

# The Graduate Advance

## Learning for Life

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

SPRING 2010

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Outstanding Practitioner	2
Faculty & Student Publications	2
Open House	2
Gubernatorial Debate	3
Featured Professors	4
MFA Alumni & Current Candidate Activities	5
Dates and Deadlines	6

## Master of Arts in Professional Communication

The Master of Arts in Professional Communication at William Paterson University places an emphasis on written, oral and visual communication. The program curriculum is designed to enhance communication skills and managerial techniques. Students may tailor course-work to meet individual career or academic objectives and they will be prepared for work as professional communicators in business, public service or a variety of media industries.

“As the Communication professions become increasingly globalized, this new graduate program is designed to give future leaders the applied skills to excel as professionals in the industry. The study of professional communication prepares students to be leaders in their fields, requiring high-level skills in integrated communication, corporate and strategic communication, as well as new media and professional writing” says Dr. Casey Lum, Program Director.

The Master of Arts in Professional Communication is an applied program of study. The courses cover a range of skills that are essential to diverse professional communication environments. The program has attracted prospective students in professional communication, as well as a range of individuals in the public relations management, integrated communication, corporate and strategic communication or new media and professional writing fields. In addition to a core and set of elective requirements, students are ex-

pected to specialize in one of the program’s two tracks, either “Corporate & Strategic Communication” or “New Media & Professional Writing” .

*Corporate and Strategic Communication* is designed for students interested in furthering their studies in corporate communication. The courses focus primarily in areas including public relations, public relations management, and entrepreneurial skills, such as web marketing and web advertising

*New Media and Professional Writing* is designed for students interested in advancing their skills in new media applications as well as professional writing. Courses cover a range of digital media tools necessary in professional media production, communication writing in the corporate environment and design.

Upon completion of the program,

students will have a fundamental understanding of today’s communication opportunities and will have practical knowledge, strategic and critical thinking ability, and technical skills that may be applied to the job market or advanced studies.

William Paterson University is extremely competitive in its relatively low tuition rates as a public institution. Our mission is to provide communication courses that are aligned to the University’s central mission of preparing students for careers, advanced studies, and productive citizenship in an increasingly global economy and technological world.



Dr. Holly Seplocha (Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education) wrote, "Cindy Gennarelli's exemplary practice as a director, teacher and teacher educator, and her commitment to the field touch countless students, teachers and early childhood educators. She is a role model, extraordinary teacher and director, mentor, and always willing to help in any way."

## 2009 Outstanding Early Childhood Practitioner of the Year

The NAECTE/Cengage Learning Outstanding Early Childhood Practitioner award is designed to recognize meritorious leadership and professionalism in contributing to pre-service and/or in-service early childhood teacher education. This is demonstrated through excellence in teaching practice, leadership and contributing as a classroom practitioner or administrator.

Cindy Gennarelli received this prestigious award in Washington, DC on

November 18, 2009. Cindy is a 2002 graduate of WPU's M.Ed. program with a concentration in Early Childhood Education who has 20 years experience as a preschool teacher.

Cindy joined WPU's campus Child Development Center as Head Teacher in 2001 and was promoted to Director of the program in 2003. Under her supervision, WPU's Child Development Center provides high quality early care and education for children

and grandchildren of WPU students, faculty, staff and alumni. She also oversees and supervises the university's Preschool to Grade 3 (P-3) initial teacher certification candidates in their field placements and internships, projects and research at the center. Under her guidance and leadership, the WPU Child Development Center received NAEYC accreditation in 2003 and was reaccredited in 2008.

## Graduate Open House: Sunday, February 21, 2010

**1:00-3:00 pm**  
**University Commons**  
**Ballroom A-C**

WPU offers more than 20 graduate degree programs, teacher certifications, and endorsement programs.

The Graduate Admissions open house gives prospective students an opportunity to meet program directors and graduate admission professionals. This event will

also afford individuals the opportunity to explore the array of graduate programs that best suit their educational pursuits.

Please refer individuals or join your colleagues at the February 21, 2010 event.

For more information visit our website:

[www.wpunj.edu/graduate](http://www.wpunj.edu/graduate)  
or call 973-720-3641.

**Shea Performing**  
**Arts Center**



Two teacher-candidates Caitlin Mader and Larissa Rota, recently conducted a book drive, collecting books for children in Paterson School # 18. Both young women are committed to serving children who are at risk of academic failure or living in poverty. Caitlin and Larissa considered the well-documented differences between the experiences of the economically disadvantaged versus advantaged populations. Through their work with children in School #18, they learned that many of the children in the participating classroom had very few, if any, books at home. Having grown up in a relatively wealthy suburb where children are likely to have scores of books, the young women began to understand some of the reasons for the achievement gap that persists between high- and low-income children. They decided to contact an administrator at their church, Cornerstone Christian in Wyckoff, to ask about putting together a book drive. Flyers were posted, announcements were made, and shortly thereafter, close to 200 books were donated. Caitlin and Larissa took time to ensure that the books were evenly distributed. The school's principal was thrilled and involved the faculty in the dissemination of books.

### Recent Publications from our Faculty and Students

Getting Girls into the Block Area and Boys into Dramatic Play: co-authored by: Professor Janis Strasser and M.Ed. student Lisa Mufson Koeppel

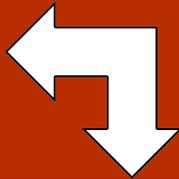
Creating Pre-school Classroom Environments That Promote Gender Equality: co-authored by: Professor Janis Strasser and M.Ed. Student Lisa Mufson Koeppel

Using Fanciful Magical Language in Preschool: co-authored by: Professors Holly Seplocha and Janis Strasser

Professor Michael Thompson: Scholarly Papers: "Islam, Rights,

and Ethical Life: Rethinking Political Modernity in the Middle East." *Theoria: A Journal of Social and Political Theory* (accepted, forthcoming, 2010). "Democracy, Public Reason, and Suburban Life," *Mudot: Magazine for Urban Documentation, Opinion, and Theory* (summer 2009)

Public Policy and International Affairs student Chika Okoye will present a paper entitled "Work Wages and the Feminizations of Poverty: Looking at Wage Policy in the United States" at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual conference in Chicago April 2010.



**Post-  
Baccalaureate  
Teacher-  
Candidates  
Conduct  
Book Drive**

### Featured Professors: Sheila Collins & Aaron Tesfaye, Political Science

Professor Collins of Political Science and Director of WPU's Masters Program in Public Policy and International Affairs was recently named to the International Advisory Board of the Today Institute for Global Peace and Policy Research, and was invited to become a participating member of the Global Ecological Integrity Group. Both distinguished organizations bring together scholars from diverse disciplines who are engaged in cutting-edge research on the vital issues of war/peace and ecological crisis that challenge humanity in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Prof. Collins's paper, entitled, "Closing the Boxes, Enlarging the Circles: Toward a New Paradigm of Global Governance and Economy" delivered at the Toda conference on Facing Climate Change with

a Renewed Environmental Ethic in Hawaii last fall will be published by the Toda Institute in *Facing Climate Change With a Renewed Environmental Ethic*, Ved Nanda and Olivier Urbain, eds. (Cambria Press, 2010). Her paper entitled, "Interrogating and Reconceptualizing Natural Law to Protect the Integrity of the Earth," delivered at the Global Ecological Integrity Group's Conference on State Sovereignty, International law and Ecological Integrity at the University of Florence, Florence, Italy last summer will be published in *Democracy, Ecological Integrity and International Law*, Laura Westra and Klaus Bosselmann, eds. Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Press, 2010.

Prof. Collins will have another book chapter published in 2010 entitled, "Religion, Spirituality and the Progressive Imagination." In *Where Do We Go From*

*Here? American Democracy and the Renewal of the Radical Imagination*. Mark Major, ed. Lexington Books, 2010

Professor Tesfaye of Political Science and Director of WPU's Masters Program in Public Policy and International Affairs was recommended for a **Fulbright Teaching / Research Award, academic year 2010-2011**. His second book, **the Political economy of the Nile Basin Regime in the Twentieth century** (NY : Mellen press, 2008) was just published and a book launch was held at the Hilton Hotel in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia where it received a review. Professor Tesfaye also delivered a paper at the book launch, **The Nile River, Colonial Trans-oundary Water Agreements and the Nyrere Doctrine**, June 18, 2009.

# MFA Alumni & Current Candidate Activities, Fall 2009

## Associate Professor Michael Rees Sculpture Exhibition

### *Model Behavior*

Deborah Colten Gallery

Houston, Texas

September 19-November 7

After a summer of fervent preparation with fabrication and foundry assistance from MFA candidates Adam Nowicki and Alex Vincenzi, Associate Professor Michael Rees of the Department of Art opened his one person exhibition of sculpture entitled *Model Behavior* at the Deborah Colten Gallery in Houston, Texas. For the entire summer of 2009, the sculpture studio and foundry in the Power Art Center was buzzing with activity as the two sculpture graduate students worked for Professor Rees preparing work for the exhibit. The two graduate students then traveled to Houston in September to help with the installation and attend the opening.

## MFA Delegation attends SPE Mid-Atlantic/Northeast Conference

### Conference 2009: "The Market"

Hosted by Montclair State University, NJ

November 6 and 7, 2009

A delegation from the Department of Art attended the Society for Photographic Education Mid-Atlantic/Northeast Conference 2009: "The Market" at Montclair State University, NJ on November 6 and 7, 2009. The group attended conference sessions and hosted an MFA Recruitment Information table.

Professor David Horton, was a conference participant as an official Portfolio Reviewer for potential graduate students and working professionals. Mark Ensslin (MA Visual Art), who is a current MFA candidate at WPUNJ is a member of the Board of Directors of the Mid Atlantic Region of the Society of Photographic Education and was one of the organizers of the event.

## Gina Miccinilli, MFA Alumnus

### "Ready to Unveil" exhibition

### "City Without Walls" (cWOW)

Thru December 19, 2009

Sculptor Gina Miccinilli, an MFA alumnus, made the bridges "sing" in Newark (NJ) as part of "Ready to Unveil" exhibition, a collaborative project of the Sculptors Guild and "City Without Walls" (cWOW), which runs through December 19, 2009. In collaboration with the Newark schools, she created cast iron bells using reclaimed material from the city's junkyards.

"I want to make the bridges sing! Music has served as a unifying force throughout history and across the globe," Gina wrote in describing her project. The bells were hung from three swing bridges—Jackson, Bridge and State Street—to give voice to the natural element of the wind. Gina also contributed work to the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary "Off The Wall" exhibition at The Gallery for Contemporary Art at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, CT. Gina also teaches at WPU and her students recently completed

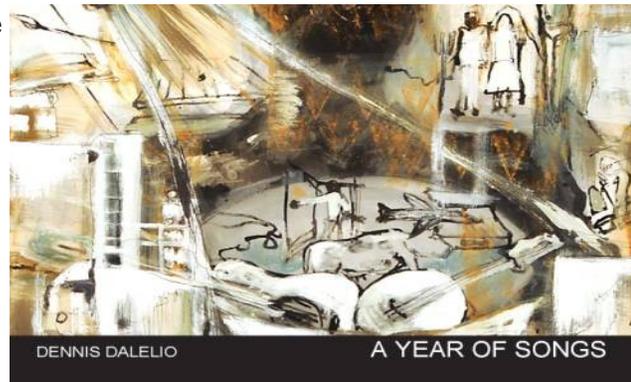
public art installations of their own on the grounds of the Power Art Center on Power Avenue.

## Dennis Dalelio's MFA Exhibition – A Year of Songs

### Power Art Center Gallery Annex

October 26-November 4

MFA candidate, Dennis Dalelio inaugurated and exhibit of his year long work, *A Year of Songs*, in the Power Art Gallery Annex with an opening reception and live performance on October 27, 2009. The large gallery was filled with large paintings, scrolls of canvas and drawings made over a period of one year, where Dalelio strove to make one drawing and write one song a day, improvising art and song daily from mark making and idea collaboration with his young son Elijah. During the opening, with his young family in attendance, Dennis periodically performed a song from the suite. The show was up until November 4.



## Professor Joann Lee panelist for Gubernatorial Debate

One grey Saturday morning the Star Ledger announced the candidates for New Jersey's Gubernatorial race. William Paterson University went into full swing in preparing to compete with other local universities as the coveted host for the debate.

The University's time had arrived, the 2009 Gubernatorial Debate was going to be held on campus in Shea Auditorium on Friday, October 16, 2009. After WPU was chosen as the host university for the much anticipated event, the groundwork began. Fortunately, William Paterson had a secret strength: Joann Lee, professor and chair of the communication department and former CNN correspondent.

This was an incredible opportunity for the William Paterson community. The hum of the news truck motors, the crowd of people waiting on line to get a glimpse of the future of New Jersey, the blue and red backdrop, the broadcast set, and the chatter as New Jerseyans waited to hear what their candidates had to say, all added to the excitement.

Professor Lee enjoyed the opportunity to provide input in crafting the questions as well as strategizing how they

would be presented to the candidates.

The questions dealt with issues that would affect financial resources and governing. Some of the questions posed to the candidates included

- ◆ "First, What is your position on using tolls to cover state spending needs? Second, if elected governor, would you pledge that there would be no new toll hikes during your administration?"
- ◆ "New Jersey is ranked last in the nation in terms of our state business tax climate, by the Tax Foundation. Give two specific ways you would change the State's business tax structures, so that New Jersey can be more competitive in attracting new businesses."
- ◆ "Should insurance policies be allowed to do away with state mandates for mammograms, and other preventive care? First, how do you stand on this issue. Second, if elected, how would you

implement that policy in your administration?"

In addition to Joann Lee, other panel participants included moderator Harry Martin, news anchor for WWOR My 9 TV News and Fox 5 News, Alfred Doblin, editorial page editor, The Record; and Thomas Drayton, news anchor, WTXF FOX 29 TV (Philadelphia). Along with the panelists, three William Paterson students, Robert Rubbinaccio, Jessica Pepe, and Kerri Olsen were selected to ask the candidates questions.

**Gubernatorial Candidates: Chris Christie, Chris Daggett and Governor Jon Corzine**





## Comments-Questions-Submissions

Christina L. Aiello, Editor  
 The Graduate Advance  
 Office of Graduate Admissions &  
 Enrollment Services  
 Raubinger Hall 139  
 300 Pompton Road  
 Wayne, NJ 07470  
 Phone: 973-720-2506  
 Fax: 973-720-2035  
 E-mail: [aiello@wpunj.edu](mailto:aiello@wpunj.edu)

## Important Dates and Deadlines Ahead...

- ◆ **Application for May Graduation February 1**
- ◆ **Information Session February 3**  
1:00-3:00 pm University Commons Lobby
- ◆ **Graduate Coffee Hour February 9**  
4:30-6:00 pm Raubinger Hall Lobby
- ◆ **Information Session February 17**  
1:00-3:00 pm Valley Road Lobby
- ◆ **University Open House: February 21**  
1:00 pm-3:00 pm University Commons Ballroom ABC
- ◆ **Last day for 50% refund: February 23**
- ◆ **Information Session March 3**  
1:00-3:00 pm University Commons Lobby
- ◆ **Last day for academic course withdrawal during Spring 2010: March 9**
- ◆ **Spring Break: March 14-20**
- ◆ **Information Session March 24**  
1:00-3:00 pm Atrium Lobby
- ◆ **Graduate Assistantship Application due: April 1**
- ◆ **WPUNJ Opportunity Fest April 6**
- ◆ **Information Session April 7**  
1:00-3:00 pm Valley Road Lobby
- ◆ **Graduate Finale April 13 & 14**  
7:00-9:00 pm University Commons Multipurpose room
- ◆ **Graduate Information Session April 21**  
1:00-3:00 pm Atrium Lobby
- ◆ **Commencement: May 18**
- ◆ **First day of Summer Classes: May 24**



Raubinger Hall