

Letterman Lecture Series launches with look at recent presidential election

Kathleen Hall Jamieson, Elizabeth Ware Packard professor of communications and director of the Annenberg Public Policy Center at the University of Pennsylvania, will discuss "Emerging Media and the Path to the Oval Office" at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 24, in Ball State's Art and Journalism Building, Room 175. Hers is the first address in the university's new David Letterman Distinguished Professional Lecture and Workshop Series, named for the program's benefactor and the university's most prominent alumnus, CBS "Late Show" host David Letterman.

Each presidential election year, the Annenberg Center conducts the National Annenberg Election Survey, the largest and most comprehensive regular temperature taking of the American electorate. It also is the sponsor of FactCheck, the oft cited nonprofit devoted to examining the factual accuracy of U.S. political advertisements and claims.

In Jamieson's view, the advent of the Internet and emerging media has changed not only how candidates for public office campaign, but also the very nature of politics itself. As she observed for The New York Times early in the last presidential primary season, it used to be that major manufacturing plants in large industrial cities such as Pittsburgh and Detroit were "de rigueur" stops on the campaign trails of every U.S. presidential candidate. Today, however, Jamieson contends those appearances, while still occurring, are increasingly less important in the overall scheme of political symbolism, supplanted by visits to more technologically advanced places on the economic landscape such as Google headquarters in Mountain View, Calif.

During the 2008 presidential campaign, Hillary Rodham Clinton, John McCain, Bill Richardson, John Edwards, Ron Paul and Barack Obama all made the trek to the Google campus in an effort to signal their "identification with the future," notes Jamieson, who also credits YouTube with expanding the range of questions in the debates, making them more memorable by having users submit the questions in the form of personal videos, and making everything searchable afterward. In the past, she says, "if you missed a debate, you missed it."

In addition to the Times, Jamieson is a frequent commentator on the American campaign and election process for National Public Radio, CBS, PBS' "The NewsHour" and CNN. A fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, she also is the author, co-author or editor of 15 books, including "Echo Chamber: Rush Limbaugh and the Conservative

Media Establishment" (Oxford, 2008) and "unSpun: Finding Facts in a World of Disinformation" (Random House, 2007).

Ball State, architecture professionals to examine transit investment, Indianapolis' future

Ball State's College of Architecture and Planning: Indianapolis Center (CAP:IC) is working with a team from the American Institute of Architects (AIA) on the development of a Smart Growth Redevelopment District on the north side of Indianapolis.

AIA's Sustainable Design Assessment Team initiative is a national, competitive program that brings teams of volunteer professionals – architects, urban designers, landscape architects, economists and planners – to assist decision-makers on development projects in their communities. The team selects six to eight communities annually to provide its assistance and selected this Indianapolis project based on a proposal recommended by the Indianapolis Green Commission and drafted by CAP:IC faculty.

The AIA team will be assisting the city of Indianapolis and a group of Ball State CAP faculty and students with work on a Smart Growth Redevelopment District plan centered on a proposed light rail system for Indianapolis connecting its downtown areas to its suburbs. The district will examine how transit investment can be used to create a community that is more environmentally, economically and socially sustainable. The district has been proposed for an area at 22nd Street and the Monon Trail.

The concept of Smart Growth Redevelopment is a key goal of the Indianapolis Green Commission, a group of advisors appointed by Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard. The team advises municipal governments on how to help their cities operate more efficiently, such as revamping vacant lots, distressed neighborhoods and old industrial areas.

Ball State CAP:IC will help the AIA team create a vision plan to address these issues and a master plan to demonstrate how these visions can be implemented. They will work with neighborhood leaders, government representatives and professional leaders for conceptual plans.

"We've always had a philosophy that it's not our place to come in and provide all the answers," said Brad Beaubien, project manager for CAP:IC. "We like to partner with other organizations, provide assistance and move collaborative ideas forward that otherwise might simply sit on a shelf."

Financial support for the project includes a \$15,000 sponsorship from Citizens Energy Group, with AIA covering the cost of its support team and involvement. Scott Truex, CAP:IC director, said AIA's commitment to the project translates into thousands of dollars of services and national exposure for the city of Indianapolis and Ball State.

"It helps us bring all of the players and professionals together in the same room and allow them to work creatively together in ways a typical client would never pay them to," Beaubien said.

The Ball State Indianapolis Center has numerous degree and distance education programs in many areas of study. The state's AIA chapter also is housed at the Indianapolis Center.

Professor's emerging media study featured on WRTV

Jennifer Bott, associate professor of management, was recently featured in a story about a bleak job market by WRTV6. Reporter Jennifer Carmack explained that Bott's study found human resource administrators were willing to pay more to new employees with emerging media skills. The story also highlighted Ball State's Emerging Media Initiative.

ON CAMPUS

Ball State student wins national green building design competition

Tyler Stanley, a Ball State senior architecture major, has won the Modular Building Institute's (MBI) student green building design competition. He will receive a \$2,500 scholarship, a crystal trophy and formal recognition at MBI's World of Modular, its annual trade show and convention held March 28-31 at Red Rock Resort in Las Vegas. Ball State will receive a \$5,000 grant as the result of Stanley's first place finish in the competition.

Architecture and engineering students competing in the contest from four-year colleges and universities across the country entered designs for modular buildings that met eight specific criteria: thermal comfort, indoor air quality, day lighting, acoustics, energy efficiency, resource strategy, architectural excellence and economic practicality.

The competition included a real-world client, Piedmont Housing Alliance (PHA). PHA wants to improve The Meadows, a senior community in Crozet, Va. The Meadows provides low income housing to its residents and needs a new community center, which the contestants designed.

"This was a very competitive event at the national level that provides our school with international presence," said Guillermo Vasquez de Velasco, dean of the College of Architecture and Planning.

MBI is the only international, nonprofit trade association serving nonresidential modular construction. Regular membership includes wholesale manufacturers, direct manufacturers and dealers of commercial modular buildings.

Red Carpet Department of the Month winner named

The Office of Bursar and Loan Administration has been selected as the first recipient of the Red Carpet Department of the Month award for January.

The new award recognizes departments with excellence in customer service that best exemplify the Roll Out the Red Spirit of Service. The new customer service recognition started last month and will continue for the remainder of the year.

Employees of the bursar's office were nominated in recognition of their customer service skills such as focusing on the situation at hand and listening to the customer to determine and resolve each issue.

As Red Carpet Department of the Month, the bursar's office received a framed certificate signed by Ball State President Jo Ann M. Gora. Tom Kinghorn, vice president of business affairs and treasurer, presented the award to Judy Merritt, bursar and loan administration director, and her staff on Feb. 9.

Nominations for the Red Carpet Department of the Month are due the 20th of each month and may be submitted online by completing the form on the Web site, www.bsu.edu/rolloutthered. Contact Andy Gothreau, assistant director of human resources, training and development with any questions about the Roll Out the Red Spirit of Service initiatives.

Colts defensive captain Gary Brackett to speak at Ball State on overcoming adversity

Indianapolis Colts defensive captain and member of its 2006 Super Bowl championship team Gary Brackett will visit Ball State University on Feb. 23 to share his story of overcoming adversity, both on the gridiron and in his personal life.

On the field, Brackett has certainly had to battle his share of misfortunes, including a leg injury last season that caused him to miss part of the regular season and the playoffs. Losing his mother, father and brother within a 16-month period however, has taught him how to deal with hardships off the field as well.

Gary Brackett's Impact Foundation, which provides opportunities and resources to children affected by cancer, and a football camp that he conducts each summer for kids in his hometown of Glassboro, N.J., are opportunities for Brackett to help others conquer adversity.

The event, co-sponsored by Student Life and the Multicultural Center, begins at 7 p.m. in Pruis Hall and is free and open to the public.

IN THE NEWS

Ball State

Ball State was featured in a Feb. 1 North Shore News (Canada) article, "Get Fit – You'll Live Longer and Save Money." Fit people have a higher capacity to earn more, according to a Ball State survey of 336 entrepreneurs. The survey also found that regular exercisers

were happier. People who worked out daily were 10 percent more likely to be content in their jobs and 14 percent were more likely to reach their income goals.

Center for Business and Economic Research

The Center for Business and Economic Research was featured in a Feb. 3 Inside Indiana Business article, "Indianapolis Learning How to Be Super Bowl Host." Members of the 2012 Indianapolis Super Bowl Committee and city leaders visited Tampa to take notes on the Super Bowl. A study from the Center for Business and Economic Research suggests that the Indianapolis region could receive up to a \$365 million economic boost from the event.

Dagney Faulk, director of research, Center for Business and Economic Research

Inside Indiana Business featured Faulk in a Feb. 1 article, "Ball State Researcher: Unemployment Rate to Keep Climbing." Indiana's unemployment might be worse than the 8.2 percent unemployment rate suggests. People who have simply stopped looking for work are not reflected in the rate, she said.

Maria Williams-Hawkins, associate professor of telecommunications

Hawkins was quoted in a Feb. 4 Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette article, "Steuben Judge Sees Vision Come to Life, Ball State-Produced DVD Shows DWI from Arrest to Trial." Steuben Circuit Court Judge Allen Wheat helped produce a DVD of a drunken driving arrest and trial. It depicts what happens when someone is arrested for drunken driving. The DVD, produced by a class from Ball State, will soon be available free to schools in the state. A group of 15 students spent two days in Steuben County filming. "I got the chance to see my students blow this out," Hawkins said. "I got to see them come in, thinking that it would be nothing, and then see them finding the mistakes they didn't think they would make."

Chris Munchel, director of admissions and orientation

Indianapolis Monthly quoted Munchel in a Feb. 1 article, "Studying Update: Checking Out Local Colleges." Checking out a university on the Internet is a great place to start, but students should also talk to friends and family members and visit the campuses. "Definitely visit schools before applying," he said. "Feel each school out."

SPOTLIGHT

Publications

Anthony Mahon, Human Performance Laboratory, and **Tonya Skalon**, School of Physical Education, Sport, and Exercise Science, "Exercise Physiology" in "Exploring Exercise Science," New York: McGraw-Hill Publishers.

Carla Vidoni, School of Physical Education, Sport, and Exercise Science, "Cultural Exchange: An Immersive Experience with European PETE Students," *Indiana Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Journal*, Winter 2009, pages 11-14.

Presentations

Tammy Burt, Marge Hoblely and Carla Vidoni, "You Tube: Stretch Your Imagination," Share the Wealth Conference, Jekyll Island, Ga., Jan. 23, 2009.

Tammy Burt and Carla Vidoni, School of Physical Education, Sport, and Exercise Science, "Incorporating NASPE Standards 5 and 6 Into Your Teaching," Share the Wealth Conference, Jekyll Island, Ga., Jan. 23, 2009.

Get Update Delivered to Your Home E-mail Address

If you would like to have Update delivered to your home e-mail address, visit the Update Web site at www.bsu.edu/update and click on the "Subscribe" link.