Media Crossroads now has LTN capability, which allows KU experts to interview live with media outlets anywhere in the world. Last Monday, William Elliott, associate professor from the School of Social Welfare, was a guest on PBS Newshour discussing student loan debt. On Wednesday, Donald Patrick Haider-Markel, chairman of the Department of Political Science, interviewed with Al-Jazeera America. Cal Butcher, Media Crossroads director, said: "Mostly, it’s about convenience, but it’s also a great learning experience for our students who want to work in live production. The resources of the J-School and Media Crossroads are here to support anything that promotes KU and the expertise of our faculty."

The Integrated Marketing Communications graduate program won a Gold Award for its online viewbook in the 30th annual Educational Advertising Awards, sponsored by Higher Education Marketing Report. The viewbook was designed by Marilyn Rausch, a lecturer in the IMC program, with a strategy developed through research done with Kelly Crane, education program manager for the IMC program. According to its website, the organization sponsors the largest educational advertising awards competition in the country. More than 1,000 schools submitted more than 2,000 entries in the competition. See the viewbook here: http://bit.ly/1ETvXwJ

Dean Ann Brill presided at the annual meeting and workshop of the Association of Schools of Journalism and Mass Communication Feb. 19-21 in Tampa, Florida. Brill is the current president of ASJMC.

Recruitment Coordinator Ashley Anguiano spent a couple of weeks in February traveling to some of the J-School’s key feeder areas to meet with prospective students. The recruitment events were in Chicago, Minneapolis and Dallas. Each event included a lunch for high school counselors during the day and a program for students and families in the evening.

Associate Professor Genelle Belmas will co-chair a joint College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and School of Journalism steering committee to plan a campus-wide symposium on new media. This event, which will be in late fall 2015 or early spring 2016, will bring together many of KU’s renowned scholars with expertise in health communications, social media, media and popular culture, public communications on environment and climate change, digital humanities, and visual communication of big data. The committee also hopes to host a visiting speaker series before the symposium.

Associate Professor Tien Lee has been invited to serve on the editorial board of Mass Communication & Society.
Assistant Professor Jonathan Peters published a Columbia Journalism Review column about former Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer’s claim that she is entitled to the First Amendment-based journalist’s privilege for the purpose of shielding the notes and materials she used to write her 2011 book, “Scorpions for Breakfast.” Several news outlets, including the Los Angeles Times, Politico and Romenesko, noted his column.

Dawn Fallik wrote an article for Neurology Today about how long-term use of anticholinergic drugs such as Benadryl may increase the symptoms of dementia, particularly for people over 60.

Chris Bacon, KUJH executive producer, will be a presenter during the "BEA Ignite" session at the Broadcast Education Association conference in Las Vegas on April 14. He is one of 11 presenters whose ideas were peer reviewed and accepted for the session. His topic is “Bringing the Classroom to the Newsroom,” which explains how classroom activities can be integrated with a working student newsroom.

Assistant Professor Yvonnes Chen’s Fall 2013 Campaigns client, Lecompton Historical Society, has received a grant from Freedom’s Frontier National Heritage Area. The organization will rebuild its website using the templates designed by the students.

Michelle Keller, a lecturer in the Integrated Marketing Communications (IMC) program at the KU Edwards Campus, was emcee of KC/International Association of Business Communicators at its Business Communicators Summit on Feb. 18.

Melinda Rea-Holloway, president and CEO of Ethnographic Research Inc., spoke in Assistant Professor Joseph Erba’s and Assistant Professor Yvonnes Chen’s J460: Research Methods in Strategic Communication classes. She talked about how ethnography benefited her corporate clients. Her fieldwork includes oral care, kids’ entertainment, and health and illness.

Please nominate a J-School student for the Tradition of Excellence Award. The award is given to outstanding students who make a difference on campus both in and out of the classroom. Funding for the award is provided by activities of the Student Endowment Board, a philanthropic organization sponsored by KU Endowment. Learn more here: http://bit.ly/I0004m0

Student News and Opportunities

Students were invited to the first meeting of The Agency’s board of directors Feb. 26. The students told board members how instrumental The Agency has been in their education and preparing them for their careers.

CBS Sports used video from KUJH-TV of the Bill Self post-game press conference after the loss to K-State. Harrison Drake and Hank Cavagnaro covered the Sunflower Showdown in Manhattan. The duo produced five livestreams, a story and shot post-game interviews on game day.

Journalism students Nikki Koppers and Jack Esberg are co-chairs for promotions for Rock Chalk Revue. This year’s show is March 6-8 at the Lied Center. Tickets, which start at $20, can be ordered at lied.ku.edu.

Students in Professor Dawn Fallik’s J304 class covered the Western Farm Show, including live tweets of the tractor pull. View Vine video here: https://vine.co/v/OGQQZm0jZYG

In response to student demand, the Spanish & Portuguese
department will offer a minor in Spanish starting in Fall 2015. Interested students may contact the department at 864-3851 or spanport@ku.edu. Read more at: http://bit.ly/1AHgNes

The Center for Undergraduate Research is taking student recommendations for two mentor awards (one for faculty, one for graduate students, postdocs and staff). Winners will receive a cash award and be recognized at KU’s Undergraduate Research Symposium on April 25. Recommendations are due March 13. Nominate a faculty member here: http://bit.ly/1JRuoG8 Nominate a graduate student or staff member here: http://bit.ly/1zLwFIT

The Kansas City T-Bones organization is accepting applications for summer internships. These unpaid positions are for college credit. Learn more here: http://bit.ly/1en2qL9

The KU Office of Research on West Campus is seeking a student to work with the director of communications and other staff as an unpaid intern for approximately five hours a week through May. Learn more about this opportunity and other internships here: http://bit.ly/1wKCTaw

All KU undergraduates are invited to enter the Whitcomb Essay Contest, sponsored by the University Honors Program. Submit an essay of under 3,000 words that addresses “the relationship of knowledge, thought and action in public affairs and public policy.” Prize is $1,000. Learn more here: http://bit.ly/1C0T7Up

Don’t miss the Journalism Career Fair from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on March 4 in the Kansas Room at the Kansas Union. Students and employers will interact in “mini interviews” for available internships and jobs. Participating companies are:

Pennington & Company
Bernstein-Rein
InTouch Solutions
United States Tennis Association
KSHB-TV
Emfluence
Family Service and Guidance Center
KMBC-TV
KAKE-TV
Lawrence Journal-World
Glynn Devins
INK Inc PR
SPM Communications of Dallas
JNA Advertising
Sullivan Higdon & Sink
Smith & Loveless Inc.
KSNW-TV
Go Local
Theater League
Great Plains Media
Barkley/Crossroads

Alumni News

David Johnston, KU Alumni Association’s vice president of Marketing & Internet Services, led a discussion on leadership and web presence at the University Daily Kansan newsroom on Feb. 26. Johnston, a 1994 J-School graduate, joined the association in 2007 after establishing KU’s visual identity system as the university’s first director of marketing. He works primarily with social media and web marketing for the association and teaches introductory and advanced level classes for KU’s leadership minor.

Jeff Akin, principal and partner in FeedMe Creative, a full-service culinary content and marketing business in Kansas City, spoke to Professor Jimmy Gentry’s Multimedia Management and Leadership class. Akin, who is a graduate of the Edward Campus Integrated Marketing Communications program, discussed his career path and the importance of being open to new options along the way.

Mark Your Calendar

March 4: Journalism Career Fair, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Kansas Union
March 4: National Grammar Day, 1 p.m., Clarkson Gallery.
March 6: Faculty meeting, 1:30-3 p.m., 206 SF

March 10: Share your vision for the future of the J-School at Doughnuts with the Dean, 9 a.m., Clarkson Gallery

April 6: Tenured faculty PRO updates due

April 8: Share your vision for the future of the J-School at Doughnuts with the Dean, 9 a.m., Clarkson Gallery

April 23: William Allen White Foundation National Citation and Annual Awards and Scholarship Ceremony, 4 p.m., Kansas Union, Woodruff Auditorium

April 24: William Allen White Foundation Burton W. Marvin Kansas News Enterprise Awards, Noon, Adams Alumni Center

May 2: Kansas Scholastic Press Association Contest, Kansas Union

May 8: Faculty meeting, 10-11:30 a.m., 206 SF, followed by lunch in Clarkson Gallery

May 16: J-School Graduation Recognition, Lied Center

June 21-25: Kansas Journalism Institute

Oct. 29-31: J-School Generations