Calendar of Events

2 December: LPH Study Night, 7pm in the CMS Lounge (Hyde 235)

27 November - 2 December: Thanksgiving Break

4 December: Showcase of Student Research & Engagement (all classes before 3pm CANCELED)

9 - 13 December: Finals Week
LPH Pop Culture Trivia: A Night to Remember

On Wednesday, October 16th, Lambda Pi Eta held a pop-culture themed trivia night for students within the CMS program, as well as friends, roommates, and faculty. The evening began with pizza, conversation and ended with a Kahoot game filled with pop culture trivia, with our own Corey Wheeler-Schirmer as the winner!

The prizes included hats and water bottles from the PSU Bookstore and gift cards from restaurants like The Italian Farmhouse and BurritoMe. All prizes were generously donated by the organizations involved, and LPH would like to thank all the organizations who donated.

Photos by Dr. Mary Beth Ray

The Clock’s Upcoming Positions

Are you interested in writing in a friendly, student-focused environment? Do you have an interest in sports journalism, creative writing, or news-related journalism?

The Clock offers an opportunity to become familiar with the conventions of journalism across the Sports, News, Features, Plymouth Voices, and Arts & Entertainment sections. The current staff works hard to make sure each print is well-written, organized, and timely, delivering news to campus biweekly.

Since a few staff members are graduating at the end of the Fall 2019 semester, they are eager to take on and train new candidates for the paid positions of Arts & Entertainment editor, Features editor, Sports editor, and Editor-In-Chief. If you would like to join the team of writers or if you’re interested in applying and training for any of these positions, please contact: sl1099@plymouth.edu.
CMS Program Joins Campus-Wide Website Revamp

Since the spring semester of the 2018-2019 academic year, different programs and organizations across campus have gradually been making the switch from the campus.plymouth.edu site to Microsoft SharePoint as an internal-facing website for students and faculty.

Karen Schaffner, the Academic Operations Manager for both CMS and Social Work, has been making the transition to the SharePoint site in both programs.

The new website was started this September and will be based on the feedback given by students in a survey sent out by email. Students indicated that the sections on the old website they found most useful were the “Internship” section and the “Rent Equipment” section; this made those categories a priority, and they are now on the front page of the website, along with an “Overview” section that will act like the “Communication and Media Studies” section on the old website.

“Right now the way it’s set up with [the old site] is very confusing because we have two external-facing websites that offer different information,” she said. “I think that it’s going to be cleaner for the external site to be just strictly recruitment-focused.” It will be easier for current students to access the information they’re looking for: as Schaffner put it, “the campus sites will be informational resources for current employees and students.”

Schaffner says that the transition may be a little different for the staff, who are more used to the old site. The site will be located in MyPlymouth, under the Resources tab; “if it’s not already listed there,” said Schaffner, “you just search for what you’re looking for.”

The new website will streamline the process of accessing internal information in general. “I think that it’s easier to find the information you need without having hundreds of pages,” said Schaffner. “This is going to eliminate those multiple clicks to finally get to the form you need.”

So what drove the transition? “ITS has been pushing this forward because we’re paying for the Office365 package, and it’s so powerful,” Schaffner said.

Although the timeline is not finalized, Schaffner believes that “everyone will be switched over by this time next year.”

Keep an eye out for more news about this new internal website in the coming semester!

“Right now the way it’s set up with [the old site] is very confusing because we have two external-facing websites that offer different information,” she said. “I think that it’s going to be a really clean, fun look; very visual. I’m hoping that they’ll be able to find the information they want quickly.” -- Karen Schaffner

The website will be accessible through MyPlymouth: search the “Campus Resources” tab for Communication & Media Studies, then pin the tab.
CMS TA Spotlight

TA positions are a helpful way for professors to spread their work across multiple people, as well as an opportunity for students to gain teaching and leadership experience.

This fall, Dr. Scott Coykendall welcomed three new TAs: Olivia Gut, Tim Lessard, and Denée Woods to the Studies in Communication & Media course.

The TA program in the department was started by Dr. Ray, whose first TA was Kaila Gutierrez in the Spring 2018 semester. Since then, the CMS program has had a handful of TAs, giving upper-level students a great experience of both teaching and learning.

We wish the TAs the best of luck with the rest of their time here and hope this experience here will guide them in their lives after Plymouth!

Communication & Media Studies at NEPCA

On Friday, November 15th and Saturday, November 16th, the Northeast Pop Culture Association (NEPCA) was held in Portsmouth, NH.

Dr. Mary Beth Ray presented her paper, which focused on the changing perspectives on women in rock music before and after the #MeToo movement, on Saturday, November 16th.

Senior Shae Dauenheimer also presented at the conference. Her paper, which she worked on while in the Communication Research Methods course with Dr. Ray, is on the topic of gender and ageism. Her paper specifically focused on these factors in the popular TV series American Horror Story. She presented her paper on Saturday, November 16th as well.

Congratulations to Shae and Dr. Ray!

What’s Film Club Up To?

Film Club will be accepting alumni donations during the Week of Giving, December 1st-7th, to cover the costs of equipment, production, and screening.

Visit http://igfn.us/vf/PSUFILM to donate, or contact Kayla Gagne at kpgagne@plymouth.edu for a paper giving form.

Stand-Out Student: Samantha Knapton

Each semester, there are students who stand out in their classes and their extracurriculars, both outside of and within the CMS program. This semester, the stand-out student is Samantha Knapton.

Samantha is a senior here at PSU with a CMS major and a Peace & Social Justice minor. She is also a Lead CA at Mary Lyon, where she has organized programs such as “Send Noods” (a partnership with Voices Against Violence featuring noodles).

But wait, there’s more - Samantha is also a photographer for The Clock, where she takes photos for all different types of articles.

In addition to her work outside the CMS program, Samantha is also the president of Lambda Pi Eta, the CMS honor society and has organized the LPH trivia night, candy sale, and more.

When she’s not taking on one of her many roles here on campus, she enjoys attending concerts and hiking. Her favorite part of her time here at Plymouth is the people she met and the opportunities she’s had.

Best of luck to Samantha in her future!