

The Roy and Marnie
Pearce Center for Professional Communication

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Graduate Student Workshops:

To help graduate students enhance their oral presentation skills for the April Focus on Research Events, Frankie Felder, Peter Kent, and Andy Billings will host a series of workshops at the end of March. For info, email ajstc@clermson.edu

CAC Alumni Event

Please save
May 3
for our
CAC Alumni Event.
We'll focus on
mapping activities in
chemistry, creativity in
computer science, and
eportfolios.

**Symposium on the Uses of the Visual
in Learning:
A One-Day Event**

Please join us for one, two, three, or all four events composing our Symposium on the Uses of the Visual in Learning, on **Wednesday, March 2**.

**9-10:15 Altered Books as Visual Learning Enhancements:
Presented by Dr. Elisa Sparks**

This session explores the use of visual journals, especially altered books, in a graduate seminar on Modernist London and suggests other assignments using this technique. It will include a brief history of altered books; a bibliography and web links; design recommendations for assignments and materials, and actual samples described by graduate students who made them.

10:30-12:00 Mind Maps: Presented by Dr. Kathy Kegley

Mind maps are a visual representation of knowledge that is based on the associative, "multiple encoding" methods used by the brain. Encoding information as mind maps offers an effective way to introduce information to short term memory and speed the transition to long-term memory. This interactive workshop explores ways that mind maps can be used in the traditional classroom as well as online courses. Uses such as brainstorming, learning assessment, resume development, e-portfolios and note taking will be covered. Participants are welcome to contribute their own experiences with mind maps as well.

2-3:15 Digital Portfolios, Brochure-Design, and Other Classroom Assignments Using the Visual. Presented by Dr. Kathleen Yancey, with Studio Associates Mike Crawford (majoring in marketing) and Will Dickert (majoring in health science)

What assignments can we create that invite the visual as a means of learning? And how will students choose to use the visual as a way to represent what they have learned? We will review several assignments that include the visual and literally "see" how they work.

4:15-5:30 Digital Photography: Presented by Dr. Sam Wang

A cursory introduction to the changes that digital tools have brought to photography, in ease of use and in believability. The digital work-flow, from exposure to post-processing, as well as how we read images, will be covered.

**TO REGISTER FOR ONE OR MORE OF THESE SESSIONS,
PLEASE EMAIL ANGIE JUSTICE AT AJSTC@CLEMSON.EDU**

Client Based Project Showcase

Please mark your calendar for the spring Client-Based Project Showcase on **April 21 from 3:30 to 5 PM**. The event will feature the work of 12 business and technical writing classes that are producing deliverables for local and campus clients this semester. The Client-Based Program is one of the central focuses of the English Department's Advanced Writing Program, and was cited as one of the main reasons that the program received a major national award in December.

The projects featured in the Showcase will include:

- Interpretive materials for the **South Carolina Botanical Gardens**
- Grant proposals and promotional materials to support **Seneca's Blue Ridge Field** project
- Tutorials and promotional materials for the Government Documents division of **Cooper Library**
- Environmental Management System plans for three campus departments and the **Environmental Health and Safety Office**
- Training, promotional, and research materials on urban forestry for the **Jim Self Center on the Future**
- Electronic retrospective and calendar for **Littlejohn Community Center**

The Showcase will be held in the Studio, and will include a light reception from 4:30 to 5 PM after the students' presentations. We hope to see you there. **If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Summer Taylor at slsmith@clemsun.edu.**

Who is Using the Studio?

The Class of 1941 Studio for Student Communication has been the site of a lot of activity since the beginning of the semester. Currently there are five regularly scheduled classes being taught in the space. The classes include one in economics, one in biochemistry, and one in technical writing. New teaching practices include using both smart boards to compare and contrast ideas and encouraging students to use the whole space as a communication tool.

Outside of the scheduled classes, there are many classes that are utilizing the space for such purposes as presentations, group work and peer editing. Courses from journalism, product development, sophomore humanities, health, chemical engineering, and German are among those using the studio for class meetings.

Individual students are also using the space to work on poster projects, group projects, client based projects, presentations, group meetings, electronic portfolios and general study. Since the beginning of the semester over 80 students have used the space as a learning tool, and the count of students overall exceeds 1500 as of Feb. 16.

Along with classes and students using the learning environment there are many faculty events that take place in the studio such as brown bag lunches, faculty meetings and Pearce Center workshops.

WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM CONFERENCE PLANNED FOR 2006

The 8th national Writing Across the Curriculum Conference will be coming to Clemson May 18 through 20, 2006. The WAC conference is a biannual conference that attracts teachers and scholars of Writing Across the Curriculum from all over the country and the world. Last year's event focused on WAC from the International Perspective and featured scholars from Australia, Zurich and Turkey and covered topics such as "The Culture of Writing: Synthesizing the Goals of WAC and Second Language Writing."

The three-day conference will bring about 350 to 400 scholars to discuss the incorporation of written, oral and visual dimensions into the classroom. This will be the first time the conference is being held at Clemson University, but not the first time that Clemson has participated in hosting the event. Clemson collaborated with the College of Charleston and the Citadel to co-host the first three WAC conferences in the 1990s.

The conference planning team includes Art Young, Kathleen Yancey, Michael Neal, and Teddi Fishman. They have invited keynote speakers Dr. Anne Herrington and Dr. Charles Moran from the University of Massachusetts. Some of the topics that will be addressed include: *Assignment Design; Reflective Practices; Assessment; and Grading* as well as *Implications of New Research for Teaching; and Implications of New Technology for Teaching with Written, Oral, Visual, or Digital Communication*. There will be workshops, panels, roundtables and a poster event.

Please watch the newsletter and the Pearce Center web page for calls for proposals and registration information. We look forward to Clemson participation and enthusiasm.