



Dear Alumni:

We hope you are enjoying the best that the holiday season has to offer for family, friends and time together. We are sharing our best updates from 2017 with you, and hope to see some of your updates on our **Facebook group for alumni and students**.

You can click on the links for more detail.

- We are proud to report new data that shows 88 percent of recent graduates (2015 and 2016) from our department have a job in the field, and 87 percent have one or more internships, such as at the **Wisconsin Herd**.
- We also are proud of multiple awards won among our clubs in 2017:
  - **Advance-Titan**
  - **public relations**
  - **advertising students**
- Our **public relations major received re-certification** for the Public Relations Society of America's Certification in Education for Public Relations, one of 39 in the nation.
- Our faculty members showed continued productivity in journalism research and practice with multiple conference, journal and book publications, and activities in the field.
- As curriculum is always a focus, we are evolving the journalism major into the multimedia journalism major to reflect the changing dynamics in the classroom and field with the goal of implementation in fall 2018.=

- We will welcome back alumni for the department's 50th anniversary on Oct. 19-20, 2018, with special events, tours, professional sessions and an evening of celebration. Watch for more information in early 2018 on our [reunion webpage](#) - and if you would like to be a part of the planning or events, let us know.

As you read the headlines for UW Oshkosh it is clear that this is a time of change. We remain in a challenging budget situation that has limited our class sections. Yet we have new opportunities ahead with UW Oshkosh's integration with UW-Fond du Lac and UW-Fox Valley.

What doesn't change is our focus on teaching journalism fundamentals in a welcoming and professional environment in which our students can grow. Our new data supports the fact that we are on the right track, and we will do whatever we can to continue to provide exceptional opportunities for our students.

I am honored to be starting my first year as department chair during a time that connects our 50-year history with our future. Recently I had the opportunity to talk with **Paul Anger** ('72, former editor of the *Detroit News* among many notable roles) about the history and future of journalism, along with **Christina Basken**, one of our journalism majors.

Paul had this advice to share with students:

*Don't pay attention to those who worry about the future of journalism. It's the best time to be a journalist. There are so many ways to tell stories now, and there is an insatiable appetite in the public for news and information ... and don't pay attention to the criticism of journalists nowadays from those with selfish, boorish, political motivations. The truth always wins out, in the end. If you are a good journalist - careful, fair, accurate - your truth will win out. And you are needed, now more than ever, in our democracy.*

Along with Paul, I encourage you to embrace our shared journalism ideals in this modern world, and look to all possibilities the future may hold.

Our best to you for the holidays,

Sara Steffes Hansen  
Chair and Associate Professor, Department of Journalism

University of Wisconsin Oshkosh  
Department of Journalism  
800 Algoma Boulevard  
Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901-8614  
(920) 424-1042