

In this issue of the CommDev E-Newsletter:

1. Thomas Tufte video
  2. NNFP internship opportunity
  3. Message from CommDev alumna
  4. New CommDever internship
  5. New course in spring quarter
  6. Busy conference trips
  7. 2009 Communication and Social Change Award nomination opens
  8. Submission deadline for NCHCMM extended
  9. Happy spring break
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1. Thomas Tufte video

The CommDev website now introduces a series of videos that record discussions on commdev-related issues. The most recent video is a discussion on entertainment education and other development related issues between Dr. Thomas Tufte from Denmark's Roskilde University and CommDev faculty and students last December at Ohio University. Please visit our homepage at [www.commdev.ohio.edu](http://www.commdev.ohio.edu) for the videos. We would also like to thank Dr. Vibert Cambridge from the School of Media Arts and Studies for his kindly help in providing the video.

2. NNFP internship opportunity

The National Network of Forest Practitioners (NNFP), a national nonprofit based in Athens, is interested in identifying highly skilled/motivated students in the CommDev program who might wish to do internships with the organization, during the school year, over the summer and/or post-graduation. Intern activities may include:

- Design, deployment, and evaluation of web-based learning sessions (including live “expert” presentations, live “peer” roundtables for practitioners and recorded “learning modules” and classes);
- Development of the online social network program for NNFP;
- Building its [www.forestpractitioners.ning.com](http://www.forestpractitioners.ning.com) and other online networks (such as Facebook, etc);
- Assist in elaborating and implementing online, media, and other communications strategies for NNFP;

- Participatory planning and evaluation of programs and communications activities.

More on NNFP can be found at [www.nnfp.us](http://www.nnfp.us), which the organization is about to launch. Please contact Colin M. Donohue at [colin@nnfp.us](mailto:colin@nnfp.us) for queries.

### 3. Message from CommDev alumna

Beauty Emefa Agbavor, who graduated from the CommDev program last year, sent us greetings from Kumasi, Ghana, where her new job is located. She is currently the Communications Manager of the Working Group (WG) on Forest Certification, a Ghanaian NGO accredited by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) to promote Forest Certification in Ghana. Beauty is responsible for all communication and fundraising needs of the organization. The WG comprises nine members representing key stakeholder groups in the forestry sector.

In her message, Beauty wrote: “I wish to thank each of you for the contribution you have made to my successful stay in Athens and my study in Ohio. You may not have noticed, but each one of you made a lasting impact on me. God richly bless you. I pray that we could meet again.”

Let’s congratulate Beauty for her new job and wish her all the best in Ghana!

### 4. New CommDever internship

Our congratulations also go to first-year CommDever Max Liard who has been offered the summer internship by ACIDI/VOCA in Washington, D.C., an international private nonprofit that builds communities through the promotion of economic development in the developing world. As an intern, Max will be working with the Public Relations and Communications team of the organization, providing support both domestically and internationally in terms of the team’s website construction, communication planning and overall administrative support. Max hopes that his work will in some way influence them to utilize development communication more in their projects overseas more than they previously have.

ACIDI/VOCA (<http://www.acdivoca.org>) uses a wide range of technical services to tackle a number of the most pressing development issues. The organization is focused on the following four sectors as a means to add value to local communities and businesses: Agribusiness, Enterprise Development, Financial Services, and Community Development.

### 5. New course in spring quarter

The CommDev program now introduces a new course in spring quarter: Case Studies in Development Communication (MDIA586k Case , call #: 7485). This course will draw on the experience and expertise of CommDev faculty in order to offer an in-depth analysis of relevant case studies in communication for development. Case studies will cover a variety of development-related topics (i.e. democracy, health, language and culture), a range of communication approaches and tools (i.e. ICT, strategic communication, media training), and examples across Africa, Asia and Latin America. The main purpose of the course is to facilitate ongoing dialogue, reflection and learning about applied development communication issues. Faculty who have confirmed their participation in this seminar and who will present case studies include: Dr. Vibert Cambridge, Dr. Drew McDaniel, Dr. Josep Rota, Dr. David Mould, Dr. Rafael Obregon, Dr. Mandi Chikombero, and Dr. Don Flournoy. At least two outside speakers also will present relevant case studies.

Case studies will follow a common structure: background and context, development issue, theoretical and conceptual elements, description of case study (research, intervention, and results) and lessons learned. This session will meet 3-5 p.m. every Monday. Faculty will present case studies for the first hour and then engage in Q & A. Faculty may assign selected readings prior to their presentations. Throughout the course, participants will submit three five-page analysis of selected case studies (provided by course coordinator or from students' own interest). This course has been designed for all CommDev students to register (2 credits).

## 6. Busy conference trips

CommDev program director Dr. Rafael Obregon headed for Washington D. C. and attended a string of high-profile conferences that took place from Mar. 11 to 13. The conferences include:

The XI UN Inter-Agency Round Table on Communication for Development (C4D), Moving C4D up the International Agenda: Demonstrating its Impact and Positioning Institutionally, which was held at the World Bank Headquarters on Mar. 11-13; the Roundtable on Experience from US and International Immunization Communication Efforts, which took place on Mar.12; the international conference entitled "Health Communication: Polio Lessons," which took place at George Washington University on Mar. 13. Second-year CommDev student Dianne de Guzman also participated in the last conference.

More information about the conferences such as meeting reports and background papers will be shared next quarter.

## 7. 2009 Communication and Social Change Award nomination opens

CommDevers, notice this: The School of Journalism and Communication at University of Queensland now invites nominations for its prestigious 2009 Communication and Social Change Award.

This annual award honors outstanding contributions by individuals or organizations to the theory and practice of Communication for Social Change. As the only award of its kind, it is

administered by the Center for Communication and Social Change, School of Journalism and Communication at the university.

Inter-governmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, international, regional and national academic and professional communication associations, international media networks and communication and social change consortia are encouraged to submit nominations for this award. The award comprises a plaque and A\$2500, and winners are selected in the last quarter of each year by an independent jury consisting of senior Australian academics, media and aid and development representatives. Nomination deadline is May 1.

For more details about submitting nominations for the award, please visit: <http://www.uq.edu.au/journ-comm/index.html?page=31906&pid=2569>.

#### 8. Submission deadline for NCHCMM extended

Organizers of the third Annual National Conference on Health Communication, Marketing and Media (mentioned in our last newsletter) have extended the deadline for submission of abstracts to Mar. 23. Please check the following link for more information: <http://www.cdc.gov/HealthMarketing/NCHCMM2009/abstracts/abstract.htm>.

To be held August 11-13, 2009 at the Omni Hotel, Atlanta, GA, the event is sponsored by the National Center for Health Marketing, the Office of Enterprise Communication, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the National Cancer Institute and the National Public Health Information Coalition.

#### 9. Happy spring break!

The CommDev program would like to wish everyone a happy spring break after a busy and fruitful winter quarter. Travel safe and have a great time wherever you may go. We look forward to seeing everyone in April!