

**Profile of the
Department of Radio TV Film
University of Wisconsin Oshkosh
2020 Regents Teaching Excellence Program Award Recipient**

Highlights from nomination materials:

- UW Oshkosh's Department of Radio TV Film (RTF), chaired by Dr. Andrew Smock, offers a 21st-century mass media education that helps students establish careers in modern media production and studies. Students have access to the latest in equipment and facilities used in the industry.
- Titan TV, WRST-FM, and Film Society serve as learning laboratories for students, who win state, regional, national, and international awards as well as internships. For example, students have won 17 competitive internships in the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences' college student internship program.
- Graduates of the program work at radio and television stations around the country and for such well-established television networks as ABC, CBS, TNT, TLC, and Netflix, as well as major Hollywood films and TV shows such as *Daredevil*, *Ford v Ferrari*, *The Avengers*, and more.
- Alumni visit campus each fall to be interviewed for a televised, student-hosted industry panel.
- Students in the Los Angeles Connection course spend two weeks immersed in the Los Angeles entertainment industry, meeting more than 50 department alumni.
- Students present video projects and media scripts to the community and the on-campus Celebration of Scholarship, where they have won cash awards for their excellence.
- Post-production facilities have been expanded and upgraded, analog video and motion picture production technology were replaced by digital technology, and radio and TV studios were updated with new equipment.
- In response to sweeping 21st-century technological change in both production and post-production, Radio TV Film has instituted a more aggressive and comprehensive team approach to equipment and facility upgrades—one that involves collaboration among teaching academic staff, broadcast engineers, the RTF program assistant, faculty, and student organization leaders.
- Over the past decade, a new course sequence and capstone requirement have given students a strong base in aesthetics, writing, media business, history, and media theory, profoundly influencing student project development and post-graduation success for majors.

In the words of graduates:

- "I was given the incredible opportunity to work for one of the nation's largest retailers shortly after graduation, doing precisely what I love, all thanks to my radio-TV-film background."
- "The faculty vision is to develop professionals who are well prepared, and able to adapt and succeed in a very competitive field. I greatly respect their abiding commitment and the support they provide to their students. When it comes to the UW Oshkosh Radio-TV-Film program, I have a unique perspective and the ability to bridge the past with the present. The RTF program has a commitment to connect learning to life. It puts the theories of education into practice and is today preparing the next generation of success stories."

In the words of a colleague:

- "More than anything, RTF produces confident, enthusiastic, like-long learners who follow their dreams into this competitive field and achieve tremendous success."
—John Koker, Provost/Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, UW Oshkosh