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## Upcoming Dates:

**September 10, 2001;**  
Speech Communication Studies Workshop: "Structuring and Grading Speaking Assignments" led by Nancy Jackson, 409 Daniel, MATRF Lab

**September 12, 2001;**  
Speech Communication Studies Workshop: "Leading Discussions in Small and Large Classrooms" led by Nancy Jackson, 409 Daniel, MATRF Lab

**December 12, 2001;**  
CAC Alumni Event, Holmes Ballroom, Clemson House

## ~~Extending the Vision~~

### The Class of 1941 Studio for Student Communication

As you may have heard, we have some terrific news: the Class of 1941 is providing Clemson University with a new \$1 million dollar gift to create a facility to help students excel in communication. Specifically, this gift will underwrite a new "**Class of 1941 Studio for Student Communication**," a place where graduate and undergraduate students from across campus will learn to be better speakers, better writers and more informed and reflective users of the Internet and other communications technology. Housed on the first floor of Daniel Hall, the Class of 1941 Studio will also work with the CAC program in assisting faculty to enhance their teaching through the inclusion of various communication media.

Plans for the Studio include:

- studio space for students to design and develop work in writing and speech
- rehearsal space for presentations and public addresses
- areas for formal speech, writing and electronic presentations and for research on how to deliver successful presentations
- a small gallery for showcasing communication-oriented performances
- classroom space
- conference space for small seminars and work with faculty from across campus

We also plan for The Class of 1941 Studio for Student Communication to have a unique role, unlike any other in the country. We hope that faculty members will use the studio in three ways: (1) to assist their students in creating projects ranging from research papers to powerpoint presentations to web pages and resumes; (2) to work with Pearce team members as we design inter-related forms of communication for our classes, and (3) to document how students learn from inter-related activities like speech, writing and digital communication. These experiences will enable us to form a collective knowledge about the best ways to use the many forms of communication in our teaching.

We'll be working on this project—the design and creation of our Studio—over the coming year; it's an exciting time. And as we continue, we'll look forward to sharing with you both our construction updates and our plans for a grand opening.

**Pearce Center Speech Communication Studies Workshops**

This fall the Pearce Center will sponsor four workshops on using speech in our classes; each workshop will be offered twice. Workshops include:

1. **Structuring and grading speaking assignments**  
 In this interactive workshop, participants will learn how to structure discipline-specific oral communication assignments in a variety of modes, from presentations to group work, and from X to Y. In addition, we will also examine guidelines that can be used to create grading criteria for different kinds of speech assignments. **September and November**
2. **Leading discussions in small and large classes**  
 In general, how do we conduct a discussion and elicit comments, and how do these general principles vary when we shift classroom settings? For instance, what are some practices that ensure fruitful discussions in large classrooms of 75+ students? What kinds of questions can faculty ask to bring out the most insightful replies? How do these practices differ from those we want to use in a classroom of 35, and yet again in a seminar-style classroom? Get the answers to these questions and more in this workshop. **September and November**
3. **Dealing with speech anxiety**  
 Do your students stare at the floor and mumble when they give presentations? Do you dread giving oral assignments because of the anxiety it causes? Feeling at ease while speaking in public can be learned. Come to this workshop and learn about speech anxiety and how you can help students deal with their fears. **October and November**
4. **Communicating with intercultural and diverse students**  
 Diversity in the classroom can be an enriching experience for students and teachers. At times however, communication styles may cause misunderstandings. In this workshop, learn to identify cultural attitudes and communication styles that will help you help your students succeed in your class. **October and December**

**Focus  
On New  
Pearce Member**



**Nancy Jackson**

Nancy Jackson, a new assistant professor of Speech and Communication Studies at Clemson University, is one of the new Pearce Team members. She holds a Ph.D. in communication from the University of Colorado. Dr. Jackson comes to Clemson from Red Rocks Community College in Colorado, where she was the faculty and staff development coordinator and instructional designer. She also had a communication consulting practice.

Dr. Jackson has published a number of articles in trade journals such as *Pfeiffer Experience* annuals and the McGraw-Hill *Consultant's Tool Kit*. Her current research interests are in the scholarship of teaching and learning, specifically the relationships between rhetoric, culture, feedback, and risk. She is also interested in the connection between effective interpersonal and presentational communication into disciplinary curriculum.

In her short time at Clemson she has served on the Clemson Awards committee and the planning committee for the National Communication Association summer conference. Dr. Jackson has also presented papers at the Intercultural Communication Association and the American Collegiate Schools of Architecture.

**Powerpoint Project Update**

Last year, Barbara Heifferon and Kathleen Yancey worked with several graduate students in Professor David Allison's Architecture Studio. The students worked out their thesis projects—both the design and the theory—through several sets of powerpoint slides. This experience has prompted the Pearce Center to sponsor "The Powerpoint Project," a set of meetings to bring interested faculty together to see how we do use powerpoint in our teaching and in student assignments and how we might. We'll begin this fall, and we have a few openings left. Participants will receive a small stipend for participation.

Contact Angie Justice at [ajstc@clemson.edu](mailto:ajstc@clemson.edu)

**Pearce Team Members  
2001-2002**

In addition to working with faculty, the Pearce Team will continue our work on special projects, among them

- Barbara Heifferon, English**
  - The Graduate Certificate in Health Communication
- Nancy Jackson, Speech Communication**
  - Special Workshops on Using Speaking throughout the curriculum
- Meg Morgan, Visiting Scholar**
  - Assistance in planning for the New Student Studio
- Summer Smith, English**
  - Planning for a Revised Tech Communication Program and Speakers Series
- Michael Neal, English**
  - Assistance with the Clemson Electronic Portfolio