Students Recognized at Annual End-of-Year Banquet

by Cristian Forletta

On Thursday May 2, the Manhattan College Communication Department hosted its annual the End-of-Year Banquet at An Beal Bocht Cafe. From 5:00-7:00 p.m., food was served as faculty and students celebrated the end of the 2018-19 academic school year and the success of graduating COMM students. COMM students' exemplary achievements inside and outside of the classroom does not go unnoticed, and the banquet serves as a space to reward them with a night of fun before the stress of finals week sets in.

Among all COMM students, a group was recognized and awarded specific for their achievement in each of the four concentrations. These students are not only academically gifted, but also give back to the COMM Department, as well as to the Manhattan College community as a whole. Among these awardees were Haley Burnside and Erin Plitt, who received the award for Achievement in Broadcasting/ Telecommunications, after being nominated by Professor Michael Grabowski. He commended Burnside and Plitt's superior producing skills, aesthetic talent, and strong sense of story:

"Haley works as one of our department's student assistant staff and is a senior writer for The Quadrangle and Lotus magazine, while Erin manages the office of the Visual and Performing Arts department and currently is interning at Engel Entertainment," said Grabowski.

"They have proven to be exemplary students at Manhattan College, and I have every expectation that they will be successful members of the production community in the future."

Isabelle Battin and Madison Richards received the award for Achievement in Public Relations. Nominated by Professor Arshia Anwer, Battin and Richards, who are the President and Vice President of of Manhattan College's chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) respectively, are hard working students who are dedicated to the field of PR:

"They are great leaders, outstanding team players and care deeply about the work they do. Isabelle has truly come into her own this past year and juggled a full course load, internship and job responsibilities, and her duties as the president of the club," said Anwer.

"Madison, with her eye for detail and conscientious attitude, provided great leadership, support and organization. For their dedicated and commendable service to the PRSSA chapter, and their individual achievements and excellence as public relations students, they have more than earned the honor of being chosen for the Achievement in Public Relations award."

Other recipients included new students Calista Baker and Gabriella Depinho, who won the department's Most Promising New Student award, Nicole Nash, who won the department's award for Achievement in Advertising, Taylor Brethauer, former Editor-in-Chief of The Quadrangle, who won the department's award for Achievement in Journalism, and Olivia Paladino, who was awarded the department's Leadership and Service Award. The Communication Medal was awarded to Erin Murphy, and next-in-merit was awarded to Rebecca Grambone.

The Communication Department congratulates all award recipients for the 2018-2019 academic school year.

The students would also like to thank all of the professors of the COMM Department who work night and day to provide the students of the department with an exceptional education. Another special thank you to Kaitlin Scheie, the department's Administrative Assistant, who works with both faculty and students of the department to make sure everything runs smoothly.

We look forward to see what the future holds for all COMM students and graduates and the successes they will bring to Jasper Nation. •