

# University Network News



June 06 / 3

## Denise Gray-Felder in Ohio University

The President of the Communication for Social Change Consortium visited Ohio University on May 30-31, 2006. She met with students and faculty in the College of Communication and in the Centre for International Development including Rafael Obregon, Director of the Communication for Development program and Arvind Singhal. Several agreements were reached between the Consortium and the university. Both institutions will jointly co-offer online course(s) on participatory monitoring and evaluation and CFSC through Ohio University Without Borders (OUWB). The Consortium will also pursue co-offering a classroom course or a module of a course likely in the 2007 academic year and will provide visiting faculty for periods of 2-4 weeks as needed. OU graduate students—likely up to 6 – were urged to apply to research and write case stories on CFSC for the Consortium, ideally in their home countries. The Consortium will explore the applicability of complex systems theory to CFSC in liaison Arvind Singhal. Professors expressed their interest in working with Consortium in being part of both the university and practitioner networks. Areas of interest include water and sanitation, gender issues, community radio, community based dialogue, public health. The Consortium will support the development communication program's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year.

<http://www.ohio.edu/commdev/>

## World Bank Award for graduates of PUCP

Former and current students of Communication for Development at the Communication and Arts Faculty of the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Peru (PUCP), member of this network, received the World Bank Award at the Concurso Feria del Desarrollo 2006 (Development Fair Contest 2006). Anni Paredes, Diana Rodríguez, Yiza Hilario and Yanina Hilario won with their project: “Quipico in action: the water keepers”. The project got financial support from the World Bank and the Peruvian sugar company Empresa Agraria Azucarera Andahuasi through “Caminando Juntos” (Walking Together), a local NGO. The main objective is to develop capacity among dwellers of the locality of Quipico (in Sayán, Huaura) to oversee the quality of potable water in their own region. This is not the first time the four colleagues score high in contests. They participated in 2005 in “Peru Promesa”, a contest on social responsibility among young university students and won, among other 30 participants, with the proposal “Chalacos participando” (“Participating Kids”) which aims to create space in schools for students to contribute in the development of their own educational institution. The project started in March 2006 backed by Magali Saenz from PUCP, Mónica Sánchez from San Marcos University in Lima, and a larger inter-disciplinary team of students.

[http://www.pucp.edu.pe/fac/comunic/?especialidades\\_cd.htm](http://www.pucp.edu.pe/fac/comunic/?especialidades_cd.htm)

## Master degree, research and publications at Seville

Our colleagues at the Communication Faculty of the University of Seville have an impressive programme of activities all-year round, as can be checked at their website below. They could not attend our meeting in Los Baños (The Philippines), where the University Network was created, because they were very busy last September preparing some of the activities that they are deploying now. We have invited them to be part of the University Network as they have an international Master Degree on Communication for Development and many other activities related to communication for social change and participatory approaches. We have met several times with Francisco Sierra, the Dean, and with other colleagues such as Manuel Chaparro and Victor Manuel Mari Saez (all three university professors and authors) who have been active in three neighbouring universities of Andalucía, the warm and friendly land in the South of Spain: Seville, Málaga and Cadiz. Paco Sierra publishes the thick and rich annual journal “Redes.com” (“Networks.com”) and is also the director of the Interdisciplinary Group of Studies on Communication, Policy and Social Change (COMPOLITICAS). A new Course on New Information Technologies and Local Development has been established at the university, and far from being short of initiatives, they have created CICO, which stands for “Iberoamerican Centre for Digital Communication”. Read more in the links below.

Facultad de Comunicación >> <http://www.us.es/cico/redes/presentacion.htm>

REDES.COM >> <http://www.us.es/cico/redes/presentacion.htm>

CICO >> <http://www.us.es/cico/cico/index.html>

## Update from the WCCD

The World Congress on Communication for Development, organised by FAO, The World Bank and The Communication Initiative will take place in Rome, October 25-27, 2006. The following is an update of the proposals of presentations that were reviewed. The Call for Abstracts and Proposals, open from early July until the end of October, 2005 received a total of 559 abstracts and proposals in three languages: English (510 abstracts/proposals, 91%), Spanish (43 abstracts/proposals, 8%) and French (6 abstracts/proposals, 1%). After completion of the reviews of abstracts and proposals, the Scientific Committee recommended that 30 be accepted, 267 be accepted subject to changes, and 226 be rejected. Authors of the abstracts recommended for acceptance were invited to submit their final papers and, as of April 12, 194 authors submitted 198 papers in English (91%), Spanish (8%) and French (1%). The majority of papers submitted come from Asia (31%) and USA/Canada (22%), followed by Europe (18%) and Africa (14%). 13% of papers come from Central and South America, while the Middle East and North Africa is the least represented region with only 2% of papers. Of all papers accepted, 43% come from Academia and 31% from civil society. Regarding the themes, the majority fall under Sustainable Development (46%), followed by Health (28%) and Governance (15%).

<http://www.devcomm-congress.org/worldbank/public.asp?idmacro=2>

## Communication for Social Change workshops in Mexico

In April 2006 Thomas Tufte from Roskilde University in Denmark (a member of our network) traveled to Mexico and visited two Universities in Guadalajara to give two workshops in

Communication for Social Change. The two universities were ITESO and Universidad de Guadalajara, which rank among the most important academic institutions of Mexico. The participants in both workshops were MA-students and scholars from the departments. Subsequently, Universidad de Guadalajara has - in their draft curricular proposal for a BA on "The Public Communicator"- included three professional orientations, one of which is Communication for Social Change. This is now submitted to the Chancellor of the university. We are adding Maria Helena to the distribution list of our news bulletin.

Maria Helena Fernandez [hernande@cencar.udg.mx](mailto:hernande@cencar.udg.mx)

## **New Dean at Los Baños**

The College of Development Communication (University of The Philippines at Los Baños), a member of this network, has a new Dean: Dr. Cleofe S. Torres. "Offie" joined the faculty in 1997, two years before it became a college from an institute. She has worked in many consultancies funded by the World Bank, USAID, and other in the area of communication in NRM/environment, and has had extensive field experience and work with policy makers. The former Dean, Celeste Cadiz, who is also on the Board of the Communication for Social Change Consortium, is moving to new challenges. Cel will continue as a faculty member of the UPLB College of Development Communication, but will be moving on secondment to the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Centre for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) as its training manager by July 2006. She will retain teaching a minimum load at UPLB and continue mentoring her current graduate advisees, while also continuing other current projects with IDRC.

<http://www.uplb.edu.ph/academics/schools/devcom/index.htm>

## **Looking for colleagues in the Middle East**

The University Network is looking for partners in the Middle East. The current 14 members represent communication for development & social change university departments and Master degrees in Asia, Africa, Europe, North America, Latin America and The Caribbean, but none from the Middle East region. We would like to know more about colleagues and academic institutions in the Middle East that have similar focus on communication for development and social change, those that are teaching, researching and writing on issues related to participatory approaches, dialogue & debate, empowerment of community voices, development & ownership of local media. Please send us any information related to the above.

[info@communicationforsocialchange.org](mailto:info@communicationforsocialchange.org)

## **Denise Gray-Felder to visit Peru**

The Faculty of Communication Arts and Sciences of the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (PUCP), will receive from 12 to 15 June the visit of Denise Gray-Felder, President & CEO of the Communication for Social Change Consortium. During her visit Denise will participate in various activities, such as meetings with academics and authorities from PUCP, and visits to development communication projects in Villa El Salvador and Huaycán, both districts of Lima.

She is expected to deliver a conference on communication for social change on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup>, for the academic community and graduate students in special. This visit to Peru is organised by Luis Peirano, Dean of the Communication and Arts Faculty, and also board member of the Communication for Social Change Consortium.

## Trading names



Our colleagues from the Malmö University's Master in Communication for Development decided to change the name of their online quarterly journal, from "Globala Tider", to **Glocal Times**, as usual edited by Florence Enghel. The new issue carries articles by Thomas Tufte, Jackie Davies, Warren Parker, Helle Samuelsen, Marjan de Bruin, Rodrigo Garay and Claudia Blume. **Glocal Times 4** is entirely dedicated to communication and HIV/AIDS and originated in a seminar organized by HIV/AIDS Communication and Prevention, a health communication research program hosted by the University of Copenhagen, coordinated by Thomas Tufte at Roskilde University, and funded by DANIDA.

<http://www.glocaltimes.k3.mah.se/>

## Mini-Seminar on Media, Communication & Development

Two universities of this network, Roskilde (Denmark) and Malmö (Sweden) will team next June 8 in Stockholm for a mini-seminar organised by SIDA (Swedish International Development Agency) on "Media, Communication & Development". Thomas Tufte will discuss "Current research on Communication for Development and Social Change" and Oscar Hemer will specifically talk about "Teaching ComDev. Experiences from the Master course in Malmö". Annika Magnusson, Peter Erichs, Johan Åkerblom, Gunilla Cederqvist and Mats Sundgren, from SIDA, will provide insights into SIDA's communication & culture strategies and policies. The day will close with a panel discussion including some of the names mentioned above, plus Ruth Teer Tomaselli from South Africa and Kevin Robins from the UK.

## For the record...



Who is the man in red sitting beside our colleague and friend Luis Peirano? You guessed right: the Dalai Lama, visiting the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (PUCP), last May 7<sup>th</sup>. Our colleague Peirano, who is the Dean of the Faculty of Communication Arts & Sciences, was among the university authorities who welcomed the world spiritual leader of Buddhists on his very first visit to Lima. Call it global networking.