

The Roy and Marnie Pearce Center for Professional Communication

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CAC Event for Faculty

Please mark your calendars for Wednesday, April 28, 2004. From 8:30am until 12:30pm, the Pearce Center will hold its biannual CAC Event and Luncheon for Faculty in the new Class of 1941 Studio for Student Communication.

This event will differ slightly from our previous CAC Events in that we'll start the morning off with a continental breakfast and some informal tours of the new Studio facility and then enjoy two presentations offered by faculty from across Clemson's campus. A buffet luncheon will follow the second presentation.

We're fortunate to have two faculty joining us for the presentations who have made Communication Across the Curriculum a priority in their classrooms. Dr. Sherrill Biggers, Department of Mechanical Engineering, will present "**PowerPoint: An Enabling Component in Instructing Undergraduate Engineering Mechanics Courses**," and Dr. Melanie Cooper, Department of Chemistry, will present "**Communication and Chemistry: Not an Impossible Dream**."

To register for this event, please fill out the form located at <http://www.clemson.edu/caah/Pearce/Calendar/form.htm>.

DIGITAL PORTFOLIO PRIZES

The Clemson Alumni Association and the Pearce Center are delighted to announce the first annual prizes for electronic portfolios. There are four prizes, and this year, they are open to all students.

Most Creative. Open to all students: \$100. The **Most Creative Portfolio** combines the visual and the verbal together to show both how and what the student has learned.

Most Original. Preference given to juniors and seniors: \$100. The **Most Original Portfolio** shows learning through the design features of the portfolio, through the kinds of exhibits included, and through the kinds of links provided and the logic underlying them.

Most Reflective. Preference given to juniors and seniors: \$100. The **Most Reflective Portfolio** shows depth of thought, makes connections across multiple experiences (both in school and out), and demonstrates perception and insight.

Clemson's Best. Preference given to seniors: \$250. **Clemson's Best** is the portfolio that brings together creativity, originality, and reflection in a way specific to the Clemson experience.

All students are invited to submit portfolios, and faculty are encouraged to work with students as they prepare their portfolios. The Class of 1941 Studio for Student Communication is also available for assistance.

All portfolios must be submitted on a CD or disk by **April 2**. In addition, students must include a one-page statement that explains which categories, up to 2, the student is submitting in, and how the portfolio embodies the attributes of those categories. Portfolios must be submitted to the Pearce Center in 601 Strode Tower.

Winners will be announced on April 9 and acknowledged at a celebration bringing together alumni and the Pearce Center Corporate Advisory Board.

Involving Students in Writing Assessment

Monday, March 29 from 1:00 - 3:00pm
Wednesday, March 31 from 9:30-11:30am

We know the importance of being able to improve our own writing by picking out what needs to be changed to suit the needs of our audiences and purposes, and we want to encourage our students to become better assessors of their work. Presented by Dr. Morgan Gresham, this workshop addresses how to involve students in assessing their own and their classmates' writing through peer reviews and electronic discussion, and we will model how to facilitate student conversation about good writing and the qualities of their writing. Please visit <http://virtual.clemson.edu/caah/Pearce/Calendar/form.htm> to register.



Interviews with Studio Associates

Mike Crawford & Samotria Holmes

Mike Crawford, an International Marketing major with a minor in English, says he became interested in taking the Studio class because it did not sound like the “typical” English class. With an emphasis on what

Mike refers to as “advertising and design,” the Studio class fit in well with Mike’s background of designing web pages and portfolios for himself and for various companies. Since high school, Mike has created and revised his own web portfolio several times, and he says that his English classes and the Studio class have helped him revise the content of his academic web portfolio: “[Before] I focused on design more than content. [After these classes], reflection became a big part of it too.”

In the Studio, Mike is working on a PowerPoint that will help students learn what they can do in the Studio and how they can make their work more professional. He is well suited to this task, since he has spent some time in the business world and enjoys applying that experience to his academic work.

Samotria Holmes describes her Industrial Engineering major as the study of the “engineering of process.” It’s not surprising, then, that Samotria’s favorite part of last semester’s Studio class was learning

and, in some cases, generating a process for creating posters and handouts. As she demonstrated recently with a visiting health science class, Samotria really enjoys putting herself in an audience’s place and picking and choosing relevant and interesting information to go on handouts. She says that the handout genre requires her to be concise and to-the-point, something with which she normally has difficulty.

Samotria is more than willing to share what she learned in the Studio class with students who come to the Studio. About working in the Studio, Samotria says, “I love working in the Studio because...I really, really like to interact with people, and the Studio is where I can do that. People come in all day, all the time, and they’ll say, ‘I need help with this. Can you help me?’” And Samotria is indeed ready to help.



Working with Graduate Students ► Pearce Team members Summer Smith Taylor, Michael Neal, Art Young, and Barbara Ramirez have been using the new Class of 1941 Studio for Student Communication space to enhance their work with graduate students. In February, Michael Neal facilitated two workshops on Writing Thesis/Dissertation Proposals, and he and the other faculty hold drop-in hours in the Studio specifically for graduate students. The graduate student drop-in hours may be found on the Studio’s Events & Opportunities page at <http://www.clemson.edu/1941studio/events.htm>.

PowerPoint Project Update

PowerPoint Project participants continue to meet monthly to investigate the ways that PowerPoint can be used to facilitate student learning. Thanks to all of the participants for their dedication to the project, and thanks to Pearce Team member Michael Neal for coordinating the meetings.

PARTICIPANTS

Rudy Abramovitch	Chemistry
Jeff Adelberg	Horticulture
Kristi Apostel	English
Heather Batt	Packaging Science
Sherrill Biggers	Mechanical Engineering
Sherry Biggers	Mathematical Sciences
Gregg Corley	Construction Science & Management
Xiuping Jiang	Food Science & Human Nutrition
Denzil Maurice	Animal & Veterinary Sciences
Barbara Ramirez	English
Gene Rochester	Agricultural & Biological Engineering

What’s Happening in the Studio

Studio Associates are working on a number of resources for students and faculty, including handouts on making speeches, creating digital portfolios, and creating and revising PowerPoints. Look for these and other resources in the Studio itself and on the Studio web site at www.clemson.edu/1941studio/resources.htm.

New Projects for Fall 2004

The Pearce Center is pleased to announce two new groups that will begin in Fall 2004: **Reflection Across the Disciplines** and **Reading Across the Disciplines**. If you are interested in joining or receiving more information about either group, please contact Dr. Kathleen Yancey at 6556-5394 or kyancey@clemson.edu.