**Tis the Season for Thankfulness and Giving**

It is a time to be thankful for all that we have. It is also a time to give a portion of what we have to others, especially those less fortunate than ourselves and those in need. As part of the Community Response program, Ms. Stallings’ COM 110 classes have identified various needs that exist in the Raleigh area. The students have worked throughout the semester to learn about these community problems and the organizations that cater to groups in need of assistance.

The Community Response speeches are a new component of Stallings’ COM 110 sections. Earlier in the semester, students were asked to identify a community problem and the people in need as a result of this problem. Students were then asked to find and research an organization that responds to those in need because of the identified problem. In the course of their semester speeches, students presented the results of their research to the class. They implemented methods of persuasion to convey to the class the importance of their selected organization and how that organization makes a positive difference in our community. Finally, the classes selected in organizations to support and devised a means for giving their time and resources to support these organizations. The two organizations chosen this semester were Operation Christmas Child and the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Operation Christmas Child is an organization that delivers toys to underprivileged children during the holiday season. Millions of children in the U.S. and throughout the world live under impoverished conditions and do not receive Christmas gifts.

**Oh, the Places You Will Go!**

The end is near for about 70 communication undergrads. On December 17, studying will cease, papers will be complete and exams will be over. Well, at least for some of the graduates. Others will pursue higher degrees in related fields. Whatever the future holds for these students, the skills and knowledge acquired here at NC State will prove to be a solid foundation for them as they pursue their individual goals. The following is a sampling of December 2003 graduates’ future plans.

- “After graduation I am planning to substitute teach for Cumberland County schools during the spring semester. I am also getting married in May and will be attending graduate school during the Fall of 2004. I am going to graduate school to obtain my master’s degree in Speech-Language Pathology.” – Tiffany Underwood, Communication Disorders
- “I am currently interning with Rockett Burkhead & Winslow, an advertising agency in Raleigh. As for after graduation, I am hoping to continue my work in advertising. I am applying for positions in Atlanta, DC, and Raleigh and am hoping to hear back soon!” – Megan McNally, Public Relations
- “Next semester I am going to student-teach in a first grade classroom, earn my teaching license, and then begin teaching next fall. I plan on going to grad school, but not for another several years - probably to get a master’s in either special education or curriculum and instruction.” – Erica Tuers, Interpersonal Communication
- “I will start the Master’s of Humanities program at Duke University in January. While I get my graduate degree, I will continue to work at WRAL-TV, where I have worked for the past two years. I am in the process of getting a promotion and will soon be promoted to the position of Assignment Desk Assistant.” – Kelly Riner, Communication Media
Humjambo Ya’ll: Alumna Sends Greetings from Africa

by: Colleen Kanet

The World Student Christian Federation (WSCF) seeks to promote cooperation among young people by working and advocating for socio-economic justice, peace, human rights and responsible and accountable leadership in the world. Hilary Smith, a former NC State student, is one of those young people making a difference. Smith has just started her job at the WSCF in Nairobi, Kenya where her responsibilities include compiling a history of the WSCF’s African region. She is reading old correspondence and traveling all over the continent taking oral interviews at conferences. Smith is extremely excited about the main areas of work that the WSCF is involved in, which include human rights education, peace building, combating HIV/AIDS, Bible study, theology and interfaith relations, leadership development, women’s empowerment and environmental education.

Learning Kiswahili, being renamed Makena, meaning joy and happiness, by her host family, learning to love apple mangos, feeding orphaned babies with HIV, seeing Colobus monkeys and feeding ostriches are just a few African experiences Smith will forever treasure. She feels that “the Lord doesn’t just guide you, sometimes he pushes you all the way to Africa!” Coming from the northern hemisphere which includes 80 percent of the world’s wealth, Smith feels truly humbled working in a country where the unemployment rate is 56 percent. Smith’s willingness to help others is evident when she quoted a scripture from Proverbs 11:24-25: “One man gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he gives and only suffers want. A liberal man will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.”
**Student Organizations Updates**

**Lambda Pi Eta**

Lambda Pi Eta will hold its new member induction ceremony on December 7 and a time and location to be announced.

**PRSSA**

The PRSSA Induction Ceremony will take place at a joint meeting with the organization’s parent chapter, the Raleigh PRSA chapter, on December 4 from 6-8 p.m. at the McKimmon Center. The event will feature a catered dinner and keynote speaker Joseph (Joe) Freddoso, External Affairs Manager for Cisco Systems. He will be speaking about his experiences in the field of public relations. His resume includes: 1991 Special Olympics World Games - Director of Games Operations, U.S. Department of Defense - Event Operations Specialist, 1994 Goodwill Games - Director of Operations for Turner Broadcasting Systems Goodwill Games, Inc. division, 1996 Paralympic Games - Deputy Chief Operations Officer, Walt Disney World Co. - Senior Manager of Events for Disney’s Wide World of Sports, and 1999 Special Olympics World Summer Games - Chief Executive Officer. With such an extensive and impressive resume, Freddoso’s insight and advice will be beneficial to all current members, inductees, family and friends who attend.

*Upcoming Events:* PR Day 2004 will be held on March 24. Please make plans to attend!

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**Giving, from page 1**

Operation Christmas Child organizes the collection of gifts, which are all packaged in shoe boxes, and ships the gifts to children in need across the world. When assembling shoe boxes, students took into consideration the age and gender of the child to whom the gift would be given and then gathered items for the box that would be needed or wanted by that child. “The satisfaction you receive from giving a gift to an underprivileged child is much greater than the time and effort involved with constructing the box and filling it with toys,” states COM 110 student Nick Berry. The classes were able to fill nine boxes for this organization! These gifts will certainly brighten the holidays for the children who receive them.

The Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) is a non-profit, voluntary health organization that works to defeat neuromuscular diseases. On Sunday, December 7th, the COM110Q class will be volunteering their time at the Muscular Dystrophy Association office in Raleigh. The class will help package supplies to send out to local supermarkets and other businesses for the Shamrocks Against Dystrophy campaign. The funds raised by this campaign go directly to the local MDA office and will be used to help send approximately fifty kids affected by Muscular Dystrophy to the MDA summer camp held here in North Carolina.

By assisting these two organizations, the students were able to personally recognize the importance of community involvement and social responsibility. We proudly applaud the sincere and timely efforts of the COM 110 students as they give to those in need.

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“Give what you have. To someone, it may be better than you dare to think.”

-Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
DECEMBER 2003

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Fall Commencement

The Fall 2003 Department of Communication commencement program is scheduled for the Raleigh Convention and Conference Center (500 Fayetteville Street Mall) on Wednesday, December 17 at 12:15 p.m. The ceremony should take an hour or less. Graduating seniors should be at the Convention Center by 11:45 a.m. Free parking on surrounding streets is difficult to find; however, there are numerous pay lots near the Convention Center. Be early to find a good parking place!

Graduation, from page 1

- “I am actually beginning Graduate school at North Carolina Central University. I am continuing my education to become a Speech Language Pathologist.” – Taylor Placek, Communication Disorders
- “I was recently hired at a sports marketing firm called PSE-3 Inc. For the first six months, I will be touring around the country with Adidas, doing promotions and things like that. At the conclusion of six months, I will be back in Raleigh, most likely doing work with NASCAR, NFL or even Adidas itself. I hope to go back to school for a master’s degree, or even to law school.” – Travis Edmonds, Public Relations

Congratulations and good luck to all December graduates!

The Wolfpack Communicator

Editor in Chief.....Kate Bowman
Faculty Advisor....Dr. Kiwanuka-Tondo

If you have published or are currently working on research that you would like featured in The Wolfpack Communicator, please contact Kate Bowman at kmbowma3@unity.ncsu.edu.