CALL FOR TOPICS
Graduate Student Forum

College of Communication
Penn State University

In our College of Communications, we have the most vibrant body of graduate students, each particularly knowledgeable in their field. Our graduate program is very multi-disciplinary; crossing borders as does the field of communications. As graduate students, we are here to create an academic agenda that we can contribute to academia and the professional world. However, as holistic scholars we seek exposure to information and knowledge beyond our particular areas of interests; we seek to integrate our individual perspectives in order to cultivate a collective understanding our field.

As such, we are introducing the
Graduate Student Forum in the College of Communications

The Graduate Student Forum will be held biweekly beginning in Spring of 2010. It will take place in multiple formats including leader-initiated group discussions, interactive lectures, academic debates, and technology demonstrations. We invite you all to participate: to give presentations on research, ongoing projects and methodology; to debate communication-related news, issues and ideas; or to introduce useful software.

This Forum will enrich us intellectually and professionally. Not only will we expand our knowledge base and deepen our understanding and ability as scholars, but the Forum is also venue in which we can perform guest-lectures and presentations that may be listed on our curriculum vitae. In addition, all those who participate are providing Service to their colleagues, College and the academic community.

We are sending out our first “Call for Topics” . If you are interested in presenting a lecture, giving a demonstration or leading group discussion or debate, please contact (hjia@psu.edu) and Katie Allen (kra135@psu.edu). Send us your topic (more than one is welcome and encouraged). Suggestions from an audience’s perspective are also very much appreciated. There may be a particular colleague whose research interests you greatly and from whom you would like to hear more. Tell us about it and we can encourage that colleague to share their work. Potential topics are limitless and include areas of Journalism, Mass Communications, Communication Law & Policy, Media Effects, Public Relations, Interpersonal Communications, and Gender Studies. We hope you will not limit your ideas to conference presentations or guest lectures, rather that you will bring to the table topics in which you are knowledgeable, for which you are enthusiastic and those that will intrigue your colleagues.

If you wish to participate in the Call, please use the attached form or simply contact us via email. We request that you send topics by Friday, December 18, 2009 so that we may begin work on our preliminary schedule. Please note that while suggestions after the deadline are
welcome, early submission will greatly help our coordination!

We are also seeking organizers of the forum. If you are interested in this idea and would like to be involved in coordinating events, please indicate your interest in your message.

We appreciate your interest and look forward to your participation!

Haiyan Jia        Katie Allen
Guan-Soon Khoo    Kirstie Hettinga
Sharon Santus     Alex Nutter Smith
Shannon Kennan    Nadia Martinez
Rafael R. Díaz-Torres  Anthony Limperos
# SUGGESTIONS OF TOPICS

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Would you like to be involved in organizing the forum?  __ Yes;  __ No.

## Potential Topic I

**Topic***

*Please specify your suggestion of topic here:

**Description**

*Please provide a brief description of the topic you suggested, if necessary:

**General Categories**

*Please place an X adjacent to the one of general categories that best depicts this topic:__ Concept explication;  __ Research summary;  __ Ongoing study;  __ Research method;  __ Communication-related news & issues;  __ Technology demo;  __ Others (please explain:  ).

Would you like to give a presentation on this topic?*

__ Yes;
__ No, but I would like to hear a presentation on this topic.
__ No, but I would like to recommend my colleague to talk about it.  *Please indicate the name of your nominee:  ________________________________.*

## Potential Topic II

**Topic***

*Please specify your suggestion of topic here:

**Description**

*Please provide a brief description of the topic you suggested, if necessary:
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**Would you like to give a presentation on this topic?**

__ Yes;
__ No, but I would like to hear a presentation on this topic.
__ No, but I would like to recommend my colleague to talk about it. *Please indicate the name of your nominee: __________________________.*