A Warm Welcome!
By Alison Weaver, editor

I would like to personally welcome each of you to this fall semester. Whether you are brand new to the program, midway to the finish line or starting your final semester as a graduate student in technical communication like me, I hope you will take advantage of the many resources available to you here. One of the highlights of our program is an internationally-recognized NC State Student Chapter of the STC. In fact, this very newsletter has won the society’s newsletter competition since its inception!

To continue in that tradition of excellence, I will be focusing this year’s newsletter on how you can make the most of your time here at NC State and in this STC community to grow your career, education and network. In this issue, STC President Nicole Black shares her experience at the 2009-2010 International STC Conference, which was held in Atlanta, Ga. She also outlines some of the many benefits of membership in this organization in her column on page 2.

I attended the Carolina Chapter’s Open-Mike Event last May and included 24 tips for finding a job in the current economy as presented by Carolina Chapter Member Chris Benz (see page 6). Our very own Karen Rhodes explains how valuable internships can be for career changes through her experience as a TC intern at the Center for Environmental Farming Systems, starting on page 9.

My fellow STC officers have decided to be a bit bold this year. Where other STC Chapters are cutting back due to financial difficulties, we want to expand our offerings and potential benefits to each of you. We’ve planned several joint activities with the Carolina Chapter of STC throughout the year. If you aren’t aware, part of your student membership to STC includes membership to one regular chapter. For many of us transitioning from the academic world to the professional world, this is a great way to make those valuable connections that can help you land a job. I read somewhere recently that 80 percent of jobs are secured through personal relationships.

We’re planning a week full of training opportunities in September through the DELTA program at NC State. Then, in April, we will participate in the international World Wide Web conference that will be held in Raleigh’s brand new convention center. As always, we’ll offer you many opportunities to network with your fellow TC students.

Check out page 14 for specific dates and locations of upcoming events, and watch your e-mail inbox for more information as the semester progresses. If you haven’t already joined the STC, I encourage you to do so. I’ve included an application on pages 15-17.

I look forward to serving as your newsletter editor for this semester. I welcome your questions, comments, and article submissions. Just drop me a line at alison AT awordweaver DOT com. I’ll see you in class!
The President’s Pen

STC is About Its Members
By Nicole Black, President

August is here and it is the beginning of a new fall semester and a new year for the NCSU student chapter of STC. Whether you are a new, returning or prospective student, I would like to take a moment to welcome you and say that I am glad you are taking the time to read Technically Speaking. I hope that you will find its articles informative and entertaining because they were written for you.

One of the most important ideas I took away from Leadership Day at the STC annual conference was that STC exists solely for the benefit of its members. As an incoming 2009-2010 president of this chapter, I would like to share a list of what I think are the most important benefits for STC student members and why you should take advantage of them.

STC gives you the chance to...

Network: Whether you are new to technical communication or have been in the industry for years, networking with others who share this interest is helpful. STC meetings allow you to meet more of your classmates, as well as the faculty and staff. As a member of the student chapter, you are also granted membership in the Carolina professional chapter, where you can network with experienced professionals. It is never a bad idea to see if you can find a mentor, no matter what your experience level is. A mentor is someone who can introduce you not only to others in the field, but to other aspects of technical communication that may be unfamiliar to you. It is also good to have friends and acquaintances at multiple companies if you are looking for a job.

Learn More About the Field: One of the most difficult challenges I had as a new technical communication student was defining what technical communication is and explaining it to others, partly because technical communication is a broad term that encompasses many areas. STC is a great way to learn about what others in the field do and why it is beneficial to their companies. Not only do members benefit from speaking with each other, but they can also take advantage of the plethora of resources available through STC’s Web site, www.stc.org. Here you’ll find everything from online workshops to access to the journal Technical Communication and the magazine Intercom, which are all great resources for learning about and staying up to date with the field’s latest issues and trends.

Self-Promote: Membership in STC is a great way to get involved in the technical communication community. Not only can this be done through networking, but it can also be done through volunteering your time. Write an article for Technically Speaking or the Carolina chapter’s newsletter, Communiqué. Do you have a project that would be of use to others in the field? Think about presenting at the annual conference. Not only will people see your name, but you will have a piece to add to your portfolio. This also shows that you are motivated outside of school and work, which is always a plus to employers. When employers see and ask about your membership in STC, it also helps promote technical communication as a profession, which in turn, promotes you.

Access All the Extras: STC’s Web site offers job postings to members 14 days before non-members. You can also take part in seminars, access the salary database and receive discounts on certain software and products. Take a look around stc.org to see what you can find.

I hope this helps shed light on some of the key benefits of STC and how they can work for you. I also encourage you all to contact any of the officers with your ideas. I look forward to meeting with everyone this semester!
An ENG 515 Experience!
By John Martin, Past-president, STC

The Fall ‘07 semester brought Dr. Susan Katz to the helm of English 515—Rhetoric of Science and Technology—one of the five required courses in the MS in Technical Communication program.

How did such an oft-dreaded class turn into one of the best graduate school experiences by a majority of the class? Here’s how it went down.

Dr. Katz told me that she fashioned the syllabus by first reviewing carefully the syllabi from the course as it was taught by Dr. Steven Katz (no relation, now an endowed professor at Clemson) and Dr. Carolyn Miller. She then searched the Internet for other graduate courses in the rhetoric of science and technology to see how professors at other universities had structured the course. Although she made several changes to the course from the way it had been taught at NCSU previously—for example, she integrated readings on science and technology instead of covering them sequentially and changed the written assignments, she did keep Dr. Miller’s idea of using an electronic discussion board to frame each class session.

The idea behind the discussion board was for Dr. Katz to pose questions based on assigned readings and require students to respond to at least one question for each class session. The rationale for this approach was not only to make sure that students had completed the reading, but also to provide a focus for the discussion. The students were assigned to take turns summarizing the responses posted to the discussion board.

From the very first class—in which the assigned discussion-board summarizer not only summarized, but also led the entire class discussion—this was to be a group of students who not only embraced leadership, but also had a lot to say.

By the second class, an accommodated request to have the “Allow Editing” and “HTML” options enabled on the discussion board set in motion a series of postings that became more elaborate, interesting, and informative by bringing in related, yet diverse, considerations to the topics under discussion. This included external links to related articles, other sides of various arguments, and videos exemplifying a particular point in a reading.

As the semester progressed, the weekly summarizers began “raising their own bar,” with the introduction of “edutainment”—beginning with Andrew Jones and Leigh Samuel’s Name Kenneth Burke’s Audience Expectation Arousal Patterns game, John Martin’s Narrative Jeopardy game, and Brian Swiger and Michelle Tackabery’s Spin the Metaphorical Bottle game!

Brian and Leigh showed short video clips from the Web, and the class was challenged to identify one of Burke’s forms of audience expectation arousal employed by each. Was it syllogistic progression? Qualitative progression? Repetitive form? Conventional form? Or, minor forms?

John’s Jeopardy game included categories related to Chapter 10, The Narrative, of the Gerard Hauser class textbook. Categories in the game included: Lived Experience as a Story; Plot; Narrative Quest; Narrative Rationality, Probability, & Fidelity; and Voice. A sample answer: “Narrative quest seeks to bring this to a story.” And the correct question: “What is closure?”

Continued on page 4
Throughout the semester, the class sat in a circle to facilitate discussion. Brian and Michelle took advantage of this venue in their game by placing a bottle on the floor in the middle of the circle. ‘Round and ‘round it went, and where it stopped—you were next to make up a sentence using a metaphor you randomly drew from a stack of homemade cards. In the midst of all this fun and learning, a real sense of community developed over the course of the semester, which was actually affirmed by two external sources—once by a student, and once by a professor.

One day after our class had dismissed, a student from a classroom nearby came into ours and shyly walked up to Dr. Katz. “Excuse me, please, but could you tell me what this course is? I sit in the room next door every Monday and Wednesday night, and we hear you laughing and laughing. I think I would like to take this course.”

And the affirmation by a professor? This being the year for Dr. Katz’s post-tenure review, one of her colleagues had to sit in on a class and write an evaluation of her teaching. Dr. Katz shared with us that Dr. Chris Anson said in his report that “two things were readily apparent. First, the group has developed an excellent rapport; the discussion was lively, relatively informal but still very academic, and punctuated by humor. There was never a point during the discussion that the process became in any way self-conscious or stalled for lack of direction. Second, it was clear that the method gives voice to the students during class because it draws on comments they have already made on the message board.”

The characteristics of leadership and camaraderie in this group were exemplified to the very end of the course.

_Camaraderie:_ Several of the students got together at Helios—a local coffee shop—after class one night, just _because_; and during the final night of this class, one of the students gave the gift of a book to every student in the class. It was Henry James’ _The Turn of the Screw_, and it was a book to which he had referred in one of his discussion board postings as being one of the greatest examples of the effect that the reliability of the narrator can have on a story.

After that final class on December 10th, the group all gathered at Porters for some celebratory adult beverages. There, with our first round of drinks in hand, we toasted the class with comments such as:

“We grew together in this course and by the end of the semester it felt like we were a family.”

“Of my three-and-a-half years of post-graduate work here at NCSU, I’ve never had so much fun in a class.”

“I dreaded this course from the beginning but in the end it became one of my favorites.”

“I really enjoyed circling up with such interesting and fun people twice a week.”

As the evening came to a close, Dr. Katz thanked all of us for working so hard, and said that this was the best class she had ever taught. It reminded her of what it felt like to be a graduate student again, and that she had learned as much from the course as we had.

“I’ll take Lived Experience as a Story for 500, Alex!”

*John would like to thank Susan Katz and the students of Fall ’07 ENG 515 for their contributions to this article.*

---

**Job Opportunities**

To learn about exciting opportunities related to the field of technical communication, sign up for Dr. Katz’s informal job listserv. As the internship coordinator she often receives news of openings — in addition to the ones Dr. Dicks sends out through the general listserv. To join, simply send a note to: smk@unity.ncsu.edu.
The STC 56th Annual Conference
By Nicole Black, President

As the incoming North Carolina State University Chapter President of STC, I was granted a $1,000 scholarship from the Carolina Chapter to attend the 56th annual conference held in Atlanta this year from May 3-6. I want to express my gratitude to the Carolina Chapter for extending this opportunity to me. It was my first time attending the conference, and I hope to attend next year.

Like many businesses and organizations, STC has found itself struggling through the recent economic downturn. There were not as many sessions offered as usual and attendance was down from previous years as a result of members’ limited funds. However, this did not put a damper on the positive atmosphere of the conference. Instead, those in attendance addressed the effects the state of the economy is having on technical communicators and how STC can help those most effected get through this tough time.

Leadership Day’s focus was on how STC exists solely for the benefit of its members. This is an important idea for me to keep in mind as a new STC chapter president, particularly the president of a student chapter. I feel it is my duty to convey the benefits of STC to current and prospective members. There are several benefits to membership in STC that are not always recognized. Now more than ever it is important that members understand what these benefits are so they can have an edge on the competition, something that is always on the minds of students as well as professionals.

A new track that was added to the conference this year to address those who are in transitional phases of their careers was the Career Makeover Institute. The sessions in this track were not only useful for those who might have been laid off or are looking for a new job, but also for those who are about to enter the job market for the first time as technical communicators. The track included sessions about how to find a job using STC resources, the top 10 mistakes writers make when looking for work, resume secrets that might surprise you, portfolios and interview strategies, and how to find jobs during a recession. Three of the sessions were hosted by Jack Molisani of Prospring Technical Staffing and The LavaCon Conference. As someone who works as a mediator between employers and those looking for work, he had an interesting insight and different ideas for jobseekers who often feel like they are hearing redundant information when it comes to looking for a job.

Other tracks in the conference included Designing and Developing Content, Developing Your Skills and Promoting Your Profession, E-Learning Institute, Producing, Managing, and Delivering Content, Structured Authoring and Content Management Institute, User Experience Institute, Designing and Assessing the User Experience, Managing People Projects, and Business, Applying Research and The-ory to Practice, and Collaborative Technologies and Techniques Institute. With such a broad range of subjects being covered at the conference, I was pleased to find out that I did not have to miss a single session. STC has decided to offer most of the sessions online through SUMMIT@aClick. Every session that was being recorded was marked in the program so that everyone could plan their schedule accordingly. Conference

Continued on page 8
The Technical Communicator’s Rain Dance

By Alison Weaver, Editor

Imagine 30 technical communicators learning how to make it rain. No, these individuals weren’t trying out new chants or clockwise circles. Instead, attendees at the Carolina Chapter’s May Open-Mike Event learned two dozen tips for getting work in the current dry spell to form their personal rain dances. Carolina Chapter Past President Chris Benz presented a reprisal of John Hedtke’s session from the STC conference in Atlanta on “Seeding the Clouds: How to Make it Rain on YOU Even During a Dry Spell.”

In his often laugh-out-loud humorous style, Benz shared insider tips for landing work as a technical communicator based on his recent experience. The founding member of Duke’s certificate program in technical communication, recently landed an unadvertised job as a technical communicator for Systems Documentation Inc., after being laid off. Benz told attendees to pick three to four of the 24 tips summarized to try, adding, “What are they going to do, fire you?”

I’ve summarized the discussion from these 24 tips for those of you who are currently trying to make it rain, or who will be soon. Happy dancing!

1. **Update your resume.** More than half of those attending the session were actively looking for work. Whether you fall into that category, are working now, or just embarking on your master’s in technical communication, at some point you will need your resume polished and ready to go. Remember what this critical document in your job search is ... IT IS a marketing document for the person receiving it. IT IS NOT a summary of your professional experience. It used to be that typos were not acceptable for writers. Today, a typo will quickly push any job seeker’s resume into the trash pile. Ask others to review your resume!

2. **Create a portfolio.** If you want to stand out, create a portfolio of your work. Only five percent of us have one, according to Hedtke. It’s a tangible way to highlight what you can do for a prospective employer. Benz, who has interviewed and hired many technical communicators throughout his 20-plus year, said, “If you give me a URL, I don’t go to it. If you send me a CD, I don’t look at it. But, if you have something on the table while I’m interviewing you, I look at it then.” One participant suggested that if the employer doesn’t look at it, use your samples as a way to guide the conversation.

3. **Build a web site.** Put your skills to work and build a web site. As students, we have many opportunities to do practical project work that furthers our education and potential value as employees. Be careful, though, to separate out personal stuff. “There are some people I’ve decided not to interview because of what I found online,” Benz cautioned. Take advantage of social networking, but make sure you are not advertising your political or religious views, or your latest all-night beer-fest. Lock down those Facebook pages!

4. **Add some new skills.** If you are “between jobs”, now is a good time to pick up some new skills. Make sure you have a good answer when the interviewer asks: What have you done for the past 4, 6 or 8 months?

5. **Change your mode.** Freelancing is a wonderful opportunity available to those of us who consider our first language words, to seek out additional sources of income, or become less dependent on our primary paycheck. Allow yourself to think different about the way you work. Now may be just the time to start that small business you’ve always considered. It’s a great way to build your portfolio of work.

*Continued on page 7*
6. **Change your venue.** Take a look at your skills and see which ones are transferrable. Perhaps you can go after marketing writing instead of only technical writing jobs. Or, how about instructional design? A friend of Benz’s realized the part he loves about tech comm. is talking about technology. He’s now working in sales at a local cable utility. Find something to keep you moving along.

7. **Expand your geographic area.** Consider how far you are willing to go for a job. The four fastest growing economies are Brazil, Russia, India and China. Participants agreed the best web site to use is the job search engine, www.Indeed.com. The meta crawler mines thousands of company career sites and job boards.

8. **Sign up with a lot of agencies.** While this normally isn’t the best idea, these aren’t nor-mal times. Often, there is overlap between available jobs, so let agencies know that you are registering with other agencies. Consider local agencies who know the market like TPS, sponsor of the event held at the Cameron Village public library.

9. **Evaluate what you’ve done already.** Take time to consider your process. Ask yourself: What’s working, and what isn’t?

10. **Write magazine articles.** Getting your name out there provides great exposure and positions you as an expert. Write an article on (subject here) and the next thing you know, magazines will be hunting YOU down. The typical pay is $500 for half a day’s work. Not bad.

11. **Network as much as possible.** I really think this should have been Hot Tip No. 1. Benz’s current job was not advertised, and is typically the case. Make sure you have professional business card and your resume – keep in on a thumb drive – with you at all times. Use LinkedIn and other networking sites, even Facebook, to let your friends and others know you are on the hunt. The time to your first day is always faster when an employer comes to you.

12. **Go to every STC event you can!** “We are your professional home!” Your student membership in NC State’s chapter includes one professional chapter. Take advantage of the many, many networking and career development opportunities.

13. **Go to lots of non-STC events too.** Think about who might need to buy your services and go to where they are. There are a plethora of organizations related to technical communication – TripUPA, IEEE, PRSA…

14. **Volunteer.** “If you are willing to work for free, just about any nonprofit organization will listen to you,” Benz said. Hiring managers are being bombarded with resumes now so they are looking for reasons NOT to interview you. Volunteering is also a great way to get your foot in the door to a potential employer.

15. **Speak to groups.** It’s good marketing, good visibility and good practice. And, the more people who know about our profession, the better it is for all of us.

16. **Participate in your alumni association.** Yet another source of contacts. Hedtke calls it resume bait.

17. **Consider lowering your standards.** A participant suggested this should instead read, “Consider your requirements.” Either way, you should ask yourself: For whom are you willing to work, and For how much less are you willing to work?

18. **Write a book.** Not only do you get to be the boss when you write a book, but it looks really good to potential employers. Use the services of a publisher to achieve a common goal.

19. **Write 3rd party books for a company.** Swallow your pride and ghostwrite. The money is usually

Continued on page 8
paid upfront for these project, making them a real “sweetheart deal.”

20. **Don’t let your employment situation affect your lifestyle.** Looking for a job really is a full-time job, but a flexible one. Allow yourself breaks and time to visit with others. A $20 lunch with friends will be less expensive than psychiatric treatment. Getting depressed will not help you to exude enthusiasm or confidence in an interview. “Take advantage of the American version of the European vacation,” Benz said.

21. **Be ready when the floodgates open.** A good problem to have! But consider others who may still be looking for work, or starting your own small business.

22. **Do more.** Do more of what’s working.

23. **Do it differently.** Change what isn’t working.

24. **Have fun.** Anyone who has been through it, will tell you, “looking for a job sucks!” It’s hard work so try to have a sense of humor about it. “Just keep working and eventually it will work out.”

attendees will have access to all of the online sessions, but those that did not attend the conference can also access these sessions for a fee. Over 100 sessions were recorded.

Though many of the sessions will be online, it still does not replace the value of actually attending the conference. The conference creates many networking opportunities through the sessions, organized meals, the expo, and social events that are not always on the calendar, but are passed around by word of mouth, or even more fitting for technical communicators, through Twitter or a blog. As most of the attendees usually stay where the conference is being held, it is also common to run into people during your downtime in the lobby or on the street. I met Intercom Editor Elizabeth E. Pohland and Technical Communication Editor-in-Chief Menno De Jong while resting in a plush chair at the expo. You never know who you will end up sitting beside.

This year, STC offered to pay the conference fees for students who volunteered at the summit. Two of our NCSU Chapter officers presented at this year’s summit as well, which also covers fees. Once again, I am very grateful for having been given the opportunity to attend this year’s conference. Both the NCSU and Carolina are award-winning STC chapters, and I am proud to be a part of them. I look forward to a new semester of working with its members.
Sowing the Seeds of a Sustainable Career
By Karen Rhodes

At the end of 2008, I was an editor for the custom-published magazine of a famous Las Vegas resort. I was writing captions and blurbs about things like Jimmy Choo shoes, Harry Winston jewelry pieces, and the celebrities who wore them—and I was bored to tears.

I had worked as a magazine editor and writer for about a decade. During the last four of those years, my work had given me the opportunity to go on a Caribbean cruise, to stay at an all-inclusive resort in Jamaica, to help throw an all-night magazine launch party at a hot Las Vegas night club, and to meet a few celebrities (and/or their agents) along the way. Sure, those things were fun. But celebrities, trends, and luxury items just weren’t really my “thing.” I needed to do something more substantial, engaging, and constructive.

In the fall of 2008, I applied and was accepted into the M.S. in Technical Communication program at N.C. State, to begin in January 2009. The timing proved to be perfect. In December, I was one of 13 employees to be laid off due to the economy. Thankfully, the layoff spared me the decision of whether to resign when I started school. It also freed me to pursue what I wanted to pursue: a broader range of technical and communication skills and a better understanding of the environmental, energy-related, agricultural, political, and socioeconomic issues facing the world today.

The Center for Environmental Farming Systems addresses many of these issues as they relate to food and farming systems. I learned about CEFS from a casual conversation with a relative just a few weeks into my coursework. I told her this was exactly the type of organization I hoped to work with once I had my degree in hand, and she suggested I get in touch with Dr. Nancy Creamer, director of CEFS and a professor in the Department of Horticultural Sciences at N.C. State. I contacted Dr. Creamer to find out how a technical communication student could get involved. It turned out that CEFS needed help with its Web site and maybe a few printed materials.

While most of CEFS’ summer interns live and work at a research farm in Goldsboro, I live in Raleigh and work at N.C. State. While most of the interns work with crops and livestock, I work with CSS and Dreamweaver. I travel to Goldsboro once a week to join the other interns for the lecture and field trip components of the internship program. At the farm, I have eaten some of the best blueberries I’ve tasted in years, I have measured pasture grass density, and I have cultured mycorrhizal fungi from the roots of cover crops. This week, we will see a dairy farm with several hundred goats, and we will have the opportunity to sample (and purchase) goat cheese fresh from the farm. No wonder I love this internship.

The two biggest challenges of my internship: trying to create an information architecture (IA) that clearly outlines the many initiatives CEFS is spearheading, and trying to get my CSS code to do what I want it to do. I’m new to CEFS, and I’m new to CSS, so I’ve had a

Continued on page 10
Come Join the NCSU STC Blog!

The NCSU STC blog is a community forum that allows you to post questions, comments, concerns, or just general ramblings about technical communication in a blog format.

- Do you have questions about a class?
- Wonder what happened at the last STC Carolina meeting?
- Read a particularly good article and want to share your insights on it with your peers?

Then come join the NCSU STC blog and be a part of the community—we’re waiting for you!

Happy Blogging!
http://ncsustc.ning.com/

Recommended Resources

**NCU and Local Resources**
- NCSU Technical Communication Department http://www.chass.ncsu.edu/english/msprog/source.html
- Communication, Rhetoric, and Digital Media Ph.D http://www.chass.ncsu.edu/crdm/
- NCSU Graduate School http://www.ncsu.edu/grad/
- DH Hill Library http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/
- NCSU Digital Media Lab Usability Lab http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/usability/index.html writetech.org/

**General STC Resources**
- International STC Site http://www.stc.org/
- Carolina Chapter of the STC http://www.stc-carolina.org/
- NCSU Student Chapter of the STC http://clubs.ncsu.edu/stc/
- NCSU Student Chapter of the STC Weblog http://

**Networking & Learning**
- Usability Professionals Association http://www.upassoc.org/
- Triangle Usability Professionals Association http://www.triupa.org/
- E-Server Technical Communication Library http://tc.eserver.org/

---

**Rhodes, Sowing Seeds, Continued from page 9**

learning curve in both areas. To tackle the IA challenge, I’m communicating with stakeholders across the organization to learn the real-world hierarchy and connections within the organization so that the site will reflect that in the online world. It’s a little tricky in that there are some organizational changes under consideration, so I have to make sure that my architecture and design are flexible enough to accommodate any changes that actually occur. To tackle the CSS challenge, I am learning from trial-and-error attempts, a stack of CSS reference books, visits to Adobe’s online help pages, and probably an impending phone call to one of my technical communication professors.

The wonderful thing about this internship is that, to use a farming metaphor, it is sowing the seeds for what promises to be a bountiful future. I am exploring a number of interest areas: agriculture, the environment, sustainability, policy, public relations, social media, Web design, information architecture, usability, accessibility, and more. It’s the best of both worlds, real and virtual: I can get outside and touch the earth and know that my work is literally “grounded” in something important, and I can feed my “geeky” side, fiddling around with code until I master it. And at the end of the day, I can come home feeling good about how I spent those eight hours. Instead of using my talents to write about superficial subjects, I’ve used them for something significant—and, in more ways than one, sustainable. ☺
Meet the New MS Technical Communication Students

**Chris Boucher**  
*Age: 35*  
**U-grad degree:** English, NCSU  
**Current position:** Editor in chief, Eli Research  
**Background:** Wrote/edited for newspapers, online news site, specialty magazine - and was high school English teacher  
**Hobbies:** Jogging, disc golf, cinema, billiards  
**Areas of interest:** “I wanted to get more training in writing/editing for a broader base of technical disciplines. I am involved in healthcare writing, but there is so much more to know.”

**Mark Daniel**  
*Age: 22*  
**U-grad degree:** English and Spanish, NCSU  
**Background:** Interned at MC Dean, Inc., the NC State College of Engineering Communications Department, The Law Offices of James Scott Farrin and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.  
**Hobbies:** Running, writing, cooking and traveling  
**Areas of interest:** “I am interested in studying marketing communication. My goals for my time in the program are to become a more knowledgeable and experienced professional writer.”

**Matt Giglio**  
*Age: 32*  
**U-grad degree:** Psychology, UVA and Communication Studies, Virginia Tech  
**Background:** Served as academic advisor at Virginia Tech for freshmen and sophomores undecided about their majors; taught courses in communication skills and public speaking at Virginia Tech.  
**Hobbies:** Running, working out at the gym, playing video games and going to the movies  
**Reason for choosing N.C. State:** “I chose to enter the program because of its strong reputation, its location, and for the professional opportunities it can provide.”

**Kaitlin Gudz**  
*Age: 22*  
**U-grad degree:** Communication, University of North Dakota  
**Current position:** Student, former WalMart employee  
**Areas of interest:** Continuing Spanish coursework  
**Hobbies:** Watch movies, play video games, bowl, knit, cross stitch and cook  
**Reason for choosing N.C. State:** “I know that I will be a successful member of society when I am through with it. It will help me attain my dream of being a technical writer as well as giving me more of an opportunity to further my education and meet new people who want to do the same.”

**Colleen Harris**  
*Age: 30*  
**U-grad degree:** Economics and International Relations, NCSU  
**Current position:** Associate Head of Access and Delivery Services, NCSU Library  
**Background:** Academic librarian since 2006; graduate degrees in political science (Emory), MLS (Kentucky) and MFA in creative writing (Spalding)  
**Hobbies:** cooking, collecting graduate degrees and poetry. “My first full length poetry collection, God in my Throat: The Lilith Poems, was published June 2009.”  
**Areas of interest:** industrial training and development, and organizational information systems  
**Colleen said:** “My basset hound Otto rules me with an iron paw.”

**Joel Kearney**  
*Age: 22*  
**U-grad degree:** English, UNC-CH  
**Background:**  
**Hobbies:** literature, philosophy, theoretical astrophysics, religions, theatre, (good) music, psychology, theory of the mind, language, animals, nature, beauty and games  
**Reasons for choosing N.C. State:** “The program combines my loves for sciences and literature.”  
**Areas of interest:** environment, linguistics, psychology  
**Joel said:** “I’m in a wheelchair and have limited use of my hands, but don’t let that fool ya! I am fine in my head (if a touch goofy), and have a tendency towards hyperbole.”
Meet the New MS Technical Communication Students (cont.)

Gary Lazorick

**Age:** 46  
**U-grad degree:** Political Science  
**Background:** Sales rep. and manager for a Fortune 500 company, scuba dive instructor, boat captain and construction crew laborer and foreman.  
**Hobbies:** Reading, fishing, supporting the Cubs, snow skiing and spending time near the ocean.  
**Areas of interest:** Non-profit mgmt. and environmental conservation  
**Goals:** “After graduation, I would like to work in a communication related position at NOAA or an environmental non-profit.”

Jonathan McCall

**Age:** 36  
**U-grad degree:** English Lit, UNC-CH  
**Current position:** Senior medical editor with the Duke Clinical Research Institute Communications Group (DCRI)  
**Background:** Performed data management, developed research protocols among other roles within DCRI  
**Hobbies:** Gardening, amateur astronomy, running and playing guitar  
**Areas of interest:** Writing/editing for science and medicine, and working with new models for sharing, publishing, and evaluating scientific research

Sarah McKone

**Age:** 22  
**U-grad degree:** English and History, UNC-W  
**Current position:** Academic tutor, Educational Enrichment; women’s lacrosse referee; and freelance web designer  
**Hobbies:** Playing sports, Fantasy Football, knitting, blogging and traveling  
**Goals:** Completing PhD program and becoming full-time professor  
**Reason for choosing N.C. State:** “When I began looking at graduate schools, I fell in love with the this program’s course catalog immediately! Then I visited the school my junior year and met lots of great students and professors. I knew NCSU is where I wanted to continue my academic career.”

Cassie Meloy

**U-grad degree:** English  
**Current position:** Client service coordinator and pet nurse, Banfield Animal Hospital  
**Hobbies:** Backpacking, hiking, working with animals, spending time with my dog, reading and writing  
**Decision to enter TC field:** “This program offers a way for me to do what I love as well as make a decent living.”  
**Future goals:** To travel and perhaps work overseas as a technical communicator

Neal Timpe

**Age:** 25  
**U-grad degree:** Philosophy, UNC  
**Background:** Newspaper editor  
**Hobbies:** Playing soccer and cooking  
**Decision to enter TC field:** “I decided to pursue TC because it seems like the perfect next step for me. I’ve honed my writing skills in a pressure-filled environment. Journalism taught me to condense information. I think I can use that skill in TC. This may not have been the career path I saw for myself when I started my internship at The Onion, but I think my career has turned out well.”
Meet Your 2009-2010 STC@NCSU Officers

Nicole Black
President

Sarah Egan Warren
Faculty Advisor

Myra Moses
Newsletter Manager

Jen Riehle
Vice President

Alison Weaver
Newsletter Editor

Peggy Harvey
Membership Manager

Christin Phelps
Treasurer

Sarah McKone
Secretary
12th Annual Service Raleigh

NCSU- STC 2008-2009 Officers Rebecca O’Connell, Nicole Black, John Strange and Jen Riehle volunteered as part of Service Raleigh on March 28.

2009-2010 Calendar of Events

AUGUST 17, 6-8pm
Orientation
Tomkins Hall

Aug 20, 6-8pm
Carolina Chapter Meeting
Tekelc, Morrisville, NC

Aug 27, 7:30pm
Networking at Mitch’s

SEPTEMBER 17
Carolina Chapter Luau
Location TBD

September
Week-Long Training with DELTA

OCTOBER
“What’s the Scoop?” Event

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER
End of Semester/Graduation Party

JANUARY 2010
Orientation
Tomkins Hall

January
Community Service Project, TBD

FEBRUARY 26, 7-9pm
Game Day
Tomkins Hall

MARCH/APRIL
www2010.org Conference

APRIL
Elections

MAY
ENG675 Defenses
End of Semester/Graduation Party
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION
Membership dues depend on which membership category you select and where you live (each country falls into one of three tiers, each of which has different dues). The costs for the different membership categories that you see on the following pages should be automatically adjusted to reflect the dues structure for your tier.

All new members pay an enrollment fee of $30. Renewing members do not pay this fee, unless there is a break in their membership of more than 1 year.

Members whose membership expired less than 1 year ago must pay a reinstatement fee of $15.

Members outside of the United States who choose classic membership must pay additional postage for their printed copies of Intercom and Technical Communication. This additional postage is $15 for Canadian members and $35 for all other countries. (Those who choose electronic membership avoid these postage charges by receiving STC publications in electronic form.)

By joining STC, you agree to all terms outlined in the STC Bylaws. Please also note that STC dues are non-refundable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. ABOUT YOU: (please print)</th>
<th>NEW MEMBER</th>
<th>RENEW</th>
<th>REINSTATEMENT</th>
<th>YEAR LAPPED</th>
<th>MEMBER ID NUMBER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PREFIX</td>
<td>FIRST NAME</td>
<td>MI</td>
<td>LAST NAME</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFORMAL/NICKNAME</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOR DEMOGRAPHIC PURPOSES ONLY:</td>
<td>YEAR OF BIRTH</td>
<td>GENDER:</td>
<td>FEMALE</td>
<td>MALE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WORK MAILING ADDRESS
☐ Check this box if you do not wish to provide a work address. If checked, you will be required to provide a home address.

COMPANY/ORGANIZATION (if part of mailing address)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADDRESS (LINE 1)</th>
<th>ADDRESS (LINE 2)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CITY</td>
<td>STATE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHONE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZIP/POSTAL CODE</td>
<td>COUNTRY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAX</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HOME MAILING ADDRESS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADDRESS (LINE 1)</th>
<th>ADDRESS (LINE 2)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CITY</td>
<td>STATE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHONE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZIP/POSTAL CODE</td>
<td>COUNTRY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CELL PHONE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EMAIL ADDRESSES (you must provide at least one valid email address)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORK</th>
<th>HOME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OTHER</td>
<td>PREFERRED EMAIL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. **TELL US YOUR PREFERENCES:** Please let us know your communication preferences.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** I prefer to be addressed as: □ Ms □ Mr □ Mrs □ Nickname

**ONLINE DIRECTORY:** □ List Me (Customize Listing Below) □ Do Not List Me

Include in my listing: □ Work □ Home □ Other □ Do Not Include
- Address: □ Work □ Home □ Other □ Do Not Include
- Work Phone: □ Work □ Home □ Other □ Do Not Include
- Work Email: □ Work □ Home □ Other □ Do Not Include
- Fax Number: □ Work □ Home □ Other □ Do Not Include
- Home Phone: □ Work □ Home □ Other □ Do Not Include
- Home Email: □ Work □ Home □ Other □ Do Not Include
- Other Email: □ Work □ Home □ Other □ Do Not Include

**EMAILS FROM STC:** Indicate which email address to use.

- STC newsletters and general announcements: □ Work □ Home □ Other □ Do Not Send
- Email materials provided by election candidates: □ Work □ Home □ Other □ Do Not Send
- Emails about STC conferences & seminars: □ Work □ Home □ Other □ Do Not Send
- Emails from STC-related vendors: □ Work □ Home □ Other □ Do Not Send

STC considers email information as confidential and DOES NOT share or rent email addresses to outside entities.

**STC PUBLICATIONS:** (GO GREEN, Help the environment by selecting electronic delivery!)

- **Technical Communication journal:** (Print version not available to E-Members.)
  - Electronic Version to: □ Work □ Home □ Other □ Do Not Send
  - Print Version to: □ Work □ Home □ Other □ Do Not Send
- **Intercom magazine:** (Print version not available to E-Members.)
  - Electronic Version to: □ Work □ Home □ Other □ Do Not Send
  - Print Version to: □ Work □ Home □ Other □ Do Not Send
- **News & Notes e-newsletter:** (Not available in print.)
  - Electronic Version to: □ Work □ Home □ Other □ Do Not Send
  - Print Version to: □ Work □ Home □ Other □ Do Not Send

3. **INDICATE JOB FUNCTION(S):**

- Consultant □ Information Developer □ Training Developer
- Contractor □ Instructional Designer □ Translator
- Documentation Specialist □ Manager □ Usability Specialist
- Editor □ Online Help Developer □ Web Designer
- Graphic Artist/Illustrator □ Self Employed □ Writer
- Indexer □ Teacher/Educator □ Other______________________________

4. **SELECT THE TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP THAT BEST FITS YOUR NEEDS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES</th>
<th>TIER 1</th>
<th>TIER 2</th>
<th>TIER 3</th>
<th>CANADA</th>
<th>OTHER COUNTRIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CLASSIC:</strong></td>
<td>$175</td>
<td>$140</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>$35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Includes printed copies of Intercom and Technical Communication and membership in 1 chapter and 1 SIG, OR up to 3 SIGs and no chapter.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E-MEMBERSHIP:</strong></td>
<td>$165</td>
<td>$130</td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Includes online access to Intercom and Technical Communication and membership in 1 chapter and 1 SIG, OR up to 3 SIGs and no chapter.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>STUDENT:</strong></td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$55</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Includes online access to Intercom and Technical Communication and membership in up to 3 SIGs. Applicants for student membership may select 1 professional chapter and 1 student chapter. To be eligible for student membership, an applicant must be (1) enrolled in an accredited university, college, community college, or technical school; (2) taking at least two courses or their equivalent each term; and (3) preparing for a career in technical communication. Student members are not eligible to vote in STC elections. To attest to your student status, please supply the name and telephone number or email address of your faculty advisor.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUPER SIG PACKAGE:</strong></td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Includes printed copies of Intercom and Technical Communication and membership in all SIGs and 1 chapter.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Tiers: For information, please refer to the STC website at www.stc.org/membership/localTable01.asp
8. PAYMENT OPTIONS:


☐ CREDIT CARD: Complete the credit card information box below if paying by credit card. Payment by credit card is encouraged. (Payments can not be made by phone.)

PLEASE CHARGE MY: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

Card Number

Exp. Date

Cardholder’s Name (please print) Cardholder’s Signature

Please mail this form to:
Society for Technical Communication
P.O. Box 79612
Baltimore, MD 21279-0612 USA

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.
By joining STC, you agree to abide by the STC Bylaws. You must join STC by 28 February to be eligible to vote in the Society elections.