET JOBS**

A key requisite for a substantial Speaking Across the Curriculum program is an institutional commitment to it of professional faculty resources. As our front page illustrates, such positions are emerging regularly, as is the cadre of individuals qualified to fill them.

You are invited to send news for the next (September 2000) issue to the editor:

Robert O. Weiss  
108E Performing Arts Center  
DePauw University  
Greencastle, IN 46135  
(765) 658-4490  
Fax (765) 658-4499  
ROBERTWEISS@DEPAUW.EDU

## **New Appointments!**

### **TAMARA L. BURK**

Mount Holyoke College is delighted to announce the appointment, beginning in July, 2000, of Tamara L. Burk as Director of its Speaking Program and Senior Lecturer in Women's Studies. Dr. Burk has recently served as Associate Dean and Director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching & Learning at SUNY-Albany, and as Emerson Distinguished Scholar for Faculty Development at Hamilton College, but is best known for her leadership in the widely-recognized Oral Communication Program at The College of William and Mary.

The Mount Holyoke Speaking Program, now in only its second year, has 54 speaking-intensive courses distributed widely across the curriculum. Of these, 32 have speaking mentors, undergraduates attached to the course who are trained by the Speaking Center to work with faculty on developing student oral work. The Speaking Center houses a communication lab that is staffed by five student speaking assistants. In addition to speaking-intensive courses, there are also more than a hundred other courses that have been enriched by additional speaking expectations for students.



### **PAMELA C. MILLER**

George Meese, Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, FL, has announced the appointment of Pamela C. Miller (Ph. D., U. of Southern California) as the Farris and Victoria Rahall Professor of Communication at Eckerd.

Among Dr. Miller's responsibilities will be to conduct faculty development in communication pedagogy, technologies, and assessment, coordinate instruction in oral communication with the existing Writing Excellence Program, and supervise the Rahall Laboratory.

Dr. Miller is currently an associate professor of communication arts and sciences at DePauw University and has directed the Speaking and Listening Center there for the past six years.

### **TERRY A. ROBERTSON**

Terry A. Robertson has been named Assistant Professor and Director for the Pearce Communication Center at Columbia College, Columbia, SC.

Robertson will receive his Ph.D. degree this month from the University of Oklahoma. At Columbia College he will be responsible for designing and implementing programs in communication across the curriculum.



## RESOURCES

"Comparing Speaking Across the Curriculum and Writing Across the Curriculum Programs" is a challenging call to articulate our unique philosophical and pedagogical contributions by John T. Morello, in *Communication Education* 49 (January 2000): 99-113.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

Michael W. Cronin, George L. Grice, and Patricia R. Palmerton have published "Oral Communication Across the Curriculum: The State of the Art After Twenty-Five Years of Experience" in the *Journal of the Association for Communication Administration* 29 (January 2000): 66-87.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

Those going to Acapulco shouldn't miss Ellen Levine Bremen's ICA paper on "Talking in Class: Faculty Perceptions and Usage of Oral Communication Practice Across Disciplines."

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

About the richest lode of speaking across the curriculum materials may be found on the website conducted by Mary Washington College. This website has recently been reconstructed, according to Robin Gurien, but continues to be accessible at <http://www5.mwc.edu/~spkc/speakint.htm>.

## NCA NOTES

The National Communication Assn. is now using new software to run an email discussion on communication across the curriculum. If you are interested in joining the list, send an email message to [nca-cxc@egroups.com](mailto:nca-cxc@egroups.com). In the subject section of the message, put "subscribe" and then your email address, then one space and your first and last name. If you encounter any difficulty, contact Sherry Morreale at [smorreale@natcom.org](mailto:smorreale@natcom.org).

On another note, NCA is interested in setting up a section of its home page devoted to CXC. If you would like to help, contact Stephanie Tomlinson, the NCA member who is working on this effort, at [stomlins@u.washington.edu](mailto:stomlins@u.washington.edu).

## COMM LAB CONFERENCE

Linda Hobgood has announced a proposal for a National Conference of Communication Lab Directors tentatively scheduled for April 20-21, 2001, at the University of Richmond.

The conference will provide an opportunity for directors and/or coordinators of communication centers, as well as others interested, to gather substantial information and to attend workshops and panels dealing with such specific aspects as speaking centers' methods and operating procedures, faculty and staff development, voluntary participation/required use, following initiatives, multimedia portfolio development, and meeting needs of courses ranging from humanities to sciences.

Anyone interested in attending a conference planning session at NCA in Seattle should contact Linda Hobgood at 804-289-9814 or [hobgood@richmond.edu](mailto:hobgood@richmond.edu).

## RIPON COLLEGE

Ripon College has recently launched its Communicating Plus Program, a curriculum-wide initiative to offer students structured and consistent opportunities to develop both their Speaking and Writing skills (Communicating) and their Critical Thinking and Problem Solving skills (Plus).

Directed by Dan Shaw, with the help of faculty coordinator Jeanne Williams, the program is currently helping each department on campus to integrate these skills into its curriculum. It also provides ongoing faculty development opportunities in the form of regular workshops and short courses, including a recent workshop on integrating oral communication activities into existing courses and evaluating oral communication performance.

For more information contact Daniel G. Shaw, Ph.D., Director, Communicating Plus, Ripon College, Ripon, WI 54971; [shawd@ripon.edu](mailto:shawd@ripon.edu); (920) 748-8152.

## CRONIN CONSULTS

Michael Cronin, Radford University, consulted on oral communication at Washington and Jefferson College in October and Ripon College in January. This month he is appearing at the University of Missouri at Columbia.