Spring-Fall 2003

## The WATSLine

J. Warren McClure School of Communication Systems Management College of Communication - Ohio University

#### The McClure School Relocates to Lindley Hall

Notice the smiling faces in the photo at right. Prompted by a need for contiguous space and for graduate student offices, the McClure School faculty and staff moved to Lindley Hall on Court Street in August.

The school renovated space in the former woman's residence hall named in honor of Jacob Lindley, first president of Ohio University. Faculty and staff are pleased with their new offices on the 2nd floor, which include windows for everyone.

While the labs and classroom remain in the RTVC Building, the resource center was moved and enhanced. "We've established a new library and resource center that is adjacent to a computer room with ten computers," according to director



RICK FATICA

Andy Snow. "We have several bookshelves full of periodicals pertaining to the field. It's a nice resource, and a nice place for students to visit."

So stop by Lindley Hall next time you're in Athens and visit us at our new location.

Communication Systems Management faculty and staff (lower left to right) Phil Campbell, Brian Phillips, Phyllis Bernt, Herb Thompson, Barb Moran, Doug Bowie, Trevor Roycroft, Andy Snow, Hans Kruse, John Hoag, and Tony Mele.

#### Congratulations

Jeffery Chaddock '88 was honored October 10 at the Bicentennial Alumni Awards Gala held at the Templeton Blackburn Alumni Memorial Auditorium. He received the Distinguished Service Award, presented to alumni who have contributed to chapters, clubs, and constituent societies of OU.

Jeff, who is a financial advisor for American Express with offices in Columbus and Athens, has sponsored a scholarship for Communication Systems Management students and established a fund for the student group, SICM. **Heidi Tracy**, assistant dean for development in the College of Communication, says Chaddock has been one of the University's largest donors, in spite of his young age.

Jeff is a past recipient of the Charles J. and Claire O. Ping Award, given to alumni for outstanding achievements within 15 years of graduation.

#### **New Faculty**

Herb Thompson, who was a visiting professor with Communication Systems Management last year, was hired as a permanent, tenure-track faculty to teach regulatory and policy classes at the undergraduate and graduate level. Herb has a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Georgia. He can be reached at 740/597-1770 or thompsh3@ohio.edu.

Please join us in welcoming Herb to his second year at OU.

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#### **Director's Corner**

The McClure School has enjoyed some significant accomplishments this last year. The Board of Regents approved the Master of Communication Technology and Policy, a distinctive interdisciplinary professional Masters degree geared to a one-year completion in residence at the Athens campus. All Schools within the College of Communication now offer advanced degrees. With the addition of the

masters program, the relocated to Lindley Hall, ulty member with extensive and regulatory experience, dents in real world ecofice space not only provides but also provides a large and a student resource cenfers a computer room with printer for undergraduate a library with periodicals our field, not held by Alden ware to assist the students search. In the new space expand the resource cen-



Andy Snow

McClure School has just and added a full time facresearch, teaching, industry, enabling him to engage stunomic issues. The new ofroom for graduate students, conference/seminar room, ter. The resource center often PCs and a high speed and graduate students, and and newsletters specific to Library. The PCs have softin student projects and reat Lindley, we were able to ter with the assistance of a

student technology fee. Although our main classroom and lab remain in the RTV building, Lindley Hall will provide us a reasonable home until the space issue can be addressed for the entire College of Communication.

The technology fee also enabled us to introduce a new active learning enhancement. We purchased a cart with 28 wireless laptops for classroom use. Now faculty can wheel in the laptop for in-class exercises and exams. We also added a sophisticated network security tool to enhance hands-on pedagogy in the area of network assurance. Also, we updated our voice/data PBX to modernize the hands-on voice and data network laboratory coursework.

We recently updated our carrier equipment with Newbridge Time Division Multiplex equipment to support other communication technology laboratory coursework. The PBX switch, valued at \$30,000 was donated by St. Ann's Hospital in Columbus, replacing an older obsolete switch in the School's laboratory. The network security tool was valued at \$60,000 by CTX Corporation, which recently became a division of Management Technologies Incorporated (ManTech). The Newbridge Time Division Multiplex equipment was donated by Marathon Oil – the original retail price of this equipment was in excess of \$1M dollars. Technology funds and corporate donations are essential to the McClure School's ability to offer current technology education to our students. These demands rise with the addition of the masters program.

In addition to the equipment donations, the McClure School Advisory Board Scholarship Fund initiated a golf tournament to create a scholarship fund for the School. In the first year, over \$7,000 was raised, and with this year's event, the fund has in excess of \$20,000. With continual decreases in funding from the state of Ohio, tuition invariably increases, and scholarship

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#### Thanks to....

All the alumni who continue to support the McClure School by speaking to a class (Lori Sternisha '89), stopping by to visit while in Athens (Brian Chylik '94, Nate Knopp '01), sponsoring internships within their company (Maria Howard '85, Dave Heimbach '99, Susan Lammert-Carr '87, Bryan Ireton '90, Sandy Davis '90), participating in Communication Week (Steve Brescia '92, Bryan Ireton '90, Lori Sternisha '89, Joe Watson '92), posting positions on the alumni list serve (Tom Fisher '98, Jason Comstock '89, Mike Herrmann '93), traveling to campus to interview students (Darrin Resnick '87, Sandy Davis '90, Susan Lammert-Carr '87), supporting the golf tournament (Neil Okonak '02, Joe Watson '92, Jason Ice '02, Maria Giustino-Lepore '90, Sandy Davis '90, Mike DeLuca '97, Randy Risch '93, Bryan Ireton '90, Brian Gittinger '01), and serving on the Advisory Board (Joe Watson '92, Lori Sternisha '89, Sandy Davis '90, Jason Comstock'89, Randy Risch '93).

The faculty and staff appreciate the ongoing interest in and commitment to the McClure School.

#### Faculty/Staff Activities

Phyllis Bernt presented two papers at the American Educational Research Association Conference in Chicago, April 23, 2003, and attended the 53rd Annual International

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# Bryan Iroton

Alumni panelists Steve Brescia '92 (left), Consultant with Towers Perrin, and Bryan Ireton '90, VP and General Manager of AT&T Solutions.



Alumni panelists Lori Sternisha '89 (left), Utility Specialist with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, and Joseph Watson '92, VP of Sales for Horizon PCS.

#### Communication Week '03

The theme for Communication Week 2003, which was sponsored by Verizon, was "Communication Matters." Committee members Andy Snow, Herbert Thompson, Chris Mears '03, Sarah Ashton '03, and Matt Raider '03 did a great job of organizing this year's annual event.

Keynote speaker was Lt.
General Kenneth Minihan, United
States Air Force (Ret.), who spoke on
"Homeland Security and
Telecommunications" to a crowded
Baker Center Ballroom. General
Minihan is the most immediate past
director of the National Security
Agency.

Alumni Panelists (pictured at left) included Steve Brescia '92, Consultant with Towers Perrin; Bryan Ireton '90, VP and General Manager of AT&T Solutions; Lori Sternisha '89, Utility Specialist at the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio; and Joseph Watson '92, VP of Sales for Horizon PCS. Panel members gave

advice to current students about establishing a successful career in telecommunications.

Todd Colquitt, President of Verizon Ohio; Douglas Kinkoph, VP of Regulatory and External Affairs for XO Communications; and Alan R. Schriber, Chair of the PUCO, talked about telecom regulation issues during the Regulation Panel. Other speakers were Esperanza Hughes-Johnson, Enterprise Channel Manager of Ericsson, and Bruce Elbert, Managing Director of Application Strategy Consulting.

Congratulations to Matt Raider, who was named Outstanding Graduating Senior at the 13th Annual Awards Student Awards Banquet at the Ohio University Inn. Chris Mears, Chris Kreitel, and Barry Spurlock were awarded Honorable Mentions. Students with a gpa of 3.3 or higher, scholarship recipients, and students who participated in the internship program were also acknowledged during the banquet.

Our thanks to everyone who participated.

Communication Association Conference in San Diego, CA, May 24-27, to present a paper. **Doug Bowie** started the Master of Communication Technology and Policy program at OU this fall.

Phil Campbell is in his 2nd year as secretary of the Association of Telecommunications
Professionals, a Columbus-area business group, and will be president next year. John Hoag attended The Convergence of Learning & Technology Conference March 3-4, 2003, in Columbus and the Second

Annual Telecommunications/ Information Technology Conference April 3-5, in Louisville, Kentucky.

Hans Kruse was awarded two grants: the Ohio Consortium for Advanced Communication
Technology Membership, Anteon
Navel Post Graduate School for
\$6,100; and the Ohio Consortium
for Advanced Communication
Technology Membership, DVBeam
Services Company for \$3,000.

Andy Snow presented a paper entitled "The Failure of a Regulatory Threshold and a Carrier

Standard in Recognizing Significant Communication Loss" at the TPRC 2003 Conference, hosted by the Center for Technology and the Law, George Mason University School of Law, September 19-21 in Arlington, Virginia.

Herb Thompson presented "Telecommunications and Productivity: A World View" at the Advanced Workshop in Regulation and Competition at the 22nd Annual Eastern Conference in Skytop, Pennsylvania, May 21-23, 2003.

### Advisory Board-Sponsored Golf Tournament

Participants in the 2nd annual J. Warren McClure School Advisory Board Second Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament all agree that it is one of the classiest tournaments around. And it has successfully endowed a scholarship for a Communication Systems Management student in only two years.

The tournament attracts telecom professionals, alumni, faculty, and students. According to Neil Okonak '02, project consultant for the Sextant Group, "I was given some help while I was here, and I feel a responsibility to help current students. It's also a great opportunity to get contacts in my professional life, and a chance to get to know others in the industry." Other alums who participated were Joe Watson '92, Jason Ice '02, Maria Giustino-Lepore '90, Sandy Davis '90, Mike DeLuca '97, Randy Risch '93, Bryan Ireton '90, and Brian Gittinger '01.

Event co-chairman and advisory board member **Tom Lonsbury**, director of network services for Affiliated Computer Services, says the tournament was born out of the Board's desire to support the school and its students financially. "The Board wanted a legacy and to leave its imprint on the college," Lonsbury said. "This is a good way to do it."

Regarding this event, **Andy Snow** said, "Tom Lonsbury did a terrific job organizing and executing this event. The McClure School is very fortunate to have his contagious energy applied to such a worthy cause. Thanks to all who made this event possible."

If you could like to participate in the 2004 tournament, contact Tom Lonsbury at 330/384-2369 or tlonsbury@acs.roadway.com.

Event co-chairman and advisory board member Tom Lonsbury (left) receives a shirt during the golf registration from fellow board member Sandy Davis '90. Also pictured is co-chairman and advisory board member Garon Gentzel, Lori Gentzel, and Andrea McKinty-Trupp.



#### Crosstalk

Please keep the WATSLine coming and feel free to add my email address to any distributions as I love hearing/reading about OU and COMT.

- Rick Raybould '95

Hello to all from Class of '94, hope everyone is well:) I'm always open to talk to grads coming to Atlanta for work.

- Lisa Grubish '94

Class of '86...how's it hanging.

Jeff Paxton - what have you been up to?

- Joel Eidelberg '86

Hey Barb! Are you still cracking the whip on those work-study students?

- R. Gale Donelson '89

Steve Green: Congratulations on your move to CA. How are you doing? Get in touch!

- Kimberly Kantra '92

**Eric**, can we put up a cell tower on your new land? :)

- Daniel Cantor '95

Matt (R), would you stop following me around already? Or, am I following you now?

- Neil (T) '02

"The exposure to all aspects of communications technology I received from Ohio University's School of Communications Systems Management has given me the tools to manage the complexities of this constantly evolving industry without having to rely on countless texts and other resources. 'Speed and efficiency' is the name of the game - if I already know the answer, I don't need to waste time researching a solution. Thanks, again, OU!"

- Brian Rudy '96

#### Moves, Adds and Changes

Brian Rudy '96, Senior Network Engineer to Senior Vice President of Global Network Management at MCI, recently left a manager position to directly support the new Senior Vice President of MCI Global Network Management as a dedicated technical resource. He is happily married to 1999 OU alumnae, Julia (Bonfiglio). Cathy Lowther Mellor '99 is working as a Circuit Design Engineer at MCI. Joe Weiler '03 is a Data Network Account Consultant for AT&T.

Rick Raybould '95, Regional Voice Engineer with Aetna Insurance, is working on a national project upgrading 67 call centers to the latest AVAYA voice platform. He and his wife, Lee, had their first child last year and recently built a house.

Jason Hall '95, Sr. Communications Analyst with The Longaberger Company, is installing a lot of new Cisco Catalyst 6500s. He and his wife just had their third child (2 girls and a boy) and are building a new house. Jim Jolley '99 is working as a NOC Manager for NTELOS. Valarie Kirkbride '01 is a Portfolio Control Associate with Capital International.

Lisa Grubish '94, Sales Support Alliance Bank Channels with Nova Information Systems, Inc., helps companies choose technology to process credit cards, and helps them stay in compliance in areas of security and Visa/MC rules. She's also writing and researching for an interdisciplinary design contest. Stephanie Runner '01, Transport Capacity Manager with SBC, recently got engaged. She's planning an April 2004 wedding. Any Kaufhold Dudek '90 is a Telecommunications Analyst with IBM. Steve Jacob '96 is a Global ISE Sales Manager with SBC Communications. John Ark '90 Data Network Consultant with AT&T, had a baby due in May. He did lots of skiing this past winter because of the baby being due

Joel Eidelberg '86 recently accepted a position as Director of Carrier Sales for Global Internetworking, a non-facilities

based wholesale carrier who has access to over 1,300 facility based carriers. "If you have a bandwidth need, we can fill it." Mark Roese '91 was recently promoted to Sales Manager for the Pacific Northwest and Mid-Western Territory for MCI's State Government Markets Western Region.

Brady Hoerig '03 is working as a Telecom Operations Specialist with Progressive Insurance. Theodore Hoesman '89 is a VP and General Manager, Platform Hardware Engineering, for National City Corporation. Derek Fink '95, Assistant VP, Telecommunications, Education Management Corporation, was quoted in the article "Some VoIP users still cling to TDM" that appeared on Network World Fusion August 4, 2003. Steve Brescia '92 was promoted to Manager, ITSS - Voice Group at Towers Perrin.

Beth Sertell Mills '99, International Network Engineering with MCI, is responsible for planning and implementation of voice capacity to Eastern Europe and Russia. "It is very interesting, but I do wish for more stability in the telecom industry (as with most others, I presume)." Keith Cambridge '01 is working as a Software Application Analyst for Eaton Corporation. Nathan Den Herder '01 is working for Fannie Mae as a Web Applications Developer. Sarah Gilliland '93 is a Technical Account Manager with Telcept, LLC. David Dickson '89 is a VP at JPMorganChase.

David Redman '98 is working as a Global Implementation Consultant with MCI. Christopher Mears '03 is a Telecom Operations Specialist I with Progressive Insurance. Barry Spurlock '03, Telecom Operations Specialist with Progressive Insurance, reports that all the OU crew are having a great time learning about and working with new technologies. "Without a doubt, our CSM education put us ahead of many other of the new hires here at Progressive."

Michael Crowe '85 is a Technology Project Manager with Bank One

"I can't believe I have been with Aetna for 8 years already. It seems like just yesterday I was sitting in Hans' office wondering what the heck was going to happen in life beyond school."

-Rick Raybould '95

#### Moves, Adds and Changes - from Page 5

"Without a doubt, our CSM education put us ahead of many other of the new hires here at Progressive."

-Barry Spurlock '03

Corporation. Mike Gussow '95 is attending the Syracuse University College of Law fall 2003. Kevin Lush '02 is a Payment Administrator with Hamilton Choices, LLC. David Griech '97 started his own company called Letterworks Art Inc. "framing artwork that represents your life." The website is

www.letterworksart.com. **Steve Kantra** '92 is a Regional Manager with Venture Lighting International.

Tracy Sheme Skladanowski '92,
Account Manager with Avaya, has been in
Arizona for over 2 years, married her high
school sweetheart, and has a beautiful,
young son. She does sales for Avaya in the
Phoenix metro area and loves it. Rick
Steele '99 is working at MCI as an
Internet Product Engineer. Chris Kreitel
'03, System Analyst with Fifth Third Bank,
is involved with HP OpenView and
network conversions. Megan Luskin '03
is an IT Intern with Progressive Insurance.

Matt Moody '01, System Engineer with Cerner Corporation, has been implementing fully-integrated clinical information systems across the Northeast US. He works directly with the client staff to design, plan, implement, and validate Cerner Corporation's health network architecture and applications. Paul Giudici '97 is a Data Platforms Engineer with Progressive Insurance. Dave Guerini '91 is a Group Manager with National City Corporation.

R. Gale Donelson '89 has been with Jackson Kelly PLLC for 10 years. As Telecom Manager, he is currently involved in IP Telephony/VOIP, Unified Messaging, VPN, Wireless LANS, and Frame Relay. He married Melissa Jane Holstine August 10, 2002, and they are looking for land to build a new home. He and Melissa are Harley owners/riders. Rachel Burns '02 is a Corporate Account Manager with CDW Computer Centers. Jennifer Rigney '98 is a Business Analyst with MCI. Dave Palopoli '86 is in the Sales department of NEC Business Network Solutions. Tom Dutton '92 is a Realtor

with HER Realtors. Linda Lewis '88, Senior Manager-Product Management at Qwest, is having great fun implementing "Gig-E" products. She was appointed to serve on the Board of Trustees for the Central Ohio Symphony orchestra and is active in the Central Ohio MG Owners Association. Kristin Bowers Lowery '95, Senior Internet Product Engineer with UUNet, is responsible for VPN design for external customers, which includes mostly Cisco, Lucent, and Nortel based solutions. She relocated to Columbus a few years ago and owns a home in the Polaris Parkway area.

Donna Richardson '84, homemaker, remembers when retired businessmen and/or ex-military personnel were teaching via magazine articles and past experiences in the McClure School. (The program has come a long way since then.) Kimberly Kantra '92 has been working for Rockwell Automation since 1997. She was promoted to Developer, Web Content, in May 2002, responsible for creating, maintaining, and updating the Rockwell Automation Internet, Intranet, and Extranet websites. She and husband Steve Kantra '92, moved to Hudson, Ohio, in 2002 with daughters Jessica and Sarah, and dog, Madison.

Bret Emerson '93 is Director of Communications Engineering at Progressive AE. Jason Ice '02 is a Telecom Operations Specialist at Progressive Insurance. Mary Reimer Bender '98 is currently leading a team for MCI's long distance network optimization group in Dallas, TX. She married OU alum Brad Bender in 2001. Leah Beltz '00, Data Sales Executive with AT&T, is engaged to Caleb Patton. They are planning a 2004 wedding. Jason Harris '96 is a Managing Partner with CeraNet, Inc.

Owen Hood '03 is an Analyst with Spyglass Technology Advisors. Lara Zonner '98 is an Information Specialist with Horizon Technology. She graduated in August 2002 with a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Ashland University. Scott Greer '01 is a Telecom Operations Specialist with Progressive.

Daniel Cantor '95, AVP/ Network Engineer II with Bank One, married fellow bobcat Jennifer Weber (TCOM '96). He started with Bank one in October 2002 working for the DMZ group, designing and supporting the ecommerce, business partner, and server farm networks. He specializes in routing and switching, content delivery, firewalls, and VPN technologies. The ever expanding network and optimization projects will keep him busy for at least 2 years. His brother Ryan Cantor '99 will be getting married soon. Lt. Paul Vogel '96 just completed his Masters in Telecommunications Management at the University of Maryland as part of the Coast Guard's post-graduate program.

Adam Sickmiller '03 entered graduate school at the University of Cincinnati. Sam Brouwer '01 started a graduate telecom program at Ball State. Neil Okonak '02 accepted a position as an analyst in the Boston office of Accenture. Ryan Burnett '03 is a Telecom Operations Specialist with Progressive Insurance.

Ryan Kirwin '99 got married and accepted a Municipal Development position with the Peace Corps in Honduras. Craig Sanders '02 is working as an Information Systems Support Center Representative with ABX Air, Inc.

Congratulations to **Matt Raider** '03 and **Katie Gabric** for passing the CCNA certification exams.

Send us your updated information. Click on "update your information" in the alumni section of www.mcclureschool.info.

Want to keep in touch with other alums, let other alums know about a position available with your company, or looking for a job? Instructions for how to subscribe to the alumni listserve are also in the alumni section.

#### Director's Corner - from Page 2

funds become increasingly important to make an Ohio University education reachable by our students.

Our diversity accomplishments include multiple offerings of the course entitled "Women in the Information Age". We also added a very talented and productive Vietnam Era Veteran as our new faculty member. In addition, we provided an overview of the Communication Systems Management major to 15 minority high school students at Young Communicators day. We also recruited an African American female for our new masters program. This is particularly noteworthy as both African Americans and females are underrepresented in our career field. Lastly, significant progress was also achieved on our National Science Foundation grant to investigate women in the IT profession.

The McClure School faculty has also made significant contributions to the field in the areas of research and service. Active research keeps faculty current and is very important in the attraction of top-notch graduate students. In addition, research publications elevate the reputation of the School and College. With just eight faculty, we had numerous publications in peer reviewed journals and conferences, and presentations at national venues in engineering, policy, economic, and telecommunication outlets. Our faculty also supports numerous community outreach projects. The most noteworthy service accomplishment last year was the support our student club gave to the FootHills School in Nelsonville, where students upgraded the telephone system and computer networks. Quality faculty research and community service require resources, and the McClure School hopes to be able continue and enhance contributions in these areas, regardless of the continual budget pressures.

Society is in the middle of an information revolution, and the impact of this event will rival that of the Industrial Revolution. Here at the McClure School, we are dedicated to educating students in the glue that holds this revolution together – communication networks. These are exciting and challenging times, and we look to the future.

Andy



#### Job Placement

A McClure School education still offers opportunity for those entering the networking, telecommunications, or any other field, as evidenced by a sample of recent graduate job placements:

Jed Bistline - Avaya

Ryan Burnett - Progressive Insurance

Rachel Burns - CDW Chicago

Matt Cieply - Maxim

James Eagleton - Progressive

Steve Fisher- Key Bank

Scott Gerdes- Fifth Third Bank

Robert Good - University of Akron Law School

Owen Hood - Spy Glass Technology

Jason Ice - Progressive

Shawn Kocher-Progressive

Chris Kreitel - Fifth Third Bank

Megan Luskin - Progressive Insurance

Lauren Mazziotto - US Field Hockey National Team

Kevin McCormick - Insight

Chris Mears - Progressive

KC Smart-Stallings-AmeriCorps

Mark Sonnendecker - Voice Stream Wireless

Barry Spurlock - Progresive

Joe Weiler - AT&T

Josh Zangmeister - AT&T

"Our ever expanding network and optimization projects will keep me busy for at least 2 years! It's nice work for a company that seems 'recession proof."

Daniel Cantor '95, Bank One

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