Fall Quarter 2015

Dear Friend,

On October 13, the University of Washington Board of Regents named Ana Mari Cauce to be our 33rd President. That day, when I heard the news, I tweeted this:

Best decision by this institution in the 18 years I've been here. https://t.co/vP3rox4vG5

— David Domke (@uwdomke) October 13, 2015

I joined UW in 1998 and in my 17+ years here we've had several Presidents: Richard McCormick, Lee Huntsman, Mark Emmert, Phyllis Wise (interim), Michael Young, and now President Cauce. Each of these individuals had strengths and each advanced the university in particular ways. I had the privilege to work a bit with Presidents Wise, Young, and now Cauce.

President Cauce is going to be the best, I am certain.

Read five reasons why Domke believes this to be true >>

America in Transformation: 2016 and the Presidency

The UWAA and Department of Communication are proud to present America in Transformation: 2016 and the Presidency, a year-long 12-part series featuring real-time insight and historical context from professor and chair David Domke.

In our current Presidential election, changing demographics, emerging technologies and conflicting ideologies have increased tensions between those who believe the country has gone too far and those who believe we haven't gone far enough. We've seen periods like this before — and history tells us the results are profound.

This series dissects the issues and events as they unfold, from the primaries to the party conventions to the final moments of the campaign, wrapping up with a recap after the ballots have been cast and the president-elect awaits inauguration.

Tickets are selling fast! For more information, lecture dates, and to buy passes, click here >>

UW Comm in China: Innovation, Global Ties & Husky Spirit

The UW Department of Communication had a strong presence in Shanghai this week during a trip that the UW is using to strengthen ties with partners in China to UW students, our state, and beyond. UW Comm was in the mix on the basketball court, speaking about innovation, covering events for The Daily, and 'language bodyguarding'.

Associate Professor Gina Neff was one of four speakers, and the only social scientist, to present at the UW Innovation Summit in Shanghai. She spoke about how companies can
use data better in designing experiences that help connect with their costumers. And she bought a purple shirt in preparation for the Pac-12 basketball game between the Huskies and the University of Texas Longhorns — the first time a major American sports league, collegiate or professional, has played a regular season contest in China. Junior Joe Knight is a forward on the team and was excited to connect with families and fans in China. Helping the basketball team along the way was sophomore Jane Yang (pictured) who served as their "language bodyguard" — aiding them in smoothly getting through different cultural situations. Read more.

UW Communication's Annual NCA Reception

Following last year's Centennial Celebration in Chicago, the National Communication Association (NCA) will host its 101st Annual Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada with the theme "Embracing Opportunities." Communication academics will share pedagogical ideas and challenges, present research, discuss ways to get more involved in the discipline, and brainstorm potential collaborations.

The convention takes place on November 19 through the 22, with the UW Department of Communication Annual Reception on November 20. Join friends and colleagues at 6:30 p.m. at the Rio Conference in Amazon M (3700 W Flamingo Road). RSVP here.

More Stories

- The Department of Communication added two faculty members to the team this fall: Assistant Professor Carmen Gonzalez and the first Professor of Practice in the College of Arts & Sciences Chris Johnson. Click on their names to learn more about their backgrounds and areas of teaching.
- The colloquium committee brought in three speakers this fall, including "Geek Heresy" author Kentaro Toyama and software freedom activist Richard Stallman. If you would like to receive emails about upcoming colloquia, click here to subscribe to the listserv.
- The UW Debate Union hosted the NASA Astrobiology Debates on UW's Seattle campus in October. Teams traveled from all over the country to discuss ethical and policy questions raised by the potential discovery of extraterrestrial microbial life. Read more.
- In a new book written primarily for audiences outside of academia, Professor Kirsten Foot fosters collaboration against human trafficking, offering insights and tools that leaders in every sector can use to re-think the power dynamics of partnering. Read more.
- A graduate student in the Native Voices program and an undergraduate communication student were honored as MAP Scholars at the Multicultural Alumni Partnership's annual "Bridging the Gap" breakfast. Read more.

In Memoriam

Beginning as a copywriter and advancing to become the Creative Director and CEO of Cole & Weber, Hal Newsom (B.A., 1952) created more than 2,000 ads and commercials for companies like Boeing, Weyerhaeuser, Safeco, Alaska Airlines, and more. Newsom was diagnosed with Parkinson's in 1994, but he didn't let it slow him down for many years. He continued to be active physically and in the Parkinson's community. He wrote the book "HOPE" to inform and inspire people recently diagnosed with the disease.

Sadly, we learned that Newsom passed away on October 22, 2015, but he will always hold a special place in the UW Department of Communication. He is a member of the Department's Alumni Hall of Fame and has mentored countless students for decades.

Read thoughts from Chair David Domke >>