

Student broadcast 'NewsVision' returns to TV station at D.C.'s Howard University

By Jennifer Thomas

Student-produced "NewsVision" broadcast a 30-minute newscast on Howard University's PBS station, WHUT-TV. The newscast aired at 9:30 p.m. EST, Wednesday, Dec. 7; 1:30 a.m. EST, Thursday, Dec. 8; and 8:30 a.m. EST, Monday, Dec. 12. The program was pre-recorded

live to tape with WHUT staff and broadcast to over 2.5 million households in the Washington, D.C., area, the ninth-largest television market in the country.

The students assumed all newsroom roles: anchor, reporter, producer, assignment editor, floor director and director. The culminating newscast is a testimony to the benefits of the program, says Jennifer Thomas, assistant professor in the Department of Media, Journalism and Film who teaches the "NewsVision" capstone course.

"The students are getting hands-on experience, from covering the White House to the historic 2016 presidential election," said Thomas, who rose from a student journalist at WHUT to CNN executive producer. "This newscast provides an opportunity to inform the



community and showcase their work as professional journalists." The newscast is being underwritten by NBCUniversal, which received the Corporate Partner Award at the 45th anniversary celebration of the Cathy Hughes School of Communications.

the 148th Commencement Convocation. "It is already paying off in the students' transition from classroom to newsroom," said Yanick Rice Lamb, associate professor and department chair.

Many 2016 graduates are working at outlets ranging from ESPN to NPR. Others have recently received national recognition: Jasmine Turner, Hearst Award

for Radio Broadcast News; Alexis Porter, Hearst Television Producing Fellowship; Jourdan Henry, National Association of Black Journalists Salute to Excellence Award; and Erin Winters, Top Ten Finalist in the "Live With Kelly and You" co-host competition.

After an absence of more than 20 years, "NewsVision" returned to WHUT last May immediately following President Obama's address at

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Smith, department head and associate professor of communication at John Brown University, has been selected to receive a 2016-2017 Fulbright U.S. Scholar Grant from the U.S. Department of State. She is teaching at the University of Ghana. Her teaching-research project is "Courageous Communication: Creating Journalism That Matters," designed to cultivate media development through multiple platforms.

Dr. Nathaniel Frederick II, assistant professor of mass communication at Winthrop University, is the new director of the African-American Studies program there. He started this position in August 2016.

Federico Subervi attended the Annual Conference of Ford Foundation Fellows and the Senior Ford Fellows in Washington, D.C., and served on panels to address challenges and guidelines for success in academia. Another series of lectures about Latinos and the 2016 elections was delivered at California State University in Fullerton in early October. Subervi helped launch the Mentorship Program of the Minorities & Communication Division, Association for Education in Journalism & Mass Communication. In November, he was elected to the board of directors of the National Association for Media Literacy Education.

CSM's Twitter and Facebook are growing well since their March debut, with 185 followers on the former and 106 "likes" on the latter. (It doubled "likes" in 10 months.)

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