

Benedictine High School Newspaper adviser named an Ohio University Communication Fellow

By Sarah Logue

ATHENS, Ohio (March 15, 2019)— Mark Francioli, an English and journalism teacher and the journalism adviser at Benedictine High School, was one of 10 teachers selected for the second annual Communication Fellows program in Ohio University's Scripps College of Communication. Focusing on curriculum development in communication across PK-12 levels of instruction, the program provides funding and mentorship support. Participants develop and implement a communication-related classroom project over the one-year course of their fellowship.

"If the Communication Fellows program has taught us anything, it's that there is so much creativity and innovation happening at the K-12 level," said Dean Scott Titsworth. "We're committed to using the college's expertise and technology to support those teachers who are improving communication education."

Francioli holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology and humanities and a Master of Arts degree in English from Case Western Reserve University, and a Master of Education degree in guidance and counseling from John Carroll University. He began teaching at Benedictine High School in 1978.

Communication Fellows attend a half-week summer residential experience at Ohio University's main campus in Athens and receive free tuition for a graduate-level online course, a \$1500 stipend and \$1000 classroom stipend. Fellows also work with college faculty mentors and college leadership to achieve their project proposals.

Francioli's project proposal would establish a course of study that would allow students to explore the media industry as a possible career path.

"This would entail five to six courses that would allow the student to explore the media based upon particular interest, e.g., journalism, film, video production, theater, public speaking and podcasting," Francioli wrote in his proposal.

The Communication Fellows program will allow Francioli to receive training in new technology and the stipend will go toward equipping the classrooms with podcasting and video production and editing capabilities.

Each year, up to 10 fellows are named, with five from rural Appalachian districts and five from urban districts in the state of Ohio. This program was established as part of the Scripps College of Communication's 50th anniversary in 2018.

For more information about the Communication Fellows Program, [visit the program's webpage](#). The Scripps College of Communication at Ohio University consists of five schools,

each offering a variety of majors and programs for students who want to pursue communication-related careers. For more information, [visit our website](#).

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