

LEADS

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MassComm scores with first job fair

Twenty-two exhibitors from all sequences attended the first MassComm Career Fair Nov. 5 and left with resumes and favorable impressions.

About 300 students were looking for and received that much-coveted “face time” with employers. Exhibitors such as News 8 Austin, GCI-Read Poland, Tocquigny Advertising, Bromley Communications, KTSA, nFusion and South by Southwest were looking more for interns than full-time employees.

Rebecca Hind ('05) turned her internship with Elizabeth Christian Public Relations after graduating from Texas State into a full-time job.

“I wish I had had something like this (industry specific career fair) when I was here,” Hind said. “I am very impressed with the students we visited. Many of them already have a couple of internships. Very impressive. I did well to have an on-campus internship and that was it.”

Tabitha Walsh, who graduated last year from Texas, represented Central Texas Medical Center’s public relations and marketing office. “I’ve got a lot of



Students learn about Captiva Music Group’s international clientele from Chris Gomez.

qualified candidates,” she said, leafing through a stack of resumes. “This has really been great.”

Several students were uncertain what to expect from the first-time fair, but they left with what they considered “real prospects.”

Exhibitors were impressed with the meetings with students and said they were certain they would fill internships with Texas State students.

Chris Gomez, president of Captiva Music Group, said, “We’re already the beneficiary of great interns from Texas State. We are looking for several this

spring and more in the summer. We have plenty of great talent here.”

Exhibitors also were exceptionally pleased with the environs of the LBJ Ballroom and the personal assistance offered by student volunteers from the Public Relations Student Society of America.

Visitors and guests were treated to news productions of Bobcat Update, the student-run television news program. In addition to jobs and internships, students were in line to win a variety of prizes, including a basketball signed by Quin Snyder, new coach for the Austin Toros.

KTSSW takes ‘bests’ at College Media Convention

WASHINGTON — Cory Neme and Chrystal McLaughlin recently took first place in the “Best Student Media Website” category of the National College Media Convention. Meanwhile, Patrick Barrett, Cody Flake and Lawrence Goynes won top honors in “Best Sports Play-by-Play” category awarded by Collegiate Broadcasters, Inc.

Dan Schumacher, general manager and faculty adviser with KTSSW-FM (89.9), said the awards represented the second time in the past five years that the Texas State University station had won first place in the play-by-play category. Jonathan Valdez and Adrian Brown were finalists in the “Best Regularly Scheduled Program” category for their “Orange Juice and Biscuits” morn-

ing show. Schumacher and four members of KTSSW’s management attended the three-day meeting in October. “The numerous sessions and roundtable discussions provided many new ideas to consider,” Schumacher said, “and we learned different ways to approach day-to-day operations of running our station.

“Congrats to our students for this recognition.”

Miami reporter: Dream big

Michael Wallace remembers living in the projects of Washington, D.C., surrounded by everything from drug dealers to death. He needed no extra motivation to improve his life. His street and book smarts took him to Grambling State University and to a life in journalism.

In a dozen years, Wallace has written about politics, crime, disasters and personalities. Today, he's with *The Miami Herald* as the beat writer of the NBA's Miami Heat.

"I'm living my dream job," he told students during a recent visit to one of Kym Fox's classes. Wallace's comments went well beyond celebrated players such as Shaquille O'Neal and coaches such as Pat Riley.

He shared his experiences about perseverance and dreams and assured students that they can live their dreams, too.

"Journalism is a passport into different experiences every day," Wallace said. "You can set goals. You can have dreams. I'm living proof that your dream is attainable."

Wallace explained that to win that first



Michael Wallace: 'Be aggressive.'

job he had to endure 123 rejection letters. He was willing to work anywhere and, in fact, applied for writing jobs in all 50 states. "If you can withstand rejection, you'll be able to do anything," he said.

He described how perseverance paid off for him during college in winning an internship on *The Washington Post*. He finished No. 32 out of a list of 30 students hired for the summer.

"Initially, I was rejected and was just destroyed," he said. "Two weeks later, I got a call. One student had dropped off, and a second student dropped off because of something with his transcript. I made it to No. 30. I was in."

He later interned at the *San Antonio Express-News*, where he met Ms. Fox. As a full-time journalist, he's worked in Shreveport, Tallahassee, Jackson, Miss., and, currently, in Miami.

He cautioned the budding journalists in the audience against placing limits on what they're willing to do. "Don't think, 'I want to be a sportswriter,'" Wallace said. "Tell them you want to be a journalist. I spent my summer in a courtroom, covering Mike Vick. I have to know Cover 2 (defenses), sentencing structures and dog fighting laws in Georgia. Try to stay as versatile as you can."

He encouraged students to have short, medium- and long-term plans. "Seek opportunities and create others," he said. "You can become a freelancer. There may be a concert, a speaker, an incident or a sporting event involving an out-of-town city. That paper may need someone to cover that event. Be aggressive."



14 students awarded Dean's scholarships

Fourteen students from all sequences in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication were awarded Dean's Student Fee Scholarships this fall. The awards were given during this year's MassComm Week.

The Scholarship Committee evaluated numerous outstanding candidates, recognizing student involvement and professional development in a variety of University media groups and organizations as well as performance in the classroom.

Each honoree will receive \$500 scholarships.

The scholarship winners were: Lindsey Barker, Evan Kilpatrick, Katy Korzekwa, Margaret Jackson, Lauren Tuttle, Daniel Palomo, Jody Volet, Anna Tausin, George Kiel, Amy Lane, Ruben Arteaga, Patrick Barrett, Jeffrie Boysen and Lauren Rowden.

The candidates were nominated by faculty and voted on by the Scholarship Committee.