Letter From the Chair

This has been a year of changes for our program. A big change, as you can see from the picture to the right, is that I am now the new chair of the Department of Broadcasting.

After over 20 years of serving as our fearless leader, Larry Londino decided to return to teaching full-time this past spring, stepping down as chair. When Larry came to MSU in 1991, he rebuilt the Broadcasting Program, which had been idling for two years after Howard and Doc left. He hired strong people, improved the curriculum and the student learning experience, created our award-winning Carpe Diem show, involved our department in Study Abroad activities which continue to this day (in fact I just returned from a month in Sicily with 8 of our majors, more about that on page 6). He also supported alumni events, brought in professionals to enhance the educational experience of our students, and worked with clients to bring projects to the DuMont Television Center that would allow students to work professionally and get paid for it before graduating. While we are all only beginning to find out what it is like without Larry as chair, we are happy that he will remain with our department, teaching and working with our majors.

We continue the process of transition into the future School of Communication and Media Arts. The DuMont Television Center has undergone even more renovations to the point that most of you would truly not recognize it... WMSC is no longer a student club, but part of the academic department with a new Station Manager, Dick Hinchliffe, overseeing operations... a staff news producer, Steve McCarthy, has been hired to develop outside professional projects with the department. Even more additions are planned for the near future, including the building of a multi-format newsroom and new audio facilities. I welcome and urge all of you to come to our alumni party on October 6 to see some of these exciting developments for yourself!

It is so gratifying to read about all the wonderful things going on in your lives, both professionally and personally (see Alumni News, page 8). We can’t help but feel a bit of pride and responsibility for your success.

See LETTER, page 2.
LETTER, continued from page 1

cesses even after you graduate, and we need you to remain connected to our department because we value your support, the internship opportunities and job leads you so generously offer our current students, and your valuable advice about trends within our industry. Besides, we’ve kind of grown fond of all you guys over the years.

As the changes continue in the coming years, we will work to keep the essence of our program intact, and of course we will continue to keep you informed. I look forward to seeing you at our Alumni reception on October 6th where we can catch up and also honor Larry Londino for his great efforts and energy as Chair for all these years. It promises to be the event of the season... don’t miss it!--David Sanders

Tom Kaminski Named 2011 DuMont Broadcaster of the Year

Tom Kaminski has been the “eye in the sky” for listeners of WCBS Newsradio 880 since 1988.

A 1984 graduate of Montclair State University, Tom began his traffic career at Shadow Traffic where he learned the roads first-hand by driving 8 hours a day and reporting the information via two-way radio. He joined WCBS in September 1988 and soon was paired with the legendary Neal Busch in “Chopper 880”.

Tom has won numerous broadcast awards for his coverage of breaking news and special events: the visit of Pope John Paul in 1995, the crash of TWA Flight 800 in 1996, the Hamptons brushfires in 1997, victory parades for the New Jersey Devils, New York Giants, New York Rangers and New York Yankees, the “Blizzard of 2010” and in particular, the events of 9/11/01.

On September 11, 2001, as the first plane hit the north tower of the World Trade Center, Tom was on the air at 8:48 am, providing the world’s first full broadcast report of the unfolding tragedy at the Twin Towers. Tom continued to report from the air as the second plane struck the south tower and, when the airspace around Manhattan was closed, reported from the ground as part of the award-winning team coverage on WCBS.

The Department of Broadcasting, along with the DuMont Television Center and all of us in the College of the Arts are pleased to recognize MSU alumnus Tom Kaminski. The award will be presented this fall, after an interview with him for Carpe Diem.

SAVE THE DATE!

The 18th Annual Broadcasting Alumni PARTY will be held on Thursday, October 6 from 6:00pm-8:00pm DuMont Television Center

All are invited!

Please RSVP by Friday, September 30. Email pirohp@mail.montclair.edu, or call 973-655-5158.
Broadcasting Assistant Professor Marc Rosenweig has launched a column on the247newsroom.com website. It looks at important new media developments in this era of Twitter and Facebook. Media ethical controversies are at the center of the column. Some of the topics he’s tackled include conflicts of interest at ESPN, the use of social media by high school students and the News Corp. phone hacking scandal. You can read the columns at: http://www.the247newsroom.com/marc%20rosenweig%20page%20115.php

Over the past year, Professor Rosenweig has also written extensively on the survey he conducted of 111 sports media professionals on ethical issues on the sports beat, in conjunction with the Yogi Berra Museum and Learning Center on the Montclair State campus. 43 percent of those surveyed feel the ethics of sports media professionals is weaker than five years ago. The biggest overall concern is the pressure to be first with breaking news (particularly on the Internet) which leads to inaccurate reporting. 69 percent also said there’s too much use of anonymous sources today in sports reporting. You can see a summary of the survey on the Yogi Berra Museum and Learning Center web site: http://www.yogiberramuseum.org/files/SURVEY.pdf

A New Look at Media Management and Sports Media Ethics

Professor Rosenweig also conducts panels on sports media several times a year at the Berra Museum. Alumni are invited to join current students at the panels. Contact Professor Rosenweig for information on future panels: rosenweigm@mail.montclair.edu

Professor Rosenweig is also faculty advisor to The Montclarion, the student newspaper and web site. Montclarion editors have been honored over the past two years with several regional Mark of Excellence Awards from the Society for Professional Journalists. You can see the editor’s work and keep track of news coverage on campus by checking out www.themontclarion.org on a regular basis. --Marc Rosenweig

PATRICIA PIROH............................Editor
STEPHANIE WOOD........................Writer
MARC ROSENWEIG.......................Writer
ASHA McKENZIE............................Writer
THERESA LEWIS............................Writer

DAVID SANDERS, Chair
LARRY LONDINO, Faculty
MARC ROSENWEIG, Faculty
BEVERLY PETERSON, Faculty
JOEL PENNEY, Faculty
PATRICIA PIROH, Producer/Director
STEVE McCARTHY, Producer
DICK HINCHCLIFFE, Radio Station Manager
STEPHANIE WOOD, Secretary

GEOFFREY NEWMAN
Dean, CART

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STEVE McCARTHY, News Producer

Steve McCarthy joined our team in July and is an Emmy Award winning network TV news producer. A former staff producer for 60 Minutes and Dateline, he formed McCarthy Productions, Inc in 2001 and produced, photographed and edited projects for 60 Minutes, Dateline, Charlie Rose, MSNBC, PBS, BBC America, Reuters and others. In 2006 he directed and wrote an independent film Finding Paddy and he is currently in production of a pilot for a series called Who Says I Can’t which will feature extreme athletes with disabilities. Steve McCarthy is a member of the Director’s Guild of America and holds a B.A. from State University of New York at Oswego.

JOEL PENNEY, Assistant Professor

Dr. Penney joins us in September and he specializes in new media, cultural studies, visual communication, critical race and sexuality studies, consumer culture, and political communication and theory. His research focuses on the uses of participatory and digital media forms for social and political advocacy as well as for the construction of collective identities. Dr. Penney has published essays in journals such as Communication, Culture, and Critique and Popular Music and Society, and has contributed chapters to the books Joystick Soldiers: The Politics of Play in Military Video Games and Queer Identities/Political Realities. He is currently working on a book project based on his dissertation which explores the uses of political T-shirts in the digital age.

DICK HINCHLIFFE, Radio Station Manager

Dick Hinchliffe is thrilled to return to college radio where it all began! In March he started at his new position of Radio Station Manager for MSU’s student-operated station, WMSC (90.3 on the FM dial and streaming online at www.wmscradio.com). Dick’s radio career began as a sports reporter on WPRB-FM at Princeton University. After getting his M.A. at Sussex University in England, Dick worked as a group home foster parent before his professional radio debut with non-commercial WORT-FM and WHA Radio in Madison, Wisconsin. A return to the east coast found him at CBS Radio Network in New York, followed by a long stint as a reporter, producer and News Director at WNYC Public Radio and station-based reporter for NPR. Following that Dick moved to Bloomberg Radio as a manager, producer and reporter. Just prior to taking the job at MSU, Dick worked for the AP Radio Network, WBGO Public Radio and Murray Street Productions. At WMSC-FM, he hopes to help build a station that incorporates the fun of college radio with the professionalism of public broadcasting and deadline pressures of the commercial networks. Stay tuned!
From a little boy’s dream to a well deserved reality, Raymond Santiago, a 2006 alumnus of Montclair State University’s Broadcasting Department, is well on his way to the top. “I’m excited to work for ESPN because sports is my passion; all through growing up, all through college.” Santiago commutes every day to the Big Apple to do what he loves, and working for ESPN radio is more than just a job, it’s his life. “The fact that I get to come here and I get to talk sports every day and go over highlights and meet people, owners, athletes, general managers, is so cool. To meet people that I not only grew up watching but that I still see now, it’s so much fun!”

Santiago’s enthusiasm and zeal for sports is evident. He is going above and beyond some of the seasoned producers at the station. His latest project is a new show for the morning listeners. “It’s this extremely fast paced show that I don’t think any of the producers here do anything like it,” he says chuckling. “It has tons and tons of elements…putting it all together, editing it and making it sound perfect is very time consuming. I put two hours of prep work for a one hour show.”

He started off as an intern and from there he showed them what he was made of. Whenever they needed an extra hand or they were short one, he made sure he was available and on the job. “I became that kind of person to go to and it’s rewarding me now. I get to produce a show on my own now, which is a big deal to me.”

Santiago is very dedicated and focused but he says that he wasn’t always this way. It took a couple of tough professors at the DuMont Television Center to whip him into shape. “Patty will tell you, Larry will tell you and Dave might even tell you that I used to have a problem with preparation but they pounded it into my head that I need to be prepared,” he says laughing, “and just looking at things from more than one point of view. That has helped me so much in what I do now.”

Santiago gives the Broadcasting Department a great deal of thanks for his accomplishments and he wanted to encourage the up and coming graduates. “I know it looks daunting. This is a hard industry to get into, to stay with, but stick with it. If it means that much to you, you’ll find a way. Keep focused.”

He’s taking his own advice and has big plans for his future in sports. “By no means have I arrived,” he says humbly. “I eventually would like my own talk show on a network, but you know…baby steps.”

Santiago believes New York is the best place to be for sports and the best place for his career. “It’s the greatest city in the world. I believe in what Frank Sinatra said, if you can make it here you can make it anywhere.” And he is definitely making it. --Asha McKenzie
I was so excited as I looked out the window of the plane heading for Catania, Sicily. I could already tell the terrain was something I’d never seen before. Mount Etna, Europe’s most active volcano, stood like a shadow against the sky. It didn’t matter that I was running off only two hours of sleep that I got on the plane or that I had a whole day ahead of me. I knew I had to make the most of this once in a lifetime experience, studying abroad in Taormina, Sicily, and I really felt like I did.

After getting settled we took a tour of the historic town. All within walking distance were the Teatrino Romano (little Roman theater), the Corso Umberto (main pedestrian street) filled with shops and restaurants, the beautiful Public Gardens, and the Teatro Greco, Sicily’s second largest ancient Greek theater.

While I didn’t personally have any classes at Babilonia, the language school in Taormina, the other MSU students and I met people from all over the world – Sweden, Norway, London, Germany. We were exposed to different languages and different cultures and it was incredible.

For our planned excursions, we spent a day in Agrigento and Piazza Armerina, and Palermo and Monreale. We got to walk the grounds of the Valle dei Templi (the Valley of the Temples), seeing the ancient Greek and Roman temples in Agrigento. We also visited Palazzo Reale and the Palermo Cathedral. The Palazzo Reale houses the Capella Palatina, a beautiful chapel exhibiting Arab-Byzantine art and architecture. The Palermo Cathedral was similar but much larger. Our final stop on our planned excursions was to see the Cathedral of Monreale, renown as the greatest example of Norman architecture in Sicily.

As for the broadcasting project, I had a lot of ideas, but it wasn’t until I saw people paragliding above the mountains that I knew what I wanted to work on. I teamed up with Juliette Fernandez and Sarah Myers for “Adventure Sicily,” in which we traveled in and around Taormina looking for the most thrilling experiences we could find. We sought out Marco Busetta with Etna Fly, who would be our tandem pilot for paragliding. We shot from our takeoff point on top of a mountain in Gallodoro, and from our landing spot on the beach in Letojanni. Juliette and I were also equipped with a helmet cam, and I brought along my HD Flip cam, securely attached to my wrist. The next segment was snorkeling in the beautiful blue waters of the Ionian Sea, just minutes away from our hotel in Taormina. I shot Juliette and Sarah, along with some of the other students, until the adventure was cut short by a jellyfish invasion. Everyone had a great time but unfortunately many of the students, including Sarah, were stung. It added to the experience, as well as inspired some pretty unique interview questions for our instructor, Alex Lentini.

Finally, you can’t visit Sicily without seeing Mount Etna up close and personal. We found an excursion that took us up the mountain halfway on a cable car, and then even closer to the top on a jeep. Shooting the whole way, we encountered some interesting plant life and terrain that looked like the surface of the moon. We hiked up and around craters, and stopped short in our tracks when we heard a rumble and saw black smoke come out of the mountain. Working on this project for me was more than a school assignment. I felt it was more career-prep. My trip to Sicily seemed to come at the perfect time, just as I’m about to graduate and when I’m finally realizing what I really want to do in broadcasting.

It’s hard to put into words how much I loved my time in Sicily. Now home and back into my regular schedule of work and preparing for classes, I sometimes find my mind drifting back to Taormina; standing in the Public Gardens overlooking the Ionian, on top of Gallodoro preparing to fly over the valleys strapped to a parachute, or just relaxing by the pool with a glass of vino bianco siciliano at the hotel. The bottom line – I had an amazing experience in Sicily that will always stay with me. --Theresa Lewis
MSU Broadcasting
Alumni In Pictures
KEVIN LEE ALLEN, ’81, sends us pictures of some recent sets he’s designed.

JOSH ANDERSON, ’08 writes in saying, “I was recently hired full-time as an Associate Producer for CBS Sports Network out of NYC. I’ve had the chance to check out the new look of the DuMont through Jeff’s pictures on FB and I gotta say, the place looks great!”

MATT BERNALDO, ’93, shares with us, “I’ve been promoted to Director of New Media for Waterman Broadcasting, and I’m now working with MSU alum Leigh Scheps/Dana here in Fort Myers!!!”

GIANFRANCO BIO, ’04, writes in that “I’ve recently returned from my wedding/honeymoon in Aruba. My wife Kimberly and I were married on June 24th at the Manchebo beach resort. It was an absolutely perfect wedding. Please check out some of the photos on my facebook page. We will soon be living in Montville, but we fear that we made a mistake by not staying in Aruba! I am currently working at Kraft Foods as a drafter/designer and completed my first year there in early May.

JANNA DiBARTOLO CHILDS, ’04, announces that Caleb Ryan Childs arrived on August 6th, at 2:59am. He was 7lbs 6ozs, 20” and perfectly healthy (and super cute!!). It was a speedy delivery and the Childs family is doing amazingly well.

JOE COLASANTI, ’06, tells us “after spending 3 seasons at the Emmy Award Winning, *Tyra Banks Show* and one year at Tyra Banks’ production company, Bankable Enterprises, I joined the staff of *The Wendy Williams Show* in their second season. There I am a member of a Production team who produces celebrity guests, fashion shows, and Wendy’s take on human interest stories. We wrapped production on Season 2 in May, returning for Season 3 in August.”
MAUREEN PAONESSA DAMER, ‘02, is currently working as a news writer/producer/video editor for Bloomberg News’s professional and syndication services. Maureen is married to Gordon Damer, sports broadcaster for WCBS 880 and host of the YES Network’s “This Week in Football” show. On September 4th, the Damers will be celebrating their sixth wedding anniversary with their 3-year-old son, Jack, 1 year-old daughter, Madeleine, and of course, their 5 year-old bulldog Buster.

JOE DeANGELUS, ‘01, tells us “I started a new gig at West Glen Communications --yes I’ve returned after 7 years!--as their new production coordinator. CLAUDIA MENDOZA DeANGELUS, ‘05, is working at Univision in the Traffic Department as Traffic Coordinator, and Claudia & I welcomed a new baby girl on June 12th, Stella Marie. Pic is of Stella with big brother Julian.”

ROBBY DeMARCO, ‘02, writes in, “I just celebrated my 7th full season with MLB.com this past March. I have been full-time here for the past 2+, but was a perma-lancer for the previous 5. I am currently the A1 in the studios here working on a ton of different productions. The main show we push out is the MLB.com Fantasy 411 that airs on MLB Network during the week. I also help out here and there on the EVS if needed or the switcher, however I’m much more proficient on the audio board. :-) I’m thrilled to say wife and I are expecting our second child in the spring of 2012.

GEOFF DeVOE, ‘92, won an Emmy as a group for Talk Stoop with Cat Greenleaf, February 11, 2010. (WNBC-TV). The 2011 New York Emmy® Awards gala was held on Sunday, April 3rd at the Marriott Marquis, Times Square. Montclair State graduate ROB BONARDI, ‘02, (pictured left, with Geoff) also won that night. The New York Emmy® Awards were broadcast on CUNY-TV on Sunday, April 10, 2011.

JEFF DuFINE, ‘99, says he “just came back from Omaha from producing the College World Series....off to Phoenix this weekend to produce the Home Run Derby in 3D for ESPN. Jen and I are expecting in November....2nd child, Allyson turns 2 in August and can’t wait to be a big sister!”

ERICA EMMICH, ‘09, shares with us that she has recently accepted a position as an Associate Producer for CNBC’s Specials Unit. “I’ve discovered that I have two passions: telling stories as an on-camera reporter and producing investigative pieces and documentaries. I am assigned to the Specials Unit to work on all types of pieces, including feature stories, documentaries, and magazine-format specials.”

LEE EYPPER, ‘80, recently directed several webisodes of the upcoming web series “Everything’s Coming Up Ro’eses” which is currently in post production. This comedy follows the personal and professional ups and downs of struggling actress Ro Kennedy. It was created by Roetta Collins and it is produced by One-iota Productions.
FELIPE HENRIQUEZ, ‘10, tells us, “In May I returned to Fuse for more work shortly, then in June I PA’d on television’s highest acclaimed reality series- the Jersey SHORE! It was a 7 week run and it was a great work experience and led me into a new path in production work--I decided I want to produce in reality. That wrapped just over a week ago- and I just began my new job at truTv for the creative services department, PA for promos and spots. P.S.- I was interviewed by an ‘03 DuMont alumnae- SEIDA SAIDI!- She’s one of my bosses and we’re proud and chat about MSU all the time! SMILE big for that!”

TANIA IVANOVA, ‘09  Tania has been working as the Associate Producer for the 18-time Emmy Award-winning weekly show, Due Process, focused on the serious reporting and analysis of issues of law and social justice, since March of 2010. The Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences has recently honored Due Process and Tania, with two new Emmy nominations, including Interview/Discussion Program/Special for Due Process: Homeland Security 10 Years After- NJN Public Television. Tania and the Due Process team (in photo) at last year’s Emmys where they picked up 3 awards: Best Interview/Discussion Series, Best Cultural/Historic Feature, and Best Health Feature. She’s recently helped to produce Due Process specials including a 2-part in-depth discussion with current Supreme Court Justice Steven Breyer, an exclusive on the failure of the DREAM Act, Solitary Confinement in NJ prisons and others featuring guests such as former Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff, Harvard Prof. Charles Ogletree, former 3rd Circuit Chief Judge John Gibbons, US Attorney for New Jersey Paul Fishman and former NJ Chief Justice Deborah Poritz.

KELLY JONES, ‘10, shares with us that “I just got a full time job on the Evening News with Scott Pelley as his assistant and helping him out with anything he needs for the broadcast. It’s a lot of fun and I have met some great people. Also, I got to see the transition of the newsroom from Katie Couric leaving to Scott coming in and putting his touch on the show. It has been very interesting.”

BRIAN JUDE PIATKOWSKI, ‘95, along with MELANIE CANTER PIATKOWSKI, ‘96, announce the arrival of David Benjamin Piatkowski 7/8/2011, 8:12pm, 4 lbs., 9 oz. David joins brother Jacob (pictured with mom).
KIM MILLER, ’90, has resigned from her position as Vice President of TV Production at Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia, but not before winning a 2010 National Daytime Emmy for Best Lifestyle Show. Kim is now Co-Executive Producer for a new talk show to premiere on ABC in January.

ASTRID MARTINEZ, ’05, is the main anchor of CBS affiliate KGBT in South Texas 5pm newscast. She is also the main anchor for the Spanish language newscast at 8 pm.

JARED MORGAN, ’03, tells us he recently won a Sports Emmy for working on MLB Tonight in 2010, for his work as a highlight producer.

JENNIFER NEIDENBERG RUBIN, ’04: After working at CNN for five years, a job that began as an internship for NewsNight with Aaron Brown while still at MSU, then as an associate producer for Anderson Cooper 360 and The Situation Room with Wolf Blitzer, Jennifer left the network in June 2008 to pursue a master’s degree in journalism and public affairs from American University. While in grad school, she worked as an online video and content producer for Education Week, a national, non-profit newspaper that reports on K-12 news, issues, and policy. In December 2010, Jennifer and her then-fiancé Joshua, a CNN producer she met while working in Washington, D.C., moved to Austin, Texas. They got married in New Jersey on February 20th and honeymooned on a cruise through the Panama Canal. In April, Jennifer began a job as a multimedia adviser/program coordinator for Texas Student Media at The University of Texas at Austin. In this newly created role, Jennifer advises the staffs of the student-run newspaper, television station, radio station, yearbook, and humor magazine on best practices for producing video, photo, multimedia, and online content. She is also involved in reshaping the curriculum for the University’s School of Journalism to better reflect this era of new media, and hopes to continue her academic research with a PhD in media education.

DAVE MACIOLEK, ’78, tells us “the high notes have been getting promoted to Creative Director at A&E Networks, International. This year, my team’s produced over two dozen short form content features for on-air and web, to run on History and Bio Channels worldwide. The features focused on rebuilding at Ground Zero for the 10th Anniversary of 9/11 (History), and getting the inside story from noted actors and directors at this year’s Tribeca Film Festival.”
JANA POLSKY, ’80, This past March, the Alliance for Women in Media (AWM) recognized Jana as the recipient of the 2010 AWM Achievement Award. Jana was selected for this prestigious award in recognition of her accomplishments in strengthening the role of AWM within the industry as well as her contributions to the media.

Jana, an award-winning writer/producer for the Westwood One Radio Networks, has been a long-standing member and supporter of AWM at both the national and local level. She is an active member of the AWM New York City Chapter and past Chapter President. Under her leadership, she built a successful event series and provided mentorship to both students and professionals across the country. She was instrumental in the launch of the AWM student chapter here at MSU.

She has played an instrumental role with AWM’s radio Public Service Announcement (PSA) campaigns which have received million of dollars of donated airplay from stations across the country. She also served on the editorial advisory board of AWM’s award-winning Making Waves magazine and was active in the growth of the Gracie Awards, AWM’s signature event.

DENISE ROVER, ’84, gives us an update on the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences/NY Chapter. She was reelected to the Board of Governors (Governor in the Sales & Marketing category). Additionally, she was made an officer, and serves as Treasurer. Denise and Marvin Scott (WPIX) will serve as co-chairs of the NY Emmy Awards.

LEIGH DANA SCHEPS, ’08, is currently a court/crime reporter for NBC-2 in Fort Myers, Florida (market 65). She comes from WBNG in Binghamton, NY, where she won a New York State Broadcasters Award for Outstanding Hard News Story on abandoned children.

STACEY SIEGEL, ’09, was recently promoted from Productions Logger to Production Assistant with Major League Baseball Productions.

MARISELA RIVEROS, ’00, Marisela worked for Bloomberg TV for nearly a decade, where she became Senior Producer. Recently she began freelancing and produced for CNN, NBCUniversal/Telemundo Network and consulted for the documentary Brick City for the Sundance Channel. Marisela is now keeping busy finishing a Master’s degree in Design and Technology at Parsons The New School for Design and working as IBM’s Digital Content Strategy Co-Op. In the past year Marisela participated as panelist in the NextMedia/History Makers conference on Social Media for TV/film producers in New York City, developed a few analog games, and a mobile app.
David Sanders once again produced the National Music Council’s annual American Eagle Awards and Leadership in Music Symposium. Music and entertainment industry leaders gathered to honor Paquito D’Rivera, Nile Rodgers, and Peter Yarrow at the Council’s 30th annual Awards luncheon at New York City’s Edison Ballroom on Wednesday, June 8th. The Council’s American Eagle Awards are presented each year in recognition of significant contribution to the musical culture and heritage of our nation. The presentation included tributes to the honorees by a host of musical greats and special guests including Kathy Sledge, David Amram and Edmar Castaneda.

Council director David Sanders highlighted the fact that the individual recipients were honored “not just for the incredible gifts they have given generations of music lovers throughout the world with their creative output... but also for their dedication in encouraging young musicians - and potential musicians - through their great support and commitment to education.” The Council also honored the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation this year with a special American Eagle Award in recognition of its extraordinary dedication to cultural and charitable endeavors designed to further the preservation, celebration and enhancement of American musical creativity and education.

As in past years, the Council presented its annual “Leadership in Music” symposium, focusing on intellectual property issues, prior to the luncheon. This year’s program featured an interview with the honorees, and will be available on the NMC website shortly. MSU broadcasting students participated in taping the production and escorting VIP guests to their places.

Past American Eagle Award recipients include Quincy Jones, Herbie Hancock, Clive Davis, Van Cliburn, Benny Goodman, Lionel Hampton, Dizzy Gillespie, Morton Gould, Dave Brubeck, Marian Anderson, Max Roach, Lena Horne, Roy Clark, Elliott Carter, Roberta Peters, Odetta, Leonard Slatkin, Stephen Sondheim, Sesame Street, Hard Rock Cafe and VH1 Save the Music Foundation.

The National Music Council is celebrating its 70th Anniversary as a forum for the free discussion of this country’s national music affairs and problems. It was founded in 1940 to act as a clearinghouse for the joint opinion and decision of its members and to work to strengthen the importance of music in our life and culture. The Council’s initial membership of 13 has grown to almost 50 national music organizations, encompassing every important form of professional and commercial musical activity.

Through the cooperative work of its member organizations, the National Music Council promotes and supports music and music education as an integral part of the curricula in the schools of our nation, and in the lives of its citizens. The Council provides for the exchange of information and coordination of efforts among its member organizations and speaks with one voice for the music community whenever an authoritative expression of opinion is desirable.
At this point, and especially after the summer of 2011, I’m pleased to report that the DuMont Television Center is virtually unrecognizable. Studio B, the smaller studio, is no longer small. We expanded to 37’ x 33’ to accommodate our amazing new news set. Noted scenic and production designer Ronald Baldwin, a New Jersey resident, created the design in close consultation with me and Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Jack Shannon. The set was built by J&M Builders, a professional television scene shop that I’m proud to say is located in New Jersey.

As I write this column at the end of August, it’s full speed ahead at DuMont preparing for the return of our beloved students. Working with designer/integrator Lou Coppola from LNC Engineering, we are completing the upgrade of Studio B to high definition. This includes a completely new and reconfigured Control Room B, new Audio Control Room B and the installation of Sony high definition studio cameras. Studio B already boasts a new Autoscript 3-camera teleprompter system with news computer interface.

Now, let’s mosey along to the final frontier. That’s right, it’s lighting. We all remember the old patch panel and non-computer controlled lighting boards. How can we forget needing 300 foot candles to accommodate the needs of older studio cameras? In a project completed over the summer, everything related to lighting is new. ETC computer consoles, LED lighting in a major way, raceways replaced, new grids and so much more. And let’s add professional lighting on all four DuMont sets by network lighting designer Cheryl Thacker of the Lighting Unit. Yup, I said four sets, all standing and lit right now.

Coming soon, it’s the New DuMont Audio Recording Center on the second floor. We’ll have the very latest in audio recording technology with the new SSL 948 console, Pro Tools for capture and a serious complement of keyboards and microphones. Put it all together and the DuMont Center becomes a top-notch, high definition television production center and audio recording facility, with multiple studios and control rooms, second to none, within both professional and academic communities. By the way, did I mention that we now have 18 Final Cut Pro and Avid post production stations?