

Rustin Greene, Alex Leidholdt and John Woody were recently named “Ruth D. Bridgeforth Professors of Telecommunications.” The new professorships were originally created by Mr. William E. Bridgeforth, Jr. honoring his wife, Ruth, and were established under the State of Virginia’s Eminent Scholars Program. The recipients are recognized for their distinguished accomplishments and wide recognition in the academy. They will hold their positions for a term of three years. Congratulations to professors Greene, Leidholdt and Woody.

Dave Wendelken made three presentations at the College Media Advisers conference in New York. He moderated a panel of four JMU alums who spoke on getting started in a New York media career. He also made presentations on teaching blogging and using a wiki as a content management system.

Mike Grundmann, attending the College Media Advisers conference, co-presented a session on coaching writers and critiqued four student newspapers.

Curio 2007, produced in the Feature Magazine Production class, won first place in the district in the Society of Professional Journalists’ Mark of Excellence Awards. The article on mountaintop removal won first place for best magazine story and the story about a faculty member helping in Haiti won second. The magazine was produced in SMAD 321, Feature Magazine Production, under the supervision of **Dave Wendelken** and **Toni Mehling**, with layout and design input from **Dietrich Maune**.

The 30th anniversary issue of *Curio* was published on April 23, 2008. A journalism class has produced the general-interest magazine under the guidance of **Dave Wendelken** for the past 31 springs and four falls, for 35 issues in all. **Ken Terrell**, who was editor of the first *Curio*, team taught the magazine production class this spring with **Dave Wendelken**, who founded the publication.

Madison 101, an orientation supplement published this spring, set records for size, at 64 pages, and for most advertising sold. The magazine is also produced in SMAD 321, Feature Magazine Production (in cooperation with the Breeze advertising staff), under the guidance of **Dave Wendelken**, **Ken Terrell**, **Brad Jenkins**, who helped with advertising, and **Dietrich Maune**, who helped with layout and design.

Dietrich Maune will exhibit a series of mixed media works May 23 - June 25, 2008 at CoArt Gallery in Staunton, Virginia. The exhibit, titled *Monhegan*, is a collection of artworks created from his visits to Monhegan Island, Maine. The opening reception is Friday, May 23, 5-7pm.

Nancy Nusser will present a paper at the Communication and Social Change division of the 2008 Conference of the International Communication Association, held in Montreal in May. She is the lead author of the paper, titled *De-Westernizing Theory and Practice of New Social Movements: The Indigenous Production of Transnational Media Activism in Oaxaca, Mexico*.

Tom McHardy will be co-directing the Ireland in Text and Image program this summer.

Rustin Greene continues to direct JMU’s Programs in London. He recently helped create a new Communications and Media-focused curriculum, which will be introduced in 2009.

Kevin Reynolds completed a new short script, “The Way You Look Tonight,” a comedy about a confused heart patient who believes he is having an affair with the hospital ward’s night nurse. The film is in preproduction, to be shot over the summer in the new SMAD studio.

Several SMAD professors attended the recent Broadcast Education Association (BEA) convention in Las Vegas. Many served on panels or won creative awards, including the following:

John Woody was the recipient of three juried creative awards in the Faculty Video Competition at the 2008 BEA Festival of Media Arts. John received a Best of Competition and Technical Merit award for his video *Cat's Cradle: Saving Lives in the Valley*. He also received an Award of Excellence for his video *Old Time Music Teacher*. **Woody** also presented *Designing a Functional Network Infrastructure to Support Digital Needs* on a panel called *Best Practices: Do We Have Them? Do We Need Them?*

Joe Hinshaw (and Ron Osgood, Indiana University) received a Best of Category award (Educational/Instructional) in the juried Faculty Interactive Multimedia Competition of the BEA Festival of Media Arts. The award was for the companion DVD to their recent textbook entitled *Visual Storytelling: Videography and Post Production in the Digital Age*.

George Johnson presented on *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly: Working Through the IT Conundrum* as part of a panel called *New Facilities Construction: Pitfalls and Prosperity*.

Rustin Greene organized and moderated a panel called *Postage Stamp Screens: Creating and Producing Content for Mobile Media*. He presented on the topic of *Producing for the Postage-Stamp Screen: What Works, What Doesn't...Yet*. **John Woody** also presented on *Mobile Media Production Technical Considerations* as part of the same panel. **Greene** also presented on *International Internships: Hands-On Across the Pond* on a panel called *Successful Strategies and New Frontiers for Study Abroad in Communication*.

Steve Anderson organized and participated on two BEA panels. He moderated and presented on a panel titled *Web 2.0 and Interactive Media Frontiers*. His presentation was on *Business Communication with a Wiki: A Non-Production Course in SEO, Analytics and E-Marketing*. Anderson also moderated a panel called *Visual Storytelling from Broadcast to Web*.

SMAD student **Scott Brody** was the recipient of a prestigious "BEA Best of Festival" award for his short film script called *Whack*. He was honored during both the Writing Division awards session and at the BEA Best of Festival Awards ceremony. Scott graduated last spring and is currently working in Los Angeles, but still attended the ceremony to receive his trophy and a \$1,000 cash award. SMAD student **Paul Gleason** also received third place in the Student Scriptwriting Competition for his script *Singularity*.