Columbia’s Center for New Media Teaching and Learning Focuses on New Projects

By SHERRY MAYO

On Sept. 26 in Low Library, the Columbia Center for New Media Teaching and Learning (CCNMTL) and its faculty partners presented a series of innovative teaching approaches employing new media tools to an enthusiastic audience.

Over two hundred people attended this year’s conference, representing a cross-disciplinary array of faculty, technical specialists and librarians, both inside and outside the University.

The conference has eight faculty panels constructed around approaches to teaching with new media, including “Third Spaces for Learning,” “Using Multimedia Case Studies to Promote Focused Learning,” and “Simulations as an Educational Tactic.” These approaches have been applied across disciplines and have initiated new conversations among faculty regarding strategies for applying the distinctive properties of electronic spaces and instruments to particular challenges in teaching.

Kiosks throughout the rotunda gave attendees the opportunity to spend time with CCNMTL’s Educational Technologists and to experiment with a variety of new media projects. The workshops focused on scientific computing and visualization, the Courseworks course management system and the use of digital video in the classroom.

Opening with remarks from Provost Alan Brinkley and University Librarian James Neal, this full-day conference incorporated faculty presentations, project kiosks, and hands-on workshops. Neal placed the conference in the context of several pressing issues facing academic policymakers nationwide.

Columbia University

SIPA Alumna Deborah Scroggins Wins Ron Ridenhour Truth-Telling Award

By KATHERINE MOORE

The investigative reporter Deborah Scroggins, a SIPA ’85, is one of three inaugural winners of the Ron Ridenhour Truth-Telling Award, presented in honor of my buddy Massacre whistle-blower Ron Ridenhour. The awards were presented at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., on Wednesday, Oct. 15. Each winner received a $10,000 cash stipend.

Scroggins is the author of Emma’s War: An Aid Worker, Radic-


Student Consulting Group Celebrates Ten Years at Columbia

The Statistics Consulting Group celebrated its 10th anniversary with a symposium titled, “Statistics Consulting: Past, Present and Future.” Professors Chris Heyde, Bruce Levin, and Zhiliang Ying, statistical researchers who are also experienced consultants, shared their experiences and took questions from an audience at the statistics department. The consulting group is comprised of Ph.D. students and coordinated by Professor Andrew Gelman. Offers free no-cost consulting services to various schools and departments throughout the University and other organizations, such as Alcoholics Anonymous. Pictured are, from left, Soumik Pal, Yung Kuan Wu, Jooni Kermath, Olivier Nineux, Professor Chris Hyde, Andrew Gelman, Bruce Levin, Zhiliang Ying, Yu Liang and Zi Zhang.

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