

## **Mission Statement**

As communicators, all humans are part of an ongoing conversation. Communication is inevitable, irreversible, and continuous. The messages we send and receive shape our attitudes, build our relationships, and impact the environment in which we live. The mission of the Department of Communication and Theatre is to empower students with a meaningful Christian voice in the ongoing conversation of the world in which we live. We strive to meet this mission through learning, growing, and serving.

### ***Learning Informed by our Faith in Christ***

- Students will learn basic theory about the discipline of communication, organizational communication, media communication, broadcast journalism and theatre.

### ***Growing in a Christ Centered Community***

- As students understand the process of communication, they will be challenged to use communication competently in a variety of complex environmental and social contexts.

### ***Serving in a Context of Christian Faith***

- Students will participate in the disciplines of Communication and Theatre in the collective community around them.

The Department of Communication and Theatre is committed to helping each student learn, grow, and serve so that they may contribute meaningfully to the ongoing conversation of all humans and seek to make a positive impact in the world through their communication abilities. The power to communicate is the power to transform our world one conversation at a time.

## **Purposes**

- To instruct students in the philosophy, content, methodology, skills, and responsibilities of communication;
- To provide specialized training for those entering communication-centered professions including: management, sales, public relations, training; broadcasting and electronic media; and theatre and the performing arts;
- To provide background courses for those desiring to enter communication related fields including ministry, law, education, government, social services, journalism, and graduate studies;
- To help students develop skills through involvement in a nationally competitive forensics program, internships in major corporations, law firms, radio and television stations, and professional theatre companies.

## **Tradition of Excellence**

The Department of Communication and Theatre is a comprehensive and dynamic department that prepares students for leadership in a variety of communication-intensive careers. Classroom instruction is enhanced by the smaller class sizes and individual attention from faculty who are committed to the academic and personal success of each student. There are five programs of study to choose from: Communication (general), Managerial and Organizational Communication, Theatre, Media Communication and an interdepartmental major in Broadcast Journalism. As a part of the curriculum, a 120-hour internship must be completed; often, internships can result in full-time jobs upon graduation.